



Lifeline

Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kaukahi

Summer 2004 ♦ Issue 04 - 3

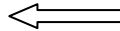
Highlights of the 5th Annual Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition

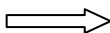
Narrative written by Jean Ehrhorn

Photos taken by Jean Ehrhorn, Kelly Miyashiro, Kevin Peebles, and Elliott Wong



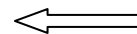
Leif Reed dancing through the waves on a Macski Wave Ski. *Photo of Leif hauling his Wave Ski.*



Sunny Moritz  overcoming her nervousness to kayak surf for the first time to place in the Wahines' (Women's) Open division.



Awesome performances in four events by veteran Hawaii kayak surfer, **Marc Armodia**.



More highlights and accompanying article inside starting on page 2.....

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advisor@aloha.net

VICE PRESIDENT

RUSTY LILLICO* 254-4123
lillico@hawaii.rr.com

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DANI KROLL* 651-6198 (c)
kanaala@verizon.net

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LOIS MIYASHIRO* 677-3481
loikake@hawaii.rr.com

BOARD MEMBERS

JEFF AURRECOECHEA ... 368-3891 (c)
GARY BUDLONG 737-9514
gary@gobananaskayaks.com

ALAN CALHOUN 621-6146
kayak-fool@hawaii.rr.com

KEVIN CHING 947-4526
chingdds@aol.com

ANDY COLLINS 262-7537
vac@hawaii.rr.com

JODI DINGLE 951-4360
jdingle@hotmail.com

MIKE DUBROVSKY 383-2157
mikedubrovsky@hotmail.com

CHARLES EHRHORN 395-6180
ehrhorn@lava.net

ANN McLAREN 945-9902
anniemckitty@verizon.net

TIMOTHY SAWYER 230-8989
sawyer@hawaii.rr.com

JANE SKANDERUP 239-7007
jskanderup@yahoo.com

PAUL TIBBETTS 734-5518
tibbetts@hawaii.rr.com

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BY-LAWS

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MELANIE WONG 839-9802
melaniemywong@aol.com

HWK KINE STUFF

ALAN CALHOUN

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

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*Ex-officio voting Board members

5TH ANNUAL SURF ALOHA KAYAK SURFING COMPETITION

By Jean Ehrhorn

Combine some risk, lots of sun, willing volunteers, a little surf, top surfers, novice surfers and those in between, and you have the ingredients for the 5th Annual Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition held on June 12 & 13, 2004, at White Plains Beach, Kalaeloa, on Oahu, Hawaii. The contest served up a lot of fun, attracted more than 50 contestants, and provided good competition in a sport that is growing world-wide.

Carving the face of a 4-foot wave with a sit-on-top kayak or a wave ski gives more of a "rush" than board surfing, according to veteran kayak surfer and national champion, Craig Stenstrom. You're closer to the wave, you feel its power as you hurtle down that precipice, edging into the wall and often popping up through the white water as it seeks to envelope you in a fury of foam. And you can take waves that surfers can't. According to Gary Budlong, another veteran kayak surfer, "at the end of the day, it is great exercise and a lot easier on the knees as well."

[continued on page 3]

[2004 Surf Aloha – continued from page 2]

White Plains Beach (or Nimitz Beach), formerly part of Barber's Point Naval Air Station, is located on the west end of Oahu about 19 miles from central Honolulu. The combination of small patches of reef and sandy bottom sets up an ocean condition with often unpredictable yet surfable waves. And the break is easily visible to landlubbers just wanting to watch a contest while they bake in the sun.

Together with MWR, the Navy Hawaii's Morale, Welfare and Recreation unit, Hui Wa'a Kaukahi sponsored the two-day event as a contribution to the community. Last year's proceeds were donated to Kai Makana, an ocean awareness organization. Hui Wa'a has a membership of over 200 and schedules at least two day-kayak paddles a month, covering the entire Oahu coastline in about a year. The club's goals are to increase ocean awareness, to educate its members and the public about ocean safety, and to generally have a good time on the water.

