

# the Outrigger



# It Was a Crazy Macfarlane 4th of July

By Marilyn Kali

It started out like any other 4th of July at the Outrigger Canoe Club. Paddlers gathered for breakfast at 6 a.m. on the Hau Terrace. The Macfarlane Regatta pep talk began at 7 a.m. in the Ka Mo'i Boathouse and featured three Navy SEALs who shared their love of their country and their personal code of conduct which always includes doing everything in your power to help your team.

And finally before we yelled that much awaited "OUT-RIGGER" and began the walk to Waikiki Beach, Walter Guild ominously warned paddlers to listen to their steersmen and coaches because it was going to be "crazy out there".

Little did we know, looking at the 1-2 foot surf outside the Club what "crazy out there" meant.

In the first race at 8:30 a.m., the Military Invitational, our Navy SEALs swamped a few yards from the starting flag as a wave crashed over them. All eight of the crews from the Navy, Army, Air Force, and Air and Army National Guards, either swamped or hulied before the sailors from the *USS Port Royal* bailed and crossed the finish line first. All military crews righted themselves and finished the race.

In the keiki races which start off-shore at the quarter-mile flag and finish at the beach, waves were breaking over the flags and swamping the canoes before the race could even start. Boat holders weren't able to secure boats long enough to start the races, even when additional boat holders were sent out. And some canoes couldn't even reach the starting line without swamping as waves broke over them.

We could tell it was going to be a long day.

By the end of the third race at 10:30 a.m., OHCRA officials called a Club representative meeting where they asked Outrigger to cancel the races because four canoes had already been damaged, and multiple canoes had swamped, hulied, or spun out of waves and hit other canoes.

As everyone stared at the ocean, other clubs suggested canceling the kids races and going straight to the adult races. That was voted down because the adults weren't there yet, not expecting to race until later in the day. Outrigger declined to cancel the race, and instead suggested that any club that wanted to withdraw from an event for safety reasons should do so. The reps finally agreed and the races resumed.

At noon, with the Macfarlane Regatta still on quarter-mile races, another OHCRA meeting was called. By this time, we're usually half-way through the regatta schedule. Outrigger Canoe Racing Chair Tom McTigue proposed changing all races to one-half mile races to speed up the regatta, since 1 to 1.5 mile races still had to be run. He was voted down by other clubs. OHCRA officials announced that the races would end at 6 p.m. even if the regatta wasn't finished. Racing resumed.

Outrigger had a heartbreaking day, and like everyone else, we swamped or hulied in many races, some in which we were leading. We wound up winning the Girls 15, Boys 18, Women 55 and 60, Junior Men and Senior Women races.

Throughout the day, 44 canoes officially finished in the wrong lane, turned on the wrong flag, or buried the flag, or swamped or hulied and didn't finish the race. The steersmen were the most experienced watermen the canoe clubs had, and still they couldn't hold their canoes against the forces of Mother Nature. We won't even mention the interference they had to deal with from crazy tourists who kept creeping onto the race course with their floating devices despite warnings from officials.

Some who swamped or hulied were able to bail their canoes and finish the race.

Fortunately, the Red Cross treated only a few minor bumps and bruises during the day.

"There were very few breaks in the surf," said one steersman. "The waves just kept coming. You had to go through them. There was no way around them."

OCC Head Coach Guy Wilding just shook his head and said, "It's a surf race, what can you do."

At one point Outrigger ran out of bailers, and paddlers hurriedly brought out some gallon jugs and cut them into the most coveted item of the regatta.

Kenny Rust and his Aloha Surf Patrol were the heroes of the day, as they transported paddlers from swamped or hulied canoes to the beach on jet skis, and then towed their canoes to the beach to be bailed out. At times, they had to tow two or three canoes in the same event.

Perhaps the most spectacular race was the Masters Men's 50 where five of the six entered canoes rode the same wave from just past the quarter-mile flag all the way in to the beach for a near photo finish. The first three canoes finished less than a second apart. It was one of the few races without mishaps but one of the canoes started and finished in the wrong lane and was DQ'd.

As it neared 6 p.m. after the Men 50's race, OHCRA said it would extend the deadline and keep going because the sun was still shining brightly. The Women 40 quickly lined up for their race. Then came the announcement that the ladies should return to shore as the Aloha Surf Patrol and the County Life Guards would not work beyond 6 p.m. Who could blame them; they'd already put in a grueling 10-hour day in the hot sun and surf.

Paddlers from the last seven races were disappointed. After waiting all day, they had to leave without their chance to challenge the forces of Mother Nature.

Between races, paddlers paid tribute to Wally Froiseth, founder of the Waikiki Surf Club, who died June 29. His daughter Luana has continued the family paddling legacy and is the current president of OHCRA.

