

# Lifeline

Newsletter of Hui Wa'a Kaukahi

*Summer 2005* ♦ *Issue 05 - 3* 

# What Makes SURF ALOHA an aloha event.....





## the Volunteers.....





and.....
read on for more articles and
pictures.....

## Surf Aloha, June 11-12, 2005

written by Jean Ehrhorn

"DOES ANYONE HAVE A TANDEM, DOES ANYONE HAVE A TANDEM?", yelled one of the Vanderbeck brothers as they ran up the beach after their boat broke two minutes into the heat. The tandem finals heat was running and competition was in high gear on Sunday, June 12, 2005 at the 6th annual Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition at White Plains Beach, Barber's Point, on Oahu's south shore.

Sure enough, there was an extra tandem. Brandt and Frank plowed back into the choppy surf to try to regain their edge in the heat. But when they were about 50 yards off-shore, they came upon the boat of another team of tandem contestants...minus the team. Frank, or was it Brandt? jumped off his tandem, got in the stray kayak and started paddling it towards the swimming duo. Meanwhile, the other Vanderbeck brother followed in their borrowed boat. Back in their respective boats, the two teams finished the heat in good spirits.

### Highlights

Choppy seas and 10-20 knot winds set up 4-6 ft waves coming from unpredictable directions. These surf conditions kept contestants on their toes throughout both days of the contest. Over 150 people attended this year's contest to watch 42 able competitors in 27 events.

The smoothly run contest reflected the superb planning and organization on the part of the event coordinators: Gary Budlong, Jodi Dingle, Lois Miyashiro, Maghna Zettle, and Peter Nicholson, and their crew of volunteers from Hui Wa'a Kaukahi, Surf Team South, and others. Again, there was willing help from the lifeguards at White Plains and Navy Hawaii's MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) Division.

Several competitors huli'ed and had to swim after their boats that were headed for shore. (*Note: sprint swimming with a life jacket on is NOT easy.*) Other kayak surfers had their leashes break as the energy of the waves mowed down those unlucky enough to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Watching the deck boats dance among the waves was a treat for those of us who are more used to watching open siton-top kayak surfing. Tandem duo, Chalsa Loo and Steve Harris, once again proved that practice makes perfect (or at least better than the others) in their tandem act.

Both clear victories and near misses prevailed in the contest. We asked some of the winners for their comments:

**Kaos Chaos Novice-Paul Tibbetts:** "It was so thrilling to win the Kaos Chaos; I'd never won an event before. The competition was very tough; I was amazed to hear the results. It's going to take some real work and a lot of luck to do well in the competition next year. I want to thank the judges, the organizers, and my fellow contestants for a great contest."

**Open Da Kine, Novice-Chuck Hill:** "The contest was a lot of fun and it was great having some surf versus the past couple of years. If I won, could be that the judges had a few too many beforehand."

**Scramble'd Up, Novice-Alan Calhoun:** "My win was pure luck. First of all, probably the best Scrambler kayak surfer in Hawaii (Sam S.) didn't enter this year. Then another top contender (Kaleo I.) broke a leash and had to swim almost to shore for his boat. Aaron A. and Gary B. are consistently tough competitors. I'll have to work hard to maintain next year."

**Tandem-Chalsa Loo and Steve Harris**: "The tandem kayak surfing event gave us a chance to be creative and in synch while also exercising good wave selection, time efficiency, and tight control. We tried to create some signature routines, like "synchronized scissors kicks," "helicopter-for-two," "elevator rising," "duo standing," "the George Washington landing," and "ballerina of the bow." What's exciting is integrating movements from ballet, water skiing, and synchronized swimming to the sporting-entertainment of the tandem event. What a thrill to hear cheers from the audience and the acknowledgment of the judges."

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**Wahines Open- Jodi Dingle**: "I think I won because my boat is most suited for my weight and the type of waves at Barber's Point. I also get long rides because I sit outside and catch "The Big Ones." Plus, experience surfing a surf board has helped me be able to read the waves and feel comfortable in them."

Great prizes – four kayaks were given away along with a host of other kayak-related items, thanks to the generosity of the event's sponsors, including Go Bananas, XCEL, Protec, Ocean Kayak, Wilderness Systems, Lotus Designs, Cobra Kayak, Werner Paddles, Yakima Car Racks, Camelbak, Surf to Summit, Seal Line, Kokatat, Bully's, Aqua Sphere, Spectrum Kayaks, and others.

