

Ama

*The official
publication
of the*

**OUTRIGGER
CANOE CLUB**



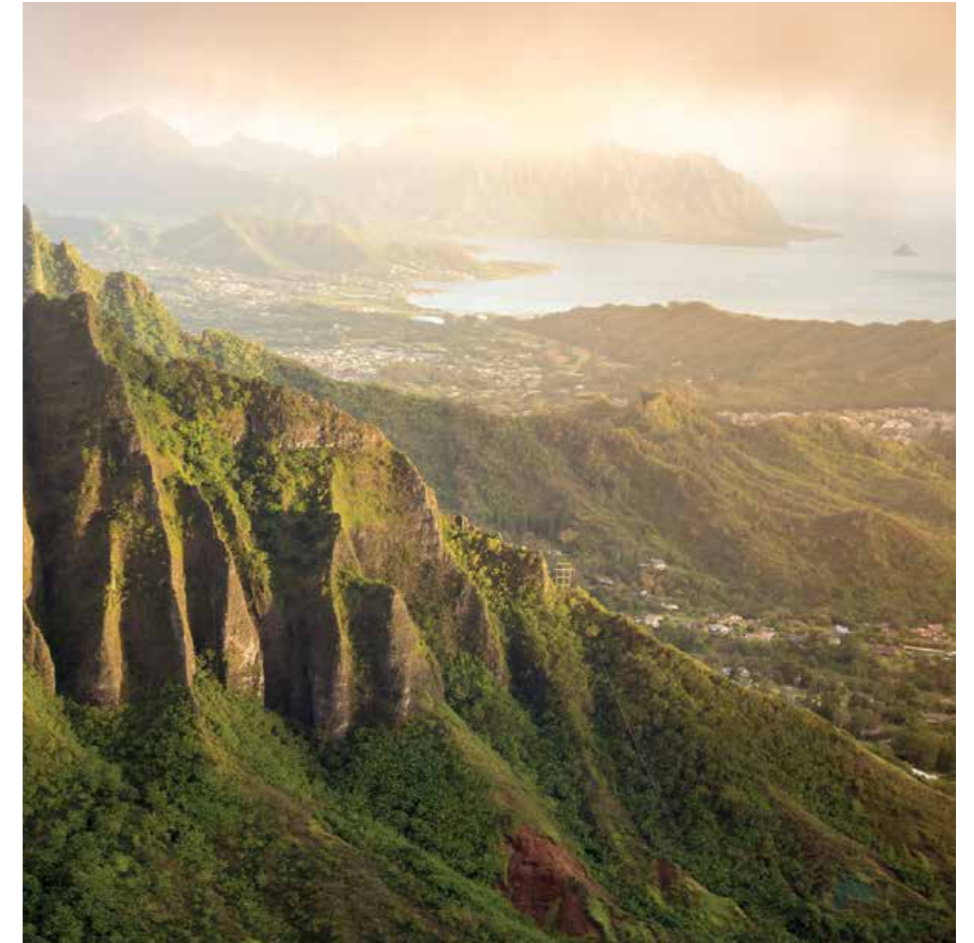
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WARD VILLAGE. *Howard Hughes.*

MARCH / APRIL 2021

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Photo by Matt Heirakuji /
courtesy Jam's World

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Photo by Matt Heirakuji

Ama |  **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.

ALOHA FELLOW OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB MEMBERS.

I am humbled and honored to serve as your President for 2021. It was surreal holding this year's Annual Meeting virtually, with Bill Meheula, myself and other presenters speaking into our computers, without being able to see the faces of our audience.



We all missed the physical and emotional contact that an in-person meeting provides, however the virtual format did allow for many to attend who may not have been able to otherwise. I am grateful to the more than 120 members who logged in to join the meeting, and I hope that our message was well received. I am optimistic that by the

time of our next Annual Meeting, we can again gather on the Koa Lanai, then retire to the Ka Mo'i Boathouse following the meeting for a celebratory libation.

As I begin this year, I am extremely grateful to those who paved the way before me. Meheula, Durkin, Sellers, Hunt, Noa, Whittington, and those who came before them, ideally positioned the Club both fiscally and physically to weather the current storm of the pandemic and the other challenges we face. Over my many years on the Board I have worked with, learned from, and become friends with incredible Board Members, all of whom provided their own unique value to the Club. Moreover, I am awestruck by the many dedicated committee members and other Club volunteers who give selflessly of their valuable time and energy. And I would be remiss not to mention Tyler Roukema and his amazing staff who strive daily to give us the best Club experience possible. The Club is truly like

a canoe that needs the strength of many to propel it forward while being skillfully steered to achieve excellence.

For the first time since I have been on the Board, we are operating under the guidance of a Strategic Plan. This plan was a collaborative effort, started by the Long Range Planning Committee, then completed by the Board of Directors with input from each of our Standing Committees. It serves as a guide to the Board, management, and committees. It is a working document that will be reviewed and updated every year, with specific short-term action items that serve to further the Club's long-term goals and objectives. It can be found on the Club's website—just click on the Membership tab, and look under Membership Policies, Bylaws and Board Minutes. I invite you to review it and pass along any suggested improvements or comments.

During these difficult times, rest assured the Club will continue to offer as many of its usual services as are allowed under state and federal guidelines, and will continue to improve based on the lessons learned. For me, the Club has been an oasis, where I feel safe, and where I still turn for solace. The sunset is still spectacular almost every night, and the mai tais taste as good as ever. I hope to see you soon at the Club!

Jon Steiner
President

Place.

A DESIGN ATELIER BY PHILPOTTS



The Calistoga Dining Table
by Barbara Barry for McGuire

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General Manager's Corner

ALOHA OUTRIGGER FAMILY! On February 8, the Club hosted its Annual Meeting. This was a historical milestone as this was the first time that the meeting was not held in person. At the meeting, the Membership welcomed our new president, Jonathan Steiner. We also had an opportunity to welcome our newest Board members—Evie Black, D.C. Eichelberger and Chris Laird—to the Board of Directors. All three will be valuable additions to our already fantastic Board.



