



# Lifeline

Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kauka'ahi

New Year 2002 ♦ Issue 02 - 1

## 2001 Photo Contest Winners

**photo-winning pictures are featured in this issue**

PHOTO  
NOT AVAILABLE

First Place Winner – Lois Miyashiro  
with co-presenter Rusty Lillico



Second Place Winner – Joseph Hu  
with co-presenter Rusty Lillico



Third and Fourth Places Winner –  
Kevin Ching with co-presenter Dani Kroll



Mahalo to Christmas Party organizers  
Gretchen Bond and Dani Kroll

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\*Ex-officio voting Board members

## President's Message

Happy New Year! Our members have been very busy with trips this past holiday season as shared at our last club meeting on January 15, 2002, including: South Maui – Jane Skanderup et al; Fanning Island – Charlie Hekeka; and Paris – Kathy Christiansen. Not an armchair group of adventurers are we.

A hard copy of this year's paddles is finally out in this newsletter. Rusty Lillico beat the presses by at least two months on our web page so do visit our site often at [www.huiwaa.org](http://www.huiwaa.org) for any updates. We think we have all of the dates correct. Please let me know if you have any changes and I will pass it on.

I want to thank, in advance, the members who volunteered their time and experience in leading these paddles including Rusty, Jane, Andy, Chuck, Jeff, Bob, Tim, Jon, James, Ann, Alan, Maghna, Douglas, Kevin, George, Steve, and Mark. One of the purposes of our club is to share our knowledge about the ocean and the coastlines, and being safe while on the water.

*[continued on page 3]*

[President's Message – continued from page 2]

Our club does need assistance on the paddles or help with some of the club activities such as getting this newsletter out to members. Please let me know if you have some time to volunteer. What better way to learn about kayaking than by helping on a kayak trip.

We have 50 paddles scheduled for this year so we hope to see you out often on our 20<sup>th</sup> year that the club has been around.

Safe Paddling,

**Joe Hu**

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## WINDBAG REGATTA 2001

By  
Kevin K.L. Ching, DDS

The winds weren't as strong or as consistent as last year, but it didn't stop Dave Meredith and Marcus "Flash" Austin from tearing down the coast for a dominating finish. Fifteen kayakers braved the Small Craft Advisory to participate in this year's 3rd Annual Windbag Regatta.



"Head in that direction, Tim" instructs Gary

"A couple of times the waves were helping us to go airborne!" declared Dave as he described the rough conditions outside the reef. There were some dead spots on the way down the coast, but Dave and Flash solved the problem by paddling their Ocean Kayak *Malibu II* just outside the impact zone. With Flash flying the kite overhead and Dave paddling in the stern, they bounced over the reef break. Close behind were Chris Barrs and Ian Fischer in their Spectrum *Duo*.

started!" as the boats with single-lined kites, sails, umbrellas, and rigged-up hammocks started. As I struggled with my rigging, Annette Rutty and Kristen Stressinger



Darn pesky wind

The start was staggered by group, and the "Traditional" Windbaggers started first. Dennis yelled over the radio, "Rusty, the first wave has



An alternative way to use a hammock

lifted their hammock high to catch as much wind as possible. The wind took a curious sudden downturn as we entered a dead spot, but Alan Calhoun kept paddling his Cobra *Strike* until the wind grabbed his 7.5 parafoil. Behind us were Sam and Elly Cuchinell with their parasol and umbrella. Tim was torn between fishing and kite sailing and did a little of both. Paul Tibbetts was flying along in his Scupper Pro outside the reef, braving the wind and the south swell. As we approached Kuliouou, the wind turned north and Alan's kite was heading out to sea, right into the impact zone. Not wanting to battle

[continued on page 4]

[Windbag Regatta 2002 – continued from page 3]

kite lines in 4-foot surf, Alan stopped dead in the water and started to reel in his kite. I took advantage of the situation and leaped ahead.



"Am I getting it up okay?" asks John

When the second wave ("KiteYakkers" with high-performance kites) started, the two winning crews got up to speed quickly, but Marie Perri and Fabian Staehelin were having a hard time keeping their dual-lined kite in the air. "Joe Kool" (Joe Koehl, last year's co-winner) had a problem keeping his kite up as well, once he and partner Robbie Barrs got outside the impact zone. John Enomoto (last year's other co-winner) not only had a hard time keeping his kite up, but he also huli'ed several times. He was attempting to fly a dual-lined kite solo on a Scupper Pro.

The finish was great as everyone arrived safely. The wind was picking up at Waialae Beach Park, so Dave and Flash arrived before Gary could get their picture. Soon all the Windbaggers sailed in, one after another, and that ended a remarkable race.



Kevin's photo finish

## Final Results:

Group I: KiteYakkers: (multi-line, controllable kites)

	Name(s)	Time	Boat	Rig	Remarks
1	Dave Meredith/ Marcus "Flash" Austin	27m 55s	O.K. <i>Malibu II</i>	Naish 5m Power Kite	<u>Double kayak overall winner</u> Overall best time and new Club Windbags
2	Chris Barrs and Ian Fischer	32m 53s	Spectrum <i>Duo</i>	Naish 4m Power Kite	
3	Marie Perri and Fabian Staehelin	1h 26m 8s	Cobra <i>Tandem</i>	Naish 4m Power Kite	
4	Joe Kool and Robbie Barrs	1h 42m 30s	Spectrum <i>Duo</i>	Naish 3m Power Kite	
5	John Enomoto	DNF	O.K. <i>Scupper Pro</i>	2m KiteSurfer	

[continued on page 5]

