



## Polynesian Voyaging Society

*Mālama Hawai'i, Mālama Honua*

# Hali'a Aloha

by Kathryn Muneno

In less than a year we have lost three voyaging pioneers. They grew up thousands of miles apart but came together for a canoe, a people, and a culture.

Treading the very soil upon which Hōkūle'a was first assembled, lashed and launched, men, women and children gathered, breathing in the peaceful beauty and sacred history of Kualoa. They came on March 8, 2011, to celebrate Hōkūle'a's 36<sup>th</sup> birthday, and they came to pray for a man whose dream came to life here, on March 8, 1975, and whose dream inspired thousands.

In an interview in 2007, renowned artist and historian Herb Kawainui Kane reminisced about that historic day in 1975. "We had lines out on both sides of the canoe and a great number of people participating in pulling it on signal," he said. Upon the signal, they gave one pull, took a couple steps, and then Kane laughingly remembers that Hōkūle'a just seemed to jump toward the water.

Kane co-founded the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) with Ben Finney and Tommy Holmes upon his return to Hawai'i after many years on the mainland. Kane said,

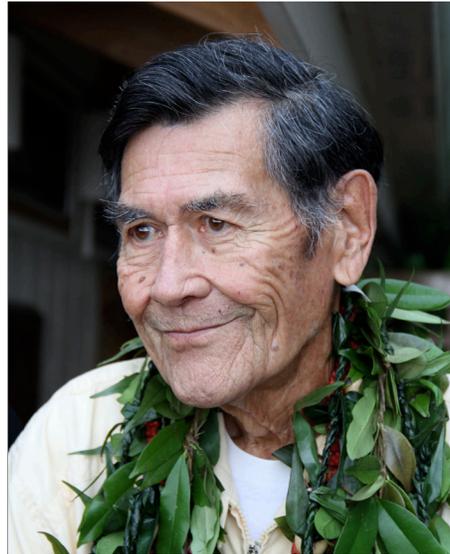


PHOTO: Karen Holman

"Actually, sailing to Tahiti and back was a dream that we wanted to see fulfilled but... my primary concern was that the canoe would be accepted by the Hawaiian people." Although Kane designed Hōkūle'a, he often said, "the canoe was actually designed 800 years ago." He also named her. Kane recalled the night he dreamt about the stars, and "Arcturus suddenly got very bright." He said he woke up and wrote "Hōkūle'a" on a pad next to his bed.

Kane was Hōkūle'a's first captain, and the day of her launching also was the day



PHOTO: Monte Costa



PHOTO: Kimo Hugo

her first navigator arrived. With no known Polynesian navigators, Finney had sent a message to Mau Pailug, asking him to navigate Hōkūle'a to Tahiti. Pailug was the youngest master navigator in a centuries-old, unbroken line of traditional navigators in Micronesia. Finney recalled that on the morning Hōkūle'a was to launch, he received a phone call from a customs agent at the Honolulu airport. Finney remembered the agent said, "We've got a man here from Micronesia who said he's gonna navigate your canoe to Tahiti, is that for real?"

*continued on page 4*



PHOTO: Monte Costa

The Polynesian Voyaging Society and the entire voyaging 'ohana are deeply saddened by the loss of **David Ka'aumoana McKenney** ("Ka'au"). McKenney taught seventh-grade social studies at Punahou School, and was a joyous waterman, beloved father and a treasured member, captain and navigator of PVS. He had made four voyages on

Hōkūle'a and Hawai'iloa over the past two decades, and was training himself and several students and crewmembers for the upcoming Worldwide Voyage. We wish him and his family peace, and thank him for the wonderful memories. He died on May 11, 2011, in Honolulu at age 45, and his friends, colleagues and family members continue to celebrate his life.

# Hōkūle‘a’s Renovation

by *Michael Taylor*

Hōkūle‘a is being reborn. An icon for Hawai‘i and the Pacific, Hōkūle‘a will be stronger, lighter, more stable and just as beautiful when she returns to the water later this year. The refurbished and rebuilt Hōkūle‘a will be a gift of cultural pride for future generations, and continues to be a classroom for current generations.

