

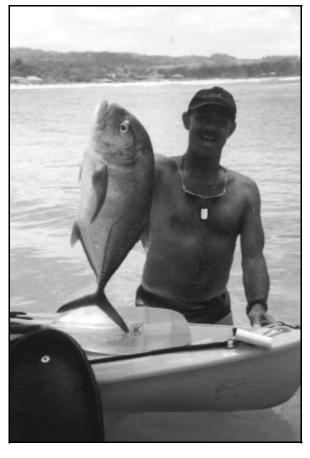
Lifeline

Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kaukahi

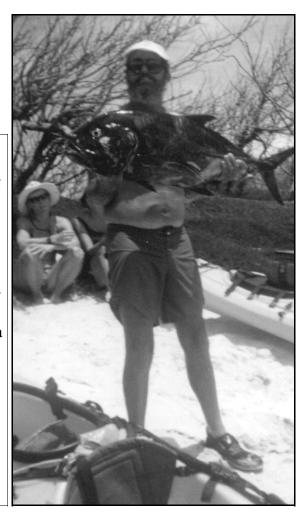
Summer 2001 Issue 01 - 3



James Sutherland, pictured here with his wife Dede, won the James Sutherland Kayak Fishing Tournament held in May 2001 at Kaiaka State Recreation Park.



TWO HUGE FISH CATCHES IN ONE DAY!! Alan Calhoun and Jeff Aurrecoechea both scored BIG when they reeled in an 11+ pound ulua and a 25+ pound ulua, respectively, while on the Kahana Bay to Malaekahana paddle in May 2001.



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President's Message

elcome Paddlers:

I hope everyone is getting his/her summer paddling in this summer. Trips have already been taken by club members on their own to the Na Pali Coast and the Hamakua Coast on the Big Island. Calm seas greeted the Na Pali paddlers and good fishing greeted the Hamakua Coast paddlers. Just ask Chuck Ehrhorn how big his *ulua* was that he caught off his inflatable Aire kayak (25 lbs+?). We look forward to the presentation of the trips at future club meetings. There are also a lot of day paddles sponsored by the club that are open to all club members. Everyone is welcome to join the club and enjoy the paddles. Please check that your skill level matches the skill level required for a particular paddle.

We want to thank the speakers who have made presentations at our past meetings. We wish to thank United States Coast Guard Marine Compliance Branch Chief LCDR Guy Theriault for taking time out of his busy schedule to give us valuable information about EPIRBs and the Coast Guard's policies relating to search and rescue using this device as well as our VHF radios. We also wish to thank [continued on page 3] Gretchen and Bill Arnemann for their enjoyable presentation of traveling through the canals of Wales in a houseboat

I have just received word that the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Board passed a rule amendment that affects all kayaking in Hawaii subject to final approval after public hearings. This amendment is not the one represented by DLNR to us and to the press in 1998 which was awaiting for review by the Attorney General to allow kayak access to Sans Souci and other beaches in Waikiki. Instead, this amendment includes kayaks in a new definition of manually-powered vessels; excludes surfboards; and taxes rental kayaks at \$150 per kayak, 1% of gross sales, or \$1,800 per commercial vendor per year, whichever is greater. It appears that, by these proposed rules, kayaks are confirmed as banned from Waikiki while a new exception is now made to allow surfboards in Waikiki. So the question that DLNR should answer to justify its proposed rule is what is the functional and safety difference between a surfboard and a kayak, especially surfing kayaks, or are they just discriminating against kayakers.

If you did not hear about this amendment before, it is because it was buried in the amendments relating to increasing the harbor slip fees. Arguments that 1) no notice was given to the kayaking community of these proposed amendments, and that 2) these amendments discriminate against kayaks versus surfboards and outrigger canoes for no legitimate reason, did not move the Board to change its decision.

We need help to address these proposed amendments at the public hearing yet to be scheduled and we need help to protect kayaking in Hawaii. Please contact me if you are able to help, meet, or provide input in this effort.

Safe Paddling,

Joseph Hu

President, Hui Wa'a Kaukahi Email: advisor@aloha.net Telephone: (808) 528-3600

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4 L O



- Sponsors of the James Sutherland Fishing Tournament held in May at Kaiaka State Recreation Area in Haleiwa:
 - •Yes in Dede
- Go Bananas
- Haleiwa Fishing Supply
- •Surf-n-Sea
- Stortos
- Everything Moves Sales Co.
- X-cel Wetsuits
- Haleiwa Joe's

• HFD Captain Alan Calhoun for conducting a hands-on CPR workshop at the April club

meeting.



- World-renown paddler and author Audrev Sutherland for sharing her experiences and advice at the March club meeting.
- Go Bananas store owner Gary Budlong for his entertaining presentation of packing a kayak for a neighbor island camping trip at the February club meeting.
- Renown marine photographer and author John Hoover for his views of underwater life at the Marquesas Islands at the January club meeting.

WELCOMING 2001 IN STYLE

Written by Alan Calhoun

We elcoming 2001 in style. That was our intent. This trip had been in the planning stage from the time we returned from doing it last year. It had been so much fun then, we wanted to recreate it one more time.

Friday, December 29th – Picked up our kayaks from the barge with a friend, Chuck, and transported the boats to Lahaina. My brother was able to get us the use of a *hale wa'a* (canoe house) on the beach in Lahaina. A *hu'i* has been building a couple of reproductions of old Hawaiian sailing canoes. The *Mo'olele* is smaller but historically more accurate, and has made a number of sailings around the islands. The *Mo'onui* is huge (80 feet?) and not in sailing condition right now but they are working on making it seaworthy. Luckily for us, no one was working on the canoes that weekend and we were able to keep our boats in the *hale* and launch from the beach front.

The rest of Friday was spent visiting my mother and aunt. We ended up having dinner with them and my brother, Tom, and his wife, Elaine. The night was spent at Tom's and Elaine's place in Kula, over halfway up the slopes of Haleakala. I'm sure it wasn't as cold as Denver or Alabama but, for our thin bloods, it was very chilly.

