

POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY

Spring 2001



Voyaging Into The New Millennium

For many, the year 2000 held memories of the past, while ushering in new hopes and dreams for the future. For the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), the year 2000 was a celebration of a quarter-century of visions seen, hopes believed, and dreams achieved.

From March 1975 to March 2000, thousands watched and took part as Hōkūle'a, the first traditional Polynesian voyaging canoe to sail in 600 years, sailed more than 90,000 nautical miles or nearly four times around the globe. All of this began with a dream, a vision. Three visionaries, Dr. Ben Finney, Herb Kāne and Tommy Holmes founded the Polynesian Voyaging Society in 1973 to demonstrate that the ancient Polynesians sailed their double-hulled canoes using non-instrument navigation to settle their vast nation. How their dream has grown in the quarter century that Hōkūle'a has been sailing.

In 1973, there was only one known deep-sea navigator. Today, there are nine with more in training. Six voyaging canoes have been built, and several more are under construction. Hōkūle'a, which means "Star of Gladness" in Hawaiian, has reached every point of the Polynesian triangle and has also traveled to



the West Coast of the United States, bridging communities, renewing cultures and creating opportunities for growth and learning.

Through these voyages of exploration and discovery, the Polynesian Voyaging Society has sought to celebrate the importance of history and heritage, and honor the values which are fundamental to sailing on the canoe. PVS supports the vision of Mālama Hawai'i—that Hawai'i, our special island home, is a place where the people, land and sea are cared for and communities are healthy and safe.

For the Voyaging Society, the new century was welcomed with a miraculous and once improbable voyage to Rapa Nui, one of the most isolated inhabited islands in the world.

-Continued on page three



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With the legacy of ocean exploration as its foundation, the Polynesian Voyaging Society reaffirms its commitment to foster living well in island communities and to nurture the leadership this requires, by demonstrating systems for knowledge and shared learning.

To do this we will:

- Undertake voyages of discovery;
- Acknowledge, respect and learn from our heritage and culture;
- Foster stewardship practices which sustain the natural and cultural environment which make Hawai'i unique;
- Strengthen learning by integrating voyaging experiences into quality education.

All photos unless indicated, courtesy of Monte Costa Photography.

Cover composite photo

"Hōkūle'a-Guiding Star" produced by Ōlelo. Photos of Elisa Yadao, Katerika Kapahulehua and Will Kyselka by Olomama Marketing.

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Aloha!

I hope you enjoy this inaugural edition of what we plan to be regular newsletters from the Polynesian Voyaging Society. As you'll read in these pages, it has been quite a year for us since completing the voyage to Rapa Nui.

None of what we've accomplished would have been possible without the support of folks like you. We offer our heartfelt thanks for all of your kōkua over the past many years.

While the focus of this newsletter is primarily on things that have already happened, there are many exciting things on our horizon. Hōkūle'a is currently on a sail around the state and you'll read about the wonderful response the canoe has received on the neighbor islands. We are hard at work on our strategic plan, which continues to focus on ways to take the lessons learned on the canoe and translate them into ways to mālama Hawai'i and make our island home healthy and safe. Plans are now underway for the PVS fundraiser to be held later this year. Entitled Ho'oilina Mau, or Enduring Legacy, we will pay honor to the men and women who sailed Hōkūle'a to and from Tahiti on her maiden voyage in 1976.

We will also pay tribute to the great teachers in PVS who have contributed mightily to our work. These individuals are also profiled in this edition of our newsletter. They include: Wright Bowman Sr., master canoe builder, Wally Froiseth, veteran crewmember, Kawika Kapahulehua, captain of the 1976 voyage, Will Kyselka, astronomer, Mau Pailug, master navigator and Myron Thompson, president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society.

Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy reading about what we're doing, where we've been and where we hope to go. Again, mahalo for your support of PVS.

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As Hōkūle'a and her crew sailed east, navigators Nainoa Thompson, Chad Baybayan, and Bruce Blankenfeld, used the stars, ocean swells, and favorable winds to guide her along. Following a successful and swift 19-day, 1,450 mile voyage from the tiny island of Mangareva, crew member Max Yarawamai sighted Rapa Nui through a small hole in a wall of clouds. Hōkūle'a's visit to the island brought a renewal of culture, environment and health for Rapa Nui. The completion of the voyage was bittersweet - reaching the final point in the Polynesian triangle brought a feeling of pride, but also a feeling of sadness in the closing of this chapter of deep sea voyaging.