# MAHALO NUI LOA from the Surf Aloha Committee to the Participants, Volunteers, and Sponsors







Gary B, Maghna, Dani, Lois, Jodi, and Peter

Participants			Volunteers	
Aaron Acosta Heinrich Albert Jeff Aurrecoechea Bernie Boltz Brian Boltz Graham Boltz Gary Budlong Fletcher Burton Alan Calhoun Lawson Cannon Aimee Chiland Kevin Ching Jodi Dingle Charles Ehrhorn Melinda Furrer Gregg Gildersleeve	Steve Harris Chuck Hill Ryan Hines Danno Holden Steven Howell Doug Hudson Kaleo Ing Yung Kwon Chalsa Loo Shawn Maddux Paul Malaspina Stan McCrea Devin Moody Sunny Moritz Al Narciso Leonard Reeves	Larry Sarner John Smith Craig Stenstrom Jon Sylvester Lisa Taylor Paul Tibbetts Brandt Vanderbeck Frank Vanderbeck Lindy Williams Shaun Yates	Steven Anthony Suzi Anthony Anne Ashford Jeff Aurrecoechea Alan Calhoun Aimee Chiland Kevin Ching Charles Ehrhorn Jean Ehrhorn Charles Hekekia Joseph Hu Dennis Kees Milton Kono Stephanie Lachance Rusty Lillico	John Nolan Rob Pratten Terry Shimabukuro Jane Skanderup Paul Tibbetts Susan Strinkowski Karl Frogner Michael Gage Melinda Furrer Karla Fees Al Narciso  and many others who pitched in to help.



Deck Boats: #2 Ryan Hines, #1 Doug Hudson, #3 Devin Moody

# Surf Aloha 2005 Winners

Photographed by Joe Hu



Masters Open: #2 Chuck Ehrhorn, #3 Doug Hudson, #1 Heinrich Albert



Kaos Chaos, Novice: #1 Paul Tibbetts, #3 Danno Holden, #2 Jon Sylvester



Open Da Kine, Expert: #3 Craig Stenstrom, #2 Leonard Reeves, #1 Graham Boltz



Open Da Kine, Novice: #1 Chuck Hill, #2 Larry Sarner, #3 Paul Malaspina



Scramble'd Up, Novice: #3 Kaleo Ing, #1 Alan Calhoun, #2 Aaron Acosta



Sit on Top With Rudder, Expert: #3 Gregg Gildersleeve, #2 Steven Howell, #1 Leonard Reeves



Sit on Top With Rudder, Novice: #2 Chuck Hill, #3 Paul Malaspina, #1 Lawson Cannon (not pictured)



**Sit on Top Without Rudder, Novice:** #2 Steve Harris, #1 John Smith, #3 Lawson Cannon (not pictured)



Sit on Top Without Rudder, Expert: #1 Craig Stenstrom, #2 Jeff Aurrecoechea, #3 Brandt Vanderbeck



Strike Out, Expert: #1 Frank Vanderbeck, #2 Brian Boltz, #3 Brandt Vancerbeck



Strike Out, Novice: #1 John Smith, #2 Alan Calhoun, #3 Steven Howell



Tandem: #3 Paul Tibbetts & Jodi Dingle, #2 Jeff Aurrecoechea & Alan Calhoun, #1 Steve Harris & Chalsa Loo



Wave Ski, Novice: #1 Jeff Aurrecoechea, #2 Bernie Boltz, #3 Paul Malaspina



Wave Ski, Expert: #2 Craig Stenstrom, #1 Fletcher Burton, #3 Heinrich Albert



Surf Sprint: #3 Paul Tibbetts, #2 Devin Moody, #1 Brian Boltz



Wahines Open: #1 Jodi Dingle, #3 Lisa Taylor, #2 Aimee Chiland

## **Four Lucky Kayak Raffle Winners**



Fletcher Burton



**Paul Tibbetts** 



Aaron Acosta



Karl Frogner

The Surf Aloha Committee honored three individuals who have eagerly and tirelessly volunteered each year that Surf Aloha has been in existence.

Pictured on the right is Jean Ehrhorn and Rusty Lillico with SA Committee Member, Maghna Zettle. Missing is John Nolan.