Saturday, the 30th – Chuck and I picked up the rest of our gang (Chuck's wife, Jean, and paddling partners Jeff and Jane) from the airport, and we all went shopping for essentials (some food and lots of beer, wine, tequila, etc.). Reservations had been made at the Lahaina Shores condominium (about 100 feet from the launch area) and we packed into one room for the night.

Crack of Dawn, Sunday, the 31st – We started packing up the kayaks and preparing for the crossing. I had talked to Dottie the week before and found out that she was to be in Lahaina that weekend visiting with family. I had invited her to see us off and, lo and behold, there was the fair maiden, coming out of the morning mist to wish us a fond aloha. We were aiming to get off the beach by 8 a.m. and missed it by only an hour and a half (hard to find room for all of that beer). At 9:30 a.m., a quick hug and kiss from Dottie, and we were in the water. Off to Lana'i, eight and a half miles straight across the channel. Our destination was a few miles down the Lana'i coast so



we were looking at about 11 to 12 miles of paddling that day. Weather was sunny, calm and fairly clear. Kona winds had left some haziness in the sky so I didn't think we were going to be able to see the Big Island as we had last year. The thought proved correct but conditions were still good and we cruised along looking for fish. We had poles up and lures out, hoping to get some fresh sashimi for our New Year's celebration.

A Sea of Glass – It seemed that we were going to have a pretty easy time paddling across. Not to be. Winds picked up about a third of the way and stirred the ocean into a little chop. Nothing we couldn't handle but it did make the paddle "a bit more interesting". What it did, however, was make the crossing longer. Instead of the four to five hours we were hoping to take, we spent nearly six hours getting to our planned landing site. Small delay.

Humpback Whales – There had been sightings of our annual visitors from the north. They seem to particularly like the protected area between Maui, Lana'i, Moloka'i and Kaho'olawe. Last year a mother and her calf had come within a hundred feet of Chuck and Jean. We were hoping for an encounter or two, just not too close. Our kayaks are not the most stable of craft and, fully loaded, they can be rolled fairly easily. Beautiful day and in the middle of the channel, in the midst of three tour boats, a humpback breached, shooting into the sky, perhaps four hundred yards from us. Awesome sight. Grabbing my camera, I was hoping for a chance to get a great picture. Suddenly my pole bent and I seized for it. In the corner of my eye, I saw a jump. FISH. Another jump and I saw the shape and color of *mahi-mahi* (dorado). A great catch. And then, just as quickly,....... line broke, fish gone, new lure with it. My fault. Poor maintenance, or just lack of fishing savoir faire. Ohhh well. Let's tie another lure and try some more. There are fish here.

Encounters of the BIG Kind – We are now a quarter mile off the coast of Lana'i, slogging along with the wind in our faces. Over the past hour we had seen a few more whales. Many were off in the distance. Some were not. A hundred feet from us, a whale had slipped to the surface and blew. Fantastic sight. This was the closest I had ever been to a whale in the ocean. A wave of its tail and it leisurely dove down. A hundred yards away, another was doing tail slaps on the water. Camera's snapping, smiles in our hearts, we continued blissfully down the coast. It was a great day to be out on the water.



Camp – We got to our camp site and babbled to each other about the fantasy of seeing so many whales. No one had caught any fish so we were to be without sashimi that night. Set up, prepared dinner, built our fire and settled down to wait for midnight, and the promise of fireworks across the channel at Lahaina, Kapalua, Kihei, and Wailea. A very special way to celebrate the change of the millennium.

The rest of the trip was a bit anticlimactic following that first day.

An enjoyable stay on the Island of Lana'i, celebrating with good friends. Camping, relaxing, fishing and being happy in the world. A cold front moved in on the 2nd of January and we ended up bailing out a day early at Manele Bay. Cold rain, cold wind, cold ocean and no more cold beer. Two nights at a friend's rental house in Lana'i City with hot showers and warm beds.

Nice memories. Then home.



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THE LANA'I DAYTRIPPERS

Written by Kevin K. L. Ching, DDS

P u'u Pehe stands in silent majesty at the bottom of the Manele graben. As the Lana'i Daytrippers approached Hulopo'e Beach Park in anticipation of another epic Hui Wa'a Kaukahi adventure, there the 50-foot islet stood quietly welcoming our arrival. Our driver, Bill, rambled down the road to the campsite, literally driving the kayak trailer right to the area where we would be pitching our tents. "You guys look like you're going to have a great time!" Bill commented as we unloaded our voluminous pile of supplies and provisions. Being ever solicitous, Bill kept asking if there was anything that we needed. We assured him that we were fine and invited him to come back to join us for dinner later.

This trip would be a series of day paddles with our base camp at Hulopo'e. The Park is the property of The Lana'i Company and camping is by permit only. Sitting at the picnic table gazing at the pile of stuff in front of us was an exhausting experience in and of itself but we soon started turning the campsite into our home for the next few days. Before long, all the tents were up and the tables selected for cooking and dining. The first task was making dinner. Lois, our supreme planner, wasn't feeling well and the rest of us had to bumble through the process without her. Surprisingly, dinner turned out quite well that night as Bill would agree when he returned to join us. Bill went over the itinerary with us after dinner. He would be back the next morning at 8:00, bright and early, to take us to Kaumalapau Harbor for our first paddle.

The Cliffs of Palikaholo

Alan looked nervously at the water as the trailer with our kayaks left Hulopo'e. The wind was rather calm this morning but his intuition was telling him something else. Being trip leader is never an easy task and we had some novice paddlers on this trip so Alan was concerned. When we arrived at Kaumalapau Harbor, the water was very calm and there was no wave action except for an occasional surge. When it was time for

the launch, it was the most unusual one that I have ever done. The kayaks were thrown from the dock into the ocean and the paddlers jumped into the water to do wet entries. One by one we climbed onto our kayaks. From the Harbor we turned south towards the cliffs of Palikaholo.