Ranging from at least three 60-plus-year old contestants to the youngest, 12-year old Maile All, there were all ages experiencing the thrills and the adrenalin rush of surfing down the face of waves on kayaks. There was something for everyone -- individual tests of skill at carving the waves, balancing acts for contestants in doubles standing on their kayaks, and a sprint through the waves for non-surfers. And it was also a family sporting event – one family had mom, dad, and daughter separately surfing and finishing by placing in at least two events. Another dad and his son are "regulars" at a wave spot off Hickam Air Force Base, proving that practice pays off in contest winnings.

Each contestant looked like a stuffed potato when wearing his or her brightly colored rash guard over an ACA-required PFD. Sometimes the regulation helmet matched; sometimes not.

On a 10-foot-high structure built level with the lifeguard stand, the spotters, timers, and judges held court. Timers kept track of the 20-minute heats and signaled the contestants on the water, spotters made sure the judges were tracking all of the kayakers on the 300-yard wide course, and, of course, judges were applying the criteria to score the rides the kayakers completed. Criteria for surf kayaking is similar to board surfing and includes demonstration of: boat control, wave selection, maximizing the length of the ride, style, carving back and forth, executing tricks like 360's and "floaters", and standing up on the kayak while surfing. (*One contestant, Hoptong Smith, has perfected doing a handstand on his kayak*). The surf heights were sporadic and the winds predictably picked up in the afternoons but, overall, conditions were fine for a contest with a wide range of surf activities.

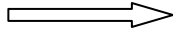
Trophies were presented to first, second, and third place winners in each of the 17 divisions, such as Strike Out for Cobra Strike riders only, Masters' Open for contestants ages 50 and over, Juniors' Open for youngsters ages 11 through 17, Wahines' Open for females only, Deck Boats, Wave Skis, and Tandem, among others.

In addition, many raffle prizes were given away, including three donated kayaks – a Wilderness Systems Kaos, an Ocean Kayak Scrambler, and a Cobra Strike. Other sponsoring organizations include: Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks, Yakima Car Racks, Werner Paddles, Carlisle Paddles, Kokatat, Native Eyewear, Amano Screen Printing, Bully's Surf Equipment, and many others as acknowledged on page 7 of this newsletter. Lotus Designs provided the PFDs (aka life vests) and Hawaii's own Xcel donated the rash guards used for the contest, gear required by the American Canoe Association.

Contests such as these don't happen without the organizational skill and the help of many people. Organizers Jodi Dingle, Gary Budlong, Lois Miyashiro, and Maghna Zettle, and their committee members, Dani Kroll and Peter Nicholson put out 150% to make this year's contest a smoothly run, fast-paced event. Thanks to all of the HWK members and others who volunteered to set up; pass out rash guards, helmets, and life vests; keep time; spot; judge; tally; schlep stuff; clean up; and generally pitch in where and when needed.

More Highlights of the 5th Annual Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition

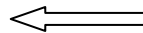
The well-practiced and choreographed display put on by **Steve Harris and Chalsa Loo** in the Tandem event.



Elliott Wong racing through many heats and standing up more often than any other kayak surfer.

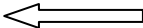


Marc Armodia, Alan Calhoun, and Kaleo Ing proving that, yes, a sit-on-top "Scrambler" can carve through the waves just as well as any other surfing kayak; it just takes a little more brute strength.



Highlights continued on page 5

Andy Collins and **Tim Sawyer** in their costumes for the Tandem event. They figured, "Hey! If you can't be good, be funny!" →



Maile All donating her talent of making omelets for the hungry crowd on Sunday morning and weaving wool "leis" for all of the first place winners...on top of coming in second in the Juniors' Open division on a Cobra Strike.

