

# Amma

The official  
publication  
of the

OUTRIGGER  
CANOE CLUB



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*Howard Hughes.*



# Ama | Ø

Outrigger  
Canoe Club

The official publication of the Outrigger Canoe Club is titled Ama to honor the Club's lineage. The outrigger of a canoe is called an ama in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian Language). It was a nautical innovation that allowed the Polynesians to efficiently navigate the rough waters of the Pacific. The ama is also the port hull of a double-hulled canoe, which is the vehicle that brought the Hawaiians to these beautiful islands.

JULY / AUGUST 2021

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### On the cover:

Mirrored eyes on the prize: Taylor Crabb digs deep at the J & T Banka Ostrava Beach Open in the Czech Republic in June. Part of the Beach Volleyball World Tour, it was the last qualifying tournament for the Olympics. See more on p. 23.

Photo courtesy USA Volleyball

### This page:

Cheering section: Skye Eversole, Ariana Hunt, Sydney Lezi and Malie Clark give their teammates support in an OC-2 coastal relay race that went from Hawai'i Kai to Hanauma Bay and back.

Photo by Hayden Ramler



**ALOHA FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS!**

Just before the last issue of *Ama* arrived in our mailboxes, one of our sometime-resident monk seals, Kaiwi, gave birth to a pup on Kaimana Beach. Not long thereafter, Kaiwi and her pup Loli'i figured out what we already know—the more private beach fronting the Club and the Colony Surf is even more relaxing—and they took up residence there.



Loli'i—meaning relaxed, at ease, carefree—certainly seems to live up to his name, playing in the surf and sleeping on our beautiful beach without a care in the world.

This has been less than relaxing for our Club, our staff, including Beach Services, and especially our members. NOAA quickly reached out and urged us to restrict beach access as Kaiwi, the protective mother, was likely to be aggressive until she weaned her pup.

Thus, just as we were emerging from Covid-19 restrictions, members were unable to access the water and sand from our semi-private oasis, having to carry our one-man canoes, longboards, and beach toys to Kaimana Beach to enjoy the ocean.

Our membership for the most part has been very cooperative. We all grumble, but our aloha 'āina is strong and we grudgingly admit that young Loli'i and her mother are very cute, and will not be here forever. Our respect for the natural world means our seawall restoration project has been shelved until the Fall and newly restored paddling programs have had to be adjusted.

However, as I write this column, young Loli'i has fattened up, and on June 9, the *Star Advertiser* announced that Kaiwi had weaned him and NOAA would be relocating the pup to a remote location. By the time you read this, the monk seal saga of 2021 will be over. I applaud our membership, staff, and Beach Services for handling this delicate situation with the typical class and respect that one expects from the Outrigger Canoe Club.

Accommodating the seals drove home to me how special the location of our Club is. We complain about having to walk all the way to Kaimana beach to go paddling, but forget the rest of the public always has to enter the water from Kaimana, has to struggle to find parking, and has to drop off and pick up their equipment each time they want to use it. The ability of our members to store their surfboards, canoes, and other watersports equipment at the Club, and to have safe, secure parking is such a blessing. Then, to be able to launch whatever ocean adventure is planned right from our own beach is truly priceless. You add on warm showers, locker rooms, the Snack Shop, and happy hour in the bar after a surf, and you realize how lucky we really are.

For me, the icing on the cake is the string of premier South Shore surf spots—from Rice Bowl's challenging barrels and the giant bombs at Castles, to the more gentle and forgiving waves at Old Man's. We certainly are fortunate, and I hope to always be able to enjoy this location. Kaiwi and Loli'i (as well as the COVID-19 pandemic) are reminders that we should never take anything for granted.

**Jon Steiner**  
President



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**ALOHA OCC OHANA!** What a difference a year makes! During the last 4th of July, we were all learning how to deal with a “new” normal—masks on the beach, six feet of distance between friends, fewer hugs and kisses with our ‘ohana. Things did not feel the same. Fast forward a year, and friends and families are enjoying the Club, seal watching on the beach, and hugging and smiling to their heart’s content. The Club we love, and the feeling of aloha that we all cherish, are back.



It’s really special to see how far we have come to get back to normal. We have fought so hard and been so patient to be able to reopen the Club, that it’s always good to pause and remind ourselves that, although we are emerging from the pandemic, it is still not gone. Please help us continue to win this fight by following the Club’s rules and following the mask mandates that are handed down by the City

and County. As the C&C reduces restrictions, so will the Club.

I want to take a moment to once again thank the various committees and the Board of Directors that continue to support the Club’s operations and the reopening strategy. Members of the House Committee, the Fitness Center Subcommittee and Building & Grounds have all stepped up to help us reopen all areas of service in the safest way possible.

We are getting closer and closer to a fully re-opened OCC. Weekday lunch service is the last area to turn back on and we hope to share the details with you soon. Ideally, lunch service would have been opened in May, but we have faced the same challenge as most businesses in Hawai‘i—staffing. Now that we are almost fully restaffed, we look forward to relaunching weekday lunch.

In the meantime, Chef Mark Gedeon and his culinary team in the Snack Shop have created some elevated specials for you to enjoy. Have you tried one? While I might be biased toward the kalua pork tacos, all of these new dishes have been incredible! Another enhancement at the Snack Shop is the updated ordering system. On behalf of the Snack Shop team, we appreciate the patience all of you have shown as we have worked to upgrade the system. Based on the early feedback, members really seem to like the improvements!

I know that I have mentioned this on more than one occasion, and I always will, I really appreciate all of your support that you share with the Club.

Have a wonderful, safe summer!

My very best,

**Tyler Roukema,**  
General Manager



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# *The* LOBBY

CLUB HAPPENINGS,  
CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

*This  
Way In*



The *Holoholo* takes flight.

