



Winter

March 2009

Commodore Comments

March Sailing 101

Aloha everyone and welcome to the March Na Hoa Holomoku Newsletter. I wanted to use my column inches this month to pass on some exciting news about Ho'okipa, our 32' racing catamaran. As many of you will know, we took ownership of Ho'okipa shortly after she had broken free of her mooring and endured some significant damage on the rocks, there were some large holes in the port hull and both rudders were damaged beyond repair. Well, I'm happy to announce that following lots of work by lots of people, Ho'okipa is now back under sail. While we do really need to haul her out for a period to renovate the hull, and much work still remains to get her into tip-top shape, it's great to have her back out on the water. We sailed her during the April Sailing 101 day and hit 9 knots according to my GPS - she promises to be a very exciting boat, and re-pay our efforts many times over!



First Tmers sailing the Sunfish

Many thanks to all who have helped get her back under sail!

Aloha,

Commodore Paul.

Amid all the foul weather that was hitting Hilo in February and early March, the first Sunday of the month turned out to be a pleasant day with light winds, and many newcomers to our Bayfront club site; all the ingredients for another enjoyable sailing 101 Sunday.

Continued page 7 "Sailing 101"



What is as good as a boat full of old salts telling yarns? That's right!

The Na Hoa Holomoku Club Potluck

Come and join in on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30. Meet at the Wailoa Park Pavilion. Bring your plates and a dish. Next Potluck April 8th.

By the way, do you recognize John L. in this Photo?

Scuttlebutt (a Nautical Watercooler)

- From Leslie and Scott

Aloha all,

Just wanted to touch base with you guys and let you know that Faialoahe is leaving the sea of Cortez Monday morning weather permitting and will begin our crossing to Hilo at that time. Have heard that a lot of boats broke loose this season. Does that mean there might be a mooring we could beef up to let the old girl hang on for a while? We were scheduled for a haulout at Honokohau, but we might have missed our place in line.

Really looking forward to seeing all you folks and Leslie wants to try to sail into the bay on the next sailing Sunday. Nice thought, but I am not that good at predictions. I will miss how much my money is worth here, that is for sure. We really had a great time and learned a lot about how much we don't know. Met a lot of good folks and it is very encouraging that cruisers are a tight knit family that watch out for each other. Will inform all if plans or departure date changes.



A hui hou,

Admiral Leslie, Crew Jeff, Blu the super seadog and Scott the boatslave!



- Martin Burs bought a Rawson 30 pilothouse and is having it shipped from New York to California.
- Mauricio sold Petrel to LaVonne Love.

Skipper in the Spotlight

David Beardsley has been involved with Na Hoa Holomoku since it was first formed. Last summer he sailed his Westsail 32 to Hilo from San Francisco.

Na Hoa Holomoku – Have you been a sailor for a long time?

David – No, but I always wanted to be a sailor. I never even lived by the ocean until I moved to Hawaii in 1982.

Na Hoa Holomoku – Then how did you get started with sailing?

David – I love the water. The first sailing I ever did was on a sunfish with my brother on a lake in California. We were both teenagers. We had a blast, but that was only a couple times.

Na Hoa Holomoku – And now skipper a Westsail 32, Asylum, and are ready to head out to Malaysia, what led you to become a bluewater cruiser?

David – I was driving down the Pacific Coast Highway in Southern California and there was this boatyard just like a car lot right next to the road and I stopped to check it out. I think it was a Catalina dealer, and all the sailboats were on the lot. I climbed up into one of the boats and “Wow, how cool is this? You could actually live on this!” Still it wasn’t until I was about 21 or 22 when someone offered me the plans to a Bruce Roberts Spray. I bought the plans; I wanted the dream, but I didn’t have any way of reaching out to it. It fired my imagination. I carried the blueprints, templates and all that stuff for years but never really started.

Na Hoa Holomoku – So what happened next?

David –I had been in Hawaii for 16 years and never been boating. I actually bought a small 26’ sampan fishing boat. Motoring was fun but it didn’t fill a need; I was on the water, owned a boat, but it was not the experience that I was looking for.

Na Hoa Holomoku – So you tried sailing?

David – In about 1999, I met a guy that sailed his 29’ Cascade from Oregon to Hilo, it was his fifth time and he was ready to sell his boat and I ran into him before he put it on the market. He took me sailing and I bought the boat. It was well found and ready to sail. It was my learning boat called “LTJ”.

Na Hoa Holomoku – Where did you sail?