Hōkūle‘a’s dry dock is well underway, with more than 5,000 volunteer hours donated as of August 1. When Hōkūle‘a was hauled from the water in September 2010, the wa‘a was tired and worn, showing her age. She had sailed tens of thousands of miles of open ocean since her last major overhaul in 2002-3. To ensure Hōkūle‘a remains solid, safe and strong for the next 35 years, PVS leadership planned and initiated the most extensive renovation of the canoe since she was launched in 1975. This renovation is intended to support the Worldwide Voyage (WWV) – Mālama Honua; Hōkūle‘a will be in the best shape of her life.

For the first time, Hōkūle‘a has been taken completely apart – no two pieces remain attached to each other. Under the leadership of Bruce Blankenfeld and the technical guidance of Bob Perkins,

PHOTO: Monte Costa



## DRY DOCK SCHEDULE:

Mon/Tues/Thur 5 - 8 pm  
Saturdays 7 am - 3 pm

PHOTO: Monte Costa



every aspect of the canoe was opened and inspected for damage and water-rot. We found significant rot caused by 35 years and 140,000 nautical miles of exposure to seawater. All rotted wood and compromised structural components have been replaced, most notably the bulkheads that provide great strength to the hulls and separate the individual, watertight cargo holds. Newly replaced ring frames between each set of bulkheads provide additional hull strength. The fiberglass on both hull bottoms has also

been renewed.

After this dry dock, the hulls will be the only original pieces of Hōkūle‘a that remain. Even new ‘iako (cross beams) were fabricated in Maine and finished by PVS volunteers. They will make Hōkūle‘a two feet wider and more stable for the WWV. Replacement masts, spars, cleats and deadeyes (doughnuts) are ready.

We look forward to lashing in September (approximately six miles of line will be used to tie all of Hōkūle‘a’s pieces and parts back together – no nails), and are trying to be back in the water this November. When we do re-launch Hōkūle‘a, the wa‘a is going to be more beautiful and stronger than ever.

*Mike Taylor is a Hōkūle‘a Captain-in-training for the WWV, and a lead volunteer in the dry dock effort.*

## Crew Member Profile...*Kimo Moncrief*

by *Tina L. M. Daehler*

Born and raised in Honolulu, he has followed the media stories about and admired Hōkūle‘a since her maiden voyage. He remembers wistfully wishing to be invited to participate, but being realistically aware of the time constraints of an airline pilot career. This is how Kimo Moncrief described his past association with Hōkūle‘a: at a distance.

Fast forward to 2009: retired with lots of free time, and an invitation. Longtime friend and crewmember Buddy McGuire did the matchmaking: Kimo meet Hōkūle‘a; Hōkūle‘a meet Kimo. It is now a regular sight to see Kimo, crouched down within Hōkūle‘a’s hulls, encased in a film of dust, sanding, grinding, and fitting bulkheads, and then more of the same on another dry dock day.

“I try to get in five full days a week,” he said. “I want to still be a productive person.

This is the time to give back.”

It is a good match. While Hōkūle‘a is filling what Kimo calls a “void” in his life (“I love working with wood and with my hands.”), Kimo is filling Hōkūle‘a with critical new bulkheads, topped off with lots of his radiant aloha spirit.

Asked what he would like to tell the next generation of voyagers, he said: “It’s all about pitching in and helping, being part of a crew. It’s about cooperation, getting along, doing your part.”

Current and future crew must realize and consider the contributions made by this very dedicated and satisfied volunteer. He said he knows he doesn’t have to come (to drydock), but: “I really want to do it. I enjoy working with really fun and nice people.”

Likewise, Kimo!

PHOTO: Monte Costa





# Mālama Hōkūleʻa

Saturday, September 10, 2011

5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Kapiolani Community College

Tickets available on line:

[pvs.hawaii.org](http://pvs.hawaii.org)

5 pm – 6 pm:

Showing of “Papa Mau: The Wayfinder” – a film by Nāʻālehu Anthony and Palikū Documentary Films about the Micronesian visionary whose generosity and commitment to non-instrument voyaging brought that art back to Polynesia and the world. The first 120 people through the ʻŌhiʻa Cafeteria’s auditorium doors will be seated. Copies of the documentary will be for sale.