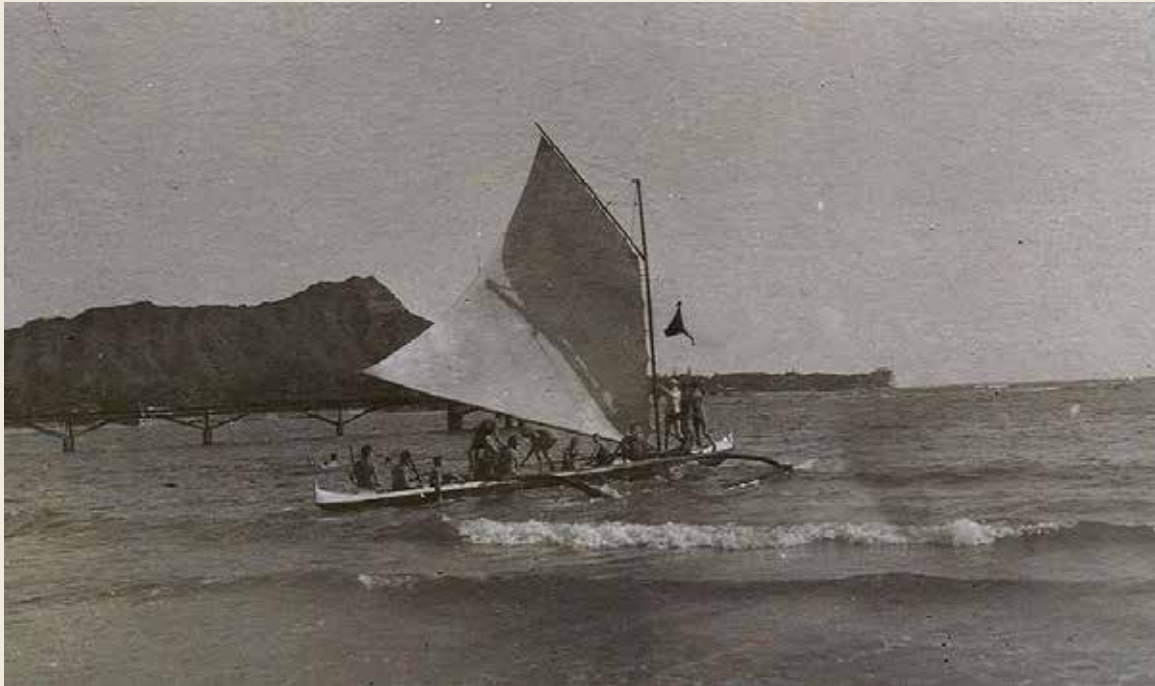
## Like a Seabird on the Wind

Paddlers set sail in the *Holoholo* with a new training program

By J.M. Mike Durkin

➤ You may have noticed members zipping around on the *Holoholo*, the Club's outrigger sailing canoe. In June, under the leadership of Billy Phillpots and Bruce Black, the Sailing Canoe Committee launched a program to turn Outrigger paddlers into *Holoholo* sailors, reviving a Club tradition. Sailing canoes have been a Club activity from the very beginning—Duke Kahanamoku, Dad Center, Thomas Arnott, and others raced koa canoes rigged for sailing.

The 30-foot *Holoholo* has seats for four paddlers, and two more can ride on the trampolines that cover the



Outrigger sailing canoes have been a Club tradition since its earliest days.

space from the canoe to the port-side ama, as well as the safety ama on the starboard side. The vessel carries 150 square feet of sail area. With 15 to 20 knots of wind, she scoots over the water like a flying fish.

Sailing became a major Outrigger sport in the 1960s. The Club had a fleet of 14 Sunfish and 6 Pacific Catamarans, along with one of the most active junior programs in Hawai'i and sponsored sailing regattas. It even had its own Commodore. When Hobie Cats became popular, Outrigger hosted the first annual Hobie Cat World Championship Regatta in 1973.

At one time, more than 50 boats were moored in front of the Club. But the arrival of Hurricane Iwa in 1982 marked the beginning of the end of Outrigger sailing. Lacking protected moorings, boats were swept away, then a decade later, Hurricane Iniki mopped up the few remaining boats.

The new sailing canoe certification program is designed to teach members how to become *Holoholo* captains. A potential captain must go out at least four times with a certified captain to be certified to sail without assistance.

**The candidate must also meet the following requirements:**

- Swim (windsock and back);
- Level 2 Canoe Surfing Qualification;
- Climb in and out of the water into sailing canoe;
- Understand and follow OCC's Sailing Canoe program rules;
- Advanced rigging, sail hoisting, sheet line operation, and knowledge of canoe parts;
- Pass written test;
- Pass knot-tying test (bowline, bowline on a bit, square, half hitch, clove hitch, rolling clove hitch, and how to properly secure a line to a cleat).

Once certified, *Holoholo* Captains are required to take novices on training sails at least twice per year.

The training sails are fun, and sailing *Holoholo* will become even more fun when you can take your family and friends out with you. So, why not give it a go?

For more information, visit the Athletics page on [www.outriggercanoeclub.com](http://www.outriggercanoeclub.com).

Reading 'Riggers

# Summer Reading

By Gerry DeBenedetti

Three new Hawai'i-related books will keep you busy

➤➤ **Reading Riggers** will have no problem finding good books this summer. Here are three new titles—two by OCC members. These are not yet scheduled for our regular meetings on the first Friday at 10am, but they will be. All three titles are available in the Hawaii Public Library System.

## **Radar Girls**

by Sara Ackerman, OCC member

This fourth book in Sara's historical World War II fiction series focuses on the Women's Air Raid Defense (WARDS). We have OCC members whose mothers or grandmothers were members of the WARDS. A researcher, Sara spends a lot of time recreating the personal circumstances of her main characters, and keeps your interest with enough romance, technology, and history. Sara's talent has improved with each book. Meet the author at Reading Riggers on Dec. 3, when we discuss her third book *Red Sky Over Hawaii*. The Radar Girls will have to get in line. Her other two titles are *Island of Sweet Pies and Soldiers* and *The Lieutenant's Nurse*. The books can be read in any order.

## **Acting My Age**

by Thomas Farber

Part poetry, part environmental concern, and part contemplation on aging this book is a real wow. The short, interconnected essays read like prose poems. With images by well-known Hawai'i photographer Wayne Levin, this volume is part art book, too. The art and stories together make for an immersive experience, and can leave you stunned. The author, now approaching 80, is so well read and has absorbed so much of life, that when he quotes people like Pablo Neruda and Stephan Jay Gould, you want to read all of their stuff too. There just is not enough time in our ticking clock to get it all in.



## **Under the Wave at Waimea**

by Paul Theroux, OCC member

It's been 20 years since Hawai'i's resident famous author's wry *Hotel Honolulu* came out. He again turns his attention to his part-time home with *Under the Wave at Waimea*. Real people like Eddie Aikau and Hunter S. Thompson make appearances with the fictional protagonist—62-year-old former pro surfer Joe Sharkey. Sharkey is living the good life in Pupukea (where Theroux also resides), surfing, sleeping, and remembering the “good old days” when people cheered as he walked into a party. Now nobody knows who he is, nobody wants to hear his old stories, and things get worse when he accidentally kills a man riding a bicycle. The story goes back and forth between Sharkey's life as an Army brat, going to Punahou until he gets “busted,” surfing as his lifeline and eventual career until he is pushed out by the never-ending hordes of younger surfers. You don't need to know how to surf to surf this book. It is really good. Really. The book's film and television rights have already been bought, and now on AppleTV is a series adaption of Theroux's His best-selling 1981 novel *Mosquito Coast*, starring his nephew Justin Theroux.

# Employees of the Month



From behind the scenes to greeting you as you arrive at the Club, these employees have been recognized for their outstanding attitudes and dedication to hospitality. Please join us in congratulating them.



**APRIL**

## **Miguel Cagaoan**

**Locker Room and Laundry**

Miguel Cagaoan started at the Club in July 2018 in the kitchen and has been a member of the Locker Room and Laundry team since December 2020. A team player, he jumped in to provide coverage during the spring as the Club saw increased usage. Miguel is an excellent multi-tasker, switching easily between the two departments, while remaining upbeat. He was recognized for his great work ethic during a time when the Club is facing staffing challenges.



**MAY**

## **Scott Tanaka**

**Food & Beverage**

Scott Tanaka joined the OCC employee 'ohana September 2017 as a line cook, where he takes making meals seriously. A kitchen depends heavily on reliable staff, and Scott brings that attribute in spades. His coworkers appreciate his great attitude, and his supervisors value his consistency and passion for his work.