Charlie Hekekoa who was always there to help with anything that needed doing -- from setting up the judges' stand and carrying numerous boxes to policing the beach for litter. *(We left the beach cleaner than we found it.)* ↓



An unbelievable catch of a 14-lb ulua by contestant **Stan McCrea** who decided to while away the time between his events by fishing just off-shore. ↑

And the winners of the 5th Annual Surf Aloha are –

Deck Boats

- 1st Shaun Yates
- 2nd Doug Hudson
- 3rd Ryan Hines

Open Da Kine, Expert

- 1st Craig Stenstrom
- 2nd Marc Armodia
- 3rd David Marchant

Sit on Top Without Rudder, Novice

- 1st Hoptong Smith
- 2nd Paul Tibbetts
- 3rd Elliott Wong

Juniors Open

- 1st Leif Early
- 2nd Maile All
- 3rd Devon Svejcar

Scrambler, Novice

- 1st Marc Armodia
- 2nd Alan Calhoun
- 3rd Kaleo Ing

Sit on Top Without Rudder, Expert

- 1st Craig Stenstrom
- 2nd Brandt Vanderbeck
- 3rd Jeff Aurrecoechea

Masters Open

- 1st Heinrich Albert
- 2nd Alan Calhoun
- 3rd Marc Armodia

Sit on Top With Rudder, Novice

- 1st Aaron Acosta
- 2nd Lawson Cannon
- 3rd Reed Early

Strike Out, Novice

- 1st Frank Vanderbeck
- 2nd Chuck Hill
- 3rd Alan Calhoun

Open Da Kine, Novice

- 1st Evan Leong
- 2nd Brian Boltz
- 3rd Shaun Yates

Sit on Top With Rudder, Expert

- 1st Leonard Reeves
- 2nd Andy Collins
- 3rd Gregg Gildersleeve

Strike Out, Expert

- 1st Brian Boltz
- 2nd Elliott Wong
- 3rd Jeff Aurrecoechea

Surf Sprint

- 1st Leonard Reeves 5 minutes 40 seconds
- 2nd Paul Tibbetts 5 minutes 55 seconds
- 3rd Kevin Ching 6 minutes 07 seconds

Tandem

- 1st Chalsa Loo & Steve Harris
- 2nd Kaleo Ing & Hoptong Smith
- 3rd Jodi Dingle & Brandt Vanderbeck

Wahines Open

- 1st Jodi Dingle
- 2nd Terri All
- 3rd Sunny Moritz

Wave Ski, Novice

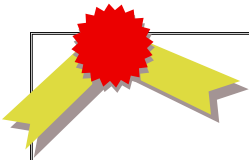
- 1st Paul Malaspina
- 2nd Matthew Gushiken
- 3rd Steve Harris

Wave Ski, Expert

- 1st Craig Stenstrom
- 2nd Marc Armodia
- 3rd Heinrich Albert



Set up of the judges' stand and the registration tent



5th Annual Surf Aloha Class Act Awards

Female – 12-year old Maile All

Who donated the proceeds from sales of her delicious mouth-watering omelets cooked on Sunday morning to the Surf Aloha event. She also weaved yarn leis and personally gave them to each first place winner at the Awards Ceremony.



Male – Alan Calhoun

Who turned down a grand prize kayak after having his winning number pulled for the third time in five years (how lucky can a guy get?!) and, instead, pulled another raffle ticket that enabled Steve and Suzi Anthony to go home with a brand new Strike surf kayak.

Both Steve and Suzi plan to enter next year's event. They both have volunteered in the last three years as judges.

Ohana – Vera Wong and Kelly Miyashiro from Seattle, Washington

Who gave up part of their vacation to assist with pick ups, organizing, hauling, set up, registration, equipment distribution, and clean up, and kept their mom sane and on track for the event.



