



# Lifeline

*Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kaukahi*

*Spring 2006 ♦ Issue 06 - 2*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Paddlers,

1. **Beaches Closed** -- Spring is coming and none too soon. Heavy rains have made many of the beaches on the windward side hazardous zones for bacterial growth. Most of the beaches should be fine soon. Sometimes the City and County of Honolulu leaves old *Beach Closed Signs* up, like at Keehi, so please check with the City or the State Department of Health if the beaches are closed or open before scheduling a paddle in the suspected areas. Unfortunately, Kualoa beaches will probably stay closed during the Easter weekend.
2. **Easter Camp** -- We have decided, though, to still have our Easter Camp on April 14 to 16 at Kualoa Regional Park which will keep its camp grounds open. We are fortunate to have the large group campsite (LGC) "A" and will have official use of the kitchen and large pavilion next to the bathrooms. However, unless the beaches reopen by Easter weekend, we have rescheduled our Saturday Kayak Clinic and Sunday Easter Egg Chase for Kahana Bay which is five miles, or 10 minutes, away by car. All other scheduled paddles are officially cancelled to date. Check our website for the latest status.
3. **Easter Auction** -- Donations are welcome for the auction, run by our favorite emcee and auctioneer, Gary Budlong, that we will be having along with our potluck lunch and Easter egg drawing on Easter Sunday. Please bring your donated items to the camp (they can be non-kayak related) and let Gary or me know what you are donating. All proceeds go to Hui Wa'a Kaukahi.
4. **Kayak Clinic**- We are holding another kayak clinic at Easter Camp on Saturday from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Kahana Bay. Kayakers of all skill levels are invited. To be covered are basic skills plus work on paddle strokes, capsize recovery and rescue techniques that everyone can benefit from. The class is free to all HWK/ACA members and \$10.00 for HWK only members. Nonmembers should join the Club to participate in the class.

Our paddling schedule is in full swing and members are getting ready for neighbor island paddles later this year. These paddles are open to all qualified paddlers subject to space limitation. Please contact the trip leader to sign up for any paddle or to get more details.

Safe Paddling,

*Joe Hu  
President  
Hui Wa'a Kaukahi*

# News From the Banana Patch.....

Gary Budlong, founder of Go Bananas, has “passed the torch” to John Enomoto effective January 31, 2006. John, the manager of Go Bananas for the past 17 years, has purchased the business and he and his family are carrying on the tradition of The Banana Patch! The store carries kayaks, paddles, PFD’s, Camelbaks, sunglasses, drybags, clothing, truck and car racks, and More!

Go Bananas continues to offer Hui Wa’a Kaukahi members a 10% discount on regular-priced merchandise and all outstanding gift certificates will be honored. We encourage you to support the company as you have in the past.

Be on the lookout for your membership card (to be mailed shortly), as that will be the indicator for the Go Bananas’ Aiea and Kapahulu teams to give you your discount!

Go Bananas contact information is:

Town: 799 Kapahulu Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
(808) 737-9514 phone  
(808) 732-7646 fax  
employees - John, Shaun, Lindsay, JT, Jerome

Aiea: 98-390 Kam Hwy (next to Dixie Grill)  
Aiea, HI 96701  
(808) 487-3400 phone  
(808) 487-3404 fax  
employees - Jodi, Pete, Rachel

info@ gobananaskayaks.com



**John and Gary**

For the next few months Gary will still be accessible at the Go Bananas in town. After that, who knows where we’ll find him...probably at the beach!

P.S. “If you can’t say it, you don’t get it!” -- Gary Budlong on the Hui Wa’a Kaukahi discount.

## **MARCH 2006**

Banana Bonanza on ROOF RACKS!\*

Save 5% off Tracrac and Thule racks  
10% off Yakima car racks  
20% off Yakima’s Outdoorsman truck rack

\*Remember, Hui members get 10% off or the sale price—whichever is better for you!



**Gary and Peggy**

## KUDOS TO GARY BUDLONG

by Rusty Lillico

You would be hard-pressed to find someone in the Hawaii kayaking community who hasn't at least met and, more probably, vividly remembers meeting, Gary Budlong. His presence seems ubiquitous, in large part because so many of us have bought our kayaks from him over many years. He took the advice of his many friends, myself included, that opening a "kayak store" would be a really stupid thing to do, and turned Go Bananas Kayaks into possibly the largest outlet store of its kind in the Pacific. But behind the clever shopkeeper and, indeed, gifted salesman, is the other Gary B, the irrepressible and enthusiastic kayaker we all know, whose often bizarre sense of adventure has dragged many of us into our most cherished encounters and discoveries - and our most enduring relationships with other kayakers.