# **Super Volunteers**



# Alan Calhoun Fishing Contest May 2005



Second Place: Stan McCrea 3.1 pound Aha





Winner: Rusty Lillico 9.8 pound Kagami (beautiful catch and paid for dearly)



Fourth Place: Chuck Ehrhorn 1.7 pound Uku





Third Place: Craig Colburn 2.7 pound Omilu





Fifth Place: Dennis Kees .8 pound White Papio, 1 pound Omilu, & 2.5 pound Omilu

## Sails Sail in Windbag 2005

Written by Kevin K. L. Ching DDS

"I think she has a good chance of coming in second or third," said Steve on Chalsa's chances in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Windbag Regatta; "she may even come in first!" he continued in true Windbag form. The wind was a perfect 10 to 25 mph, better than last year, and the tide was rising rapidly. This was going to be one of the better conditions for a Windbag Regatta. As we waited at the start for Steve and Chalsa to get ready, the tide was continuing to rise and the wind was getting stronger. Steve pulled out his wind meter and he was getting readings around 20 mph. Ed stood in the water, itching to try out his newest edition of sailing kayak. He had fashioned a Cuda one-man fiberglass kayak with bilateral amas and gigantic Polynesian crab claw sail. Chalsa had a rig that used two V-sails arranged in a fan shape, allowing reefing in strong wind. Steve used his "Viking" square sail that almost won the race last year. Representing kites was Chuck with a 7.5 parafoil. My rig was a double V-Sail rig but, this year, I had a larger V-sail in the bow.

"On the count of three!" announced the official starter, Jeanie. The racers took off accompanied by non-racers, Bill and Gretchen, paddling in their double Cuda. Not wanting to fall behind at the start like last year, I flipped up the front sail and then engaged my center sail. Already, Steve and Chalsa were taking off like they always have done in the past. I had a feeling that, if they got an early lead, they weren't going to give it up. Looking over my left shoulder, I saw Ed paddling his sailing kayak to keep up with the fast start. I decided that I would paddle at this point and caught up with Steve and Chalsa at Paikoo Point.

The deadly sandbar at the Point was now covered by water and we all raced over it with impunity. Steve was taking the lead, inch worming ahead by a nose, then a gust would come and my sails filled and I would catch up. Chalsa was sailing smoothly to my starboard and approaching my kayak. As she approached, her fan sail started to affect my wind, robbing the energy from my sails. "Chalsa, you're blocking my wind!" I shouted. A smile crept on her face as she inched closer. Looking over to Steve, I saw he was again regaining the lead but this time by a boat length as my kayak was beginning to slow down. Chalsa started to take a nose lead over me as well while I was still in her wind shadow.

Up ahead was a fly fisherman whipping. Concentrating on his angling, he didn't notice five kayaks racing in his direction. We were heading right towards him when I warned Chalsa, "Look out for that fisherman!" As we approached the intrepid angler, I cut to his left, forcing Chalsa to pull away to the right. "You did that on purpose!" declared Chalsa, but I already was taking advantage of the situation and had taken a lead over her and had nearly caught up with Steve. As we passed the fisherman, I heard what sounded like an expletive. It must have been quite a sight as a flotilla of sailing kayaks went racing past him on either side with three other kayaks close behind. I apologized, expecting a fly to hit me on the back of my head as I passed.

The next phase of the race seemed like déjà vu as events seemed to be unfolding like a replay of last year. As we passed Paikoo Point, Chalsa and Steve were still to my starboard and a nose behind when, all of a sudden, a gust came and my foresail began to dance on my deck. I noticed that Steve's sail was dancing even more, and then came the big splash as Steve apparently hulied. It was unusually loud and I wondered what happened to Chalsa since, immediately after I caught a glimpse of Steve capsizing, she disappeared from my peripheral vision. "I have a chance!" I thought as I assumed that Chalsa had doubled back to help Steve. I took a glance over my left shoulder to see Ed closing in on me big time. He must have seen the big huli and surged ahead. Now we were nearing Wailupe and surf was entering inside the reef since the tide was over plus 1 ft. Waves were breaking outside, then rolling in towards the shore. There really wasn't any way to avoid a roller so I was prepared psychologically for a hit from the port side. What I wasn't ready for was the size of the wave that peaked right when I got near Wailupe. I looked at the steep face as it picked up

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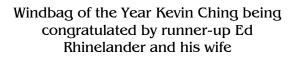
as if it were waiting for the right moment to close out. Rising about head high, the lip hit me in the face and, suddenly, my Scupper was heading to shore at full speed. The wind was picking up and wanted to push the kayak forward, while the wave wanted to push the kayak toward the shore side saddle. Usually when that happens, a huli quickly follows, but I refused to capsize. I changed my brace from the starboard to the port as I tried to ride out the wave, my sails flapping wildly out of control. After what seemed like an eternity, the wave stopped roaring, but the wind was still blowing hard and I started back on track again.