Palikaholo literally means the "cliff of the landslide" and it is an accurate description of how the cliff was formed. Lana'i is a paradox in the Hawaiian chain. While most of the great sea cliffs are on the north shore of the other islands, Lana'i has a great *pali* on the south shore. It is not a large island, only 18 miles in length, but this *pali* is not small by any measurement. It towers over 1,000 feet above sea level and is as steep and dramatic as the *pali* in Moloka'i and Na Pali. After we left the Harbor the ocean became more active with huge splashes crashing on the massive *pali*. The numerous sea caves were inaccessible due to the sudden surges scouring the caves. All



along the way we passed large sea arches and sheer cliffs that impressed us all. Gretchen's son, Rick, noticed that there were many caves which appeared to be burial caves because the openings were covered by rock walls. As Gretchen, Rick, and I approached Palaoa Point, Alan radioed us to not pass the Point since this would be our first stop.

Palaoa Point literally means the "whale point" because it is believed that whales would be occasionally washed up on it. A south swell combined with a big east swell was pounding the Point and I could imagine a careless whale being thrown onto the Point by a big swell. Unfortunately, that created a problem for us since we were planning on stopping at Kaunolu, the bay inside of the Point. To get to Kaunolu, we would have to negotiate through the large swells. Alan was in the lead as we paddled to the far east side of the bay, climbing 6-foot faces that were rolling off Palaoa Point. Then turning north, we entered Kaunolu diagonally, entering from an east to west direction. Kaunolu is somewhat protected from the large swells at the mouth of the bay but the surges gave us some problems as we aimed for the center for a boulder landing. Before long we all made it to shore and climbed a steep wall of the valley to have lunch. To our surprise, there was nice picnic table waiting for us and we ate a wonderful lunch in comfort. Merritt was in disbelief to learn that the spot where we were eating lunch was right next door to Kamehameha I's private dwelling whenever he visited the small gulch on fishing expeditions. A sign posted confirmed that it was indeed true. Kaunolu was well known for its abundant fish and Kamehameha Nu'i was a frequent visitor. The gulch is a Hawaiian archeological wonderland with many well-preserved foundations easily visible all around. On the west side of the gulch is a large heiau named Halulu, named after a legendary man-eating bird. Described as a *luakini*, or place of sacrifice, possibly human, the name seemed to make a lot of sense.

With lunch complete, my attention turned to the *heiau*, Halulu, on the other side of the valley. Jeff said that there was a trail at the base of the gulch that led to the *heiau* so I proceeded to hike down the steep valley wall. Now the waves were getting larger as they crashed on the boulders, encroaching on the stern of our kayaks precariously perched on the shore. Ignoring the booming surf, I proceeded up the poorly marked trail to the *luakini*. Along the way to the top of the *heiau*, I passed a small altar that was marked as the platform for a *ku'ula*, the god of fishing named Konihi. Scrambling up the side of the *heiau*, I finally reached the summit. There were boulders strewn about in a seemingly random manner. On the far side was a break in the wall and a sheer cliff called Kahekili's Leap. It was a sight that made me dizzy. Alan and Jeff had earlier discussed the jump that Jeff had made from Kahekili's Leap last year and, at that point, I stood in amazement and disbelief at the feat. At the base of the leap is a 12-foot shelf of lava. Jeff is still here so he must have missed the shelf.

Now it was time to launch into the rough waters of Kaunolu! One by one, we pushed paddlers seated in their kayaks into the ocean for sea launches. When we were all on the water, we inched towards the mouth of the bay which was even more active at this point. I took the lead this time and told everyone to hang close to the left side of the bay, then power out hard east once they entered the impact zone. Everyone made it out without too much *pilikia*. In the distance was Pu'u Pehe welcoming us home. The rest of the paddle took us past more steep cliffs and sea caves but we couldn't get very close because of the big waves. Now we were fighting a stiff tradewind. I told Gretchen not to stare at Pu'u Pehe or she would miss all the sights along the way. By the time we reached Hulopo'e, we were relieved that we were almost home. But Pu'u Pehe had one more surprise for us. The waves that were pounding Palaoa Point five miles back were now pounding Pu'u Pehe. Large swells came at us from the starboard side at 20-30 second intervals, pushing us frighteningly close to Pu'u Pehe. Once we passed the Point, the swells kept coming and I pointed my kayak towards the harbor marker in the distance. About 40 yards from the channel marker, I turned into the Manele Boat Harbor and surfed all the way in. Right behind were Gretchen, Rick, and Merritt. After a few short minutes, in came Alan, Dani, Dennis, and Jeff. We all made it safely back!

An Uninvited Guest!

We returned to find the camp neatly tidied by Lois who was now feeling much better.

[continued on page 8]

After another great dinner, it was time to hit the sack. It was much easier to sleep Saturday night because there were fewer park users that night. It was actually very quiet; however at about 2:30 in the morning, I heard someone rummaging in our ice chests. After listening for a few seconds in my sleepy stupor, I heard Jeff's voice, but it was another voice that I did not recognize that he was talking to. Slowly, sleep took over again, and I awoke the next morning to a noisy cacophony of birds and waves. When we all collected for



breakfast, the story of the night before became apparent. In the early morning, we had a visitor, or should we describe him as a "trader". Carrying a banana stump on his shoulder, he wanted to trade the stump for cigarettes. Unfortunately, he had selected Annette's tent to attempt the trade. He had brushed against the tent with the stump and Annette wisely hadn't answered. The ruckus had awakened Jeff, though. When Jeff asked the intruder what he was doing, he explained that he wanted to trade the stump for some smokes to which Jeff obliged and gave him some beers from the cooler to boot. In return, the man took his stump and did not return for the rest of the trip. Jeff, the ultimate negotiator!