David -- Out of Hilo Bay every chance I could get, but family and work kept me from taking off. It was not a project boat so I could go sailing. I sailed locally. I learned to sail by myself and with friends. Finally I sailed inter-island. My first trip was to Maui with a friend. We sailed down the Alenuihaha channel. He had to leave and I sailed solo around Maui for several days. Then still sailing solo, I headed due north up the Pailolo channel and out to sea for 24 hrs. I made one tack towards Hilo. I had no visuals of any kind. Only the sea. It was the first time I sailed by compass. It took me two and a half days to make it back to Hilo. I was totally hooked. Unfortunately, the times dictated that I had to sell the boat. So nearly four years went by without much sailing. But I still had the dream. Now I had a good idea about what I wanted in a boat.

Na Hoa Holomoku – How did you finally find Asylum, your Westsail 32?



David Beardsley on Asylum

Continued page 4 “Spotlight”

“Spotlight”

David – For the past two years I read and studied about tried-and-true blue-water cruisers. I had a good idea about what I wanted, a 30 – 36 foot full keel boat that was robust, could be sailed single-handed and matched my budget. I had 4 or 5 boats in mind: the Fuji 35, the Baba 30, the Willard 32, the Fantasia 35 and the Westsail 32. I watched these boats on the Internet for a year or so; I looked at what sold and why. I decided I liked the Westsail; it spoke to me the best. The truth was that I was comparing everything to the Westsail. I even joined the Westsail owners association 3 – 4 months before I bought one. I decided to throw my lot out there and if somebody was interested, then it was meant to be.

Na Hoa Holomoku – So Asylum just came to you?

David – The guy who was the original owner of Asylum, had the boat built for him and he had it for 28 years. He sold it to a fellow who planned to sail it with his girlfriend, but he only managed to blow out the diesel. He only owned the boat for six months before he died. So it sat for a year and a half before the girlfriend put it on the market. She used the original ad. When I went up to the Bay Area to see it, I found out about the blown engine and that it sat for two years without sail covers - it was a real mess. I had them rebuild the engine, had the bottom sanded down to the fiberglass and had it barrier coated. I sailed her for the first time last summer on San Francisco bay. Then after some sea trails, I sailed her from San Francisco to Hilo.

Na Hoa Holomoku – And now what?

David – I am hoping to retire to the boat in the very near future and plan to spend the next six or seven years seeing as many islands between here and Malaysia.

Friends of Na Hoa Holomoku



For over the past two years, the Hilo Reeds Bay hotel has hosted the Na Hoa Holomoku Board of Directors meetings. The meetings, held in the lobby of the hotel, are open to all of the members of Na Hoa Holomoku. If you are interested in attending one of these meetings simply go to the Hotel lobby on any first Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M. Mahalo to Don and the gang.

**The Hilo Reeds Bay Hotel is located at 175 Banyan Drive right on Reed's Bay. Rates are reasonable for visiting sailors looking for an onshore room. Call (808) 934-7264 or email :
hiloreedsbayhotel@yahoo.com**

Na Hoa Holomoku Hosts La Holokai for Imi Na'auao 2009

On Monday March 23rd, Na Hoa Holomoku hosted one of the sailing activities for the Voyaging Canoe Society's La Holokai. This was day three of the Wayfinding Tradition workshops offered by the Imiloa Obsevatory. Kids from around the state attended the event. Jon Olson led the training and Na Hoa Holomoku club members assisted in the event. Mahalo to all who helped with the event.



Pahoa Junior Lifeguards Learn to Sail with Na Hoa Holomoku

On Saturday March 28th, Na Hoa Holomoku sailing instructor Jon Olson led a sailing 101 class for the Pahoa Junior lifeguards. County lifeguard Mark Franklin taught the junior lifeguards a series of classes in water safety, canoe paddling and Na Hoa Holomoku provided sailboat training.



Continued "Sailing 101"



Want ads:

Wanted a Diesel Engine

Mauricio Barbis is looking for a small diesel engine. Call 937-1771

For Sale:

Miscellaneous Boat Gear

Captain Dan Lappala has sailboat gear for sale, including winches, blocks, masts and many other items. Call 935 -7978



The voyage was more than I thought it could be. And, as always, the sea does not return what you ask for. You set out on her for adventure, but the strongest memory she grants you is the beauty of her moods. — David Hayes My old man and the sea

**Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii
Yacht Club
P.O. Box 1661
Kea'au HI 96749
www.hilo-sailing.org**