I thank our outgoing Board members—President Bill Meheula, Alice Lunt and Rick Humphreys—for their long and dedicated service. All three did an outstanding job serving the Club and will be missed by all!

At the Annual Meeting I shared my deep appreciation of the Membership, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee for their unwavering support in 2020. I also shared how proud I was of the staff for their dedication and support for the Club under such difficult circumstances. The way that the Club came together in the face of adversity was inspiring!

As we continue to charge into 2021, the operations team will be laser focused on building on our successes in 2020, despite continuing challenges. Our goals include:

- Enhancing the value of membership
- Creating a “Best in Class” Food and Beverage operation
- Securing Employee Retention Credits (ERC)
- Fully reopening safely and efficiently
- Giving back to the community

- Improving the landscaping
- Supporting the Strategic Plan
- Supporting the Board of Directors and the Committees
- Improving or replacing the Snack Shop ordering system

I am proud of our team. I am proud of our Club. I am proud of what we have been able to do during these extraordinary times. I am proud of the direction we are headed, and I am proud to represent this Club as the General Manager.

Thank you again for the support, and I look forward to seeing you around the Club!

Tyler Roukema,
General Manager



MIKAHAUS

A HAIR SALON BY JAMIE KEIKO

Photo by Kristy Masoda featuring Carli Tamura

1451 S. King Street, Suite 202 Honolulu HI | Portfolio available on Instagram: @jamiekeikohair
Schedule an appointment: (808) 264-9340 | jamiekeikohair.com

The LOBBY

CLUB HAPPENINGS,
CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS



Happenings | **The Lobby** ●



Stew & Rice at Home

Take a Virtual Walk Through Maui's Waikamoi Preserve

Date: Tuesday, April 20, 6:30-7:30pm

➡ In honor of Earth Day, The Nature Conservancy takes us on a virtual field trip to Waikamoi Preserve, led by Maui Nui Forest Program Director Alison Cohan. Put on your hiking boots and virtually walk with us—via a Powerpoint presentation on Zoom—through the heart of the East Maui Watershed to discover the native Hawaiian plants and animals that call it home.

Located on the slopes of Haleakalā, Waikamoi is the state's largest private nature preserve. Its high elevation rainforest and alpine shrubland shelter 10 native

bird species, including 3 endangered and 3 threatened species, as well as spectacular native plants like the blue 'ōpelu, a native lobelia. TNC protects the native species that live in Waikamoi by managing the invasive weeds and animals threatening their survival.

In addition to providing a sanctuary for hundreds of native Hawaiian species, the forests of Waikamoi provide 3.1 million gallons of fresh water daily to Maui's communities, valued at an estimated \$36 million. TNC is proud to participate in the East Maui Watershed Partnership to protect some of the best remaining native forest in all of Hawai'i.

But first, on March 16 the Club welcomes back the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum (PHAM) for a webinar presentation of The Swamp Ghost's Long Journey Home with Alfred Hagen, about a B-17 aircraft in its collection. Coordinated by Historical Committee member Gerri Pedesky, this presentation marks the first of a series that PHAM will present to our members, with the next webinar scheduled for Tuesday, May 4.

The Historical Committee's Stew & Rice webinar events are free for members, but require registration in advance. When you sign up, you'll receive the link for the live Zoom session. Look for details in the weekly Enews that goes out on Mondays. The presentation is followed by a Q&A session.

You can get a Stew & Rice plate (or anything else you're craving) to go from the Hau Terrace menu. Take it home and tune in online for the best TV dinner ever. ■

Visit our [webinar page:](#)



Members' Notes

Having a Ball at OCC

➡ **Golda-Gray Thomas** was planning to continue a family tradition by attending the Southern Debutante Assembly's annual winter White and Gold Ball in Mississippi. When the 2020 event was indefinitely postponed, her parents Mark and Brister Thomas decided if the debutante could not attend the ball, then the ball could come to the debutante.

Swirls of tulle, satin and flowers circled the floors of the Outrigger Canoe Club's Ocean Room as the sixth-generation debutante was presented by her father and escorted by Joshua Kai Yamafuji, while observing safety protocols.

The aisle was decorated with tulle, palms and evergreen with white bows made from ribbon from the debutante's parents' wedding. The University of Hawai'i sophomore studying marine botany wore her mother's wedding pearls and a satin gown. ■

Have a special family milestone coming up?

The Club is ready to help you plan your own small, safe special celebration or micro event. Contact Catering Director Wayne Larrow at 808.921.1412 or wllarrow@outriggercanoeclub.com.



Holiday love:

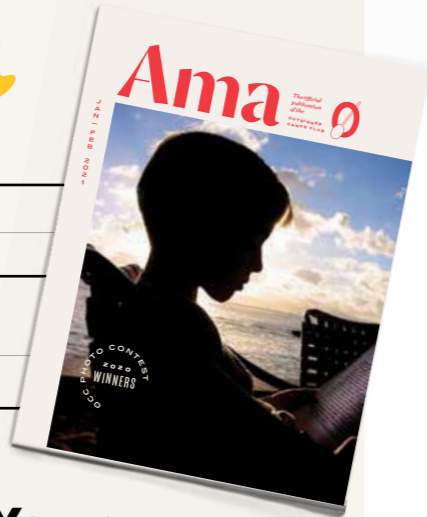
Member Kirstin Seal had a Christmas Eve she'll never forget—her fiancé Richard Tran proposed to her at the Outrigger Canoe Club. She said, "Yes!" Congratulations!

Calendar



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 3	Sat	Easter To-Go
April 4	Sun	Easter at the Club
May 1	Sat	Club Lū'au at Home/ Hawaiian Night
May 9	Sun	Mother's Day



Errata

In the Jan/Feb issue the name of the photographer for the Photo Contest's third place Travel category was omitted. The photographer was Terry Hathaway.