Naha Menehunes

We were all concerned about the ocean conditions on the third day. Alan was prepared to call off the paddle if we had the swells like those we had seen the day before. We had stored the kayaks at Manele Boat Harbor so we wouldn't have to portage the kayaks from our campsite. When we launched, we found the ocean was very different. It was calm, very calm, much to the pleasure of Lois who was joining us for her first Lana'i paddle. As we rounded Kaleokahano Point at Manele Bay, a glorious sight of huge sea cliffs that seemed to go on forever greeted us. Slicing through the layers of black pahoehoe were hundreds of dikes reaching tirelessly for the sky, evidence of tremendous volcanic activity millions of years ago. One dike formed a gigantic "X" in the face of the sea cliff, reminiscent of the "X" in the wall of Nualolo Kai in Na Pali. Soon we saw plumes of "Dragon's Breath" flying 40 to 50 feet in the air from a "spitting cave." When the swells came in the right direction, air would become trapped in the small cave entrance and, as the swell subsided, the air pressure released tall but fine plumes of seawater. It was a breathtaking experience but when I got close, auwe, the menehunes turned the plumes off. I stopped at the mouth of the cave for at least 10 minutes, watching out for big swells, but no plumes! Then, as the menehunes would have it, when I paddled away, up came the big plumes again. That was only the beginning. Immediately after the "spitting cave" incident, we followed a pod of at least 20 to 30 spinner dolphins as they joyfully jumped and swam about, never letting us get more than 30 yards near them. All of a sudden, they were surrounding Alan's and my kayaks, jumping and spinning! I quickly pulled out my camera only to run out of film. As quickly as possible, I reached for my dry bag with the second camera while the dolphins were all around and splashing me! When I finally set up, you guessed it, they swam away. Never mind, I still have the great memories.

The ocean became shallower as we rounded Kamaiki Point. The cliffs disappeared and in their place were sandy beaches with a fringing reef. On the shore, *keawe* trees lined the beach. It was almost time to land for lunch, but where? The fringing reef created a 4-foot break and there were no obvious channels. After scouting the reef, there was a "channel" after the fishpond on the beach of Naha where the waves weren't breaking as large. We all paddled in safely and had a great lunch. Naha is not much of a village with no houses to speak of. The occasional SUV rambling down the dusty and hot dirt road is

the only sign of civilization in these parts. Soon it was time to paddle out through the surf to return home. Dennis and I paddled right out to the impact zone and stopped as we watched a big set of waves come barreling in. Right behind, I heard the tripleheader, Alan, egging us to try paddling out. When it looked like a lull was coming, I winged it and paddled out. Auwe, the menehunes were hard at work and sent me a rogue wave. Merritt later told me he was worried, very worried for me as the 4-foot wave headed towards me and got steeper and steeper. Not waiting a second, I continued my paddle, my heart pounding in my chest. I was about to be pummeled but not without a fight! Turning my kayak at a slight angle to the wave, I put my head down in resignation and paddled hard. I heard the wave start to roar as white foam was just forming at the lip. Then "wump!" I felt myself punch through the lip and go airborne for a second as my scupper landed very suddenly in the trough at the back of the wave. When Merritt came out, he said he thought I would get pitched backward by the massive wave. Thankfully, he was wrong. Jeff and Merritt had no problems with the *menehunes* as they were able to catch dinner for the Daytrippers. We dined on ono aha and wahanui that night. Dennis, on the other hand, was becoming concerned because he hadn't received a nibble throughout the whole trip. Back at the campsite, he showed me his "silver bullet," a \$15.00 lure that was a real beauty. Tomorrow when we paddled to Honopu, he was going to bring it out to guarantee a catch.

What did Gretchen, Dani, and Rick do while we were paddling? They were really "roughing" it at the Manele Bay Resort, having an elegant lunch at poolside. Dani even used the facility's jacuzzi.

It was very quiet that night except for the Hawaiian music gently floating in from the Manele Bay Resort.

A Four Pinnacle Experience

The next morning after breakfast, we loaded our kayaks onto Bill's trailer and headed for Kaumalapau Harbor. "You have any trouble with leaving all your stuff there like that?" Bill asked. We were going to find out because this was the first time we would be leaving the camp totally unattended. When we arrived at the Harbor, we were charged up for the final paddle of the trip. How could anything surpass the paddles that we had already been on the last two days? One glance from the Harbor down to Navaho, the four pinnacles, cleared up that question. Before us were smooth waters with several coves just waiting to be entered. Jeff and Alan again started tossing kayaks onto the ocean with the Daytrippers climbing in one at a

time. As we passed the corner of the Harbor, all of us kept a very tight formation. Soon, I turned into the first of several picturesque coves. The turquoise water looked unusually clear and shallow because the boulders and coral looked like they were right below us. Merritt got a hook stuck in a rock and decided to jump into the shallow water to retrieve the lure. When he jumped in, to his surprise, what looked like 10-15 feet because of the unusual clarity was almost 50 feet deep. He swam down as deep as he could, loosened the lure which was being nibbled at by a fish that quickly swam away when Merritt started moving the lure, much to his disappointment.



This was a paddle that surpassed the paddles on previous days. The water was so calm that we entered some of the sea caves. One cave was being buzzed by a "banana" boat carrying some eco-tourists from Maui, spewing diesel fumes and fouling the fresh air that we were [continued on page 10]

enjoying. We cautiously paddled around the "banana" boat and paddled into the cave which was just as thrilling as any cave on Na Pali. Every cove had a sea arch or some other formation reminiscent of the north shores of the other islands but I had to constantly remind myself that this was the south shore.

Before long, we were at Nanahoa, the four pinnacles -- an awesome sight unique to Lana'i. The legend is that Nanahoa was the name of the husband. Some versions say that the couple were passionate lovers while others claim that Nanahoa abused his wife. The pinnacles stand as silent monuments to the couple. The farthest one out to sea is Nanahoa's wife and the other 3 pinnacles near shore are phallic symbols of Nanahoa. Paddling through the channel between the first and second pinnacle, I noticed a cave in the largest pinnacle. A sign erected by the State warns the adventuresome against entering the cave. Apparently the area is subject to large swells that occasionally sweep through the cave. All of a sudden a surge came by, causing the calm water to become very active. That was when Jeff decided to cross the smaller, more turbulent channel between the pinnacles and he shot out from the veritable washing machine like a spear from a gun. Right behind him was Merritt. "Rule number one," advised Jeff to Merritt, "never follow Jeff!" as Merritt paddled through the rough channel. I looked onto the path that they came from and saw rocks sticking out as the surge was reloading and decided to go back to the other side using the calmer channel.