Through his shop's Club-directed "purchase incentives," he has brought literally hundreds of unsuspecting newbies into our Club, many of whom have stayed as active paddlers, and have become good paddling friends. In addition, Gary has proved to be a redoubtable supporter of virtually every club activity and event, from Surf Aloha (yeah!) to the Easter festivities to numerous Club fishing contests. In a nutshell, Hui Wa'a Kaukahi owes Gary for more than it can ever count

### **The Introduction to Sit-On-Top Kayaking Clinic held on January 29, 2006 at**

**Kahana Bay** was a huge success and everyone who participated went away with "something learned." The clinic was conducted by ACA-certified instructors, Jodi Dingle, John Enomoto, and Joe Hu. Lessons were held on the land and on the water, sometimes in the water. Below are comments from some of the students:

**Gene and Becky Devine:** *"Thanks again for a great class! As new paddlers, we are both excited to paddle now!! It is well appreciated as we know it takes time and work to put on such a class!! Thanks to Jodi and everyone in the club for their warm welcomes and support. We are anxious and excited for new adventures!! Again, thanks for your time and knowledge – GREAT CLASS!"*

**Maritza Macy:** *"The introduction of the first of a series of Sit-on-Top Kayaking Clinics was really a "Top" event. From the opportunity to see how diverse Kayaks fit different needs; the knowledge shared by experienced Kayakers in safety and safety must-have equipment -- what works, what does not; where to allocate your resources to ensure the most pleasure and safety out of your kayak. This information takes out the guess work and saves big \$\$\$\$\$. Moreover, all this was just a prelude to a very professional, yet relaxed atmosphere, where learning the sit-on-top kayaking basics was not only fun but, most importantly, motivational to participate in future clinics and appreciate our membership with Hui Wa'a. Thanks again to our friends and instructors: Jodi Dingle, Joe Hu, John Enomoto, as well as Lois Miyashiro and the rest of the organizing committee involved behind the scenes, who make events like this possible and always try to turn a problem into an opportunity (bacteria levels at Kualoa Beach Park). In sum, I hope this was a great First of a series of many!"*

**Cynthia Rajani:** *"It was a fun class and I am glad I went, glad I jumped out of my boat, and glad to see everyone else there so enthusiastic about paddling. I look forward to the next class!"*

**Carol Reese:** *"You all provided outstanding instruction and your willingness to answer questions and share your knowledge is very much appreciated. I hope you'll consider offering more clinics. Something I'd like to see is a discussion of tides and how to "read" the water and the waves, and take us further out there in a supervised setting."*

**Barb Samuels:** *"I thought the class was terrific. I wish the water had been calmer so I could have practiced deeper water re-entry/paddle float, but I am now more comfortable re: exiting especially which is what I wanted. Suggestions: an "Advanced Beginner Class where we could spend less time on land-based stuff and more time on advanced strokes (bracing) and re-entry. Also pool sessions, if possible. Maybe a short land session that goes beyond the info already gone over (of course, a review of safety but maybe some navigation; actually, a navigation class would be great)."*

**Alex Teruya:** *"My first class was First Class! I got in late to my first kayak class at Kahana Beach Park. I easily slipped right in the middle of the session. I found a bewildering assortment of kayaks arrayed on the ground of different shapes, sizes, and color, and as varied a bunch of people to match – youngish and not-so-youngish, beginner and non-wimp veteran sea-dogs. Ladies and gentlemen all; and friendly, too. Thank God for all the beginners there; I was not alone. Thank God also for all the veterans; we were all in good hands. They taught us a lot; more than I ever imagined there was to teach (a true beginner speaking...) and we learned a lot. There were a few ghost stories sprinkled here and there to entertain us and hold us spell bound; gut-wrenching accounts of boats braving choppy seas, assisted rescues, loose hatch covers (I did not know kayaks could be submarines waiting to happen to the un-careful). The highlight of the day was the beach launching operations. It was like a military amphibious landing, only in reverse. You don't get to kick butt, noooo, you get your butt in first. Same with the deep water entry; Jodi calls it "the seal maneuver" ( I think she just made that one up because I felt worse than a seal doing it; I actually felt embarrassed). Anyway, you get yourself (somehow) over across your boat like a "seal", square your butt with the cockpit, and get your butt in first and quickly. Then you grab your paddle and feel the power of the Force returning and you're on top of the world again (and, incidentally, your kayak, too). All this and more made it a First Class training session. I learned a lot and enjoyed it very much."*

**Notes....**

**KAYAKER LEAVING THE ISLANDS  
AND SELLING THESE ITEMS:**

Dry bag, long, clear; perfect for kayak camping - \$20.00  
Bilge pump - \$10.00  
Thermarest self inflating mattress (20"x 70") - \$30.00  
Sleeping bag, great quality from Kelty - \$30.00  
Headlamp - \$8.00  
Sleeping bag liner - \$5.00  
Fins, size 9 - \$5.00  
Dive mask - \$6.00

Contact Mike Dubrovsky at 383-2157 or  
[mikedubrovsky@hotmail.com](mailto:mikedubrovsky@hotmail.com).

**Newsletter to be available in full color**

As of the next mailing, the HWK newsletter will be available in pdf format by e-mail. This will save the club significant funds in postage and materials, save much work for the newsletter volunteers, and reduce our community's waste stream. If you would prefer this electronic format to hard copy, please send an e-mail to [henrik@hawaii.edu](mailto:henrik@hawaii.edu) stating your intention. We will cheerfully continue paper mailings for those who do not respond.

# HWK BULLETIN BOARD

## WANTED

### WEB PAGE DESIGNER

The Club is looking for ways to improve the appearance and usefulness of its web page. Anyone with experience with web page design and is willing to help, please contact HWK Webmaster Rusty Lillico at [lillico@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lillico@hawaii.rr.com)

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RUSTY LILLICO

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\*Ex-officio voting Board members

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**Don't let your  
membership expire.  
Check the mailing label  
for the due date.**

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