## Stew & Rice at Home

# Pictures of Hawai'i in Photos and in Words

**Gerri Pedesky and Joy Barnhart**

➡➡➡ **The Stew and Rice At Home webinar series** continues to be a big draw for members providing a range of interesting topics. During the spring, we've welcomed surfing legend Felipe Pomar, The Nature Conservancy Hawaii took us on a virtual hike on Maui and our friends at the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum shared our local ties to members of the WWI Lafayette Escadrille. Vicky Durand took us big wave surfing with her mother at Makaha and beyond. If you missed any of these webinars, you're in luck—the recordings can be

viewed on the Stew & Rice page at [outriggercanooclub.com](http://outriggercanooclub.com). Here's what's coming up this summer:

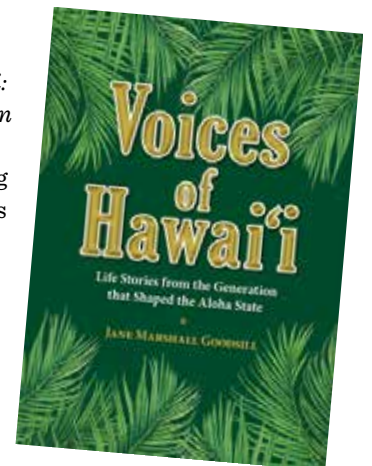
### **Tuesday, August 3**

Jane Goodwill will talk about her new book *Voices of Hawai'i: Life Stories from the Generation that Shaped the Aloha State*. Her collected stories, including some from our members, spans the pre-war years of Territorial Hawai'i through statehood and into the new millennium.

### **Tuesday, September 28**

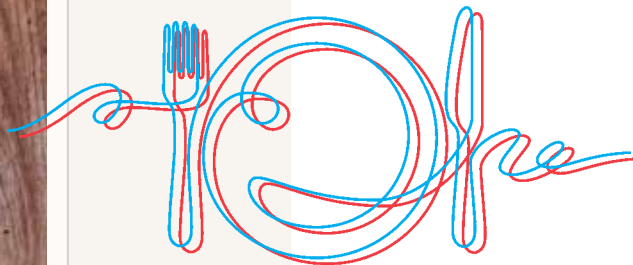
Get ready for the OCC Photo Contest—join a Zoom webinar with photographer, author and professor David Ulrich. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions live and be on camera.

Check the weekly Enews and OCC website for upcoming dates and exciting speakers.





● **The Lobby** | Happenings



## Fun on a Plate

Executive Sous Chef Brandon Lee's specials are a culinary playground of flavors and influences

By **Lesa Griffith**

➤ **If it seems like Hau Terrace specials** are breaking new ground these days, that's because since December, they've been overseen by executive sous chef Brandon Lee. A charismatic figure on Honolulu's food scene, Lee has worked in some of Honolulu's best kitchens, from his early days at 3660 on the Rise to sous chef at The Pig & the Lady to helming Kaka'ako hot spot Piggy Small's.

Lee was sous chef of the popular café Artizen by MW, on the ground floor of the Hawai'i State Art Museum, when owners Michelle Karr-Ueoka and Wade Ueoka decided to not renew the lease and closed the venue last August, the pandemic forcing their hand. He joined the Outrigger Canoe Club Food & Beverage team in November, and while he says a private club operation is a "new realm" for him, "it's a great company to work for." After having his career upended by Covid-19, stability was what Lee was looking for, and "the relationship with members and the amount of care the Club has for employees appealed to me." Lee found out about the

opening from Assistant Food & Beverage Director Wayne Larrow—the two worked at Zippy's together years ago, when Lee was still in high school.

At Piggy Small's, Lee was known for dishes with global accents, taking cuisine cues from Morocco to Hungary. And at Artizen by MW he updated the plate lunch with casual, creative takes such as an orange chicken sandwich (think Popeye's if it was a Chinese-American joint) and pesto-crust ahi steak sprinkled with salt-cured egg yolk. And he brings those kinds of adventurous flavors to the Club.

When talking about his cooking, Lee uses the word "fun" a lot—and that can be experienced in his Club specials that draw from sources such as local comfort food and chop suey houses. Who can't smile at honey walnut shrimp reinvented as shrimp crostini with honey mayo? Or clam chowder transformed into a delectable white pizza? But he also turns out serious contemporary plates such as pan-roasted scallops, the sweet of the mollusks matched by a corn pudding and bacon jam, or a hearty ribeye grilled Tuscan style with a blanket of marinated cherry tomatoes. And while you can find a video on Instagram of Lee devouring (and thoroughly enjoying) a Subway BBQ rib sandwich, he's not just about the meats. He has an amazing touch with vegetables, seen in past specials such as a Thai orzo shrimp salad.

"I like to keep it where it's not too off the beaten path, where the food is still recognizable, whether a take on something classic or using different ingredients that members can relate to," he says. He made a Thai beef salad that would be at home on The Pig & the Lady menu, packed with herbs, chilies and sauce. He wasn't sure what Club members' reaction

*“I like to keep it where it’s not too off the beaten path, where the food is still recognizable, whether a take on something classic or using different ingredients that members can relate to.”*

—Brandon Lee  
Executive Sous Chef

would be. The dish was a hit, so Lee will continue to offer similar bold flavor profiles.

He appreciates getting feedback from members. Lee says specials that are especially well received might be added to the regular menu down the line. He also is looking to add his twist to modern Hawai‘i classics—such as the Hawai‘i Regional Cuisine staple macadamia-crust mahi-mahi, or kitschy things served in a pineapple. “I can figure out a way.”

In addition, Lee collaborates with Executive Chef Mark Gedeon on special-event menus, such as for Mother’s Day. He has also revamped the banquet menu, which previously was largely based on the regular dinner menu. “I’ve made it a little more special, with food exclusive to banquets,” he explains.

When Lee isn’t working hard at the Club, his down time still involves food—he enjoys coming up with new flavors for Double Fat Ice Cream, a small-batch ice cream kiosk at the Alohilani Resort that he opened with a partner in February.



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PHOTOS BY TOMMY SHIH

Like a boss: (Foreground) Alice+Olivia asymmetrical knit top; Moncler zebra print coat; Emporio Armani sage jogger; Off-White black satchel. (On podium) Akris Punto parasol print shirt and cropped pant; The Row beige leather coat; Max Mara black leather obi belt; Off-White black and white tote.

## Spring Style

Fashion was back on the Koa Lanai in May

➤➤ It was a (socially distanced) sold-out affair at the Spring Trends Fashion Luncheon with Neiman Marcus on the Koa Lanai on May 6. Masked models struck a pose on a central platform and sauntered among tables (with no more than 10 people each, of course) sporting the best looks of the season for women and men. It was a great shopping opportunity from Neiman Marcus, with a pop-up shop featuring summer trends and great Mother's Day gift ideas. They also had an engraver on site to customize purchases.

The event was coordinated by Kim Smith, Jessica O'Neill and Candes Gentry from the Entertainment Committee. Member Mary Jones, along with Hele Mele Botanicals partner Maria Roedel, created the floral arrangements featuring butterflies—Neiman Marcus's timeless symbol of beauty, grace and transformation.

Thanks to Neiman Marcus' Brand Experience Manager Amy Castro and her talented team.



Swing time: Etro blue paisley maxi dress; Sans Arcidet straw hat; Aranaz straw woven bucket tote.





