Kayaking Lives at Outrigger

By Genie Kincaid

For the better part of the year, many members in our OCC family devote their time and energy to canoe paddling. And once the regatta and long distance seasons are added to the list of summer memories, paddling enthusiasts divert their attentions to other challenging seasonal sports, i.e., surfing, sailing, armchair football, pre-holiday shopping or even impromptu partying (a sound standby sport for all seasons).

And then there are the guys with the kayaks. These are the guys who would forego insouciant Friday nights in order to ensure a 6 a.m. start with companions on a run from various points of strain. Maybe from Sea Life Park to Portlock. Or Portlock to Outrigger.

There is a fierce but compelling desire within the kayaking enthusiast to get into the water as soon and as often as possible just to experience it, relish it and even challenge it.

"Yakkers" vary in personality from individual to individual but they have some characteristics wholly in common with one another. For one thing, they share that indescribable love for the ocean.

Little swells and bumps on the ocean make for an exciting ride while flat water makes for an overextended drag. Yet the yakker is happy, serene and loyal to the ocean, flat or not, as long as he's in the water with his kayak.

Yakkers also look to the ocean as cathartic therapy. No matter how long the day, no matter how big the problem, a run on the ocean in a kayak has amazing healing powers.

Oh, yeah, one last enduring characteristic of all yakkers—they all lose the plugs to their boats at one point or another.

Outrigger members indulge in kayaking for both recreation and competition. For those with competitive aspirations, the Hawaii Kayak Racing Association sponsors races everywhere on the island from December to April with the season culminating in the grueling Molokai to Oahu race.

On January 11, a race from Magic Island to Diamond Head buoy and back boasted a field of approximately 60 participants including 8 members from OCC.

The conditions were not exactly a yakker's dream with no wind or swell running. Just the basic ingredients for a tough race were present: clear skies, hot midday sun and flat water.

To make matters worse, the race did not have a staggered start. Both the upper division racers and novice racers were started at the same time.

But wait, the confusion didn't end there. Most of the novice racers made wrong turns around various buoys in the waters between Magic Island and Diamond Head. Seventy percent (yup, you read it right) of the racers made the novice course look like it was packed with jammed up bumper cars in a carnival ride.

Nevertheless, five of the eight OCC participating members placed or won in their respective divisions. Tom Conner took first place honors in the over 40-A class while Hugh Foster Sr. took first place in the over 40-B class. Steve Van Lier Ribbink placed third in the intermediate—expert division. In the intermediate division, Chris Kincaid and Kala Judd finished first and second respectively. Also competing for OCC were Mike Town, Marshall Rosa, Jim...
Petersen and Tom McTigue.

On January 25, Outrigger Canoe Club sponsored the HKRA race from Portlock to Sans Souci. Another solid turnout was evident by the 75 participants who entered. It was won by Bob Twogood in an overall time of 1:09:14. The women's division was won by Denise Darvall with a time of 1:21:27.

Conditions for the race were no better than it was two weeks before in the Magic Island race. With no wind or swells for surfing, the race was dictated by those who could best maneuver and power through the relatively flat water.

Outrigger was well represented in the field with six members placing or winning in the different categories. In the expert division, four seconds was

all that separated Marshall Rosa from Bill Bright. They finished second and third respectively with times of 1:11:46 and 1:11:50. Steve Van Lier Ribbink fared better in his race the intermediate—expert division advancing to a second place finish with a time of 1:13:19.

In the intermediate division, Chris Kincaid's time of 1:13:52 was just enough to edge Kala Judd out for first place. Kala finished second in a time of 1:14:02. In the over 40-A division, Tom Conner again captured first place in a time of 1:11:42. Other members who participated include Mike Town, Norm Dunmire, Mike Fox and Mary Franco. It was the first race for both Mike and Mary.

With kayaking gaining in popularity for both the recreational and competitive yanker, it appears nothing will keep these avid water sports athletes out of the water—except maybe lost plugs.

SIDELIGHT: Tracy Phillips, Mark Sandvold and Kevin Olds, premier yankers of the Outrigger, are working hard at their training for the 1988 Olympic Games in Costa Mesa, California. They are seeking to improve their chances of making the team by training with other hopefuls.

Mary Franco was first OCC woman finisher.

Coordinating Director Mark Buck announces the winners.

Mike Town entertained his son after the race.

Tom McTigue in Magic Island to Diamond Head Buoy race.

Jim Petersen rounds the buoy at Diamond Head in Jan. 11 race.

OCC Winter Kayak Race Results

**Elite Division:**
- Bob Twogood
- Dave Badeaux
- Pat Erwin
- Time: 1:09:14

**Expert Division:**
- Bob Rochleau
- Marshall Rosa
- Bill Bright
- Guy Gilliland
- Bill Robello
- Time: 1:10:32

**Intermediate Expert Division:**
- Mike Harbold
- Steve Van Lier Ribbink
- Mark Gilliland
- Time: 1:11:25

**Intermediate Division:**
- Chris Kincaid
- Kala Judd
- Herb Hill
- Matt Higgins
- Kimbo Doole
- Phil Carofo
- Time: 1:13:52

**Novice A**
- Charlie Cates
- Sanford Glatzel
- Robbie Cates
- Carlton Ching
- Time: 1:14:02

**Novice B**
- MacKenzie Shannon
- Rick Lee
- Myron VanGieson
- Francis Steele
- Time: 1:14:30

**Novice C**
- Rick Fraser
- Walter Oshiro
- Mel Paule
- Mike Fox
- Ian Waugh
- Mike Town
- Time: 1:20:54

**Men Over 40 A**
- Tom Conner
- Dean Hayward
- Kala Kukea
- Time: 1:11:42

**Men Over 40 B**
- Rem Mikus
- Warren Duryea
- Lloyd Yamashita
- Norm Dunmire
- Time: 1:18:10

**Women**
- Denise Darvall
- Kathy Irwin
- Kuumoni Ho
- Tracey Silva
- Sonja Evensen
- Mary Franco
- Time: 1:21:27