I looked over my shoulder again to see Ed only a few yards back, but deeper into the breaking waves. He didn't look at all bothered by the whitewater all around him. Looking further back, there was no sign of Steve and Chalsa. I couldn't look too long as I was about to enter the washing machine better known as the Wailupe Peninsula. Waves that were breaking over the reef all the way to shore were now slamming against the peninsula and reflecting back, causing the turbulence that resembles a ride on a wild horse. Fortunately, the wind was ramping up and my Scupper seemed to skip from wave crest to wave crest.

After passing Wailupe, the wind abruptly died as I entered the peninsula's wind shadow. Now was the second time I started to paddle, not wanting to be flat in the water as Ed was closing in at Wailupe and probably paddling himself. Soon the wind picked up and now my foresail was dancing back and forth. The gusts were so powerful, the foresail started to bend way over to the port side, diving into the water on several occasions. Ed saw my sail dip into the water curiously. If I hulied, he would take 1<sup>st</sup> place. Trying to control the sail by pulling on the control lines, I was able to stop the sail from falling into the water, dragging the kayak over.

Waialae Beach was clearly in sight, and the wind was beginning to howl. The race was far from over as mentioned earlier; the race outcome could easily change with one poorly timed huli. As luck would have it, I sailed onto the beach without mishap, proudly claiming the title of "Windbag of the Year". Close behind was Ed, who made a point of claiming that he was closing in on me but, each time he took his eye off my position, I moved slightly more ahead. Chalsa was next, looking very fashionable with one lens in her sunglasses missing. Apparently, after Steve hulied, she followed with two of her own. Next came Chuck with his parafoil kite. Still no sign of Steve. Then, in the distance at Wailupe, there was a yellow square furiously tearing down the ocean. Soon the Windbag Regatta 2005 was over, with all contestants safely on shore.

The sails were the winners this year and innovation was the key. Ed and his specialized sailing kayak actually bettered his time from last year, and moved from a 4<sup>th</sup> place last year to runner up in 2005. Chalsa with her fan sail fulfilled Steve's vision by winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy. Steve won "motivation" to come up with a more stable rig for next year and retake a victory like he did in 2002. Not only did I win the Windbag Regatta 2005 but I won a healthy respect for my fellow competitors. I have to improve the rig on my scupper for yet one more year.





Winbag Regatta 2005 Final Results					
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	Boat/Sail	<u>Time</u>		
1	Kevin Ching	Scupper Pro/ Two V-Sail	43 min 32 sec		
2 3	Ed Rheinlander Chalsa Loo	Cuda/ Polynesean Crab Claw Scupper Pro/ Two V-Sail	44 min 43 sec 53 min 23 sec		
4	Chuck Ehrhorn	Revision/7.5 parafoil kite	57 min 59 sec		
5	Steve Harris	Scupper Pro/ Large Viking Sail	74 min 44 sec		

## Special Acknowledgement to Sponsors and Volunteers:

Alan Calhoun Fishing Contest
Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks
Hawaiian Island Creations
Host -- Alan Calhoun
Lois Miyashiro

Windbag Regatta
Go Bananas Kayaks and Roof Racks
Host -- Kevin K. L. Ching, DDS
Escorts - Bill and Gretchen Arnemann
Jean Ehrhorn
Joseph Hu
Lois Miyashiro
Peter Nicholson

## WANTED Hui Wa'a Kaukahi Board Needs Treasurer

The Hui Board is seeking a volunteer to join the Board and serve as Treasurer. We are fortunate that our current Treasurer, Lois Miyashiro, has set up a great system that is easy to maintain. Lois wishes to pass this mantle on while she continues as our Newsletter Editor.

An accounting background is desirable but not necessary; you need to be able to manage an Excel spreadsheet and spend about 10 hours a month to track revenue and expenditures. The Treasurer also presents a financial report to the Board at our quarterly meetings.

Interested individuals should send an email to both Jane Skanderup, Co-Chair of the Board, at jskanderup@yahoo.com, as well as Lois Miyashiro at loikake@hawaii.rr.com. We'll be pleased to talk to you about any questions you may have.

#### **TRIP RATINGS**

### Excerpts taken from <u>Paddling Hawai'l</u> by Audrey Sutherland

A knot is 1 nautical mile per hour, equivalent to 1.15 land miles per hour. Seas are measured in height of waves above normal flat water. Distances are in land miles, not nautical miles.

