

POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY

volume II

December 2008

Helping Youth Navigate Their Future

Just as on a canoe with limited space and resources when sailing the vast ocean, so are we on this island we call Earth. In the midst of this great universe, we must learn to live well; with respect and caring for ourselves, each other, and our cultural and natural environment.

To further our vision, we have partnered with Honolulu Community College and the Marine Education Training Center. As a result, two components of learning have been bridged, integrating educational skills & providing more opportunity to assist youth in navigating the fast changing global society.

PVS' component will be a School of Navigation where voyaging values and skills will be taught, providing youth with the opportunity to sail, train, & learn the responsibilities that they can apply to the ocean, their home & the world.

Our Goals:

- Reinforce foundation leadership.
- Continue training opportunities for leadership & crew.
- Extensive dry dock for Hokule'a.



For the long term success of Hawai'i and the Earth, we must lead youth to navigate a fast-changing world.

Training Voyage to Palmyra & Christmas Island

In March 2009, a group of navigators, captains & crew will take part in a training voyage to Palmyra &

Christmas Island (Kiritimati). Visiting these atolls will provide crew with the opportunity to examine two diverse environments, as well as obtain valuable training for future voyages. Upon their return, they will share experiences and lessons learned.

Palmyra is located approximately 1,052 miles S/SW of Hawai'i. It is one of the most pristine, diverse & spectacular reef systems in the world.

Christmas Island is the largest coral atoll & is known for it's millions of nesting tropical birds. Unlike Palmyra, it is inhabited; it's population consists largely of those of Polynesian & Micronesian descent. It's existence, along with a number of Pacific island nations is said to be threatened by climate change and the resultant rise in sea levels.



TENTATIVE CREW TRAINING SCHEDULE:

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact PVS for more info.



A Message from Nainoa Thompson

Aloha!

We've accomplished much in 2008 with the tremendous support from our community of volunteers. It is all of who give Hokule'a it's mana and I personally want to thank you for your support.

Beginning in 2009, we will focus on making worthy contributions to our home here in the islands as well as the world. Our community will continually become more global, thus we will make an effort to take on world voyages to explore, discover, inspire and share. We will focus on training a new generation of leaders as it is time for some of us to pass the torch. These young leaders will be mentored and taught by some of the pioneers in voyaging in hopes that together we can keep voyaging strong. Please contact our office if you are interested in taking part in these trainings.

During the year, we were able to reach over 2,000 people through canoe tours, sails, lectures and presentations. In the coming year, we hope to reach more. There is much to do and it is my hope that you continue to support our vision.



In Memory of Sam Kalalau, Jr.

On October 21, PVS lost one of it's pioneers. Sam Kalalau, Jr., a crew member on the historic 1976 voyage from Hawaii to Tahiti & a man well-respected for his knowledge of the sea, passed away at his home in Hana. He was 85. Hokule'a sailed to Hana to be a part of Sam's final voyage.



On September 19, 2008, the University of Hawaii Board of Regents unanimously approved the naming of the School of Social Work to *The Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work*. Thompson served as President of PVS for almost two decades prior to his passing in 2001.

Remembering Bob Worthington

Bob played a vital role in the work of Hokule'a. His work reflected a lifelong commitment to the betterment of native Hawaiians. Bob served on the Executive Board of PVS and for nearly 30 years, served as Director of Financial Aid at the Kamehameha Schools. Bob passed away on August 14.





WAIMEA McKEAGUE is a wonderful example of how youth can be inspired through voyaging. **Waimea** was 13 and attending Nanakuli Intermediate when he was first introduced to PVS.

Spotlight on Kapu Na Keiki

According to Waimea, Nainoa wanted young paddlers to participate in an event for the Children’s Justice Center so he attended one of Leeward Kai Canoe Clubs practices where I paddled. After practice, Nainoa asked me to join Kapu Na Keiki. “I wanted so much to be a part of the PVS crew. I asked for advice &

wanted to learn everything I could about sailing. I wanted to be a part of something significant”, says Waimea.

“Upon graduation from high school, I didn’t know what I wanted to do. My friends at Kapu Na Keiki, as well as other crew encouraged me to continue my education”.

Waimea is currently enrolled at Honolulu Community College’s Marine Education Program & well on his way to his future.

Kapu Na Keiki (hold sacred the children) is designed to challenge students, inspire them to take care of the ocean & their island communities & encourage the values of compassion, giving & service.

Morning Light Premiere benefits PVS

MORNING LIGHT is the exciting true-life ‘Disney’ documentary that tells the inspiring story of 15 young sailors who set out to take on the 2,500 mile Transpac race. While training in Hawaii, these young sailors were able to experience PVS’ voyaging traditions and values, led by navigator Nainoa Thompson. One of the sailors, Mark Towill, has been a part of PVS’ educational programs since a young age. For him, this endeavor was a voyage of self discovery. According to Mark, *“I am very lucky & blessed to have been part of such an amazing experience. I learned so much about myself, the ocean & the true value of teamwork. It was especially special for me because I was able to sail home to Hawai’i.”*

The October Premiere raised over \$12,000 in which proceeds benefitted PVS and The Hawaii Sailing Foundation. **MAHALO Morning Light!!**

Caring for a Treasure

Since it’s maiden voyage, Hokule’a has sailed more than 120,000 nautical miles, reached every corner of the Polynesian Triangle, the western coast of the United States and most recently, Micronesia and Japan.

Hokule’a serves as a floating classroom, integrating voyaging into educational experiences.

To meet the ever increasing demands by schools and the community-at-large, Hokule’a will be retrofitted beginning in mid 2009. This year-long dry dock will have the canoe widened to create more space for educating youth, to allow her to be equipped with educational technology & to enable her to sail to further regions.

Contact the PVS office if you’re interested in volunteering.



POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY

10 Sand Island Parkway

Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808)842-1101

FAX: (808)842-1112

pvshawaii@hawaiiantel.net

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HONOLULU, HI
PERMIT NO. 9177

Happy Holidays!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- C. Nainoa Thompson, Chair
- Bruce Blankenfeld
- Kenneth Brown
- David Cole
- Michael Chun
- Michael Cunningham
- Dennis Fern
- Catherine Fuller
- Neil Hannahs
- Harry Ho
- Lilikala Kame'eleihiwa
- Byron Mallot
- Blake McElheny
- William Ornellas
- William Tam
- Benjamin Tamura
- Laura Thompson
- Robert Witt
- Nathan Wong
- August Yee

PVS STAFF

Ramona Ontiveros, Office Manager

BIG Mahalo's

PVS is fortunate to have been served by many volunteers who have selflessly given us their hand & heart over the years. In this issue, we recognize the following for their tireless support:

AKANA TRUCKING. *Kevin Akana & his gang* have been hauling Hokule'a in and out of the water during periods of dry dock for years. They also help in delivering containers of food for voyages.

KEEHI MARINE. *Yoshi Muraoka & the team* at Keehi Marine have always helped out with haul outs of Hokule'a and other vessels, have allowed us the use of space and assisted with various repairs. Yoshi has also kindly donated fuel for the boats.

MARINE EDUCATION TRAINING CENTER. *Bob Perkins, Mark Kimura & Red Griffiths-Seewerker* for their ongoing support of PVS. Many thanks for the use of classrooms for meetings & training, for escorting, & for always lending a hand.

OUR 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.