6:30 pm – 9 pm:

Original Chant and Hula Pahu for Hōkūleʻa, and musical entertainers Weldon Kekauoha and Ernie Cruz, Jr. and possible guest musicians.

*Throughout the night: Images of Voyaging Display and sale of 16 photographs of Hōkūleʻa by Nāʻālehu Anthony, Monte Costa and Sam Low. Food, non-alcoholic beverages and PVS merchandise will be for sale. Bring mats, blankets or low chairs for lawn seating, but no alcohol or pets allowed.*

*Tickets will be sold for \$25, or for \$27 if purchased online at [pvs.hawaii.org](http://pvs.hawaii.org). Children under six can come for free, with supervision. Tickets also are available directly from PVS staff and members. Contact the PVS office by phone at (808) 842-1101, or email the office at [pvshawaii@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:pvshawaii@hawaiiantel.net).*

*Your ticket purchases and contributions will ensure that Hōkūleʻa will continue sailing for generations to come.*

*We invite you to a fundraiser for the refurbishing of Hōkūleʻa – Hawaiʻi’s beloved voyaging canoe – on Saturday, September 10th, from 5 – 9 pm, on the Great Lawn at Kapiʻolani Community College. Come join us under the light of a full moon for an evening of chant, dance, music, film and photography – all inspired by the epic voyages of Hōkūleʻa.*

## It takes an ‘ahupuaʻa to launch a canoe..

### First Waldorf Wayfinding Festival “Friendraiser”

by Michi Wong

Honolulu Waldorf School, nestled in Niu Valley and framed by mountains and monkeypod trees, formed a partnership in education, culture and exploration with the Polynesian Voyaging Society. They graciously invited our cast of navigation students, crew, educators and volunteers to join in their May Day festivities with their students, teachers and families. The “friendraiser” was accompanied by the beautiful, donated music of Kupa ʻĀina, Taamane Gardner, Kaukahi, and Jeff Peterson, and the delicious aromas of various food booths.

Circled around the expanse of lawn beneath the monkeypod trees were tented booths representing different kuleana on Hōkūleʻa and of sustainable island living. The “young and young at heart” were invited to learn from the voyagers.

Hōkūleʻa crew manned the different booths featuring fine canoe cooking, knot tying, coloring pictures of the canoe, teaching about native plants, playing star compass games, learning Hawaiian names for parts of the canoe, simulating packing for a long voyage, and demonstrations by safety and medical experts. Other booths included PVS merchandise for sale, a map of the Worldwide Voyage sail plan, samples of supplies needed for a voyage, and friends from the Bishop Museum Press, Mālama Maunaloa and Honolulu Waldorf School.

As a friendraiser for both the school and PVS, the inaugural Wayfinding Festival was a great success, full of joy and learning, thanks to the generous natures and happy spirits of all involved. We have committed to continuing to work together toward a brighter future for all of Hawaiʻi’s children.

### Mahalo to this quarter’s sponsors and donors

- Island Insurance Foundation
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# Ua 'Ike Anei 'Oukou? Did you know?...Kana

by Kalei Nu'uhiwa

Howzit Gangeh. Each issue will feature a chant or a portion of a chant that talks about traditional atmospheric information observed, understood and recorded by Hawaiians.

This issue's chant talks about the birth of Kana, who some believe is also Kanaloa. Kana was born a kaula. As a rope, he was trained by his grandmother Uli to stretch. As a prophet, Uli taught Kana how to sail and have a great influence over the people of the Pacific. The imagery in this chant describes storms, flooding, stretching and Kana's vast influence, ending with his navigational feats. Kana's migrations travelled in huge fleets of wa'a. To get the full imagery of this chant, I encourage you to look up the underlined words. This chant is well worth some pondering and further studies.