The Stories of O—Share Yours

➔ The Outrigger Canoe Club is a cache of amazing stories that bring to life its long history as well as that of Hawai'i. And OCC members are the only ones who can tell them. Help *Ama* continue the Club's storytelling tradition by sending us your memories and experiences. Send a short paragraph—who, what, why, where and when—and photos if available to ama@outriggercanoecub.com. Share your voice.



2020 Employee of the Year

John Simpson

Our family, our members, and our Club are all safer because of John's steadfast leadership...

➔ Last year was a challenging one for the Club. Many of our 'ohana were asked to work different jobs and in some cases, even asked to work in different departments. We approached John Simpson, a member of the Hau Tree staff, several months ago to join the new Safety Team to help us address the growing concerns with mask compliance at the Club. John was equal to the task and led our effort in better enforcing the state's new COVID-19 protocols.

John has been such an important part of the OCC 'ohana during the past year. His graciousness—you can see his smile even behind a mask—while having to ensure we all follow masking, distancing and group size rules has been outstanding. Our family, our members, and our Club are all safer because of John's steadfast leadership during this difficult time. Join us in congratulating John—from six feet away, of course. ■

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Vine Intervention

OCC meets your grape expectations at Wine Down Wednesdays and the new Virtual Tasting Series

➔ Is there anything more satisfying than sipping wine from a Chef & Sommelier crystal glass at the Club, the ocean dancing just beyond? Now there are more opportunities than ever to enjoy your favorite wines and discover new ones at the Outrigger.

Wine Down Wednesdays

The F&B team launched the Wine Down Wednesdays program last summer and the popular weekly event continues. This is where the Club serves premium wines at an everyday price—get 50 percent off bottles. It's perfect for safe, intimate gatherings of up to ten people, whether an impromptu catch up or planned celebration.

The ample list includes stylish finds such as a Pascal Jolivet Sancerre and Croze-Hermitage Petite Ruche (it goes with every

kind of meat and cheese!). If you want to explore off-menu, ask the managers what special bottles might be available from the cellar—F&B Director Rede Eder is constantly looking for the next great deal for members.

Wine Down Wednesdays seating in the combined Hau Terrace and Koa Lanai dining rooms begins at 4pm and reservations are strongly encouraged. Walk-ins will be accommodated as space allows.

Virtual Tasting Series

On February 11 the club started a Virtual Tasting Series, kicking off with Jackson Family Wines and Master Sommelier Michael Jordan. Winery owners, wine makers and Master Sommeliers present the history of the selected winery, growing regions and, of course, the wines they are presenting, followed by a Q&A session. Reservations are required, and they may be limited if the wines are highly allocated and hard to get.

Each tasting includes two bottles, with light food pairings from the OCC kitchen. Participants pick up their wine-and-food kit from the Club, then participate in the presentation from home via Zoom. Many of the presenters will be talking to you from their home locations—Michael Jordan beamed in from Sonoma.

You get to enjoy a premium wine tasting for a less-than-premium price in the comfort of your own abode. Eder hopes to schedule one tasting per month, based on presenters' availability. Also look for wine-pairing dinner options on upcoming menus and future featured winemaker dinners.

For reservations, call 921-1444. ■

Reading 'Riggers

Island Life

By Gerry DeBenedetti

Armine Von Tempski captured an intimate view of Hawai'i in these two memoirs

➔ Articles about Jack London almost inevitably mention his three trips to Hawai'i, one of which was in 1907, when he and his wife Charmian visited Haleakala Ranch. That is where they met 16-year-old aspiring writer Armine Von Tempski, the daughter of ranch manager Louis Von Tempski. She asked London to read some of her work. His verdict: "clumsy, incoherent tripe...but every so often there's a streak of fire on your pages." Von Tempski did not give up—she kept writing, stoking that fire and going on to write two autobiographies, along with nine novels.

Her first memoir, *Born in Paradise*, is a lyrical, detailed account of growing up with paniolos, local traditions, and life as her father's first born.

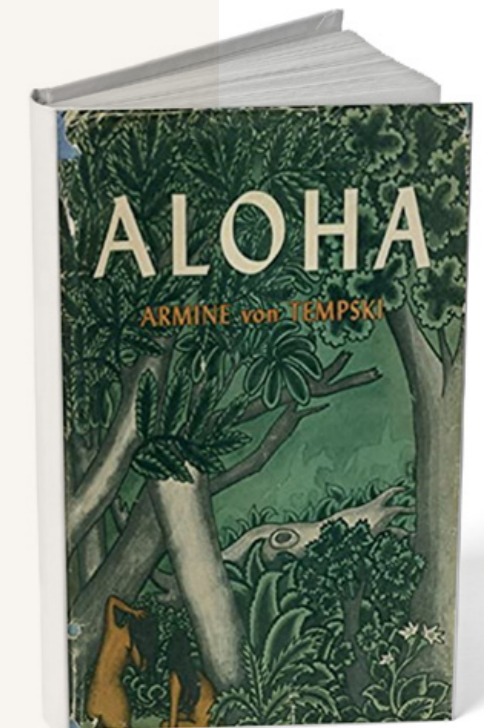
Following her father's death, Von Tempski visited Charmian London, by that time a widow, in Sonoma, Calif. She continued her friendship with London and visited several times on her mainland visits, recounted in the sequel, *Aloha, My Love to You*.



The book is a fair account of her adulthood, mostly wanderings about trying to "find herself." The description of a volcanic eruption on Hawai'i Island made it into her 1930 novel *Lava*. In both autobiographies, her descriptions of the terrain and life of old Hawai'i are wonderful, her dialogue, not so much.

While she went on to pen novels, Von Tempski's two autobiographies remain her best work. All of her books are available in the Hawai'i Public Library System.

As of press time, 10 members will be allowed to attend Reading 'Riggers during two sessions held on the first Friday of the month. Check with the Front Desk for location. ■



Selected fiction by Armine Von Tempski

Hula: *a Romance of Hawaii* (1927)
Set in Hana, this story centers on a teenage girl growing up amid a horse ranch and sugar plantation.