Honopu Bay was the designated place to stop and have lunch but, unlike the other calm coves that we had passed along the way, it looks more like the boulder landing that we had experienced at Kaunolu, with surges that would occasionally batter some large boulders on the shore. Alan remembered a landing on one side of a large wall of lava and landed his kayak with very little trouble. Now the rest of us were going in



The bond of friendship at Honopu

for a landing. Dennis was next in line but he offered to let me go in first. Boulder landings are something that I have done many times but this time I was going to be doing it in my sit-inside inflatable kayak. As I approached the shore, getting my legs out from under the deck was a real tricky business, further emphasizing the benefit of our sit-on-top kayaks. Once on shore, we slowly landed everyone, forming a human chain, as several of us positioned ourselves in the impact zone and passed kayaks up the rocky shore. A positive thing was that the kayaks were super light due to the lack of gear in them, all except Jeff's which was heavy, even bone dry and empty. As we entered the clearing to rest, it became apparent that the area was a fish camp. There were campfire clearings, swings, and chairs made of wet suit material wrapped around

flat boulders. A short hike up the northern wall of the gulch revealed a dry riverbed that led to a small heiau surrounded by keawe trees. The heiau may have been small and hidden but it certainly was in use as numerous offerings were spotted, some of them appearing fairly fresh. In one area, someone had planted a plumeria tree that was fighting to take root. Past the heiau was a goat trail up the side of the gulch, revealing the stark cliff above Navaho. There stood the four pinnacles out in the ocean as we perched on our lofty perspective, high above the tallest pinnacle. Now Lois was calling us to return because it was time for lunch. When Gretchen, Rick, Merritt, and I scrambled down, we found the bounty of the trip -- Dennis and Jeff had scraped a bunch of giant opihi off the wave-pounded boulders and were serving them. Alan was looking very content at this point; he seemed to have found a place where his soul had

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connected with the aina. He apparently wasn't very hungry as he kept gazing out to sea while seated on a smooth boulder in a period of serious introspection. Perhaps he was wondering how we were all going to launch safely though the surge or maybe he was remembering the night he had camped at the site a year earlier. In any case, he wasn't saying much.

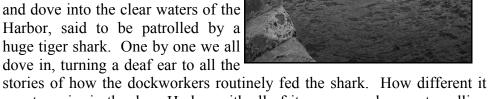
Soon it was time to make our way back to the ocean, past the surf zone. The technique this time was to push kayaks out one-by-one to Jeff, who was in the water and would hold the kayak while each paddler swam out. Alan timed the surges and prompted each paddler when it was time to dive in and swim past the impact zone to his or her kayak. Finally we were all out and paddling back to Kaumalapau Harbor. Alan waved to someone on the rocky shore, a person only he could see, and, with a big grin, turned to take the lead of the herd. About a half a mile down the coast, Alan wanted to shoot a channel between a rock and the cliff, with Rick, Dani, and Lois following. I was paddling near the rear with Dennis when Dennis called out that Alan had hulied. The rest us immediately stopped and turned out to sea around the rock. When I paddled to Alan, he was struggling to get back on his kayak. He gave me the OK sign and waved me on to take the lead which I did. It wasn't long before Alan caught up with the herd and I asked him if a rogue

wave had caught him by surprise. "Oh no!" he said, "I was trying to demonstrate to the group how to huli at the worst possible time, especially if you are bleeding at the time!"

Dennis was desperate now. This was the final leg of the paddle and still not a nibble. He broke out his "silver bullet," the \$15.00 lure that he had lovingly stored in a special plastic case all by itself. He paddled back and forth frantically among the group and I was afraid of getting hooked in one of my air chambers. After a while, he stopped trying and what happened? The menehunes struck again and stole the lure right off his line. Maybe he'll catch a big one on the next trip but on this paddle, the fish were safe.

When we all arrived at Kaumalapau Harbor, we pulled the kayaks up the rampless pier one at a time. When everybody was high and dry,

Alan stood on the barge tie down and dove into the clear waters of the Harbor, said to be patrolled by a huge tiger shark. One by one we all dove in, turning a deaf ear to all the



was to swim in the deep Harbor with all of its surges and currents pulling you out to sea! Before long, Bill came down with his trailer to pick us up and take us back to Hulopo'e. As we drove back, a strong sense of accomplishment rippled through the group.

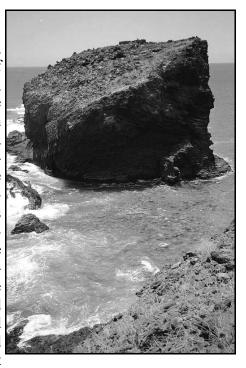


Go for the Gusto, Gretchen

The Last Meal

When we arrived at the campsite, we were pleased to find out that none of our belongings were taken and, after a short rest, we started the preparation of our final dinner. It had been a long day but we were still buzzing from the great paddle we had just been on and we stayed [continued on page 12] up enjoying the final night.

The next day, everyone got up late as it pretty much was a free day. Rick went for a swim in the clear waters off Hulopo'e while Gretchen. Dani, and Lois went for a swim in the big tide pool on the south side of the bay. Jeff, Alan, and Dennis spent the day relaxing at the campsite, snacking on all the treats that were left over. I decided to hike up to the cliff that overlooks Pu'u Pehe. Hiking towards the cliff on the south side of the bay, I was impressed with the stark contrast that the area takes as you go from the shore and up the cliff. The little cove that encircles Pu'u Pehe had wave sets that would occasionally pound its white sandy shore. Up the side of the cliff I continued, up the dry and crumbly rock until the trail disappeared around the corner. The cliff was very weak but there was something that looked like a trail so I scrambled down, carefully holding onto any finger hold along the side of the cliff. Suddenly, it occurred to me as I gazed at the sudden drop just under my sandals, that if I fell here, no one would know! There Pu'u Pehe watched in silent indignation as I turned to photograph a well preserved shrine that sat on the top of the pinnacle and then quickly scrambled back up the gravel-strewn path. Hiking back down the trail, I gazed down at the cove and watched the waves coming in. All of a sudden, it



became apparent that there were fish, not hundreds but thousands of fish, that were swimming about the cove visible from my vantage point 70 feet above. It was an amazing sight that I will always remember.