Andrea Ray did a wonderful job of putting the regatta on. We especially liked the prizes for this year's regatta: koa boat cradles, conceived by Michele St. John, designed by Andrea and made in the OCC Maintenance Shop. They were beautiful and much admired by those who passed by the trophy table. Maybe next year we should give out koa bailers!

Outrigger also introduced the USS Arizona Trophy which is a new perpetual trophy for the winner of the military invitational race. It was won this year by the sailors from the *USS Port Royal*. This beautiful trophy was made from a relic from the *USS Arizona* which was given to the Club by the U.S. Navy to be used for this trophy. Mahalo to Marc Haine who championed this race when he was Club president, to Kawika Grant who obtained the *Arizona* relic, to Kawika and Tay Perry for designing the trophy, and to Domie Gose and the OCC Maintenance Shop for crafting it.

As dusk descended on the 73rd Annual Walter J. Macfarlane Regatta every paddler in every race, even those who didn't get to paddle, had a Macfarlane story they'll be able to tell for years to come. As Walter had predicted, it was "crazy out there."



The winning OCC women drink champagne from the Senior Women's Cup: steersman Marc Haine, Donna Kahakui, Jane McKee, Blair Grant, Amy Woodward and Macfarlane family member Lissa Guild Eveleth who presented the trophy. Missing: Tracy Phillips.

The crew of the USS Port Royal (base chested) won the Military Invitational Race. They're flanked by the runnerup Navy and Coast Guard crews. Holding the USS Arizona Perpetual Trophy are Marc Haine and OCC President Jon Whittington.



The Masters Women paddlers operated the Macfarlane T-shirt booth for the 30th straight year: Connie Carr, Arden Moore, Maile Ostrem, Vik Watumull, Jimmy McMahon, Gerri Pedesky, Leinaala Davis, Kelly McMahon, Patty Mowat, Maureen Kilcoyne, Carol Green, Pam Zak.

The Navy SEALs talked about teamwork at the Macfarlane Pep Rally.

Leslie Goldman hit all the right notes in the Star Spangled Banner. Robert Cazimero, Leinaala Heine Kalama and Manu Boyd also participated in the opening ceremonies.



**Junior Women**  
Jennifer Raams, Mary Smolenski, Angie Dolan, Anella Borges, Steersman Karel Tresnak Jr., Rachel Kincaid.



**Junior Men**  
Patrick Shea, Art Mallet, Sean Kaawa, Christian Bradley, Indar Lange, Heinerer Itchner.



**Senior Men**  
Travis Grant, Christian Bradley, Bret Chuckovich, Ryan Woodward, Sean Kaawa. Missing: Steersman Karel Tresnak Jr.



# Meet Your Macfarlane Paddlers



## Freshmen Women

Sarah Robertson, Karin Del Rey, Hilary Denison, Leilani Doktor, Melissa Bitanga.



## Freshmen Men

Cory Nakamura, Travis Grant, Karel Tresnak Jr., Neal Hafner, Rob LaFontaine, Max Solmssen.



## Sophomore Men

Kea Hussey, Travis Grant, Bret Chuckovich, Ryan Woodward, Jayson Whitman, Heinere Itchner.



## Women 40

Judy Miller, Leela Goldstein, Lindsey Shinall, Possie Badham, Maggie Parks, Heinere Itchner.



## Men 50

Keahi Pelayo, John Claucherty, Al Darling, Ken Silva, Ken Buckland.



## Women 50

Donna Glatzel, Marcie Nowack, Lisa Livingston, Debbie Deschais, Colleen Hall, Steersman Marc Haine.



**Men 55**

Rob Kaiwai, Billy Foytich, Vik Watumull, Guy Wilding, Brent Cullinan.



**Women 55**

Steersman Marc Haine, Genie Kincaid, Debbie Ing, Kim Darling, Linda Fernandez, Katy Bourne.



**Men 60**

Steersman Travis Grant, Cormac O'Carroll, Juvie Coito, Murray Hixson, Mike Tosaki, Barney Robinson.



**Women 60**

Kaiulu Downing, Maile Ostrem, Barbara Bryan, Alice Lunt, Laurie Lawson.



**Men 65**

Mark Buck, Allan Maddalena, Mel Mau, Bernie Paloma, Bill Mowat.



**Women 65**

Michele St. John, Stephanie Reynolds, Ann Buck, Tiare Richert-Finney, Marilyn Kiner.



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**ON THE COVER:** People are still talking about how steersman Karel Tresnak Jr. maneuvered the OCC Junior Women through the waves, floating tourists, and around the flag without hitting anyone or burying the flag at the Walter J. Macfarlane Regatta on the 4th of July at Waikiki Beach. It was one of the wildest Macfarlanes of all time. In the canoe are Anella Borges, Angie Giancaterino Dolan, Rachel Kincaid, Jennifer Raams, Mary Smolenski and Tresnak. Story and more photos on pages 2-6. Photo by Twain Newhart.

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