A Homecoming Celebration, honoring the past 25 years of achievement by PVS and the safe return of Hōkūle'a from its epic 10 month voyage to Rapa Nui, was held on March 12. The event began with the arrival of the voyaging canoes Hōkūle'a, Hawai'iloa, Makali'i, and Mo'olele in the early morning, followed by various ceremonial activities, including chants, songs and dances, to welcome the crew in the traditional fashion. A Ho'olaule'a celebration followed, with food, exhibits and entertainment by some of Hawai'i's finest performers.

During this homecoming month, Governor Ben Cayetano proclaimed **Hōkūle'a a State Treasure**. "Hōkūle'a has become a living treasure to the people of Hawai'i," said Governor Cayetano. "Her crews have traveled more than a hundred thousand miles throughout the Polynesian triangle, and she has stimulated great pride among all the people of our islands. I urge citizens to visit the Hawai'i Maritime Center to pay tribute to this beloved symbol of our Hawaiian heritage." Hōkūle'a is the first ever proclaimed State Treasure in the State of Hawai'i.



PVS held a fundraising event at the **Hawai'i Convention Center** on April 18, 2000. The event celebrated past achievements, while highlighting current and ongoing programs such as the Statewide Sail, the Environment and Ocean Education Programs, as well as the Ocean Learning Center. Governor Benjamin Cayetano, Senator Daniel Akaka and Senator Daniel Inouye were honorary chairs. Entertainment included performances by the Kamehameha Schools Concert Glee Club, the Brothers Cazimero, Pa'iea and 'Elua Kāne. PVS wishes to thank the Campbell Family and the many others whose donations have helped further the mission of PVS.



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Polynesian Voyaging Society was established in 1977 by individuals who wished to prove that the ancient Polynesians had navigated the Pacific in double-hulled canoes without the use of instruments, and were among the world's greatest explorers; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to support their theory about how Polynesians had been settled by these ancient seagoers - and to refute the belief that the Polynesians could not have done so - they built the Hōkūle'a and launched her from the island of Hawaii in 1976; and

WHEREAS, the maiden voyage of Hōkūle'a in 1976 took her from Hawaii to Papeete Harbor in Tahiti under the direction of navigator Mau Piailow of Mānoa, ignited tremendous excitement throughout the Pacific, and resulted in a new era of voyaging traditions; and

WHEREAS, Hōkūle'a has since then become a living treasure to the people of Hawai'i, her crews have traveled more than a hundred thousand miles throughout the Polynesian Triangle, and she has stimulated great pride among all the people of our islands; and

WHEREAS, a homecoming marking the 25th anniversary of the launching of Hōkūle'a - and her most recent historic voyage to Rapa Nui - will be held on March 12, 2000, at Kūia Park, the place from which she embarked on her Polynesian odyssey a quarter-century ago;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN L. CAYETANO, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim

HOKULE'A A STATE TREASURE

in Hawai'i, and urge our citizens to visit the Hawai'i Maritime Center to pay tribute to this beloved symbol of our Hawaiian heritage.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this 12th day of March, 2000.

Benjamin L. Cayetano



Hōkūle'a's Millennium Statewide

In September of 2000, Hōkūle'a set sail on another significant journey - this time to visit dozens of communities around the State of Hawai'i and to bring Hōkūle'a's adventures, stories and educational experiences closer to home. This nine-month Statewide Sail, entitled "Our Islands, Our Canoe," will bring hands-on learning experiences to students and their families all over the islands. In the first four months of the voyage, thousands of students, teachers and community members have met Hōkūle'a and her crew. The sail is also an opportunity for the crew to express their gratitude and appreciation to the hundreds of thousands of people who supported the Polynesian Voyaging Society and its efforts in the last 25 years.



"That's so cool how you sail on the Hōkūle'a. I find that so interesting that people are really sailing the way the ancient Hawaiians used to sail."