Ia moku kele kahiki i ke au Haka.  
*In the time of Haka aboard the  
traveling ship*

Hakalanileo, Ho'owiliwili Hilo,  
*Haka the Prophet, Twisting Storm*

Ho'okāka'a ka lani,  
*The skies began roiling*

Kāka'a ka 'īloli,  
*Birth pangs roiled*

Wehiwehi ka 'ōpua  
*The clouds built up*

Pālāmoa kahiki  
*Atmospheric storm clouds*

Wai kahe ka mauna  
*The mountain flooded*

Kaiko'o ka moana  
*The ocean buffeted*

I ka hānau 'ana  
*During the birthing*

*continued on page 5*

**"Hali'a Aloha"** *continued from page 1*

Piailug was a man of great skill, confidence and courage, willing to sail unfamiliar waters and to where Hawaiians had not navigated in centuries. "So, in reality, on board he was all alone," said inaugural, 1976 crewmember and Piailug's student Shorty Bertelmann.

Piailug was also a man of great wisdom and compassion. Kane said that Piailug "wanted to see the navigation, the art of navigation as it was practiced in Satawal, to continue, again to provide a cultural rudder for encountering a new world."

The 1976 history-making and life-changing voyage – with a crowded canoe of 17 crewmembers, a dog, a pig and a chicken – provided for some tense moments, but the other key elements of laughter and lightness were amply provided by crewmember Boogie Kalama. "He was the one who kind of uplifted you, when things were chaotic or people got on each other's nerves," said '76 crewmember Billy Richards. "He was music," said Richards. "He played a lot of music on the canoe. He had a special way of playing. Even when things were tense within the crew, he would even try then to sing and include them in the singing."

Kalama wrote several songs during that first voyage to Tahiti, most notably "Star of Gladness", first recorded by the Makaha Sons of Ni'ihau. His lyrics would relax and uplift anyone: "Stand beside me and be my friend, make me smile and laugh again, yes Hōkūle'a, you're the Star of Gladness (you're the happy star), Oh, Hōkūle'a, Star

of Gladness." Lesser-known tunes that also got them through the voyage included "Doldrum Blues" and "Hepatitis Blues," written after the Coast Guard air-dropped hepatitis inoculants for crewmembers to take.

Three years after that successful voyage, Piailug returned to Hawai'i to help Hawaiians reach back in time and learn to navigate themselves. Piailug often said that if you are given a gift, you have to share it. He went further. He graduated five Hawaiian navigators into the sacred Micronesian tradition of pwo.

Bertelmann said of that first voyage that Piailug "was the only one that really knew that we were going to get there safe. He was the only one that really knew how to build a fire and keep it alive. I think he was probably the only one to really understand where this was going in the future because he came with understanding. His intent for coming was just awesome. It took us years to figure it out."

Master navigator Pius Mau Piailug passed away on his home island of Satawal on July 12, 2010.

Waterman and musician George "Boogie" Kalama passed away in Hilo on January 19, 2011.

And on the night of the gathering at Kualoa, March 8, 2011, at about the time all had bowed their heads in silent prayer for Herb Kawainui Kane, who lay in a hospital on the other side of the Ko'olau, Kane too passed away. ●

## Traditional Materials...Koa

by Kaleomanuiwa Wong

Throughout all of Hawai'i, there is arguably no plant that is more important than Koa. Growing to be one of the tallest trees in Hawai'i, Koa supplied the logs that the Kāhuna kālai wa'a (master canoe carvers) hollowed out, shaped, and transformed into the bodies of our strong ocean-going canoes, our fishing canoes, race canoes, war canoes, sailing canoes, and our long-distance, voyaging canoes.

In 1991, in an attempt to fulfill the dream of carving a voyaging canoe out of traditional Hawaiian materials, Nainoa Thompson and members of Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) went into Hawai'i's forests, searching for Koa logs that were large and healthy enough to be carved into the hulls of Hawai'iloa. They found that our forests were sick, and that not even two logs could successfully be obtained. Twenty years later, continual loss of habitat due to introduced pests coupled with change in land stewardship continues to have detrimental impacts on the remaining Koa stands.

# Te Mana o Te Moana

## A Personal Experience

by *Lehua Kamalu*

The experiences of this June and July can best be described by the name of the

fleet of wa‘a that graced our sunny shores at that time: Te Mana O Te Moana, or “The

Powerful Spirit of the Sea.” It was a feeling not lost on the thousands of locals and malihini alike who greeted this Pacific Ocean ‘ohana at their various stops throughout Hawai‘i Nei.

