

The Outrigger

OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB

HONOLULU, HAWAII

MARCH, 1973

Outrigger hosts World Hobie Cat Meet

by Jerry Ober, with editorial embellishments

They came; they sailed; they conquered. This paraphrase of Julius Caesar's pithy report to his Roman bosses following one of his conquests epitomizes the results of the Hobie Cat World Championship Regatta held late in January in Waikiki's off-shore waters.

The meet attracted 45 entrants, 35 from the Mainland and foreign countries and 10 from Hawaii. Led by Top Cat Hobie Alter himself, the visitors proceeded to sail off with all but two of the first 10 places in the four-day regatta. Of the 10 Hawaii entrants, only two got close to the final winner's circle. One was Cappy Sheely, who wound up in 5th place overall. The other was Outrigger's Harold Hutchings, who took 10th place overall. Our Club's Leith Anderson followed in 11th place; Mike Holmes came in 15th, and Bobby Anderson and Karl Heyer also sailed, with honor but little success. Considering the number of experienced Hobie Catters in the out-of-State contingent, our Club's showing was indeed creditable.

This year's Championship Regatta was co-sponsored by Coast Catamaran, manufacturers of the Hobie Cats; the brewers of Primo Beer, and Pan-American Airways, and was hosted by our Club with an assist from Primo, which supplied free beer to members and guests on the Hau Terrace throughout the meet. For the four days of the meet—January 17, 18, 19 and 20—our dining room, Hau Terrace, sand court and beach were full of life, color and excitement. Pan-Am's role was that of "traveling



Outrigger's Mike Holmes (r) with inventor Hobie Alter at the awards luau at the Kaimana Beach Hotel on the final day of the regatta.

host," flying in contestants from such "far away places" as Puerto Rico, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland and Japan.

The races were sailed under generally good conditions, though winds on the final day were capricious. A unique feature of the meet was the exclusive use of all-new Hobie Cats shipped to Hawaii by inventor Alter and rotated among the contestants from race to race, thus assuring full equality in equipment throughout. It is reported that all 45 of the speedy little craft were sold here following the regatta.

Club Captain Karl Heyer suggested to our sports reporter that apologies be extended to our membership for any inconveniences they may have suffered because of the use of our Club facilities by the visiting Hobie Catters. It is the consensus around

the Club that Karl should instead be thanked for his part in bringing this colorful and exciting world championship event to Hawaii and arranging to have the Outrigger Canoe Club play host to these very welcome visitors. Be seeing you, Hobie Catters—and soon, we hope.

New Permanent Membership Cards due soon

To further facilitate the Club's accounting procedures, our management is this year changing to a new type of "permanent" plastic membership cards. The cards will be issued to our membership as soon as they are received from the manufacturers, probably sometime during March. With each card will be a simple instruction sheet explaining how your card should be used in charging Club purchases to your account. Members are requested to read and follow the instructions carefully as soon as the new cards are in use. You **kokua** will be much appreciated.

No new bumper decals for 1973, Management says; current decals still valid

For the sake of economy and also to save our members the trouble of removing and replacing the identifying bumper decals first issued in 1971, our management has decided to continue with the current decals in 1973. If you now have Outrigger bumper decals on your car, just keep them. If you do **not** have the identifying Club decals on your car—or cars—please get them at the Club office. Having your car so identified is good business for **you**, when you come to the Club, and it identifies you as a member of the prestigious Outrigger Canoe Club wherever you go.