- Mikayla, Honolulu Waldorf School Grade 5

As an educational and community-based program, the statewide sail is a joint effort of PVS, the Hawai'i Millennium Commission, The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum and Mālama Hawai'i - a consortium of individuals and organizations across the State, working together to care for Hawai'i. Through sharing voyaging traditions and values, the statewide sail is a contribution to Hawai'i's communities and their efforts to build a healthy and sustainable future.

On September 22, Hōkūle'a left Honolulu bound for Nāwiliwili, Kaua'i, the first stop of the statewide sail.

After a successful overnight journey across the Ka'i'e Channel, led by Captain Dennis Chun and student navigator Lei Wann, Hōkūle'a reached her destination. The statewide sail is an opportunity for newer crewmembers to learn from experienced crewmembers and to perpetuate the traditions of Polynesian voyaging and navigation. Captain Chun notes, "Growth is seen when the students take what they have learned in the classroom and apply it out on the ocean. There is a feeling of excitement when they say, 'I think this star should be rising,' and when it does, they can proudly say, 'We're on course!'"

Over 551 students, 33 teachers, and 40 volunteers came to visit Hōkūle'a and her crew during the first week at Nāwiliwili. Crewmembers shared their experiences on Hōkūle'a, teaching students how the canoe operates, its relationship to culture and the environment, and the values which enabled ancient Hawaiians to survive on limited resources. Student navigator Lei Wann, whose interest in sailing was sparked at age five by her uncle, long time crewmember, Kimo Lyman, says, "I enjoyed seeing the kids' excitement and their reactions to the canoe. They all wanted to know how they could get involved!"

During the first two weeks of October, Hōkūle'a docked at 'Ele'Ele (Port Allen) on the west side of Kaua'i. Tours of the canoe were given to over 1,109 school children and 55 teachers, while hundreds more paid a visit to Hōkūle'a to "talk story" with the crew. Wann comments, "Everybody comes together during the sail, everyone gets involved. People share their food, the hālau share their dances and there is a real sense of unity."

On October 22, the crew completed the leg to Hanalei on the North Shore of Kaua'i. Volunteers gave presentations and lectures to people in the community as well as school children. The children were so excited by Hōkūle'a, many of them returned with their families to revisit the canoe after school. "A re-awakening takes place when the community recognizes the value of Polynesian voyaging and how it applies to their community. The issues dealt with on the canoe - limited resources, community cohesiveness and the need for cooperation - are the same issues dealt with on land," says Captain Chun.

Statewide

Sept.22-Sept.23:
Sept.23-Sept.30:
Oct.1-Oct.15:
Oct.15-Oct.21:
Oct.21-Oct.27:
Oct.27-Oct.28:
Oct.30-Nov.11:
Nov.11-Nov.14:
Nov.14-Nov.16:
Nov.16-Dec.1:
Dec.2:
Dec.3-Dec.10:

Dec.10-Dec.11:
Dec.11-Dec.16:
Dec.16-Dec.17:
Dec.17-Jan.19:

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Statewide Sail /2000-2001

Statewide Sail Calendar 2001

Sept.22-Sept.23:	Honolulu to Nāwiliwili, Kaua'i	Jan.9-Jan.12:	Hawai'i Maritime Center, Honolulu District Tours
Sept.23-Sept.30:	Nāwiliwili, Kaua'i	Jan.16-Jan.19:	Hawai'i Maritime Center, East O'ahu District Tours
Oct.1-Oct.15:	Port Allen, Kaua'i	Jan.20-Jan.26:	Lāna'i
Oct.15-Oct.21:	Nāwiliwili, Kaua'i	Jan.27-Feb.11:	Lahaina, Maui
Oct.21-Oct.27:	Hanalei, Kaua'i	Feb.11-Feb.25:	Mā'alaea, Maui
Oct.27-Oct.28:	Hanalei to Honolulu	Feb.25-Mar.18:	Kaunakakai, Molokai
Oct.30-Nov.11:	Hilo, Hawai'i	Mar.18-Mar.24:	Hāna, Maui
Nov.11-Nov.14:	Miloli'i, Hawai'i	Mar.25-Apr.1:	Maunaloa Bay, O'ahu
Nov.14-Nov.16:	Hōnaunau, Hawai'i	Apr.2-Apr.3:	Moku o Lo'e, O'ahu
Nov.16-Dec.1:	Keauhou, Hawai'i	Apr.4-Apr.21:	Kualoa, O'ahu
Dec.2:	Honokōhau, Hawai'i	Apr.21-Apr.28:	Kahana, O'ahu
Dec.3-Dec.10:	Kawaihae, Hawai'i (via Kaupulehu)	Apr.28-May 5:	Hale'iwa, O'ahu
Dec.10-Dec.11:	Maunalani Resort, Hawai'i	May 5-May 13:	Pōka'i Bay, O'ahu
Dec.11-Dec.16:	Kawaihae, Hawai'i	May 13-May 20:	Ko'olina, O'ahu
Dec.16-Dec.17:	Lahaina, Maui	May 20-Summer:	Hawai'i Maritime Center
Dec.17-Jan.19:	O'ahu, Winter Vacation		