5TH ANNUAL SURF ALOHA ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Volunteers

Steve and Suzi Anthony
Anne Ashford
Jeff Aurrecochea
Merritt Burke
Alan Calhoun
Aimee Chiland
Kevin Ching, DDS
Phil Dang
Mike Dubrovsky
Charles and Jean Ehrhorn
Blake Fuse
Mike Harken
Charlie Hekekia
Joseph and Dorothy Hu
Dennis Kees
Kevin Killeen
Stephanie Lachance
Rusty Lillico
Ann McLaren
Kelly Miyashiro
Mike Morelli
John Nolan
Rob Pratten
Annette Ruty
Elena Sawyer
Terry Shimabukuro
Jane Skanderup
Devon Svejcar
Paul Tibbetts
Brandt Vanderbeck
Vera Wong
Shaun Yates

and other individuals who jumped in to help and are not named here.

Sponsors

Grand Prizes

Ocean Kayak – Scrambler kayak
Cobra Kayaks – Strike surfing kayak
Wilderness Systems – Kaos surfing kayak

Prizes \$200.00 and over

Werner
Yakima

Prizes \$100.00 -- \$200.00

Bully's Surf Equipment
Carlisle
Extrasport
Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks
Kokotat
Native Eyewear

Prizes under \$100.00

Aqualung
Aqua Sphere
Bob's Big Boy Restaurant
Bully's Surf Equipment
Chaco
Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks
Island Seat Covers
Kokotat
Lotus
MSR
Native Eyewear
Pelican Cases
Seairports
Sealine
See Rescue
Surf to Summit
Thunderwear
Watersports Warehouse
Xcel

Mahalo nui loa

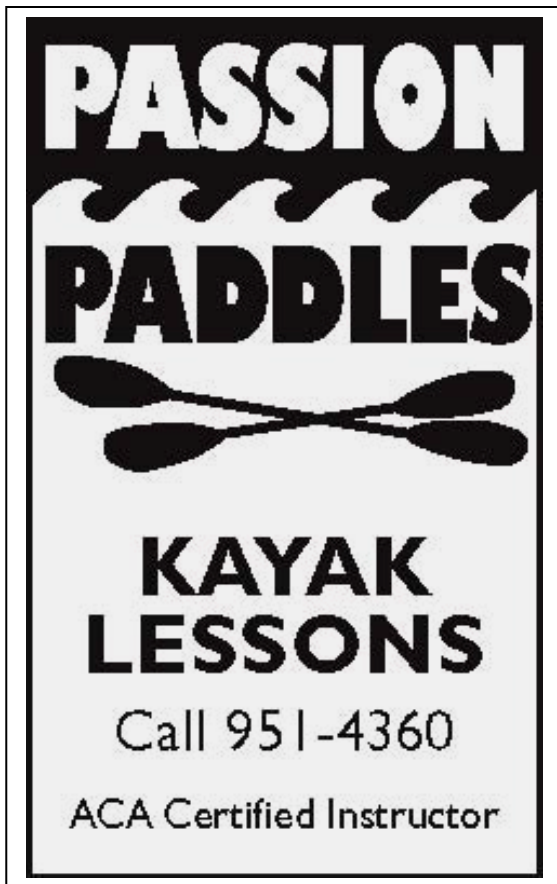


Me Ke Aloha Pumehana

from the Surf Aloha Committee

Gary Budlong, Jodi Dingle, Dani Kroll, Lois Miyashiro, Peter Nicholson, Maghna Zettle

PRESS RELEASE



JODI DINGLE

is an American Canoe Association certified instructor of Basic Coastal Kayaking.

Jodi was a salesperson and manager at Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks for five years.

Her paddling experiences include areas such as:

Na Pali Coast, Kauai; south coast Kauai; Hana Coast, Maui; north coast Molokai; all shores of Oahu; Kenai Fjords National Park, Alaska; and Susquehanna River, Pennsylvania.

Jodi is a two-time winner of the Wahines' Open division and a four-time winner of the Tandem division in the Hawaii Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition.

She has instructed groups at Hui Wa'a Kaukahi's Annual Easter Camp; given private lessons; and provided guided trips on Oahu.