Of particular note was the stunning ceremony that took place at Hakipu‘u as the voyagers paid homage to the birthplace of Hōkūle‘a and honored those ancestors who came before.

The event united friends of days gone past and catalyzed friendships for the future.

‘Ohana Wa‘a and the greater Polynesian community from across the islands worked passionately to provide the crews with a little bit of the comforts of home and a whole lot of aloha. The voyagers expressed their deepest gratitude as often as the occasion would permit, especially as their day of departure from Hanalei to San Francisco drew near.

A few of PVS’s own are accompanying them on their continued voyage and mission to inspire ocean awareness throughout the Pacific region. As we excitedly await their stories, we can follow their daily blogs at [www.pacificvoyagers.org](http://www.pacificvoyagers.org).



PHOTO: Danee Hazama



PHOTO: Danee Hazama

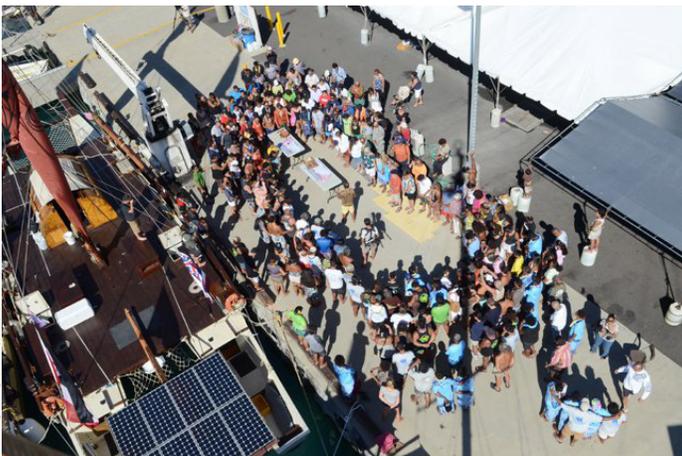


PHOTO: Danee Hazama

O ka u‘i a Haka  
*Of Haka’s hero*

Hānau a ‘e, ‘o Kana he lino  
*Kana was born a braid*

He aho loa  
*A long cord*

He paukū kaula  
*A piece of string*

He kā‘e‘e koali  
*A [stretching] koali tendril*

He awe pūmai‘a  
*A [stretching] banana fruit stalk*

He pūnāwelewele  
*A [spreading] spider web*

Hānai iā Uli a ka ihu pī  
*Reared by Uli of the narrow prow*

Ka ihu Nana, ka manō hae  
*The bow of the star, the fierce manō*

Ka ‘īlio hae, keiki ‘alalā  
*The ferocious dog, sun child*

Keiki ‘omino,  
*Wrinkled child*

Kū i koholua  
*Sacred semblance*

Kū iki a Kana  
*Under Kana’s reign*

Naue nā koa  
*The brave followed*

Ka ‘elawa i kai  
*Searching the seas*

Ka pūko‘a i kai  
*Raising the seas*

Ka pū‘olē‘olē  
*Resounding heralds*

Ka niuhi moelawa  
*Niuhi’s remora!*

Ka ‘auna lele kai  
*Ocean sailing fleet*

Kou inoa ē, Kana  
*Is your name, Kana*

<sup>1</sup> Aloali‘i – Those who lived with and supported the chief. A chief’s retinue.

### PVS Mission

Founded on a legacy of Pacific Ocean exploration, the Polynesian Voyaging Society seeks to perpetuate the art and science of traditional Polynesian voyaging and the spirit of exploration through experiential educational programs that inspire students and their communities to respect and care for themselves, each other, and their natural and cultural environments.

### PVS Vision

Hawai'i, our special island home, will be a place where the people, land and sea are cared for, and communities are healthy and safe.

### WWV Mission

Navigating Island Earth to a peaceful, healthy shore.

### WWV Vision

Mālama Earth.