Special ceremonies took place as the canoe bid farewell to Kaua'i at the end of the week. Hōkūle'a truly touched the people of this island, giving them a sense of pride in their culture and the knowledge of how to perpetuate it within their communities.

Following a three day voyage from Kaua'i, Hōkūle'a arrived in Hilo Bay on the Big Island of Hawai'i on


"We learned about the Hōkūle'a last year in fourth grade and that was really interesting but going on the Hōkūle'a was absolutely magnificent!"

- Imani, Honolulu Waldorf School Grade 5

October 31. Met by the rains and floods that hit the Big Island in early November, the crew made necessary adjustments by bringing Hōkūle'a to the people. Photos, equipment, and stories were brought to the classrooms until the rains subsided and the school children could visit the canoe at its dock.

On the way to Miloli'i, the crew was amazed at the sight of the lava flowing into the ocean from Kīlauea. Kaliko Amona, who had the opportu-

nity to view this awesome phenomenon said, "The most amazing part of the sail was getting to see the lava at Kīlauea pouring into the ocean, creating more land. I wondered if that sight touched the first voyagers to see the volcano in the same way."

Hōkūle'a continues on the Statewide Sail, visiting Maui, Lāna'i, Kaho'olawe, Moloka'i and O'ahu. The Polynesian Voyaging Society invites people in these communities to take part in the events on their islands. 



From Generation to Generations

The Polynesian Voyaging Society owes its success to the men, women and children who have made us a part of their lives. PVS would like to highlight some of these individuals as a mahalo.



Myron "Pinky" Thompson

For an organization to be successful, there must be strong leadership and powerful vision. Myron "Pinky" Thompson, president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, is the epitome of leadership. A kind, unassuming man, he leads without dominating, empowering others to leadership. Yet, in his quiet way, Thompson demands the commitment and dedication required for the organization to uphold its vision.

The origin of this vision stems from his past. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, the young Thompson felt an obligation to fight for his country, as a Hawaiian and an American. While fighting in World War II, Thompson was badly injured in the forests of France. The near-fatal wound kept him in a military hospital for two years.

It was during his time in the hospital that Thompson's vision began to take form. He saw Hawai'i's unique culture in danger of being lost. Thompson then made a life-long commitment to return to his island home, where he would seek to restore a sense of pride in the people of Hawai'i and to help revive the Hawaiian culture.

In 1979, when Thompson stepped into leadership as the president of PVS, he brought to the table several requirements necessary for the organization to be successful. A clear and powerful vision needed to be established to unify the voyaging community. "He recognized that Hōkūle'a was a powerful tool to rebuild Hawaiian culture and pride," says Nainoa, son of Thompson and navigator of Hōkūle'a. By keeping this focus, PVS and the community could under-


stand that the purpose of voyaging was not only to reach a destination, but to achieve a higher goal.