Dust: *A Novel of Hawaii* (1928)
Based on a true story, *Dust* depicts Maui ranchers trying to rehabilitate Kaho'olawe from goats

Fire: *A Novel of Hawaii* (1929)
A haole kama'aina girl marries a part-Hawaiian paniolo, causing a big scandal

Hawaiian Harvest (1933)
This time Von Tempski takes the pineapple industry as the milieu. Cover art is by OCC member Pam Andelin.

Thunder in Heaven (1942)
A kama'aina girl joins mainland and Hawaiian doctors in dealing with Hansen's disease.



Annual Meeting 2021



On Monday, February 8, 112 voting members logged on to the Outrigger Canoe Club Annual Meeting held via Zoom Webinar. Parliamentarian Steve Glanstein was invited to preside over the meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Bill Meheula at 5:35pm.

➤ **President Meheula reviewed 2020**, focusing on COVID-19's impact on the Club's members, operations and employees. He gave mahalos to General Manager Tyler Roukema and the Management Team for the many hours they spent at the Club, the Executive Committee of Jon Steiner, Rick Humphreys, Art Mallet, Laurie Foster and Curt DeWeese for meeting at least weekly with the GM over the year. He also thanked the Board for increasing their meeting schedule to at least twice a month. President Meheula in particular recognized the OCC Management team of Rede Eder, Jocelyn Apo, Mark Gedeon, Wayne Larrow, Autumn Woods, Shannon Pelkey and Robert Greer for their extra efforts to keep operations running smoothly.

In his review of challenges and pivots, President Meheula noted how the staff of around 150 was cut to 13 in mid-March. Now 110 employees have been brought back. City and County regulations limited Club operations and reopening hinged on creating safety protocols (including social distancing and masks), adjusting restaurant operations, guidelines for sports, and gym and restaurant capacity restrictions. The Club created a new budget to reflect the major operational changes and reopened in a fiscally prudent way. The Admissions and Membership Committee adjusted to Zoom interviews, meeting frequently as needed, and their great work resulted in the Club welcoming 125 new members last year, with a net loss of only 51 members. He thanked Chair Steve Auerbach, Coordinating Director Emily Porter and Executive Assistant JoAnne Huber for their work.

Overall, President Meheula reported, the Club's operations responded to the challenges quickly, with

efficient planning to improve the quality and services of the Food and Beverage Department, utilizing the renovated Snack Shop for high-service demands, increasing employee and membership communications and utilizing the CARES Act for employee retention. He thanked the OCC management team, Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Executive Committee for their leadership.

President Meheula also reviewed the history and process on the lease extension negotiation. Our Elks subcommittee has brought an offer from the Elks to the Board for consideration. The Board has asked that an independent panel review the offer and suggest a Sea Level Rise analysis before making a recommendation to the Membership for a vote. The Elks subcommittee will be merging into the Long Range Planning Committee to make a recommendation to the Board by mid-year.

President Meheula thanked the members for the opportunity to serve as president and for their support, noting that he had not received any criticisms, and that many members expressed how grateful they were for the Board and Management's work this past year.

Treasurer Art Mallet's report included a review of the Club's Operating, Capital Improvement and Building Funds for 2020. General Manager Tyler Roukema then reviewed operations for 2020 and the goals for 2021. He also announced the 2020 Employee of the Year—John Simpson (see p. 13 for more). The Historical Committee presented a short video on its Time Capsule Project; the video and photos are available to view on outriggercanooclubsports.com.

The Chair of the Judges of Election Commit-

tee Amy Woodward reported on the election for the Board of Directors. Of the 1,833 eligible voters, 935 votes were received, of which 528 votes were cast online and 375 were valid paper ballots. There were eight candidates slated to fill the seven vacant positions. Chair Woodward thanked the five other patient and hard-working members of the Judges of Election: Gerri Pedesky, Murray Hixson, Arden Moore, Natasha Haine and Angie Dolan.

The following candidates were elected to the 2021 Board of Directors to serve two-year terms: Incumbents Wendell Brooks, Jr., Curt DeWeese, Lissa Guild Eveleth and Art Mallet were re-elected to two-year terms while Evie Black, D.C. Eichelberger and Chris Laird were newly elected to two-year terms. They join President Jon Steiner, Laurie Foster, Kevin Greenwell, Michelle Luxton, Glenn Perry and Emily Porter. President Meheula turned over the virtual gavel to incoming president Jonathan Steiner, who presented the Board of Directors assignments for 2021. President Steiner outlined his priorities for 2021 (see them on page 4).

Secretary Rick Humphries introduced Life Membership nominees Gerry DeBenedetti and Kawika Grant, sharing their exceptional contributions. The Membership granted both Life Memberships.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm. The Member Forum was opened with Parliamentarian Glanstein presiding and incoming President Steiner took questions and comments from the members. Questions and comments regarding lease negotiations, more town halls and the safety of the seawall for keiki and kupuna were brought up by members. President Steiner and former President Meheula addressed the questions and President Steiner concluded the Member Forum, thanking the members for their participation and encouraging them to reach out with any future questions. ■

Life Membership

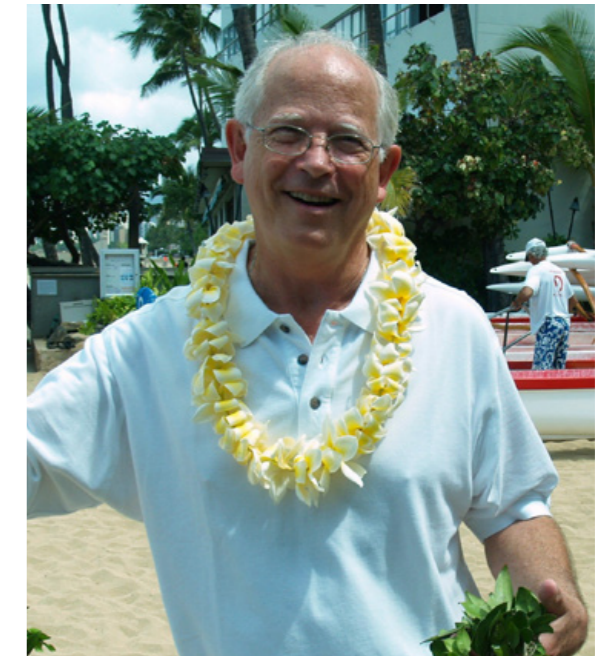
*Gerry DeBenedetti
& Kawika Grant*

A Life Membership, reserved for members who have made extraordinary contributions to the Club over the lifetime of their membership, is the highest honor that can be bestowed on an Outrigger Canoe Club member. The Historical Committee puts forward candidates to the Board of Directors, which then presents its recommendations to the Membership at the Annual Meeting for voting.