Group II: Traditional: Single-line kites and sails of any kind - umbrellas, bedsheets, whatever, as well as manufactured sail rigs

	Name(s)	Time	Boat	Rig	Remarks
1	Kevin Ching	51m 41s	O.K. Scupper Pro	1.5 m2 Deluge and ,75 m2 V-Sails	Single kayak overall winner Best Group II time
2	Alan Calhoun	57m 26s	Cobra Strike	7.5 parafoil kite	
3	Stan McRae	58m 17s	Wilderness Systems Freedom	7.5 parafoil kite, but gave up and paddled, mostly	
4	Annette Ritty / Kristen Stressinger	1h 4m 46s	Spectrum Duo	Large hammock	Best time for Double, Group II
5	Tim Sawyer	1h 10m 31s	O.K. Scupper Pro	7.5 parafoil kite	
6	Paul Tibbetts	1h 16m 56s	O.K. Scupper Pro	7.5 parafoil kite	
7	Elly & Paul Cuchinell	1h 25m 44s	Aire II	Umbrella & parasol	Best time for inflatable

MAHALO to course volunteers: Dennis Kees, Rusty Lillico, Gary Budlong, and Linda Mae Onomoto.

# 2001 Photo Contest Winners



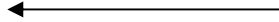
## First Place

*Title:* 3 On A Wave

*Photographer:* Lois Keliikuloa Miyashiro

*Location:* Kapapa Island, Oahu

*Subject:* Kayak surfers Paul Tibbetts and Alan Calhoun. What looks like a whale tail on the far left is actually Jeff Aurocoechea falling off his kayak.



## Second Place

*Title:* Sunset after kayaking in Maine North Woods

*Photographer:* Joseph Hu

*Subject:* Tom Holtey enjoys another perfect sunset on an island off Lake Umpagog during a kayaking trip in the Maine North Woods spanning New Hampshire and Maine.



## Third Place

*Title:* Wild Dolphins at Naha

*Photographer:* Kevin Ching, DDS

*Location:* Outside Manele Harbor at about 9:00 a.m.

*Subject:* There was a huge pod of dolphins that were unusually animated for that time of day. Lots of jumping and playing.



## Fourth Place

*Title:* Nanahoa Cave

*Photographer:* Kevin Ching, DDS

*Location:* Pinnacles at Nanahoa, Lanai

*Subject:* This picture is of Dani Kroll and Gretchen Bond in the entrance of a sea cave just before the Pinnacles. It was a classic moment that I couldn't resist snapping. I personally like the way that Dani and Gretchen melded together to form one image.



## TRIP RATINGS

*Excerpts taken from Paddling Hawaii!  
by Audrey Sutherland*

A knot is 1 nautical mile per hour, equivalent to 1.15 land miles per hour. Seas are measured in height of waves above normal flat water. Distances are in land miles, not nautical miles.

Class 1: Rivers and bays. Easy paddling or swimming. Quiet water, little wind or current. Easy put-in and take-out. Short paddles of 1-5 miles.

Class 2: Protected ocean area. Wind 0-10 knots and seas 1-3 feet. Sheltered put-in and take-out sites so you can make a short or long trip. Less than 1 mile between possible landings.

Class 3: Moderate open ocean. Wind 5-15 knots and seas 2-5 feet. Often more than 2 miles between landings. Some rocky shores and surf during take-off and landing. There is access to roads and phones in the first 3 trip classes.

Class 4: Exposed open ocean. Prevailing winds 10-25 knots and seas 2-10 feet. Some sandy beaches to cushion the landings. No phones or towns. May be 5 miles or more between road access. Steady shore break.

Class 5: Dangerous open ocean. You might get a quiet day, but this area often has winds of 15-30 knots, choppy seas up to 15 feet. Breaking surf on rocky shores, few or no sand beaches. Cliffs drop sheer into the sea. Experience, skill, and judgment required. No roads. 10-30 miles between phones. Difficult and dangerous.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PADDLER

Each paddler is responsible for his/her own safety. Please make sure that you are familiar with the skill level required, have proper instructions in kayaking, and that your boat and equipment are well-cared for and sea-worthy. Ratings of the paddles are based on average conditions. Weather and ocean conditions can change rapidly which would increase the difficulty of the paddle. It is up to each

individual to assess the conditions prior to launching according to his/her experience and ability, and to decide whether to participate or not. Each paddler must sign the release form and read the waiver provided by the leader if he/she plans to paddle.

## LIST OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PADDLE LEADER

- 1) Handle inquiries via phone calls, e-mail (if available), and/or in person prior to the paddle.
- 2) Get the marine radios from Rusty Lillico prior to the paddle and distribute them to qualified members at the launch site.
- 3) Arrive at the launch site on time or earlier to check weather and sea conditions. Check the weather report ahead of time (Hawaiian Waters at 973-4382).
- 4) Officially cancel the paddle in the event of Small Craft Advisory.
- 5) Organize and initiate a car pool to the landing site.
- 6) Gather the paddlers together prior to launching to discuss a paddle plan, including landing sites and planned rest stop or reconvening locations.
- 7) Encourage the "buddy system" so members are within shouting distance of one another in case of emergency.
- 8) Ask if there are any "new" paddlers (have never paddled before) in the group. Recommend that they attend a "beginners" clinic before participating, rather than risking injury. Leaders are not expected to teach new participants the fundamentals of paddling on the day of the event.
- 9) Count the number of boats and the number of paddlers prior to the launch. Relay this information to the co-leader or another experienced paddler. Count them again each time the group reconvenes and at the landing site to insure that everyone is accounted for.
- 10) Read, understand, and follow the American Canoe Association Safety Guidelines.