They've got the look: (clockwise from top) Giorgio Armani black relaxed top and pant; Eugenia Kim "do not disturb" straw hat; Cult Gala large straw tote.

Farm Rio dual printed wrap dress; Rafe New York straw hat and tote with shells. Farm Rio embroidered top; Dolce & Gabbana embellished jeans; Salvatore Ferragamo scarf; Serpui straw bag.

(On her) Molo bikini top; Johnny Was floral pleated midi skirt; Eugenia Kim headband; Chloe straw tote; Vince espadrille wedge. (On him) Robert Graham long-sleeve shirt; Brunello Cucinelli red-striped swim trunks; Moncler crossbody pouch; Giuseppe Zanotti slides.

Entertainment Committee members Candes Gentry, Mary Jones, Siana Hunt, Jessica O'Neill, and Kim Smith.



Bird in the hand: Serpui's parrot-shaped straw bag.



# Oh Wow, All-Day Lū'au

➤ **This year's May Day celebration** in honor of the Club's 99th Lū'au was unprecedented. To be able to accommodate as many members as possible, instead of a single dinner seating the event was held throughout the day, from 11am to 9pm, allowing those that prefer to dine earlier or with families to enjoy the festivities. And more than 300 members and their guests took part.

The inimitable Bobby Moderow, Jr., performed all day, setting a soothing slack-key tone. Members were treated to beautiful hula performances by current Miss Hawaii USA Alison Chu and Nicole Nakamatsu, Lei Queen 2019.

Executive Chef Mark Gedeon and his team created a delicious multicourse lū'au feast of tossed green salad with papaya seed dressing followed by poke, lomi salmon, Taro Brand poi, lau lau, kalua pig, Okinawan sweet potato mash and steamed white rice. The meal was topped off with haupia, sliced fresh pineapple and a brownie with whipped cream and macadamia nuts.

Thank you to the Entertainment Committee for creating lovely May Day decorations and helping put this special celebration. Planning is already underway for next year's milestone—the great 100th Club Lū'au.

Top: Miss Hawaii USA Alison Chu performed a graceful hula.

Center: (Clockwise from bottom left) Paralumen Durkin, Rhona Ako, Jason Ako, Harlow Thomas, Ariana Hunt, Sebastian Ako, Mark Thomas, Robert Durkin, Brister Thomas, Siana Hunt.

Bottom: Richard Blackburn and Donna Austin (far right) celebrated their wedding with friends.



PHOTO CREDIT: HAYDEN RAMLER

# OCC Gives Back with Surfrider O'ahu

➤➤ **June 8 was World Oceans Day**, and that same week, on a sunny Saturday, more than 25 Outrigger Canoe Club members and employees joined forces with other volunteers to help pick up debris at Ala Moana Beach Park. It was the second time the Club has teamed up with the Surfrider Foundation O'ahu chapter, and is part of the Club's ongoing effort to give back to the local community.

"It was really inspiring to see our members and staff show up, many, like me, with their families in tow," observed General Manager Tyler Roukema. "As a Club with a rich history of watersports, helping steward our beaches really resonates with us, and it's timely with this clean-up falling on the week of World Oceans Day."

Club volunteers found plenty of plastic debris and other rubbish to pick up in the park, preventing it from ending up in the ocean.

The Club is planning on organizing another summer volunteer opportunity, possibly in August. Be sure to read the weekly Enews for your chance to sign-up!



Clean team: (Clockwise from top left) G.M. Tyler Roukema and his family; member Alice Lunt and OCC Controller Jocelyn Apo; OCC Beach Services' JT and Electra; Board member Kevin Greenwell with wife Christine Thomas and their sons.

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-Peter & Mary Baldwin

*"We were new to Seattle, starting our family, and nervous about the home-buying process. Renee made the process easy to understand, listened intentionally and was always available to show us new listings. We couldn't imagine a better first time home buying experience!"*

-Joseph & Lizzy (Baldwin) Harmon



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Power moves: Mentor Anna Matheson and NKOK paddler Taraina Kamakawiwo'ole make the turn at Hanauma Bay.



# Nā Kama O Kapua

## FINDS A WAY

By Siana Austin Hunt / Photos by Hayden Ramler

► **This spring the young women** of OCC's Nā Kama O Kapua (NKOK), together with their coaches, stepped forward into a carefully planned, Covid-cautious solo craft season. Starting in early January, with multiple small groups of four athletes and one coach, the excited group gathered for some time on the water to advance their individual OC-1 skills and burn off lockdown steam. With OHCRA's formal canoe racing season placed on hold for 2021, OCC took a small step forward following a year away from paddling and lockdowns with an abridged version of practices and three coastal races for NKOK girls. ↪

# I#

you were around the Club during this time, perhaps you got to see the masked excitement of these ladies rigging their canoes on the beach or getting out on the water. For parents of the program, it was a great relief to see a small step toward normalcy, especially for kids who have had so much taken away over the last year.

“Ariana spent the end of her junior and all of her senior year at home, so having this outlet was a light at the end of the tunnel and reclaimed a bit of joy before graduation,” says mom Siana Hunt of her daughter. “She came home after practice a different person, like her time on the water was an escape.”

If you ask the girls, however, the highlights of the season were the three coastal races their coaches organized. The race courses included a Hawai‘i Kai Run, a triangle course race and an OC-2 relay race in a 3-paddler format. The latter included a first leg from Hawai‘i Kai to Hanauma Bay, then returning to China Walls. Taking a page from coastal relays from the past, paddlers jumped in off China Walls and made water changes in front of the weekend crowd gathered at the iconic spot.

“The best part of the race was jumping off China Walls to make our change,” says Malia Winter. “I have



Hoku Keala and Malie Clark surf a bump down the wall




Guiding lights: Paddling mentors Rachel Kincaid Curry (also coach), Anna Matheson, Hoku Keala, Lindsey Shank, Anella Borges and Joey Fati.

jumped off the wall for fun more times than I can count, but timing my jump to be in the water for my change and getting into the boat to dig out and head for OCC was exhilarating.” The OC-2 teams finished by running up the beach to the cheers of parents, coaches, and unsuspecting beachgoers who joined in the celebration. Some teams were separated by only five seconds.

In each event the girls were encouraged to stretch their limits and expand their ocean capabilities. OC-1 paddling focuses on the individual—being able to read water conditions while incorporating stroke technique—and having these craft available for the NKOK program is accelerating their learning curve. The race experience adds an additional competitive element making the season that much more impactful. Together, these young athletes not only elevated their skill sets, but pushed to new levels of confidence and

“SHE CAME HOME AFTER PRACTICE A DIFFERENT PERSON, LIKE HER TIME ON THE WATER WAS AN ESCAPE.”



strength on and off the water.

Perhaps one of the best elements of the finale was the pairing of NKOK paddlers with Open Women for the race. The opportunity to paddle with, and be inspired by, advanced paddlers was truly special. And not just for the junior paddlers. “Paddling with these girls was a glimpse of where paddling is going and what OCC’s Open Women can have in the future,” says Coach Rachel Kincaid Curry. “This is how the bar gets pushed upward in paddling.”

