



ALEXANDER HUME (POP) FORD'S 76th birthday Sunday was the occasion for an all-day celebration of the founding of the Outrigger Canoe club at Waikiki beach Sunday. The day's festivities included surfing, dancing, treats for the youngsters, and a founders' day dinner in the evening. Shown here with Mr. Ford at the celebration are four junior members of the club. Left to right—Audrey McClanahan, Martha Stenberg, Mr. Ford, Marian Erickson and Minto Hannus.

Outrigger Club Helps 'Pop' Ford Celebrate His 76th Birthday Sunday

The 76th birthday of Alexander Hume (Pop) Ford was made the occasion of an all day founders' celebration at the Outrigger Canoe club Sunday.

"There are more canoes in the water today than I've seen out in 20 years," observed Pop, who carries the weight of his years very lightly.

In the forenoon youngsters, who are Mr. Ford's special interest, and adult guests of the club were given canoe rides manned by veteran surfers of the club. In the afternoon the youngsters were treated to pop and ice cream on Hau terrace by Mr. Ford, assisted by Soichi Sasaki, the club's first steward.

A dance for junior members in the afternoon was followed by a founders' day dinner dance in the evening, the latter attended by about 150 members of the club, among whom were the following charter members besides Mr. Ford:

G. D. (Dad) Center, Vincent Genoves, William Harris, Sam Carter, Tom Carter, Fred Carter, J. S. MacKenzie, Atherton Gilman, Pete Young, Harry Steiner, Guy Rothwell, William (Newt) Cottrell, Francis Cottrell, Francis Cooper, J. P. Cooke Jr. and William Paty.

Mr. Ford recalled Sunday that it was in 1908 that he purchased an authentic Hawaiian grass house —

one of the last on Oahu, and had it moved to Waikiki beach to house the Outrigger club.

That was the year, Mr. Ford said, that he was host the first time to his friend, Jack London. An account of how Mr. Ford taught the writer to use the surfboard and the canoe is contained in London's log of the famous Snark, and the story of London's stay at the Outrigger club is also told in Charmian London's book, *The Cruise of the Snark*.

Mr. Ford says he has had a monthly letter from Mrs. London, now living in California, for the past 41 years.

During London's first visit to the islands, Mr. Ford recalls nursing the writer through a two weeks illness caused from sunburn.

Another of Mr. Ford's guests in those years was Burton Holmes.

The present clubhouse was opened in 1941.

Speaking at the founders' day dinner Sunday evening, Mr. Ford dwelt on his favorite project—reviving the interest of youngsters in surf sports.

He has been responsible for the training of one boy, Billy Fink, 11, to handle both a surfboard and a canoe, although Billy has only one arm.