## Membership Application

### Please select one:

- up to \$25 Hoaloha (Friend)
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- \$100-\$249 'Uli (Steerperson)
- \$250-\$499 Kālai wa`a (Canoe Maker)
- \$500-\$999 Ho`okele Wa`a (Navigator)
- \$1,000-\$4,999 Kilo Hōkū (Astronomer)
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- \$10,000 and up Ali`i Nui (Servant Leader)

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**Membership expires one year from application date.**

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If you qualify for a shirt (\$75 or more), please check size:  S  M  L  XL

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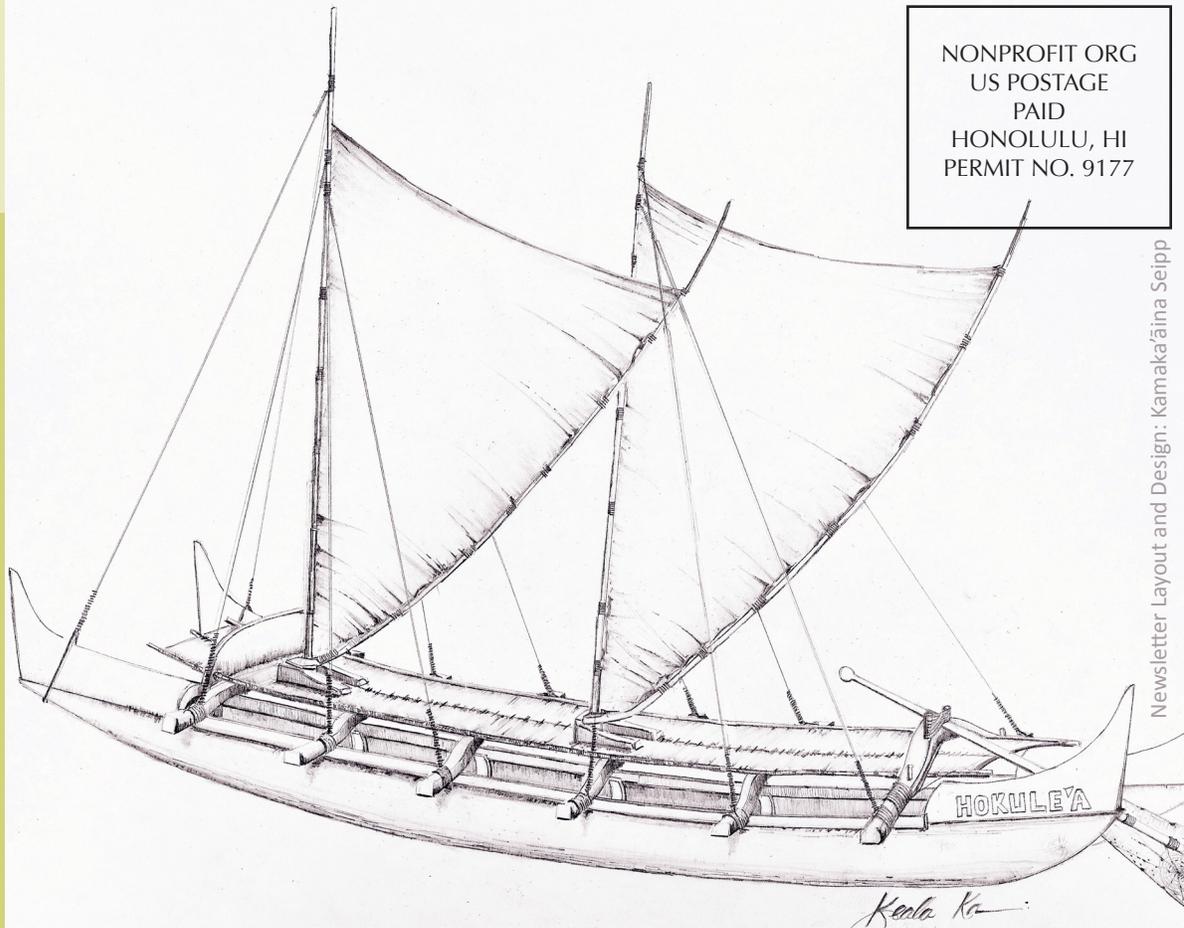
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