For Coach Darren Orr, getting back on the water with the girls was invigorating. “They were eager to push themselves and their enthusiasm inspired their teammates, as well as adult paddlers, who were watching us practice,” he says. The encouragement the girls received from the more seasoned mentors of paddling motivated a fun program experience for their last race before



### Spring Break.

In many ways these young ladies were a great reminder that there is life beyond lockdowns at OCC and returning to the water was one step closer to normal life. They may have been the only active paddling program at OCC this spring, but it was a win for everyone at the Club, bringing an invigorating vibe and a reason to celebrate.

Special thanks to the Canoe Racing Committee and Board of Directors for supporting this creative season. And a big mahalo to the backbone of this effort—coaches Darren Orr, Dolan Eversole, Corlyn Orr, Alika Winter, Rachel Kincaid and Anthony Hunt. ■



(Top) In the season's final race, first-place finishers Taihere Thompson and mentor Lindsey Shank make their way through the surf break to round the windsock into the Kapua Channel.

Coach Rachel Kincaid embraces her team.



Taylor Crabb (left) and Jake Gibb in Ostrava, Czech Republic, where they clinched their Olympic berth in June.



THE ROAD TO TOKYO

Four Outrigger Canoe Club volleyball players continue an amazing run

BY LESA GRIFFITH

In June, Taylor Crabb, with his partner Jake Gibb, qualified for the Tokyo Games at the last qualifying beach volleyball tournament in Ostrava, Czech Republic. He joins fellow Club players Micah Christenson, Erik Shoji and Kawika Shoji who are on the US indoor volleyball team. And former member Carissa Moore is one of just four surfers representing the US in surfing's Olympic debut (along with fellow Hawai'i peer John John Florence). ➔

Photo: Courtesy USA Volleyball



Setting son:  
Micah Christenson  
in action.

Two more OCC Olympic hopefuls, Tri Bourne and Trevor Crabb (Taylor's brother), just missed an Olympic berth when they lost in the round of 16 at the Ostrava tournament.

"Micah, Erik, Kawika and Taylor have long been recognized among the top in the world in their respective positions," says Bill Pratt, who serves on the Volleyball Committee and from time to time, along with others, has the opportunity to play beach volleyball with these young stars. "To have all of them hailing from OCC says a lot about the impact the Club and its athletic programs have on the sport. Not to mention Tri and Trevor who narrowly missed the bid—that really says a lot!"

The Outrigger Canoe Club has a long Olympic history. Beginning with Duke Kahanamoku earning a gold and silver medal at the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, Outrigger athletes and coaches have brought home a staggering 37 medals—18 gold, 13 silver and 7 bronze. And even more athletes have competed in the Olympics. While volleyball and swimming account for the bulk of the Olympic bids, OCC athletes have made appearances in a wide range of disciplines, from weightlifting and shooting to fencing and kayaking.

Thirty-seven is an outsize number for a small, private club in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. The most recent medal winners are Micah Christenson, Erik



"To have them all hailing from OCC says a lot about the impact the Club and its athletic programs have on the sport."

Shoji, and Kawika Shoji, who earned bronze in Rio de Janeiro as part of the US men's indoor volleyball team.

It has been a bumpy road to the Tokyo Olympics, with the global pandemic postponing the event a full year. And when the games open on July 23, athletes will be following major restrictions to keep themselves and residents of Tokyo safe. When the first athletes—the Australian softball team—arrived in early June for the last stage of their training, nine prefectures in Japan were under a state of emergency.

The Club wishes its four athletes a safe, successful Games on the court and the sand. ■



## MORE OCC OLYMPICS

See the **Jan/Feb 2020** issue of *Ama* for an overview of the Club's volleyball Olympians and the **March/April 2020** issue for a profile of Tri Bourne and Taylor Crabb, as well as Club Captain Brendan Bradley's thoughts on surfing's Olympic debut. All issues of *Ama* can be found at [outriggercanoecub.com](http://outriggercanoecub.com)

Learn more about the Club's Olympic athletes and coaches at [outriggercanoecubsports.com](http://outriggercanoecubsports.com), the Historical Committee's invaluable online archive of OCC history.



### OCC at the Mexico Olympics

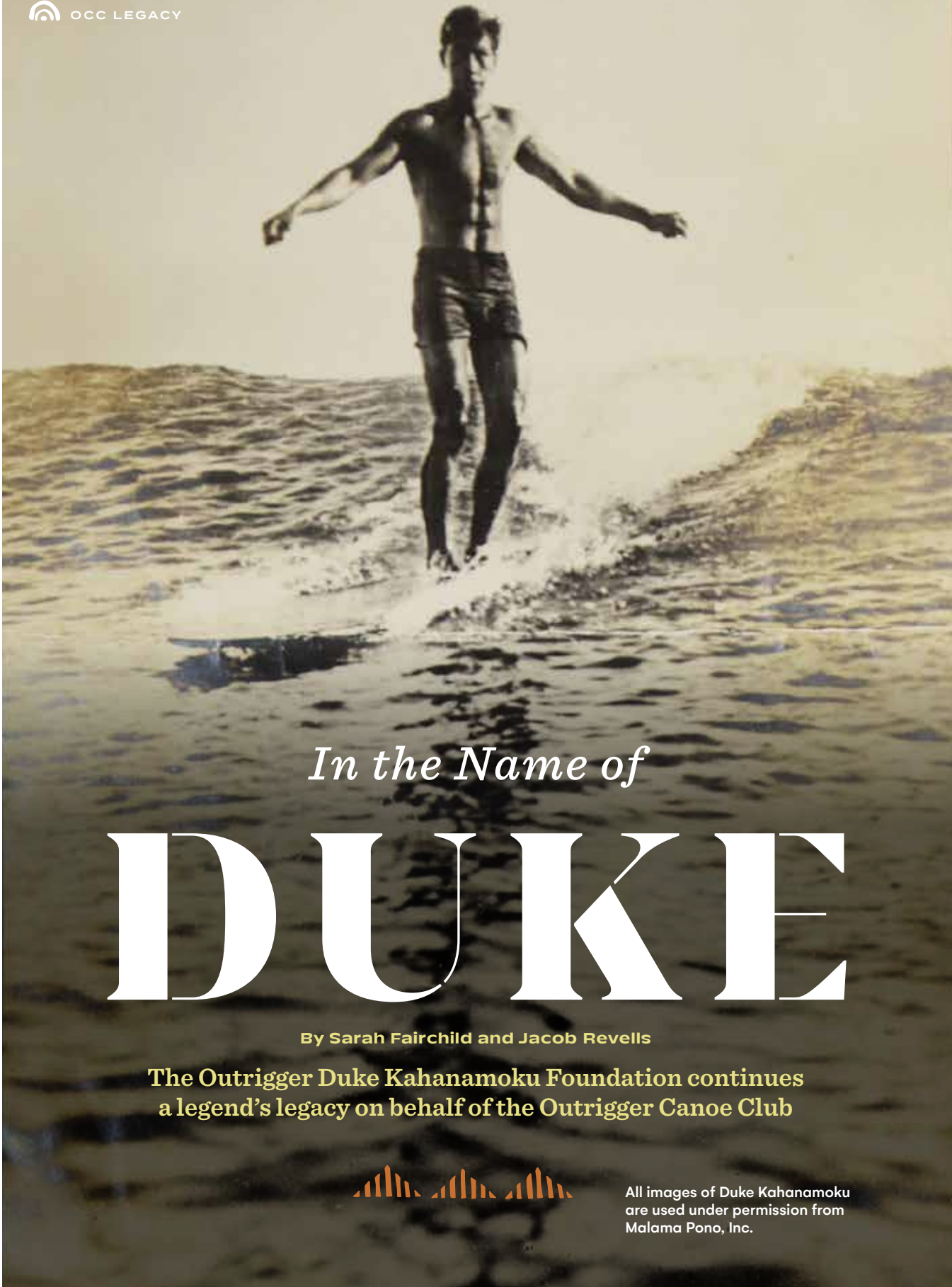
Four members of the 1968 OCC two-time national AAU championship men's volleyball team made the U.S. Olympic team that year, while their coach was named manager. Pictured left to right: Manager John Lowell, Jon Stanley, John Alstrom, Tom Haine and Pete Velasco.