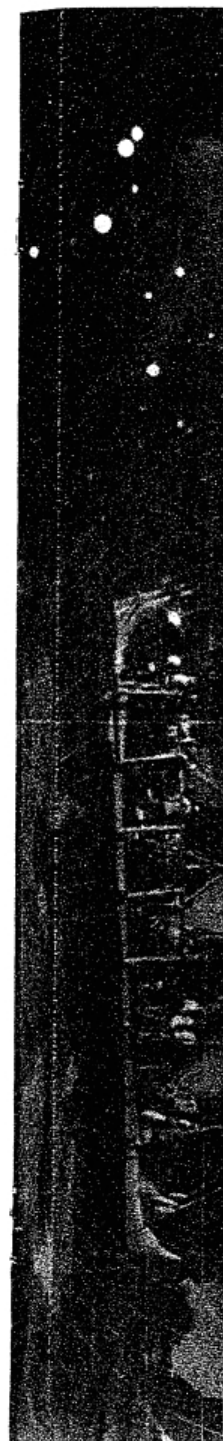
Vision is achieved through commitment, something Thompson continually exhibited as a leader of PVS. A successful voyage required individuals who were trained and dedicated. "In his mind, 95% of success was determined before you went to sea - through preparation, training and commitment. He demanded that everyone know where they were going, why, and how they were going to get there," says Nainoa about his father, who Nainoa says is his hero and inspiration.

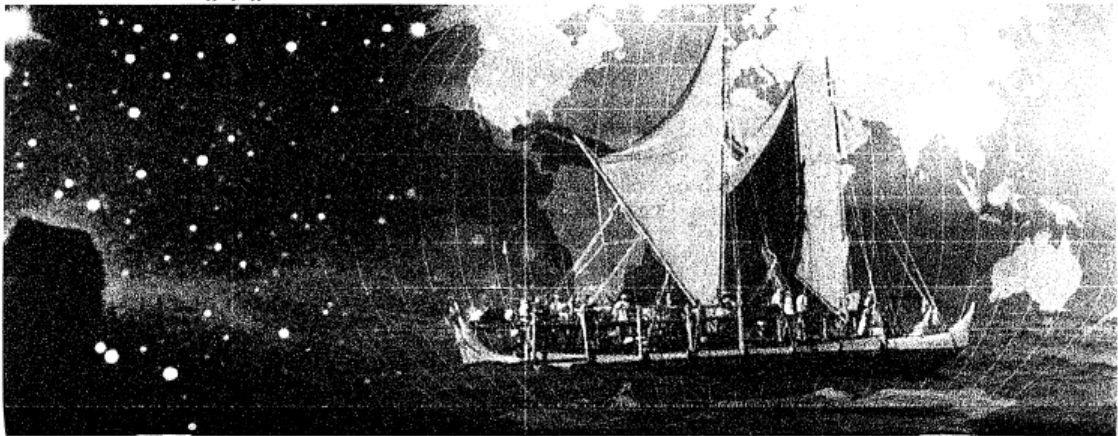
The Polynesian Voyaging Society offers heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Myron "Pinky"

"In his mind, 95% of success was determined before you went to sea - through preparation, training and commitment. He demanded that everyone know where they were going, why, and how they were going to get there"

-Nainoa Thompson

Thompson for his dedication throughout the years. His leadership and guidance in the voyaging community paved the way for educational programs which reach out to younger generations and community building initiatives which foster strong leadership and support expansive vision. 





Your
stamp
is a gift,
too.



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POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY
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The generosity of supporters like you has enabled the Polynesian Voyaging Society to do so much and we are grateful for your continuing kōkua.

Please consider investing in PVS and our vision for the future of Hawai'i. Your donation will help our children and grandchildren acquire the knowledge, wisdom and tools to create a future which can be sustained for generations to come. Working together, we can ensure that the destination we reach is the one we seek.

☐ Yes, I will make a donation to the Polynesian Voyaging Society:

- ☐ \$50 Holokahiki (Sailor) ☐ \$100 Uli (Steersperson) ☐ \$250 Kālai wa a (Canoe Maker)
☐ \$500 Ho okele wa a (Navigator) ☐ \$1,000 Kilo Hōkū (Astronomer) ☐ \$5,000 Ali i Holomana (Voyaging Chief)

☐ My check is enclosed. Payable to the **Polynesian Voyaging Society** in the amount of \$ _____

☐ Please charge my:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Signature: _____

Name (Mr. Mrs. Ms.) _____

E-mail Address _____

Address _____

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Apartment # _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Business/Employer _____

Telephone _____



Mau Piailug


How does one become a master navigator? For Mau Piailug, born and raised on Satawal, a remote island in Micronesia, navigation was his life calling. As an apprentice to his grandfather, Mau's training began at age four. He did not learn from textbooks or maps or instruments. Instead, he was held in the tide pools so he could feel the motion of the waves, and experience the movement of the wind. Mau spent many hours studying the stars, memorizing the information he learned through chants and from oral tradition.