- Class 1: Rivers and bays. Easy paddling or swimming. Quiet water, little wind or current. Easy put-in and take-out. Short paddles of 1-5 miles.
- Class 2: Protected ocean area. Wind 0-10 knots and seas 1-3 feet. Sheltered put-in and take-out sites so you can make a short or long trip. Less than 1 mile between possible landings.
- Class 3: Moderate open ocean. Wind 5-15 knots and seas 2-5 feet. Often more than 2 miles between landings. Some rocky shores and surf during take-off and landing. There is access to roads and phones in the first 3 trip classes.
- Class 4: Exposed open ocean. Prevailing winds 10–25 knots and seas 2-10 feet. Some sandy beaches to cushion the landings. No phones or towns. May be 5 miles or more between road access. Steady shore break.
- Class 5: Dangerous open ocean. You might get a quiet day, but this area often has winds of 15-30 knots, choppy seas up to 15 feet. Breaking surf on rocky shores, few or no sand beaches. Cliffs drop sheer into the sea. Experience, skill, and judgment required. No roads. 10-30 miles between phones. Difficult and dangerous.

#### LIST OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PADDLE LEADER

by Joseph Hu

- 1) Handle inquiries via phone calls, e-mail (if available), and/or in person prior to the paddle.
- 2) Get the marine radios from Rusty Lillico prior to the paddle and distribute them to qualified members at the launch site.
- 3) Arrive at the launch site on time or earlier to check weather and sea conditions. Check the weather report ahead of time (Hawaiian Waters at 973-4382).
- 4) Officially cancel the paddle in the event of Small Craft Advisory.
- 5) Organize and initiate a car pool to the landing site.
- 6) Gather the paddlers together prior to launching to discuss a paddle plan, including landing sites and planned rest stop or reconvening locations.
- 7) Encourage the "buddy system" so members are within shouting distance of one another in case of emergency.
- 8) Ask if there are any "new" paddlers (have never paddled before) in the group. Recommend that they attend a "beginners" clinic before participating, rather than risking injury. Leaders are not expected to teach new participants the fundamentals of paddling on the day of the event.
- 9) Count the number of boats and the number of paddlers prior to the launch. Relay this information to the co-leader or another experienced paddler. Count them again each time the group reconvenes and at the landing site to insure that everyone is accounted for.
- 10) Read, understand, and follow the American Canoe Association Safety Guidelines.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PADDLER

by Bob Walls

- 1) Each paddler is responsible for his/her own safety. Make sure that you are familiar with the skill level required, have had proper instructions about kayaking, have the necessary safety equipment, and that your boat and equipment are sea-worthy. Address any questions about these preparations to the Paddle Leader.
- 2) Arrive at the launch site as early as necessary to be ready to launch at the scheduled time and to assist with the car pooling.
- 3) Check in with the Paddle Leader upon arrival. Each participant must sign the release form and read the waiver provided by the Leader.
- 4) Inform the Paddle of any physical limitations you may have, if you intend to deviate from the paddle plan such as

separating/landing from the group earlier, and other special situations. Otherwise, if you are unaccounted for, the Coast Guard will be alerted.

- 5) You are responsible for briefing any non-member guests you bring about the planned route, group paddling practices, and emergency procedures and signals prior to the scheduled paddle. For instance, the universal SOS signal is to hold the paddle vertically as high as possible.
- 6) The "buddy system" is encouraged. Stay in sight or communication with at least one other paddler. If you have a VHF marine radio, monitor the radio channel assigned by the Paddle Leader (usually Channel 72). However, sole reliance on club radios to call for help is discouraged because the radio may not be operable under certain ocean conditions and within certain coastal areas.
- 7) Do not pass the designated Lead Paddler or fall behind the designated Sweep Paddler.

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- 8) Keep the Paddle Leader informed of any special situations which may arise during the paddle, either directly or indirectly by relaying the information through the designated Sweep or other paddlers in communication with the Leader.
- 9) Check in with the Paddle Leader at the designated reconvening areas and at the end of the paddle so he can account for all participants. Provide any feedback or suggestions which may assist with future paddle scheduling and monitoring.
- 10) Enjoy yourself!

#### Officers and Steering Advisory Board Members

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** 

Results of the:

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- o Windbag Regatta, July 2005

Paddling Schedule, August – December 2005 Map to New Boat Ramp for August 28, 2005 paddle, Barber's Point to Pokai Bay Beach Park. Don't let your membership expire. Check the mailing label for the due date.