It was time to say *aloha* to Hulopo'e as Bill came by to pick us up. I was leaving that day while the rest of the Lana'i Daytrippers were leaving the next day, spending the night at a house in Lana'i City. This paddle had surpassed my highest expectations and it undoubtedly will be repeated for the other Hui Wa'a members to enjoy. It had all the elements that made this an unforgettable trip -- awesome scenery, great fishing, and good friends. When I arrived at the Lana'i Airport, I hurried to check in when the clerk ordered me to slow



down, "No need hurry, bruddah!" That was the first time that I realized that I was beginning the return to Honolulu and leaving the aura of a very special place.

The Lana'i Daytrippers — Dennis, Rick, Dani, Kevin, Jeff, Lois, Alan, and Gretchen

SIGNAL DEVICES

Written by Athena Holtey

Proper use of appropriate signal devices is an essential part of every kayaker's safety protocol. There are signal devices used primarily for emergencies and there are signaling methods used simply to assist paddlers in communicating with each other.

This article will help to explain four essential things:

- 1. How to judge that your circumstances warrant utilizing emergency signaling devices;
- 2. What emergency visual signaling devices are both necessary and practical for the kayaker to carry at all times:
- 3. What emergency sound signaling devices are both necessary and practical for the kayaker to carry at all times; and
- 4. What signal devices to use for simple communication between paddlers.

Do You Need Help?

Calling for emergency help when you are just tired and hungry can risk a rescuer's life unnecessarily. Signaling devices to call the attention of rescuers should only be used when you are sure you are in a life-threatening situation. Know your own limitations and those of the people you are with, and don't paddle beyond them. If the weather turns bad and you can backtrack into the lee of an island or a cove to wait it out, do so. This is also why it is a good reason to make alternative landings a part of your float plan.

On the other hand, if you are in trouble, don't be too proud to get help or be unprepared. Irondiquote Stream is a beautiful, shallow, marshy waterway hidden from the congestion of the city around it, attracting many casual day kayakers with nothing but a paddle and a lunch sack. It was on such a day that we came upon a grandfather and his two grandsons wet, cold, and scared. The air was 75 degrees; however, the water only two feet deep was 55 degrees and they had capsized. The kids, soaked by their heavy jeans, were shivering and crying. Although a neighborhood lurked above the trees, it was a steep climb for an old man and two little boys. They were a mile from the dock, their kayak was swamped and too heavy for them to turn over. As we helped to empty the boat, reassure the children, and accompanied them back to shore, the grandpa said he was as embarrassed as he was scared. We all had a lesson that day on why to never underestimate the outdoors, no matter how unthreatening they may appear.

Here are the signaling devices every good kayaker should consider making a part of their personal safety protocol. Good kayak shops should carry most of these, otherwise, find them at a good marine supply store. All human-powered vessels, regardless of length, are required to have at least one signal device on board. At night, all are required to have a "white" signal light on board.

Visual Signal Devices: These signal devices can be divided up into those most effective during the day, those best seen at night, those seen easily at water level, and those seen best from the sky:

Day Visual Signal Devices -

1. Signal Mirror – Every PFD should have one of these attached to it or in a pocket. They are the lightest weight device, the easiest to use, but are only good on a sunny day. They can be seen from above or at water level. Some have a small hole in the center to help you aim at your target.

[continued on page 14]

Flashes of three, if you can manage it, are a universally understood signal for help. Just remember S.O.S.

- 2. Orange Smoke Canisters These are effectively seen from air or sea but only in the daytime. They usually smoke from 30 to 60 seconds so make sure you are in the line of sight of a rescuer when setting them off.
- 3. Sea Rescue This is a long, bright orange banner that floats out from your kayak. It is only useful to get the attention of a rescuer looking down at the water from a cliff, large ship, or aircraft, and only during the day but its duration of operation lasts up to the time of rescue and can be reused.

Night Visual Signal Devices -

- 1. Aerial Flares Most effective for night use (but can be seen in daylight), these handheld devices can send a signal from 300 to 500 feet, enough to get the attention of a nearby ship or onshore rescuers or someone overhead, so make sure you are in the line of sight of a rescuer when setting them off.
- 2. Parachute Flares Most effective at night (but can be seen in daylight), these fall more slowly so they can be seen longer than an aerial flare. They are recommended for long distance open water paddlers. Make sure you are in the line of sight of a rescuer when setting them off.
- 3. Flare Pistol These shoot higher and brighter than aerial or parachute flares. Most effective at night, they can be seen in daylight. They are also recommended for long distance open water paddlers.
- 4. Strobe Light This is a bright white flashing light that is universally recognized as a distress signal. Since navigation rules require that you, if you are paddling between dusk and dawn, carry a white light, you should already have this on board. Make sure it is waterproof. Night paddling as an intentional endeavor requires other light safety devices not covered in this article.

In concluding this section, I need to stress the importance of PRACTICE in calm waters and safe circumstances with any visual signaling devices that you make a part of your kayaking safety protocol. Take special care that you notify the Coast Guard or other authority that you will be practicing with such things as flares. Often, an outfitter or kayak club will have an annual event such as a "Safety Clinic" where they will supervise signal practices with the consent and support of the local authorities.

Sound Signaling Devices:

- 1. Whistle Like the signal mirror, every PFD should have one. They come in many shapes, colors, and sizes but it is recommended that you look for a Coast Guard Approved whistle, plastic, preferably without the pea, for corrosion prevention. Three short bursts or blows on the whistle signal "Help!" Just remember S.O.S. In many circumstances, signals in sets of three are a universally recognized call for help.
- 2. Foghorn or Air Horn Use this for low visibility paddling conditions. They can also be used in clear conditions to get the attention of a vessel when in threat of a collision.
- 3. VHF Marine Radio These important communication devices provide kayakers with an option of getting immediate recognition when in a life threatening situation. There are many different channels used by the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, the

National Weather Service, and important marine organizations. They are not to be used on land or for casual conversation between paddlers. Generally, channel 16 is used for distress calls and is listened to around the clock by the local Coast Guard, and once the Coast Guard is alerted they will instruct you to change channels for rescue instructions.

