



Nautical Notes

By Jack Wyatt

Surfing teen-agers turn sailors

Residents of Diamond Head's plush waterfront apartments probably wonder why there are more sailboats off Waikiki Beach when the surf is up and a strong wind is blowing than there are when Mamala Bay is a tranquil millpond blessed only by gentle winds.

This is due in the most part to a group of surfing teen-agers turned sailors from Waikiki's Outrigger Canoe Club.

This active array of youths expertly skipper their Sunfish sailing surfboards in waves which make even the experienced surfers stay ashore. They are products of an enthusiastic junior program designed to perpetuate water sports at the club.

Interest among teen-agers can spell the difference between success and failure of any boating organization, including canoe clubs. When the oldsters hang up their sails and paddles for the last time, someone must step in to continue the tradition, and this falls to the youngsters.

Outrigger's activity comes from a well organized summer sports program for the juniors headed by past president and now athletic chairman Cline Mann. In eight weeks, the teens learn volleyball, surfing, canoe paddling, and sailing.

Sailing instruction is given expertly by catamaran skipper Bob Casey. Casey conducts classes on knot tying, care and maintenance of the boat, rules and safety pointers, fundamentals of seamanship, and finally on-the-water instruction of sailing principles.

Now in its second year, early enrollees for this year's classes number over 70 enthusiastic neophytes eager to learn.



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Results gratifying

"Results have been beyond expectations" says Cline Mann. "Graduates who have become expert skippers in their own right like teen-agers Mike Driscoll, Tommy Levine, and Brandt Ackerman make one proud of the time and effort put forth in this program."

"Besides," Cline continued, "They make excellent crewmen on the member's Pacific Catamarans, and we all know, good crew is at a premium at most clubs."

Pearl Harbor, Honolulu's mighty naval base is bracing for an invasion by sea. The first wave of the 150-vessel task force is scheduled to start at 10:30 Saturday morning off Waikiki Beach. It is not a fleet of man-of-war ships geared for battle, but a large gathering of sailing craft participating in the most popular event of the sailing season, the annual maritime regatta.

Once a year yachtsmen are afforded the opportunity of racing to Pearl Harbor, staying the night, and returning the following day. Considered a rather easy sailing event, it draws a large attendance from the many cruising yachts which seldom leave Ala Wai harbor, besides the regular weekend racers.

19 miles of sailing

The yachts are grouped by size in several classes, each group starting at 10-minute intervals throughout the morning. A 19.1-mile course has been scheduled for the larger yachts which will take them around Diamond Head buoy, to Pearl Harbor, past Fort Island and to the finish off Bishop Point inside the harbor. Smaller yachts will sail a shorter 16.3-mile course.

Post race activities are always well attended. The dinner and awards banquet at the officers club is one of the highlights of the yachting social season.

Sponsored by the Propeller Club in cooperation with the armed services and local yacht clubs, the Maritime regatta promises to be a fun-filled weekend and should provide a spectators delight from Waikiki Beach.

According to chairmen Ellsworth Harris and Del Carter, there will be a skipper's meeting tomorrow evening at 6 at Waikiki Yacht Club. Sailing instructions and race circular will be available at that time.