Taylor Crabb attacks in Ostrava; Erik Shoji receives at the 2019 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Cup in Japan. Below: Erik Shoji, Micah Christenson and Kawika Shoji.

Photos: USA Volleyball





*In the Name of*

# DUKE

By Sarah Fairchild and Jacob Revells

**The Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation continues  
a legend's legacy on behalf of the Outrigger Canoe Club**



All images of Duke Kahanamoku  
are used under permission from  
Malama Pono, Inc.



## A photo of a smiling Duke Kahanamoku

and his surf team regally greets everyone who enters the Outrigger Canoe Club. The Duke Room is adorned with prints and sculptures of the legendary waterman. The mana of Duke, a pervasive presence, lingers in the salty breezes that waft through the Club.

Duke and OCC have a fabled connection. Hawai'i's original ambassador of aloha was one of the Club's most cherished members, obtaining its highest honor, lifetime membership, in 1965. Duke was also the first recipient of the Winged "O" award in 1968, just before he died.

Duke's spirit is carried forward in the joyful athletic competition that continues in OCC to this day. The Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation (ODKF) exists so that this legacy may be carried outward to the community, on behalf of the Club.

## DUKE AND THE OCC

Duke joined the Club in 1917, at the height of his athletic career. In 1911, he broke the 100-yard and 220-yard freestyle world records in Honolulu Harbor, and the following year earned a gold and a silver medal at the Stockholm Olympics. He went on to win two more gold medals in swimming in Antwerp and a silver in Paris, and also served as an alternate for the water polo team in a fourth Olympics. He traveled the globe giving swimming exhibitions, and along the way introduced his rapt audiences to surfing and Hawai'i.

The late Dad Center, another celebrated Club member, famously coached Duke and seven other Hawai'i swimmers. After riding a train from the West Coast to Chicago with his team in 1920, Center said, "Duke was a bigger attraction than ever. People demanded to see him at every place the train stopped—even at small towns—so that Americans could have a glimpse of their famous world champion. People would come right into the train car and get Duke out of his bunk so they could get a peek at him."

As his Olympic career wound down, Duke lived in California and played parts in dozens of Hollywood movies. Ultimately, he returned to Hawai'i where eventually he was elected Sheriff of Honolulu for 27 years. By middle age, Duke went from sports sensation to worldwide celebrity. The late Henry Ayau, Jr., remembered attending the U.S. Surfing Championships in Long Beach, California,



with Duke. "As we walked out on the pier, hundreds of people recognized him and began chanting: 'The Duke...The Duke...The Duke...'"

But OCC remained Duke's home at the beach. As Duke aged, he took the time to mentor, coach, organize competitions, referee, and officiate. In 1943, he helped start the Walter J. Macfarlane Memorial Canoe Regatta to perpetuate the art of canoe racing. He also mentored and inspired OCC paddlers to seven regatta victories in eight years as coach of the legendary Duke's Boys crew.

Duke influenced generations of Club members. "He would speak to you in a very soft tone. In the boat, he never yelled at you," said the late Jimmy Pflueger. "He never swore. He just talked to you. When he wanted the kids to paddle a little harder, he would say, 'Come on, kids. Give me ten.' It would send goosebumps, goosebumps through everybody. He was a great, great leader."

A one-time encounter with the elder Duke had a lifelong effect on the late Tim Guard, who went on to become a legendary waterman in his own right, as well as an OCC Board President and ODKF Board Member Emeritus. "My dad knew of my desire to learn surfing, and he said, 'Son, we're going down to the Outrigger,'" remembered Guard. "We met under the hau tree between the Outrigger and the Moana Hotel, and that's when I was introduced to Duke



Kahanamoku.... He took this huge plank that looked like an aircraft carrier and without any effort at all carried it down to the water, and I must've looked like a little frog on this huge board, and we went out, and we probably surfed for an hour or two, and it galvanized my feelings about surfing." Five years later, Guard was the junior champion of Hawai'i.

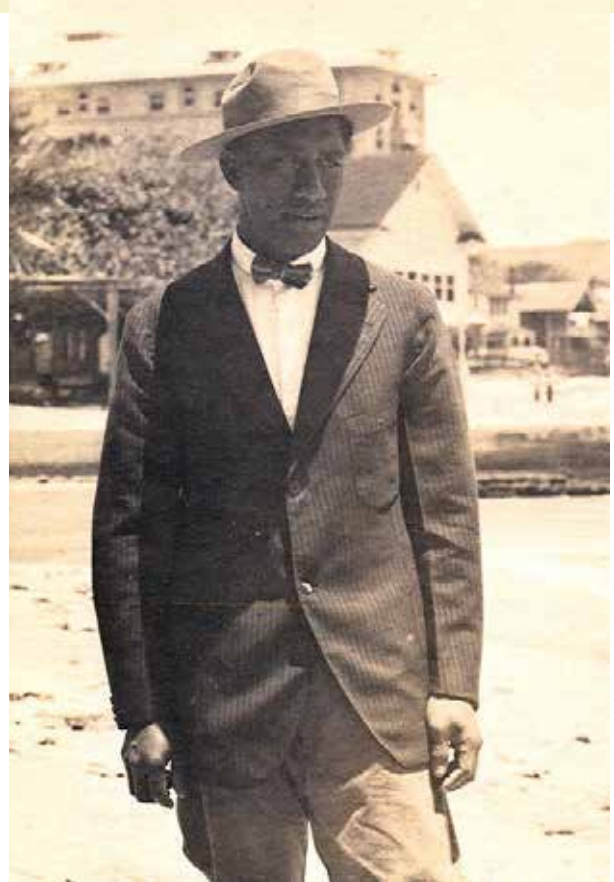
Members Fred Hemmings, Jr., and Joey Cabell had long relationships with Duke that started when they were boys. Duke coached Hemmings to develop ahonui strategies as a surfer, which Hemmings credits as helping him to win the 1968 World Championship in Puerto Rico in 1968 and to catch the wave of the day during the 1969 "Swell of the Century" in Makaha. "Duke would wait outside for the biggest wave of the day while other guys were catching lots of 10- to 15-foot waves more inside," says Hemmings. "His desire was not to catch a lot of waves, but the best wave."

Hemmings, a regular presence at the Club, says, "Duke was the real ali'i of ocean life... He taught me through the way he lived, that...aloha is more than a word of greeting or salutation or a word of goodbye....It's a lifestyle of appreciating the things that really matter in life, and Duke lived aloha."