- 4. Two-Way Radios Most of these handheld, pocket-sized radios have a range of about 2 miles. Water-proof or water-resistant (there's a difference) are available. They run on inexpensive batteries and are a good backup, not substitute for, your VHF radio, and are excellent for contacting other paddlers in your fleet. We hook them on our PFD's.
- 5. Cell Phones Most of us paddle to get away from these things but a Cell Phone can be a convenient backup for help. Don't let it be a substitute for the more expensive VHF Radio. The Coast Guard is your best friend, especially for coastal touring emergencies. There are very good dry bag or box storage units specifically designed for cell phones.

Signaling devices can save your life, and are a necessary part of every kayaker's safety protocol. Remember to know your limitations; use emergency signals only in true emergency situations; never be too proud to call for help; practice with both visual and sound signaling devices in safe conditions; and make sure they are all packed properly for your voyage. An important caution – don't rely on your partner or spouse to carry them for you. Enjoy the feeling of confidence that maintaining your own safety protocol can bring to your paddling adventures. Have your own whistle, mirror, smoke, flares, etc., and know where they are and how to use them

Using Your Paddle As An Effective Signaling Device

To communicate with other paddlers, especially during a group kayaking adventure, your paddle can be effectively turned into a signaling device.

We were landing in strong surf conditions on the rocky North Maui coast. We'd been paddling for six hours, were hungry and tired, and no break in the shoreline or safe landing could be seen from sea. But Tom had put in there on a previous trip and knew of a safe cove with fresh water. He gave us instructions that he would go in through the surf, land, and wave the "All Clear" paddle signal from shore where he could direct us to the cove. He used the common paddle signals familiar to our local kayak club; unfortunately, we now know, not every group recognizes the same signals. One by one we came in through the surf, but many of our group paddled right straight to him instead of going left into the safety of the cove as he directed with his paddle, capsizing and having to drag their loaded boats up over the rocks to safety.

Some groups have devised elaborate codes for giving instruction on the water, but the most universally understood paddle signals are below:

1. All clear.... 2. Stop.... 3. Go This Way.... 4. Attention!....

Whatever paddle signal codes you decide to use, they will be useless if no one in your group understands them. Be aware that high wind conditions can compromise your safety in using your paddle this way, and their effectiveness not only as a signal but also as a paddle! Therefore, always review at launch the simple codes you will use to communicate between paddlers with a caution for being reasonable in their use.

Remember that all human-powered vessels, regardless of length, are required to have at least one signal device on board at all times and to have a "white" signal light on board at night.

HUI WA'A KA	AUKAHI MEMBERSHIP A	PPLICATION AND WAIVER FORM
Please check one box:	New member	Renewal
[Please print legibly]		
Name		Home Phone
Address		Work Phone
City	State Zip	E-mail
*ACA/Hui active men	nber: Individual @ \$31.	00 Family @ \$38.00
or Hui member only:	Individual @ \$16.	00
	erships are encouraged. It include and comprehensive liability insu	es a Paddler Magazine, American Canoeist rance for you and the Club.
		ne American Canoe Association, Inc. and Hui Wa'a related events and activities, the undersigned:
		acilities and equipment to be used, and if he/she believes h/supervisor of such condition(s) and refuse to
injury including perma from his/her own action	nent disability and death, and severe ns, inactions, or negligence but the a of the premises or of any equipment	will be engaging in activities that involve risk of serious social and economic losses which might result not only ctions, inactions, or negligence of others, the rules of used. Further, that there may be other risks not known to
3. Assumes all foregoing disability, or death;	risks and accepts personal responsib	pility for the damages following such injury, permanent
a nonprofit corporation employees of the organ owners and lessors of p from any and all liabili demands, losses, or date	i, its affiliated clubs, their respective nizations, other participants, sponsor premises used to conduct the events, ty to each of the undersigned, his or	American Canoe Association, Inc. or Hui Wa'a Kaukahi administrators, directors, agents, coaches, and other ing agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, all of which are hereinafter referred to as "releases", her heirs and next of kin for any and all claims, g death or damage to property, caused or alleged to be or otherwise.
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announcements

20TH ANNIVERSARY LOGO AND T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTESTS

Hui Wa'a Kaukahi is searching for a logo and a t-shirt design to commemorate 20 years of paddling adventures (and misadventures) in the year 2002.

Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Submit your entry to: Hui Wa'a Kaukahi P. O. Box 11588

You must be a Hui Wa'a Kaukahi member in order to participate. You may enter as many times as you wish. Deadline for submittals is Thanksgiving Day 2001.

date.

Important Notice:

membership is expiring soon. Please check the mailing

This will be your last newsletter if your

label for your renewal

20th Anniversary Na Pali Coast/Kalalau Valley paddling/camping trip — Contact Joseph Hu at 528-3600 or advisor@aloha.net to be put on the wait list for this exciting adventure scheduled for July 11—17, 2002. Hui Wa'a reserves the right to qualify any participant.

Winners will be announced at the Annual Christmas Party 2001.