➔➔ **This year's honorees are** Gerry DeBenedetti and Kawika Grant, and both have added so much to the Club's cultural and athletic life.

"The Outrigger has always been a safe place for me and my children, our place to go, to meet, to be with friends and our visitors, and know that we would always be welcome and accepted," says DeBenedetti, who joined the Club in 1975 and served on the board in 1990. "For that I have been most thankful, and more than willing to 'work' for the Club. I sincerely appreciate the acknowledgement. It is a privilege to be a member and an honor to be a Life Member."

Her contributions can be felt in many areas of



the Club. She helped revitalize the Swimming Committee (serving on it more than 40 years!) and bring back the Castle Swim in the 1970s. Gerry was involved in the Public Relations/Member Relations Committee for around 30 years, serving as Coordinating Director, Chair and member, and was the assistant editor of the *Outrigger Magazine* for 12 years. As a member of the House Committee in the 1980s, Gerry updated the language of the Club's Bylaws and policies to reflect the changing membership, creating more inclusive documents. In 2016, Gerry started the Reading 'Riggers Book Club as part of the Senior 'Riggers initiative, bringing noted authors and a crowd of members to the monthly meetings. While the program was sidelined this past year by COVID-19, Gerry has continued sharing book reviews and suggested reading lists in *Ama*.

Kawika Grant joined the Club in 1986 and quickly became involved with the Canoe Racing Committee, volunteering to research and update the Macfarlane

trophies. He earned the moniker the "Trophy Guru" building trophies, getting pedestals made and keeping the Club's treasures up to date and on display. He has polished all of the Club's Macfarlane trophies before the 4th of July Regatta for years. Kawika was honored as the 50th Winged "O" in 2015 for his tireless efforts with the Canoe Racing Committee, Marathon Aid Station, koa canoe restoration, and Historical Committee. He was instrumental in both Time Capsule Projects, and involved in countless other committee projects and Club involvement. Kawika served on the Board of Directors in 1997 and 1998.

"To be a member of the Outrigger 'ohana has always been an honor, and to serve this great family in its striving for excellence a privilege," says Grant. "To be rewarded in this way—for something that for me has always been a labor of love—is humbling indeed. I am deeply touched, and truly grateful for this magnificent lei of aloha." ■



MESSAGE → to the → FUTURE

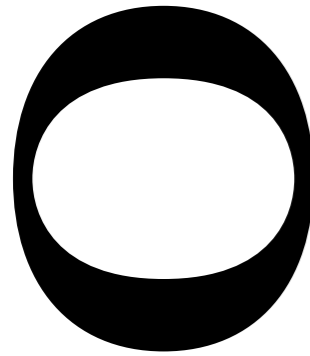
THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE CREATED
THE CLUB'S SECOND TIME CAPSULE,
TO BE OPENED IN 2058.



WE ALL LOVE LOOKING AT old Club photos and hearing stories from bygone days—black-and-white memories of regattas past, parents and grandparents, classmates, Christmas parties. How will members almost four decades from now look back on the Outrigger Canoe Club as it is today? Thanks to the Historical Committee, they will have a concise picture of the Club.

Time Capsule Is Go! From left, Bill Mehuela, GM Tyler Roukema, Kawika Grant, Jimmy McMahon, May Balding, Peter Balding, Jon Steiner, and Wendell Brooks, Jr. at the burial ceremony.

OCC HISTORICAL COMMITTEE



IN JANUARY 28, a small group gathered in the Lobby to commemorate the burial of the Club's second Time Capsule. The first capsule was put together in 1989 to celebrate OCC's 25th anniversary at its Diamond Head location, and was opened in 2014. This year's capsule will remain buried until 2058—when

the Club celebrates its 150th year of existence.

Peter Balding, who was OCC president when the first Time Capsule was dedicated, talked about the history of the Time Capsule, followed by outgoing president Bill Meheula, who shared his wishes for the future. The ceremony was re-

“We've tried to share a slice of our Club life with those who will be here in 2058. Important things we'd like them to know about us now.”

—Jimmy McMahon

corded and shared with members at the Annual Meeting and is available for viewing on the OCC Sports website.

“We've tried to share a slice of our Club life with those who will be here in 2058,” says Jimmy McMahon, chair of the Historical Committee. “Important things we'd like them to know about us now.”

Fellow committee member Kawika Grant was once again in charge of the Time Capsule, gathering images of today's Junior 'Riggers for an album. They will be 50somethings when they flip through and see their teenage faces. “We hope when they look through these photos in the future, they'll get a laugh out of seeing their teeth in braces and goofy smiles in their application photos,” said Grant during his presentation at the ceremony.

Other items in the Time Capsule are signs of the times—a pandemic mask; Club logo items; menus; a bottle of Old Pali



Kawika Grant, Jimmy McMahon, Bill Meheula, Jon Steiner, and Peter Balding at the Time Capsule burial site.

Below: The custom barware etched with OCC signature cocktail recipes; the Time Capsule goes into its specially made vault.



OCC HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

“In the first Time Capsule, we placed a bottle of Club wine, and you can imagine what that's going to taste like after being in the ground for 25 years!”

—Kawika Grant



Top: Kawika Grant and Marilyn Kali. Right: Peter Balding recalled the first Time Capsule ceremony and burial in 1990.

Road Whiskey; letters from the OCC staff, directors and members; and two handsome volumes published by the Historical Committee—a *Time Capsule Project* history book and a *The Way We Were* photo book. A highlight is a set of glassware with favorite OCC cocktail recipes—the Fowler, the Green Flash, the Henry, the Michele and the Rab—etched on them, the brainchild of general manager Tyler Roukema.