In 1978, Nainoa Thompson flew to Micronesia, in search of not only Mau the navigator, but Mau the teacher. Until then, Nainoa had studied astronomy and modern science to learn the art of navigation. He knew that before he could successfully navigate a voyage to Tahiti, he must also gain a deeper understanding of traditional navigation.

When Mau agreed to accept Nainoa as his apprentice, he left Micronesia and came to Hawai'i with a clear purpose in mind: to share his knowledge of voyaging and navigation with people outside his own culture. "He is one of the few traditional master navigators willing and able to reach beyond his culture to ours," says Nainoa.

Mau taught Nainoa to steer by the stars and ocean swells, to predict the weather by the shapes and

colors of the clouds, and to use the flight path of birds to find land. "Mau turns the clues from the heavens and ocean into practical knowledge. He could be lying inside the hull of the canoe and feel the different wave patterns as they came to the canoe and be able to tell the canoe's direction."

In 1980, Nainoa and the crew of *Hōkūle'a* successfully voyaged to Tahiti, making Nainoa the first Hawaiian to navigate a voyaging canoe in more than 600 years. Mau's willingness to teach others the art of traditional voyaging has since opened the doors for a generation of young navigators to emerge. "I believe that Mau's genius is not just in being a navigator, but that he is able to cross great cultural bridges and help us find our way at sea. His teaching has become his legacy." 



Kawika Kapahulehua

For many sailors, the destination is the goal. For Kawika Kapahulehua, the journey was the reward. It was 1948 when 18-year-old Kapahulehua started working on the *Manu Kai* catamaran. Working seven days a week, he learned everything he could about a sailboat. When someone was looking for him, they would find him in the usual place - on the boat. His friend and employer, Woody Brown, told Kapahulehua "I'll teach you everything I know. Someday, someone will ask you, 'Do you know how to sail a double hulled canoe?' and you can say with authority, 'Yes, I do.'" Twenty-eight years later, Kapahulehua found himself aboard *Hōkūle'a* as the captain of her maiden voyage to Tahiti.

Kapahulehua had met the criteria for captain: a Polynesian, able to speak and understand the Hawaiian language, with knowledge and experience in sailing. For nearly ten years prior, he had taught and participated in competitive catamaran racing in California, while working for Western Airlines. The experience would prepare him for the voyage of a lifetime. "I wanted to take *Hōkūle'a* to Tahiti and return the canoe in better condition than when she had left." The safety of the crew

and the canoe were of his utmost concern. When *Hōkūle'a* made landfall on Mataiva, an atoll in the Tuamotu islands, Kapahulehua recalls the welcome they received. "While on Mataiva, we took the opportunity to get cleaned up before going on to Tahiti. The women took our dirty clothes as souvenirs, washed them and spelled out '*Hōkūle'a* came to Mataiva' on the wall as we left!"

Kapahulehua, who spent twelve years of his childhood on Ni'ihau, taught himself English by speaking

with the tourists when he moved to Honolulu. "I was told I was like a coconut: brown on the outside but when I opened my mouth, I spoke like a haole." A retired Delta Airlines employee, Kapahulehua now teaches Hawaiian language at the University of Hawai'i. "I enjoy working with my students. It's time to give back and share what I've learned."



Will Kyselka

In an ocean as vast as the Pacific, finding islands by way of human navigation is no easy task. Nainoa Thompson knew that the key to finding islands in the Pacific was knowledge of the stars. "The stars give you direction. They are like a compass, continually changing. When stars don't appear, you use other clues. It's the wayfinder's task to discern meaning in those clues." These are the words of Will Kyselka, geologist, author and retired associate professor at the University of Hawai'i.

In 1977, Thompson met with Kyselka at the Bishop Museum Planetarium in Honolulu where they spent hours studying the movement of the stars. "I worked with Nainoa, giving him the star knowledge he needed. From there, he went on to develop his own unique wayfinding system."


