

New Life Member: *Barbara Del Piano*

By Carin Rapson

Our incredible Barbara Del Piano has done it again. She has scaled another mountain; this time to be elected a Life Member of the Outrigger Canoe Club at the Annual Meeting on February 23. And well deserving she is.

After serving the Club in so many capacities since 1990, she has earned all our respect and kudos.

Her most outstanding achievement has been the 50 articles she has written for the *Outrigger* magazine since 1992. In 2001, the Board of Directors presented her with an Outstanding Service Award specifically for the 12 historical articles she wrote about the Club, one each month highlighting a decade of the Club's history, for the first year of the new millenium.

Most notably, we are familiar with the blockbuster job she did on *The Outrigger Canoe Club - The First 100 Years*, the research she did, and then the writing of the book. The book was published in time for the OCC Centennial and copies are still available for sale at the Front Desk.

Barbara has also written other books including *Eh Nei, Do You Remembah?*, *Emma Beloved Queen of Hawaii* and *Na Lani Kaumaka, Daughters of Hawaii, a Century of Historic Preservation*.

Barbara is up at 5 a.m. ("at the latest") every day, and does her writing and works on her various projects. Afternoons she can be seen walking for two hours all over town after she bikes to the Club.

Her latest project is the history of the new property that the Club has acquired in Aina Haina. She said her research took her all the way back to the 1700's. You can read the article on pages 2-4.

She has served on the Public Relations (1996-2001), Historical (1990-1993 and 2004-present), Entertainment (1998-1999) and House (2002-2003) committees, and chairing the PR and Historical committees.

Barbara says, "One of my most enjoyable projects was being one of the organizers of the Old Timers' Get Togethers." She has coordinated the event for the past five years.

Barbara was also the coordinator for the Lobby Display Case, and served on the Nominating Committee (2002) and the Centennial Adhoc Committee (2007-2008).

She created the diorama of the Club built after the fire of 1914 and the 1940 Clubhouse. After its original display, Barbara went back and decorated the Clubhouse model for the holidays in another beautiful Christmas display that we could all enjoy in December. The dioramas were displayed in the Lobby Display Case in 2008.

The dioramas were works of incredible charm and genius. These displays brought "oohs and aahs" and brought people to tears. Each one took four months to build.

Barbara originally joined the Club in 1947 as Barbara Jean Dorsam. She married Tony Del Piano and lived on the mainland for a period of time and was a Nonresident member before resigning in March 1959. She returned to Hawaii, but did not learn about reinstatement until 1977, when she rushed to the Club and applied on October 29, 1977. She became a Senior Member on March 1, 1994

To Barbara all we can say is Mahalo Nui and we couldn't have made it without you.



ABOVE: Barbara stands in front of the Lobby Display Case where her model of the early Club is displayed.



RIGHT: Barbara with her family, husband Tony and daughters Monica and Maile.



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