“In the first Time Capsule, we placed a bottle of Club wine, and you can imagine what that's going to taste like after being in the ground for 25 years!” joked Grant.

The capsule is actually comprised of two waterproof cases. They were sealed in the new concrete-lined vault the maintenance crew built inside the planter box outside the Lobby and edging the Volleyball Courts, where they will remain until May 8, 2058. We can't know what the Club will be like then—will the beachfront as we know it even exist?—but these Time Capsules are important parts of the Outrigger story, which continues to be thoughtfully cultivated and archived by the Historical Committee. ■



TIME CAPSULE 1.0

What was in the Club's first Time Capsule? We take a look back at Marilyn Kali's account.

A TIME CAPSULE, filled with memories of the Club's first 25 years at Diamond Head, finally found a resting place under the clock on the beach side of the Club.

The Time Capsule was placed in the ground by members of the Board of Directors, the 25 Years at Diamond Head Committee and the Building and Grounds Committee in a special ceremony on February 22, 1990.

A bronze plaque is being made and will be mounted on the wall near the clock showing the location as soon as it's ready. The Time Capsule was part of the 25th Anniversary Celebration on Club Day, last May 6. It was carried aboard the double hull canoe and blessed by the Rev. Abraham Akaka after it was carried onto the beach by Director Henry Ayau. The Time Capsule contains a bottle of OCC Cabernet Sauvignon, a poster of the Board of Directors, a roster of Club members as of Club Day 1989, three tapes and oral histories featuring interviews with eight old time members and Ward Russell, who was president of the Club at the time of the move; the special commemorative T-shirts from Club Day; the Club Burgee, the Club Day Program, a membership card, a copy of the Bylaws and Membership Handbook, Membership fees, the May and June 1989 Outrigger magazines, a list of Club employees, and menus from the Hau Terrace and Dining Room.

The Time Capsule is scheduled to be opened on Club Day in the year 2014 when the Club celebrates its 50th Anniversary at Diamond Head.

—Marilyn Kali, *Outrigger*, April 1990



Top: Club Day 1989.
Bottom: Director Gerri Pedesky and Kawika Grant seal the first Time Capsule.



Members of the 25 Years at Diamond Head Committee—Kawika Grant, Scrappy Lipton, Mitzie Lee and Mary Buck, Henry Ayau, Diane Stowell, Gerri Pedesky, Walter Guild, Tom Haine, George Cook and Dan Williamson with the Time Capsule.



Clockwise from left, Board Members Peter Balding, Mark Buck, Henry Ayau, Diane Stowell, Gerri Pedesky, Walter Guild, Tom Haine, George Cook and Dan Williamson with the Time Capsule.

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MEMBERS *Alana Kobayashi Pakkala* AND *Jonathan McManus*
HAVE TRANSFORMED AN OUTRIGGER NEIGHBOR.

The Kaimana Beach Hotel opened in 1963, one year before the Outrigger Canoe Club settled into its new home a few doors down.

Designed by Detroit-based architecture firm Laucomer Associates, which had an office in Honolulu, it has long been a refuge from the hustle and bustle of Waikiki, set on an historic slice of land. Its venerable hau tree, with its branches creating a green canopy, famously shaded a lounging Robert Louis Stevenson (he completed his novel *The Master of Ballantrae* while in the islands), when he was a guest at the modest, ramshackle San Souci Hotel that operated there from 1893 to 1895.

After a recent change in ownership, the hotel reopened as the Kaimana Beach Hotel on Dec. 22, heralding a new era for the Club's iconic neighbor—with an all-local team, including two Club members, behind its rebirth.

Alana Kobayashi Pakkala, COO of real estate development and investment company Kobayashi Group, and Jonathan McManus, founder of hospitality management and development firm Private Label Collection, are long time friends who had been looking for a project to work on together.

"The Outrigger is the only beachfront location that I go to," says Pakkala. "The thing I love about the Club is the community, of course, and also the serene, casual experience—it is second to none." It is a quality she and McManus wanted to echo in the Kaimana Beach Hotel.

Pakkala points out that the entire stretch of Waikiki is home to only nine oceanfront hotels. Of those, only four are fee simple, and of those, only one is locally owned—the Kaimana Beach Hotel. "We think that's an important change, especially as we are all seeing the effects of the pandemic and as we look to the future of tourism," says Pakkala.

She explains that BlackSand Capital, the real



"It's special to think that the great work Jon and [general manager] Ha'aheo [Zablan] are doing running the hotel is also at the same time benefitting such a large part of our local work force."

—Alana Kobayashi Pakkala



"What a great thing to be able to walk or swim over to the Outrigger."

—Jonathan McManus

estate and private equity firm led by her sibling, B.J. Kobayashi, purchased the hotel's land in 2016 (from the McInerney Foundation) and then the building in 2018 from New Otani Co. BlackSand Capital counts amongst its investors a diverse base of local pension funds, legacy land trusts, and institutional investors.

"It's special to think that the great work Jon and [general manager] Ha'aheo [Zablan] are doing running the hotel is also at the same time benefitting such a large part of our local work force," says Pakkala. At a time when Hawai'i has been severely impacted by the pandemic, it is a step for economic progress when a major business's dollars flow back into local coffers instead of out of state.

The project joins another member-initiated hotel endeavor in the neighborhood—the MacNaughton Group, led by Duncan, Ian, and Brett MacNaughton and Emily Reber Porter, purchased the Lotus Hotel in 2019.

When McManus was born, his parents lived on Coconut Avenue. And as the son of John McManus, the prolific restaurateur whose venues included the Shorebird Beach Broiler, he grew up in the food-and-beverage business and knows Waikiki well. "The neighborhood is the best part of Waikiki—that's why it's the Gold Coast," says McManus, who serves on the Club's Food & Beverage Committee and has a son on the volleyball team. And he and Pakkala take the hotel's place in the community seriously.