Kyselka found himself fascinated with how the ancient Polynesians were able to stay oriented as they sailed the Polynesian Triangle. "What they did was remarkable: finding tiny islands over vast oceanic distances, without the use of instruments. Somebody had to show that it is possible to reconstruct an ancient craft and generate a system of wayfinding to maintain orientation. They (the Polynesian Voyaging Society) demonstrated the capability of the Hōkūle'a and the ability of the navigator to do this."



Wally Froiseth


When Tommy Holmes, Ben Finney and Herb Kāne met to discuss their vision, they asked Wally Froiseth to sit in on a conference to talk about ideas for a voyaging canoe that would one day take them to Tahiti. After hearing the plans, the excitement set in and Froiseth decided he wanted to take part in this endeavor. Herb Kāne drew up the plans, which were finalized by Rudy Choi.

Froiseth, an accomplished woodworker, assisted with the construction and assembly of the canoe, offering his experience in canoe tying. Hōkūle'a was

When reflecting on what he is most grateful for, Kapahulehua says, "The experience to sail. Somewhere along the line, I was already chosen for that. There was always a voice saying, 'You can do it. No problem. Do it.'" He sees the value in teaching young people to surf, swim and sail. "By teaching them these things, you are instilling the values of their ancestors." 

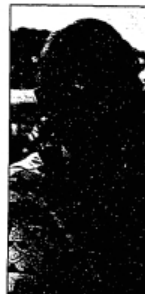
On the 1980 Voyage to Tahiti, Kyselka sailed aboard the Ishka, a 48-foot escort vessel chosen to accompany Hōkūle'a. From the Ishka, Kyselka documented Hōkūle'a's voyage, while communicating information on their position back to Honolulu.

"Wayfinding is important in our passage through life. The courageous Polynesians, who did not have cell phones or modern technology, sailed tremendous distances to find their way. Having the knowledge and understanding of what they did helps us as we find our own way."

Kyselka recalls a momentous event when Hōkūle'a arrived in Tahiti. Mau Piailug, the master Carolinian navigator who taught and inspired Nainoa, turned to his student and said, "Now you know all there is to know. But it will be 20 years before you see." 

Froiseth recalls Rarotonga to Tahiti seven to eight days the crew was so scientists had seen done. "This proved it was possible if you knew you were doing knew the way Nainoa had done research to find when these waves blew." Using the Hōkūle'a battled was sighted through knew exactly where to Tahiti."

In addition to sail the best shape enjoyed taking part



with the constructionally the 'iako, hulls. "While building the machinery, we house to get the From the start, construction and re Hōkūle'a's sister seaworthy."

Bowman's love affair in his willingness the late Wright Bowman who designed and from his father.

Bowman continues from his home in

Froiseth recalls a particular nine-day voyage from Rarotonga to Tahiti where it rained continuously for seven to eight days. In addition to the weather fronts, the crew was sailing against western winds, which scientists had said the Polynesians could not have done. "This trip proved it was possible if you knew what you were doing and knew the weather. Nainoa had done his research to find out when these winds blew." Using the south swell as a directional pointer, Hōkūle'a battled strong winds and rain until land was sighted through a break in the clouds. "Nainoa knew exactly where we were and we headed straight to Tahiti."

In addition to sailing on Hōkūle'a and keeping her in the best shape possible for her voyages, Froiseth enjoyed taking part in the various ceremonies which

embraced Hōkūle'a and the people she represented. "It was a very enriching experience. We met many beautiful people from all over the South Pacific." His involvement with the Polynesian Voyaging Society has given Froiseth an appreciation for those around

"It (voyaging) not only gives you an opportunity to sail, but teaches about community, how to think about others first, and how to develop skills in different areas."

him who have shared their knowledge and shown their unwavering dedication to the organization.

Froiseth hopes to see a permanent home for PVS, with enough room to house the artifacts collected over the years. He encourages young people to educate themselves by learning about their heritage through voyaging. *—A*



Wright Bowman, Sr.