HUI WA'A KAUKAHI PADDLING ODYSSEY 2001 – AUGUST TO DECEMBER							
		MILES	RATING				
DATE	EVENT	 	 	LEADER/CONTACT			
August 16 Thurs 6:00 pm to midnight	Hawaii State Farm Fair Fun-raiser 20 to 24 volunteers needed to (wo)man gate and ride ticket booths to earn \$500 for the club. Contact Tim to be put on the list.			Timothy Sawyer 595-5195 sawyert001@hawaii.rr.com Lois Miyashiro 551-0637 (cellular) loikake@hawaii.rr.com			
21 Tues	Meeting – 7:00 pm at Church of the Crossroads Subject: Gary Budlong entertains the crowd with a show-stopping presentation of his one-day trip up (and probably down) the Chicago River.						
23 Thurs	"Thurfing Thurfday" – 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Location TBA at meeting.			Andy Collins 737-8437 andycollins@hawaii.rr.com			
25 Sat	Dolphin Quest – Round Trip From Makua to Yokohama Bay or Kaena Point	8.5 RT	2 to 3	Maghna Zettle 234-0320 mmzettle@aol.com			
31 Fri	Full Moon Lycanthrope Round Trip From Ala Wai Yacht Harbor (behind Hilton Lagoon at the old heliport) to Waikiki With a possible rest stop at Duke's.	3 RT	2	Rusty Lillico 254-4123 lillico@hawaii.rr.com			
September 03 Mon 8:00 am to noon	32 nd Annual Waikiki Roughwater Swim Volunteers needed to escort swimmers. Free t-shirt and lunch. Meet at the makai (ocean) side of Hilton Lagoon. Launch at 8:30 am.			Joseph Hu 528-3600 advisor@aloha.net Bim Bousman 949-4524 bim@sprynet.com			
09 Sun	Ko Olina to Pokai Bay Beach Park	9	2	Kevin Ching 947-4526 chingdds@aol.com			
16 Sun 7:00 am to 2:00 pm	Kaneohe Yacht Club/Hui Wa'a Kaukahi Kayak Papio Fishing Tournament at Kaneohe Yacht Club Prizes! Food! Fun! Register and submit entry fee to Doug or Rusty.			Douglas Peebles 247-9966 douglas@douglaspeebles.com Rusty Lillico 254-4123 lillico@hawaii.rr.com			
18 Tues	Meeting – 7:00 pm at Church of the Crossroads Subject: Slide show of the adventures of the "Lana'l Daytrippers" presented by Dr. Kevin Ching.	! ! ! ! ! !					
20 Thurs	"Thurfing Thurfday" – 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Location TBA at meeting.			Andy Collins 737-8437 andycollins@hawaii.rr.com			
23 Sun	Pokai Bay Beach Park to Makua	9	2 to 3	Jane Skanderup 239-7007 jskanderup@yahoo.com			
<u>October</u> 07 Sun	John Enomoto/Joe Cool Windbag Regatta – Maunalua Bay Beach Park (Hawaii Kai) to Waialae Beach Park (Kahala)	4.5	2 to 3	John Enomoto 737-1790			

HUI WA'A KAUKAHI PADDLING ODYSSEY 2001 – AUGUST TO DECEMBER						
		MILES	RATING			
DATE	EVENT	 	<u>i </u>	LEADER/CONTACT		
October (co 14 Sun	Clean the Stream – Kahana River Bring equipment to clear overgrowth along the river. Meet at Kahana Valley State Park.			George Shoemaker 237-8992 geo_shoe@msn.com		
16 Tues	Meeting – 7:00 pm at Church of the Crossroads Subject: Another entertaining presentation by Gary Budlong about his BIG 60 th birthday celebration in the jungles of Costa Rica.					
18 Thurs	"Thurfing Thurfday" – 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Location TBA at meeting.			Andy Collins 737-8437 andycollins@hawaii.rr.com		
21 Sun	Lazy Day on the River – Kahana River	2 RT	1	George Shoemaker 237-8992 geo_shoe@msn.com		
27 Sat	Makai Pier (Makapuu) to Kailua Boat Ramp With rest stop on the Mokulua Islands.	8	3	Charles Ehrhorn 395-6180 ehrhorn@lava.net		
<u>November</u> 10 Sat	Circle Keehi Lagoon Islets Round trip from Keehi Boat Harbor with brunch stop at Moanalua Gardens.	4 RT	1 to 2	Steve Langford 735-3470 himhnl@aol.com		
18 Sun	Circle Honolulu Harbor Round trip from Keehi Boat Harbor through Honolulu Harbor and around Sand Island.	4 RT	2	Rusty Lillico 254-4123 lillico@hawaii.rr.com		
20 Tues	Meeting – 7:00 pm at Church of the Crossroads Subject: Charles Ehrhorn shows and tells of the daring travel along the Hamakua Coast on the Big Island.					
22 Thurs	"Thurfing Thurfday" – 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Location TBA at meeting.			Andy Collins 737-8437 andycollins@hawaii.rr.com		
<u>December</u> 08 Sat	Circle Moku O Loe (Coconut Island) Round trip from Heeia Kea Boat Harbor with tour of Coconut Island. No fishing allowed.	3 RT	1 to 2	Rusty Lillico 254-4123 lillico@hawaii.rr.com		
18 Tues	Annual Christmas Party Merriment at Anna Bannana's 6:30 p.m. Pot luck dinner. Photo contest. Grab bag – bring a present valued at \$5 to \$10 for your chance to grab a bag of ?????. Winners of the Progressive Fishing Tournament will be announced. Winners of the 20 th Anniversary Logo and T-Shirt Design contests will also be announced.			Joseph Hu 528-3600 advisor@aloha.net		
20 Thurs	"Thurfing Thurfday" – 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Location TBA at meeting.			Andy Collins 737-8437 andycollins@hawaii.rr.com		
21 Fri 6:00 pm	Christmas Caroling on the Ala Wai Deck your kayak with festive balls, lights, tinsels, etc. Meet at the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor boat ramp.		1	ТВА		

Schedule Changes:

Cancelled:

- 1. Saturday, August 4 to Sunday, August 5 camp at Malaekahana;
- 2. Saturday, August 4 Circle Mokuauia (Goat Island) paddle;
- 3. Sunday, August 5 Malaekahana to China Walls (Kawela Bay) paddle; and
- 4. Wednesday, August 8 to Tuesday, August 14 Neighbor Island Trips.

Volunteers Needed:

- 1. Thursday, August 16 at the Hawaii State Farm Fair fundraiser (20 24 people); and
- 2. Monday, September 3 for the 32nd Annual Waikiki Roughwater Swim.

See schedule above for contact person.

Notes:

- 1. Schedule is subject to change.
- 2. TBA = to be announced.
 - RT = round trip.
- 3. Please contact the leaders if you have any questions about the skill level and the mileage of the paddles, and to notify them that you will be participating.
- 4. Ratings of the paddles are based on average conditions. Weather and ocean conditions can change rapidly which would increase the difficulty of the paddle. It is up to each individual to assess the conditions prior to launching according to his/her experience and ability, and to decide whether to participate or not.
- 5. A paddle will be cancelled by the leader(s) when there is a Small Craft Advisory.
- 6. Contact Andy Collins for "Thurfing Thurfday" details.
- 7. Contact Charles Ehrhorn for Progressive Fishing Tournament details and registration.

Required for all paddles (unless otherwise specified):

8:30 a.m. - car pool.

9:00 a.m. – assemble at designated starting site and have kayaks ready to launch.

9:15 a.m. – launch.