PASSION PADDLES

Beginner Sit-On-Top Kayaking Lesson

Length of class -- two hours
Cost -- \$42.00 for Single; \$63.00 for Tandem

Instructions include: features of the kayak; safety gear list; basic paddling strokes; basic water knowledge; and how to attach gear to kayak; carry kayak on top of vehicle; get in and out of kayak while on land and in deep water; launch and land.

Beginner Kayak Surfing Lesson

Length of class -- two hours
Cost -- \$52.00 for Single

Instructions include: features of the surf kayak; surfing etiquette; paddling strokes; bracing techniques; and how to use knee straps and read waves and swells.

Advanced Sit-On-Top Kayaking Lesson

Length of class -- three hours
Cost -- \$63.00 for Single; \$83.00 for Tandem

Instructions include: a 4-to 5-mile paddle outside the reef; how and what to pack for a long day paddle; and how to use a bilge pump and safety gear.

Additional Information

Lesson time and location are flexible.

Students should have their own kayaks or arrange to rent them from either Go Bananas store in Kapahulu or Aiea.

Hui Wa'a Kaukahi club members receive a 20% discount on kayak rentals at Go Bananas and a 10% discount on Passion Paddles lessons. The cost of the lesson includes tax and can be paid by cash, check, or money order.

Customized excursions can be arranged for guests of Hui Wa'a Kaukahi club members who want to paddle.



The Surf Aloha article featured in this newsletter will be submitted to *Paddler* magazine and local newspapers for publication.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2004 Windbag Regatta

The only wind-driven race for kayaks in Hawaii will be held on **Sunday, July 25, 2004**, from Maunalua Bay to Waialae Beach Park in Kahala. Any wind-catching device will be accepted. The overall winner will be declared the **Windbag of the Year!** Prizes will also be presented to winners of various divisions. Last year's winner, Kevin Ching, will be back to defend his title. Challenge him, challenge yourself!

You must register to be eligible for prizes. Prizes include quality kayak sails donated by Gary Housley of Pacific Action Sails and Rob Lyon, distributor of Deluge kayak sails.

Registration fee: \$5.00 in advance for club members (mail must be postmarked by July 21, 2004); \$10.00 for non-club members; \$10.00 late fee on the day of the race for club members. Make checks payable to **Hui Wa'a Kaukahi**. Mail checks and entry form to:

Kevin K. L. Ching, DDS
1441 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 408
Honolulu, HI 96814

Complete this form and enclose with payment.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

I have read and understand the Hui Wa'a Kaukahi waiver (available on the website at www.huiwaa.org)

Signature _____

Kite Clinic

at the regularly scheduled
Club meeting on Tuesday,
July 20, 2004
at the Church of the
Crossroads conducted by
Alan Calhoun.

Also scheduled is a
presentation by Kevin
Ching, including a video
of the 2003 Windbag
Regatta as filmed by
D'Arcy Kuba.



5th Annual Surf Aloha T-Shirts for Sale

The light blue t-shirts are
available for purchase at
both Go Bananas stores in
Kapahulu and Aiea and at
regularly scheduled monthly
Club meetings.
Price -- \$10.00

Hui Wa'a Kaukahi
P. O. Box 11588
Honolulu, HI 96828



**Check the mailing label for the
expiration date of your membership.**

**Winners of the 2004
James Sutherland
Fishing Tournament**

held on May 1, 2004 at
Kaiaka State Recreational Area

1st Place – Alan Calhoun
3.5-lb awa and 2-lb omilu

2nd Place – Steve Harris
1.5-lb omilu

3rd Place – Tim Sawyer
1-lb papio

**Mahalo!
Sponsors of the
JS Fishing Tournament**

**Go Bananas Kayaks and
Roof Racks
Haleiwa Fishing Supply
Haleiwa Joe's Seafood Grill
McCully Bicycle and
Sporting Goods
Surf-N-Sea Surf Sail and
Dive Shop
Xcel Wetsuits Hawaii**