The reimagined hotel is the result of "a lot of listening" to community stakeholders, says McManus, and now he will be busy stepping back to watch how residents use the property, making adjustments along the way as ownership and management determine the right direction for the future of the hotel.

Part of the community includes the Outrigger Canoe Club. The Kaimana's beach-house chic rooms and suites can be a good option for non-resident members looking to stay near the Club, as well as for members who have visitors in town.

“On any given night, it’s fantastic to see people living life again. That’s the spirit of Kaimana.”

—Jonathan McManus

“What a great thing to be able to walk or swim over to the Outrigger,” says McManus.

Today the Kaimana Beach Hotel’s lobby is an airy space that doubles down on its mid-century history. As with OCC’s iconic Ossipoff-designed club house, you can see clear through the building to the water, creating an ocean connection the minute you mount the steps from your car. The chic-lanai vibe was created by the Henderson Design Group, which successfully translated its residential work for the hotel. Meanwhile the revamped restaurant, now known simply as Hau Tree, is drawing new diners with its beach-friendly, sea-food-forward menu.

What McManus calls a salon wall is a mosaic of photos and art by resident creatives such as Yoshi Tanaka, setting an upbeat *Ride the Wild Surf* tone.

“Having largely local artists on the salon wall encapsulates the way Alana and I imagined the Kaimana as reconnecting with the community,” says McManus. “Every artist on that wall feels like they’ve had a hand in doing that. And we’ve included that kind of connection with every department in the hotel. We’ve approached it from a different perspective. On any given night, it’s fantastic to see people living life again. That’s the spirit of Kaimana.”

The team had the building’s frontage repaired, and manager Zablan reached out to the area’s lifeguards and invited them to consider the hotel as an extension of their towers, strengthening the hotel’s bond with the beach.

One of the most impressive aspects of the Kaimana Beach Hotel’s turnaround was that it was done in three weeks.

BlackSand Capital took over the asset on December 1st and the renovation team only had 17 days to



refresh the arrival lobby and transform the Hau Tree dining experience. “We were also able to improve six penthouse suites that foreshadow the future of Kaimana, but there’s more to come,” says Pakkala.

“I’ve been doing this a long time,” says McManus, who is the mastermind behind Maui’s Hotel Wailea, “and to do the amount of work we did in three weeks—I’ve never seen anything like it. Everybody feels good about it.”

Pakkala and McManus, who both have a personal laidback elegance that is reflected in their work, are proud of how Kaimana Beach Hotel keeps the neighborhood’s flavor while at the same time covering new ground.

“When you step back and see the evolution of the Gold Coast, you’re starting to see there’s change in the air,” says McManus. “And there’s more coming. Having the opportunity and responsibility of hearing the community, understanding their interests, it is gratifying to open the doors and see so many people responding positively. We want them to truly feel it’s their Kaimana.” ■



Beach chic: The open-air lobby with its salon wall and signage build on the hotel’s mid-century history.

Hotel History

THE LAND WHERE the Kaimana Beach Hotel now stands has a long history of hospitality. In 1893, Greek-American entrepreneur George Lycurgus, who was influential in the early development of Hawai’i tourism, opened the Sans Souci hotel, taking the name of Prussian king Frederick the Great’s summer palace near Berlin.

British sculptor Allen Hutchinson, who lived in Hawai’i from 1888 to 1899, described the hotel’s main room as a ramshackle wooden structure and the small bungalows were “thatched roof affairs about 10-by-12.” It is where Treasure Island writer Robert Louis Stevenson stayed for five weeks in September 1893 and reclined under the famous hau tree that still shades diners today.

Following the overthrow of Queen Lili’uokalani, Lycurgus let counterrevolutionaries meet at the hotel. When their 1895 attempt to restore the queen to her throne failed, Lycurgus was one of the scores of supporters who were imprisoned.

In 1903, the McInerney family, Hawai’i’s retail pioneers, built a Victorian home on the property. Then in the late 1940s, despite being detained in an internment camp and having his early businesses disrupted, former plantation laborer Shigeo Shigenaga, and his wife Akino, were able to begin realizing a dream. They leased the property from the McInerney Family Foundation and in 1954 built 12 units of one-bedroom hotel-apartments. The McInerney home was converted into a lobby and dining room and named Hotel Kaimana—suggested by Shigenaga’s neighbor Judge Desha Beamer, for its Hawaiian meaning of “power of the ocean” and as the Hawaiian transcription of “diamond.”

Targeting the increasing number of business travelers from Japan, Shigenaga soon opened another 12 units. The budding hotelier then set his sights on a bigger project. He secured investments from such Japanese companies as Fuji Bank and Mitsubishi while Dillingham Corp. obtained “\$1.5 million in Mainland mortgage money,” according to a 1962 *Honolulu Advertiser* article.

Shigenaga and his investors erected the nine-story, 125-room hotel tower—still called the Hotel Kaimana—in 1964. In 1976, the New Otani Hotel chain bought the property and renamed it the New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel.—adapted from “Where novelists, sculptors, and isle rebels all roamed” by Bob Sigall, *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* ■