## OCC'S FOUNDATION

In the 1950s and 60s the growth of Outrigger's athletic programs outstripped the Club's budget. Consequently, when athletic teams qualified for an off-island competition, the athletes had to pay out of pocket. In 1981, the Outrigger Foundation was formed to alleviate these costs. Tens of thousands of dollars were raised, but leadership recognized the foundation could be more successful if donations were tax-deductible and began an extensive undertaking to get 501(c)3 status as a public foundation.

In 1985, the Outrigger Foundation was still waiting on the IRS process when the Duke Kahanamoku Foundation suggested a merger. Friends of Duke had created the Duke Kahanamoku Foundation in 1963 to perpetuate his name and to give scholarships and grants in his areas of interest—water sports, police work, and international relations. With the Duke trustees becoming less active with age, merging the two foundations would allow scholarships and grants in Duke's name to continue, while also giving OCC members an avenue to make tax-deductible donations towards the sports programs



Dapper Duke: The legendary waterman in front of the OCC in 1917.

they loved. Given Duke's long history with the Outrigger, it was a natural match.

In 1986, the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation was established. Duke's widow Nadine Kahanamoku provided oversight to ensure the foundation's values aligned with Duke's character. Pamai Tenn, a representative of Nadine's estate, continues the role today. Representing OCC's interests, the foundation by-laws require that two-thirds of ODKF board members are OCC members.

Since then, the foundation has distributed more than 1,000 college scholarships for local youth, with 34 awarded this year. "Both of my sons had been given \$500 scholarships by the foundation," says former ODKF President Gretchen Duplanty. "I joined the board to give back to the foundation that had supported my sons in their sports. I wanted to repay them. I ran across quite a few people who had received grants and felt the same way."

ODKF Board Member Marc Haine has supported the foundation for 25 years because, "almost any kid that grows up in Hawai'i and goes to play sports on the mainland is well received because of his aloha spirit. I can't think of a better way to promote this legacy that started with Duke, than to help kids of Hawai'i get a chance to showcase their athletic skills. I want to help kids who will represent Hawai'i the same way Duke did before

them—with aloha.”

The foundation also remains a major funder of three big OCC competitions—the Macfarlane Canoe Regatta, the Dad Center Memorial Canoe Race, and the Cline Mann Paddleboard Race.

ODKF still helps local community events and organizations that perpetuate “Duke’s sports” and teach water safety, such as Hubb’s Keikifest for bodyboarding, the Kauai Jr. Lifeguard Program, Na Kama Kai ocean safety, Surfriider Spirit Sessions, and Ikaika Hawaii. The foundation also contributes to teams that foster the next generation of elite athletes, such as Spike and Serve, and Splash Aquatics, along with high school clubs like the Waiialua Surf Team.

Even ODKF fundraisers inherently give back to the community. The Hawai’i Waterman Hall of Fame celebrates the contributions of Hawai’i ocean legends. Duke’s OceanFest, a sub-organization of ODKF, perpetuates his legacy through friendly amateur ocean competition in Waikiki. Duke’s Night celebrates ODKF scholarship winners.

All OCC members are invited to become more active with ODKF by attending foundation events, volunteering with the board, and by making donations to ODKF scholarships and grants. Former ODKF President Billy Philpotts says, “The same reasons you join this club, are the same reasons you should support the foundation.”

Mary Philpotts McGrath was the first female President of OCC and is an ODKF emerita member. She points to her mother Muriel Macfarlane Flanders as someone who greatly admired Duke’s values and initiated multi-generational support of the independent foundation. “We need to paddle our support forward through generations,” says Philpotts McGrath, “so the gifts that Hawai’i and its aloha spirit has to offer supports those deserving and in need.” ■



Top to bottom: Duke Kahanamoku and Dad Center departing for the 1924 Summer Games in Paris. • Hawai’i Waterman Hall of Fame inductees Robby Naish, Tracy Phillips Darling and Kai Lenny. Tracy is a past recipient of multiple individual athletic grants from ODKF. • Laurie McGrath, Akira Williams, Michael Petrides and Olivia Stoetzer were finalists for the top scholarship in 2019.

## Help Perpetuate Duke's Legacy

The OCC business office can make a regular gift to ODKF very simple by adding a designated monthly donation to your membership fees. Please contact OCC Accounting Manager Evelyn Cagaoan at (808) 921-1417 or [ecagaoan@outriggercanoeclub.com](mailto:ecagaoan@outriggercanoeclub.com) to initiate a monthly donation. You can also donate online at [dukefoundation.org](http://dukefoundation.org).