"Living Treasure." These are the exact words Nainoa Thompson uses to describe master woodworker and canoe builder Wright Bowman, Sr. Born in 1907 on the Big Island of Hawai'i, Bowman took an interest in woodworking at a young age. When he moved to O'ahu to attend the Kamehameha Schools, his passion for the art grew. Bowman went on to share this passion with thousands of students at Kamehameha, where he taught woodworking until his retirement in 1973.

When the Polynesian Voyaging Society began building Hōkūle'a, artist and designer Herb Kane called Bowman to help with the construction of the voyaging canoe, specifically the 'iako, or crossbeams which join the two hulls. "While building the canoe, if they did not have the machinery, we would make trips to and from my house to get the tools we needed," says Bowman. From the start, Bowman supported PVS in major construction and repairs of Hōkūle'a and Hawai'iloa, Hōkūle'a's sister voyaging canoe, keeping them seaworthy.

Bowman's love and compassion for people was seen in his willingness to share his knowledge. His son, the late Wright Bowman, Jr., a master canoe builder who designed and built Hawai'iloa, learned his skill from his father.

Bowman continues to produce beautiful works of art from his home workshop, including rocking chairs,

calabashes, Hawaiian and Tahitian style paddles, o'o (Hawaiian digging implement) and models of outrigger canoes in all sizes. Along side him is Ka'ili Chun, who sought Bowman's help during her second year of graduate school while working on a project that required her to make eight Hawaiian spears. Chun, who has since become Bowman's protégé, says he has not only taught her how to work with the hardwoods using her hands, but also the intangible values of sincerity, generosity and kindness. "He taught me woodworking skills and also ha'aha'a (humility)." Bowman says of his student, "Ka'ili is becoming an expert. I can't get along without her now!"

"He does not measure wealth by what he accumulates, but by how much he gives away. His trade is woodworking, but his passion is giving to people through his work. His work is his love made visible," says Nainoa Thompson. Wright Bowman, Sr. truly is a Living Treasure. *—A*

Hawai'i Ocean Learning Center

In September of this year, Hawai'i will open the doors to one of the most unique, educational opportunities in the world: The Hawai'i Ocean Learning Center. The Ocean Learning Center is designed to provide educational and experiential opportunities, which will teach and challenge students of all ages to understand Hawai'i's cultural, social and natural environments through education and active ocean stewardship. The OLC is a tangible outgrowth of the lessons learned through voyaging, which has the stewardship of people and place as its foundation.

Hawai'i's rich cultural tradition along with its diverse natural resources will allow the Ocean Learning Center to integrate ocean and earth science curricula with experiential learning. Students will be able to take what they learn in the classroom and apply this knowledge in the field through exploration and scientific inquiry. This exciting venture is made possible by a consortium of state, federal, commercial and non-profit partnerships that are pooling their resources in order to provide the various components of the Ocean Learning Center.


The pilot for this program will be located at Kāneohe Bay and east O'ahu. Current plans for the first phase of the OLC call for 24 high school juniors to participate in a charter school.

Existing community programs will serve as "satellite" sites, connected through the Internet and used for experiential learning locations. Some of the sites include Coconut Island, Hanauma Bay, Maritime Museum, Waikiki Aquarium, Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center and the Natural Energy Laboratory Hawai'i.

The program is designed to utilize the Hawai'i Department of Education's Eschool or distance learning system. Created five years ago, Eschool provides distance learning education for public schools, all of which are networked through their computer systems.

Students will take advantage of Hawai'i's natural resources through field site instruction, scientific investigation and exploration in their own backyard! The phrase "lucky we live Hawai'i" comes into play as we see the unlimited opportunities for experiential learning.

Implementation of the Ocean Learning Center depends on partner participation within the consortium. These partners include the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), the Hawai'i Department of Education's Advanced Technology Research (ATR), the Sea Grant College Program, the Medical Foundation for the Study of the Environment, the Center for Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai'i, the Center for a Sustainable Future (CSF), KITV Channel 4 (Argyle-Hearst Corporation), and the State of Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources.

The Polynesian Voyaging Society is committed to developing and conducting an educational program that will give students experiential learning opportunities. Students will learn to respect and care for their natural, cultural and social environments through voyaging and academic curricula. PVS will teach students about water safety, swimming, paddling, canoe construction and maintenance, onboard teamwork, navigation, ocean engineering, resource culture, economics, family and community, ethics and values. 

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