



Lifeline

Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kauka'ahi

Fall/Winter 2002 ♦ Issue 02 - 3

Inside:

**Paddling
Schedule for
2003**

Menehunes Affect Outcome of the 4th Annual Windbag Regatta

by
Kevin K.L. Ching, DDS

All week the Trades had been blowing at 15 to 25 miles per hour and were to continue until early next week, leaving the Hawaiian Islands around Tuesday. Caution was being advised due to the brisk winds. On Saturday night as the Warriors battled in the Aloha Stadium, the wind was blowing confetti and drizzle on the football fans. The next day (October 13) would be the Regatta and how fortunate we were to have the winds. Race day Sunday arrived and the menehunes were having their fun. The morning of the Regatta saw very light Trades but this is morning in Hawaii and it frequently starts off light. Watch out – around 10:00 a.m., the dogs come screaming out from the NNE and the Trades will be coming around – just wait. As the morning progressed, the winds became lighter and thoughts of cancellation crept in. When we carpooled to Waialae Beach Park, we found our volunteers Lois, Linda, and D'Arcy (Jean was the starter at Hawaii Kai) waiting for the Regatta to get underway. The winds were coming out of the East, just right for the Regatta albeit a lot lighter than last night. Still, it was wind and the Regatta was on!

By the time the Windbaggers were back at Hawaii Kai, the winds were now from the SE. It wasn't the best of conditions but there was no turning back at that point. Eight kayak sailors – John Enomoto, Paul Tibbetts, Jeff Aurrecochea, Rusty Lillico, Tim Sawyer, and Chuck Ehrhorn had kites while Steve Harris and I had sails. When Jean gave us the start signal, all of us started to paddle towards Waialae. Now the menehunes were striking again as the winds shifted to the SSW and we were "sailing" into the wind. The kites were pretty much out of the running and it was a dog fight between Steve Harris and me. I had rigged my boat primarily for a weak Tradewind and the front sail was pinned against the port stay, causing my kayak to tip starboard. To fight the tipping action, I leaned to the left and paddled as hard as I could. Steve's rig with a jib was sailing smoothly but he, too, was paddling hard. Past Wailupe, Steve took the lead and I considered taking down my sail but, in order to do so, I would have to stop. It would require some time to undo the rigging so I continued paddling, albeit awkwardly leaning to the left. As we approached the finish line, Steve



Steve Harris' winning double sail rigged kayak

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looked like he was tiring so I stepped up the pace and closed the gap, finishing 20 seconds behind him. Soon the “kite” kayakers came in and the Windbag Regatta was over. During our award ceremony, we crowned the new Windbag of the Year, Steve Harris. While the wind was bad for the Regatta, we all had a great time and look forward to a “real” Regatta next year.

Special thanks to Gary Budlong for donating prizes for this event.

Editor’s Note: Special thanks also go to Kevin Ching for coordinating this successful event.

Windbag Regatta 2002 Results

| <u>Place</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Device</u> |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| #1 | Steve Harris | 50 minutes 38 seconds | double sail |
| #2 | Kevin Ching | 51 minutes 3 seconds | single sail |
| #3 | Jeff Aurrocoechea | 1 hour 12 minutes 45 seconds | no kite |
| #4 | Tim Sawyer | 1 hour 16 minutes 50 seconds | no kite |
| #5 | Chuck Ehrhorn | 1 hour 20 minutes 29 seconds | no kite |
| #6 | Rusty Lillico | 1 hour 23 minutes 17 seconds | no kite |

President’s Message

Dear Paddlers,

Is it cool enough yet? Many paddlers who don’t like the heat enjoy this time of the year when the temperature and humidity drop to make being outside not so much of a sweat-drenching venture. Take this opportunity during the holidays to get your kayaks out and paddle somewhere. Of course, the south shore is typically calm this time of year but Kapapa and the Mokulus can also be enjoyable. Since we are publishing our next year’s schedule in this issue, here are the paddles for the rest of the year (details are also available on the club website):

Saturday, December 14 – Volunteer to help at the Waikiki Swim Club Christmas Biathlon, Magic Island. Meet at 7:00 p.m. Get a free t-shirt. Contact Rusty Lillico.

Sunday, December 15 – Volunteer to help at the Double Rough Water Swim, Sans Souci Beach. Be ready to launch at 7:30 p.m. Look for James Sutherland, George Shoemaker, or Jodi Dingle. It’s not too late to sign up to assist the swimmers, many who have come from afar. Get a free T-shirt and lunch.

Sunday, December 15 -- Last Ditch Fish Twitch. Last chance to fish for the Progressive Fishing Tournament. Fish caught anywhere in the State of Hawaii by 5:00 p.m. on this day count towards your total. Call Chuck

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Ehrhorn for details.

Wednesday, December 18 -- Annual Christmas party at the Hawaii Yacht Club, hosted by Gary and Peggy Budlong, 5:30 p.m. Bring a pot-luck dish to share plus your award-winning pictures and a grab bag.

Friday, December 20 – Caroling on the Ala Wai. We definitely need someone to be the contact person for this event.

Much thanks to the Board members for coming up with a lot of paddles for next year. You can almost paddle with the Club every Sunday next year. See you on the water and have a Merry Christmas and a fun-filled and fulfilling New Year.

Joe Hu

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*Ex-officio board members

Reminder – Annual HWK Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 18, 2002
Hawaii Yacht Clubhouse
1739 C Ala Moana Boulevard
[behind Ilikai Renaissance Waikiki Hotel]
5:30 p.m.

Bring a pot-luck dish to share.

Enter your favorite kayak-related photograph(s) snapped during 2002 in the Photo Contest and win great prizes!

Bring a grab bag valued between \$5 and \$10.

Find out who the winners of the Progressive Fishing Tournament 2002 are. Who will get to take home the perpetual fish trophy for a year?

Important Notice:
Remain an active member. Note your renewal date on the left lower corner of this sheet.



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