



DEEP INTO RACING SEASON!

MAY/JUNE 2026



What's Happening at Keauhou!

Monthly Potluck Birthday Brunch — Friday, June 26, 9:00 AM

Come join your fellow paddlers for our last birthday brunch before the end of September!

New Member Orientation — Saturday, June 27 9:30 AM

Join us and learn about paddling, the rich history of the Keauhou club location and area, and KCC! Sign up in Events on the website.

Volunteer to Paddle with Full Life — Thursday, July 2, 8:45 AM

Come and join fellow Keauhou paddlers to volunteer to paddle for our Full Life guests. Every first Thursday of the month. It's a wonderful experience. Sign up on the website.

Monthly Huli Drill — Tuesday, July 7, 9:00AM

The Safety and Steering Committee hosts a monthly huli drill that is painless, fun, and teaches you what to do if your canoe hulis. In general, we advise that you participate in a huli drill before paddling 6-man canoes. For questions, email Tom Forrest at tmforrest4@gmail.com.

Upcoming Steering Skills Session — email tmforrest4@gmail.com if you're interested.

Journal Club - has moved online!

The Journal club now holds discussions online, and are currently participating in an online course. Upcoming learning is about Lā Kū'oko'a, Hawaiian Independence Day and Kauikeaouli's role in restoration of the holiday. krisishii@aol.com for more information.

Recreational Paddling

Recreational paddling times stay the same all year long.

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, Thursday: 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m.
- Saturday: 7:30 a.m.

Competitive Paddling

Wahine

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, at 4:30 PM

Youth and Keiki

Practice is 3:15 PM on Tuesday/Thursday

Men

The men's teams practice Tuesday/Thursday at 4:30 PM

Board News

We usually summarize recent board meeting actions, but much of that information is in Bill's letter, below. Notes from May and June board meetings:

- Membership in June was 654 members
- Nominated Jane Bockus for the Outrigger Canoe Society Paddler Hall of Honor.
- Extended guest paddling pilot program. Waivers must be completed, and host name is now on waiver.
- Youth and Keiki programs are doing great!
- Just finished Keiki Program Guide and is being printed.
- Reviewing and considering buying new paddles.
- Knocked the Keauhou Regatta out of the park. Big thank you to everyone involved.
- Ongoing problems with security issues around the halau. The board approved partial fencing.
- With all expenses factored, the regatta earned income for the first time.
- Reviewed procedures for using Keauhou Canoes during the Queen Lili'uokalani Canoe Race. Keauhou canoes are free to members; mixed crews and non-member crews pay.
- There will only be one route to renting Makani Kai at states. Talk to Vern.

Aloha



If you want to use a Keauhou Canoe for the Queen Lili'uokalani Race, contact Vern ASAP.

Wonderful Job, Keauhou Regatta Volunteers!

We want to congratulate and thank every single Keauhou member who was involved in supporting and helping with our regatta in May. It was our first regatta in three years, and thank you to everyone who helped move canoes, race, and coach!



Canoe Rack Repair

Thank you to Bob Darling, Vern, George Abood, Bill Manwaring, and Chuck Thompson for their help repairing our canoe racks.



Puna Regatta Men's Team Silver!

Vern Bieraugel, Bob Darling, Moke Hauanio, Richard Jarvinen, Peter Lasich and Peter Marlock. Also pictured are men's 65 crew members: Rudi Bertschi, Dave Tracy, John Wright and Tom Campbell. (Check out the New Tent!)



Gold Medal Sophomore Men on June 20!

Kekai Gladden, Jeremy Manasas, Shawn Hayashida, Noelan Kaaihue, Sayer Palakiko, Chase VonNordheim



Keiki Team helping sand canoes and doing hulis!

Great job to Kelly and all keiki helpers. Wonderful to see them active, engaged, learning, having fun and paddling!

Women's 70 leaving everybody behind on June 20!

Linda Churches, Jeannie Isola, Suzanne Jarvinen, Kathy Kaai, Ingrid Malone, Gail Quitevis



For club pictures, join the **NEW Keauhou Canoe Club Member Pictures and News Facebook** page. Use the QR Code to join!



President's Message

June is the mid-point of this 2026 Board term for Keauhou Canoe Club, and I'd like to congratulate, appreciate, applaud, and reflect on what has happened in the short space of six months since the previous election. The Board of Directors continues to be busy and engaged in the business at hand with efforts in the safety, steering, membership, racing, and communications committees working hard for the club.

By June 30, 2026, Keauhou Canoe Club joined Kai 'Ehitu Canoe Club, Kai 'Opua Canoe Club, and MOKU O HAWAII to raise over \$100,000 in funds to construct the Kailua Bay Regatta Course. KCC members contributed over \$5,000 in personal donations and the club will likely contribute about \$14,000. Kai 'Ehitu conducted the first Kona regatta in three years on May 16, 2026, where we saw the first "Under 10 year old boys and girls races" in koa canoes. Well done.

The May 23 Keauhou regatta was an unqualified success. Congratulations and plenty thanks to the Keauhou team of over 50 volunteers and leaders. Many of our volunteers were totally new and regatta-inexperienced. They created a record breaking event for KCC— our first regatta in three years and the first ever to make a profit.

Thank you to every member who donated drinks, baked goods, and helped in so many ways. Food netted over \$2000 for the first time ever, shirt sales were \$1600, and our food drive for St. Michael's community, collected over 500 pounds of food and \$150 in donations. These helped offset new charges, like dumpster and overnight security.

We have been grateful for the support of Kumu Keala Ching at KCC events such as the Annual meeting, American Cancer Society fundraiser in February, the Unlimited canoe blessing in April, and the blessing and dedication of the Kailua Bay Finish Line in May. Members continue to volunteer and fundraise at the yearly Paddler Against Cancer event, which donated \$13,000 to the American Cancer Society this year. Our combined club and members donated over \$19,000 to the Kailua Bay Regatta Course. Members also participated in community efforts such as Lavaman Triathlon at end of March, HONU Triathlon at end of May, Kona Swim Club events, Champions Golf tournament, Rotary international, and a Keauhou Ohana Kokua member was assisted with medical recovery assistance.

The club continues its one-monthly paddling partnership with Full Life for special needs participants. Sign up on the website to participate. Thank you to Tim Collins for making that partnership so successful.

Members restored both koa canoes completely prior to the start of the 2026 race season under the guidance of Vern Bieraugel and Dick Roberts. Dick also developed a "Make your own paddle workshop" for five youth and their adult mentors. Cat Mikkelsen has worked with club members to complete a Keiki Paddling resource book that will soon become available for broader distribution.

Two Keauhou crews intend to participate in the Singapore World Sprints in September--the senior men and women. Our racing crews continue to improve weekly under Athletic Director Vern Bieraugel, Coaches Dave Yamagata, Meredith Ozbil, Kelly Logigian and our assistant coaches. Youth paddlers have made a large jump in attendance and several youth are also participating with the Jr. Va'a group at Kai 'Ehitu. And our Keiki paddler program is blossoming with their new coach Kelly.

Our membership now stands at just over 650 which is very positive for spring/summertime. Thanks to Stacey Wood for being the welcoming presence for all of our new members - and for all of her race support.

This week's Kamehameha Schools Hearing on the challenge lawsuit was postponed until July 8, at 10:00 at the County Courthouse on Makala St. The judge asked for motions from both parties as to whether she should continue as the presiding judge given that a family member attends Kamehameha schools. There were about 7 KCC attendees at that hearing who had an unexpected lesson about the law. Aloha and have a terrific rest of the year. What a start and we are only halfway there!