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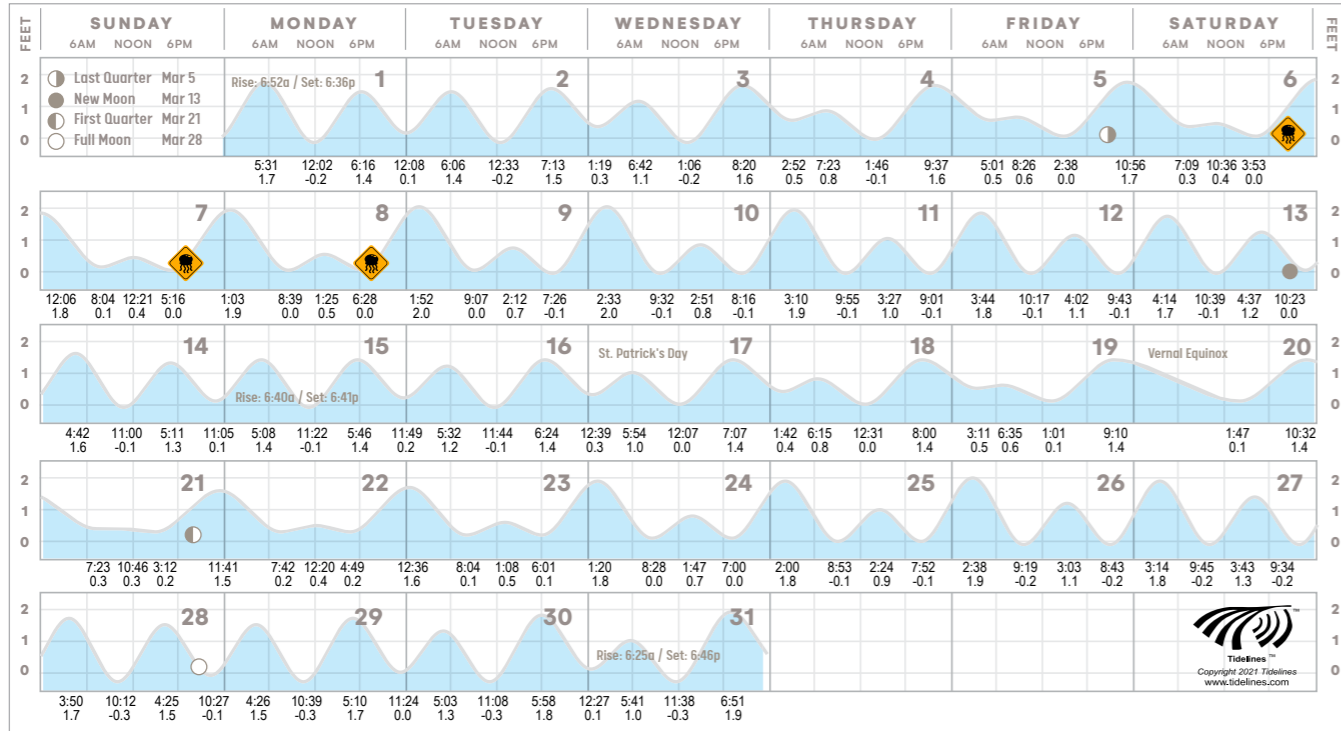
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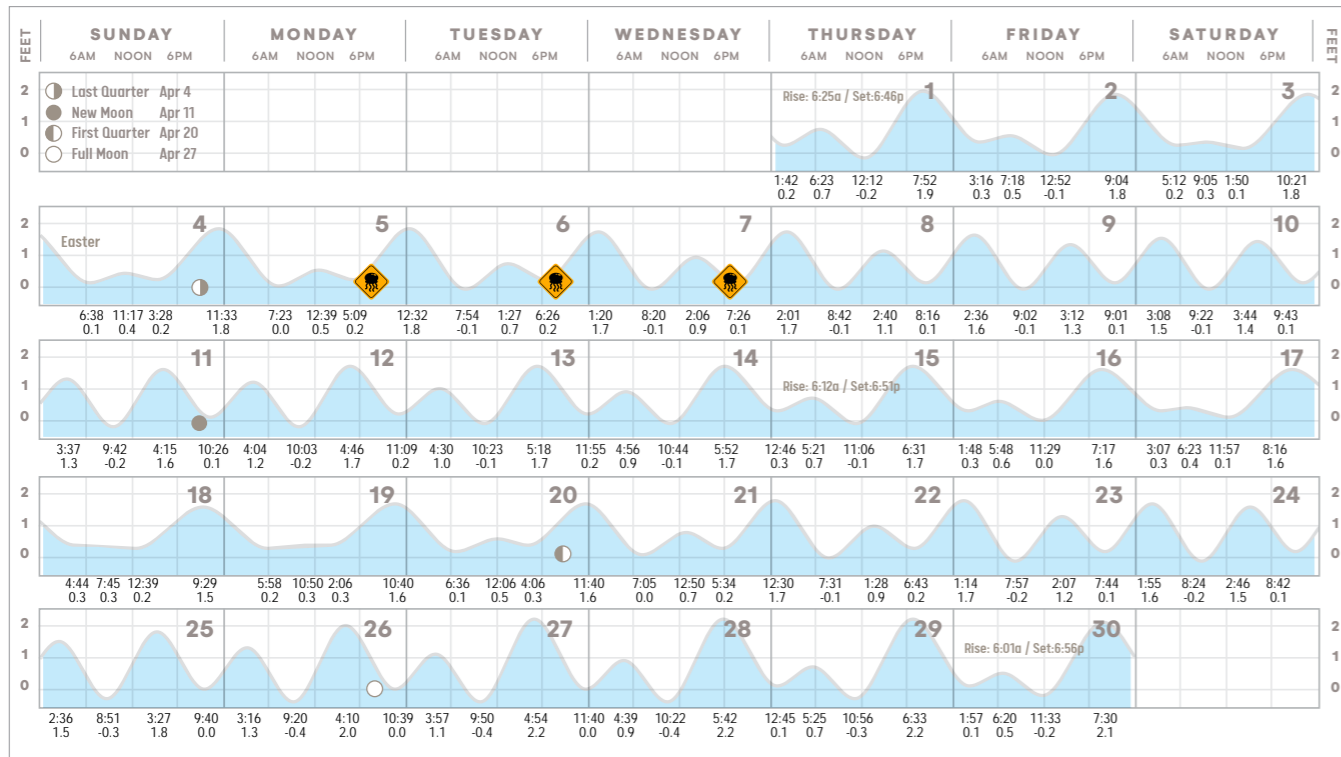


March 2021

OCC Tide Calendar



April 2021



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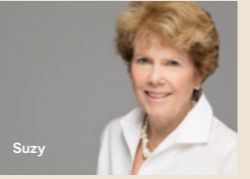
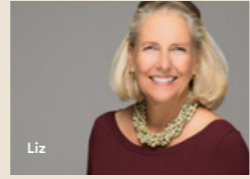
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