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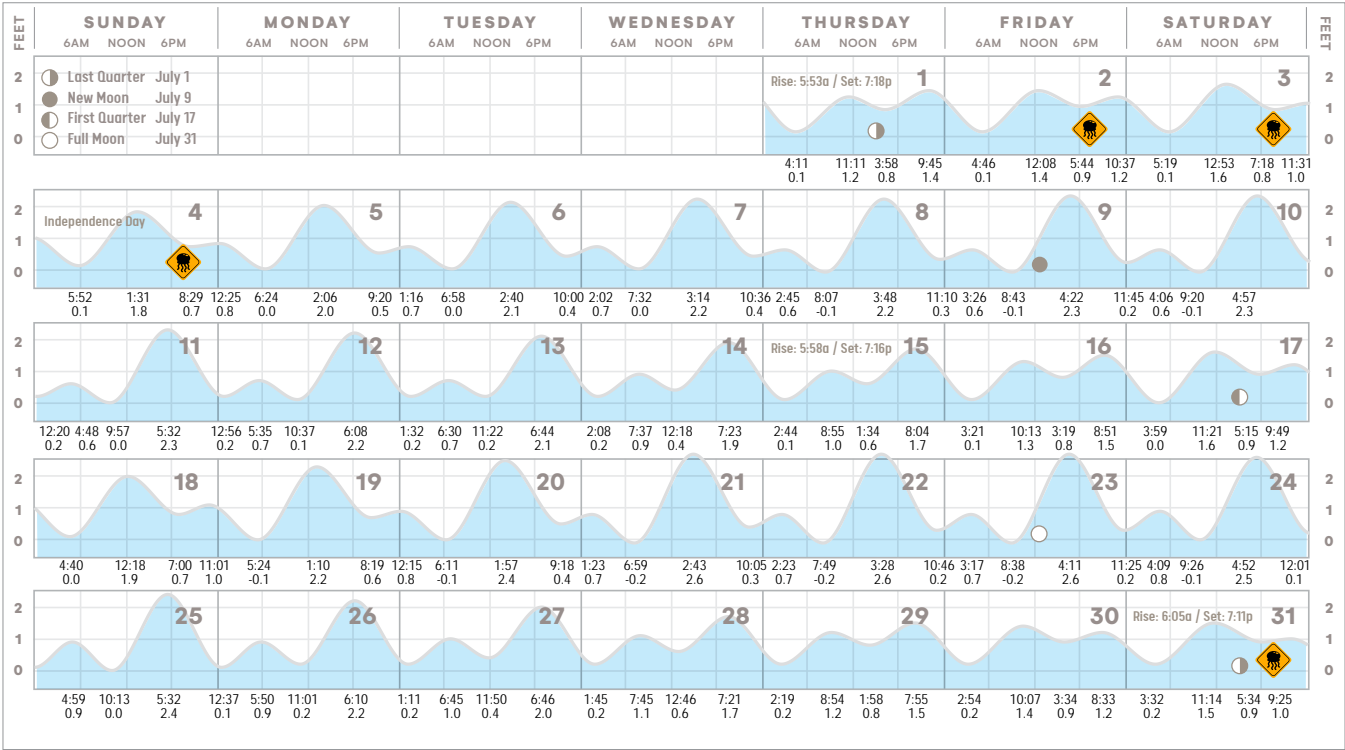
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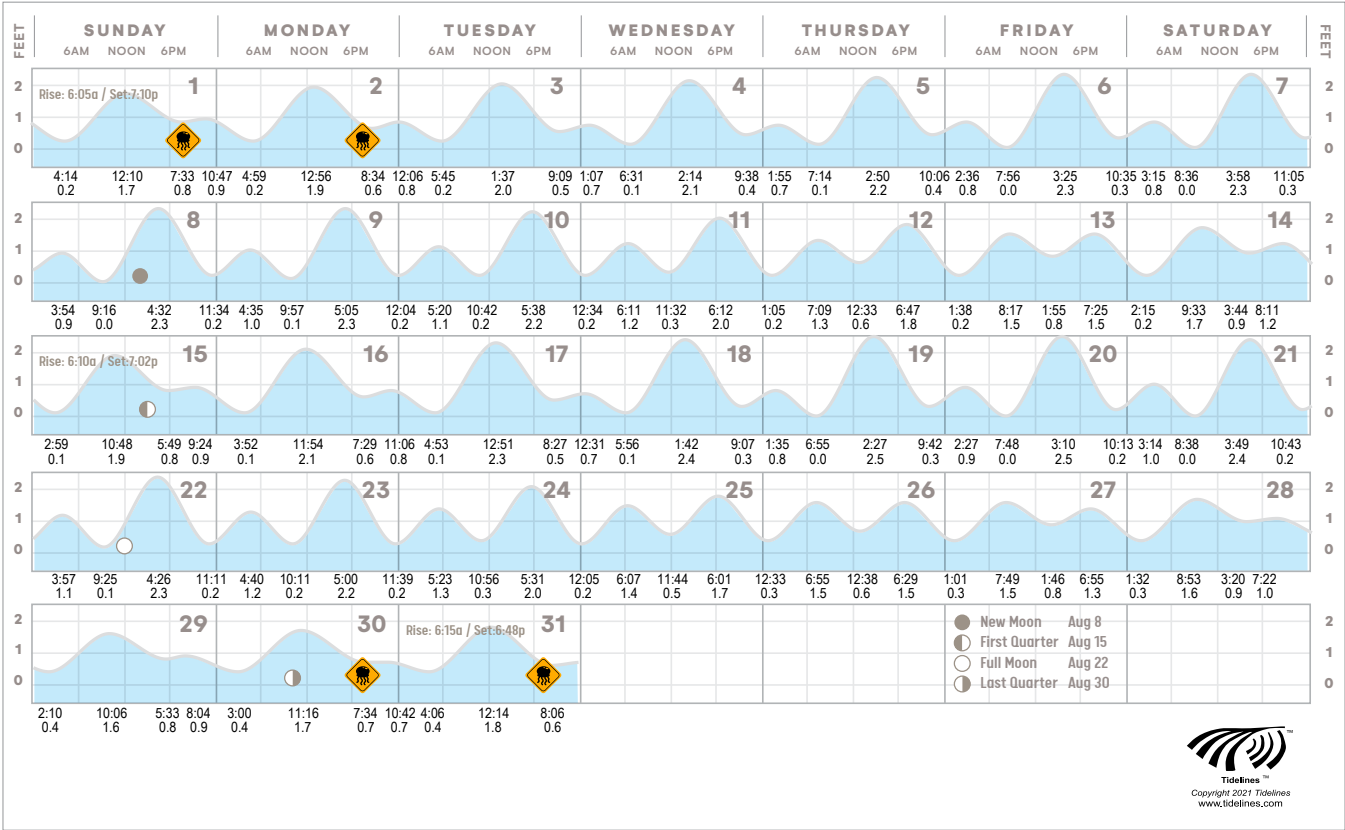
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August 2021



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Member: 68 years

**Thomas Harrer**  
DECEASED: APRIL 26, 2021  
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**Geoffrey Seymour**  
DECEASED: APRIL 6, 2021  
Member: 39 years

**Barbara Del Piano**  
DECEASED: JUNE 12, 2021  
Member: 44 years

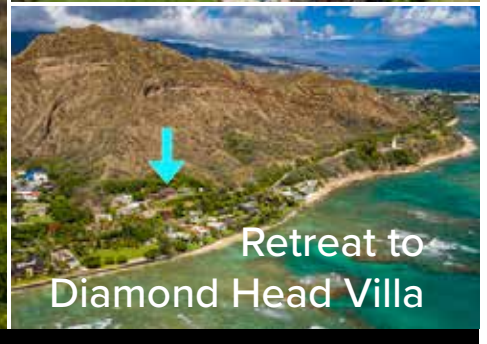
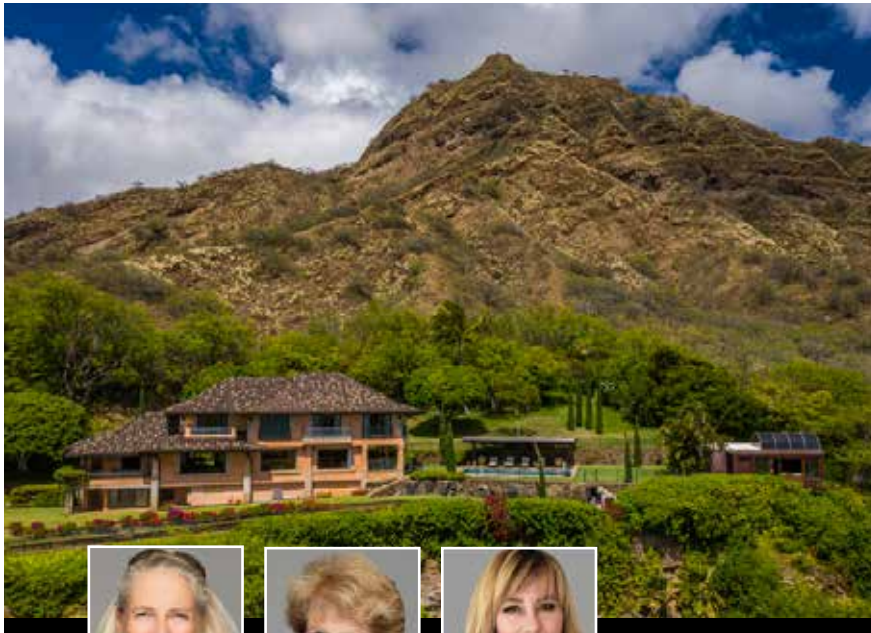
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DECEASED: APRIL 25, 2021  
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Member: 13 years

**Wendy Bookin**  
DECEASED: APRIL 30, 2021  
Member: 24 years

**Joseph M. Quigg**  
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Member: 67 years

**Daisy Pang**  
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Member: 4 months



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