

*Perpetuating Pacific Islands Canoe Culture*



# NEWSLETTER

**Aloha everyone! We hope all of you had a great holiday season.**

2014 was another busy and active year for the foundation. Uncle Bobby is completing another canoe this January. I'm sure everyone remembers the canoe Honaunau hitting the beach in Nanakuli at the 2011 race. Well, it is just about finished and will be on the beach again for the 2015 racing season.

**We had our annual paddling workshops again** but instead of just one we had three workshops this year. Uncle Bobby was busy and we want to thank everyone for helping when they could.



**The foundation participated in the annual canoe festival put on by Lauhoe O Lanikuhonu on the west side.** Mahalo for inviting us again this year.

**We have had a lot of visitors this year** come to talk story with Uncle Bobby. They come from all over: New Zealand, Europe, East and West Coast USA, and Canada. Chris Gardner, one of our students from the workshop, brings visitors and they always enjoy meeting Uncle Bobby and learning about the culture.

**The foundation participated in the Kualoa/Hakipuu Canoe Festival in March.** It was a special time because we had our koa canoe there and the Wounded Warriors and others were able to go out and paddle. It is always especially nice to see people who have never paddled in a koa canoe have the experience.



**In May we had our annual Casino Night fundraiser.** Everyone had a great time. It is always so much fun. Mahalo to everyone who helped and came to make it a huge success again.

*2014 Casino Night Fundraiser*



During the month of June Uncle Bobby was on the mainland doing a **pilot for a TV reality show** that we hope will be a success. He was there talking about the canoes and paddling.

July had him busy on the canoes again and in **August we were at the state race with our booth**. That is always fun meeting everyone from the neighbor islands as they stop by to talk about the canoes.



September brought on another opportunity to spread the word about our koa canoes and the culture. **Uncle Bobby was invited to the Catalina race by Offshore Outrigger Canoe Club** and they wanted our koa canoe to participate in the race. What a wonderful experience! Everyone was excited to see the canoe and he was able to talk story to a lot of paddlers. People not connected to paddling were able to see our beautiful koa canoe.

Offshore's mixed crew did a great job showing everyone what a koa canoe could do in a race. She ran and looked beautiful in the water. We want to thank Offshore Outrigger Canoe Club for giving us the opportunity and for being such great hosts to Uncle Bobby and his wife Pat. They had a wonderful time in California and want to send a big Mahalo also to Frank and Maricella Powers for their hospitality. Also a big mahalo to Matson for their help in shipping the canoe to California and back to Hawaii.



Uncle Bobby was busy as ever after he came back from California. He didn't get up to the park as much in October but he is back on track again. We want to thank Mark Kalahale of Aloha State Services for sponsoring our booth at the OHA Conference this year and mahalo to Alana Burrows for staffing the booth since we were unable to be there.

Other things have happened that were not so good during the year but we are very thankful for the help we have received from everyone. The outpouring from the community and Offshore canoe club to help us replace our tools that were stolen was amazing. Mahalo to all of you. Oh, and yes the koa wood that was stolen came back. Mahalo for returning it and mahalo to the media for letting people know about the theft. I don't think it would have come back without them.

We are very thankful to Kamaaina Kids for all they have done for us. They have installed security cameras in the park which should be a great help. Also we want to thank Roxanne Darling of Bare Feet Studios for all her help thru the year with our website and mahalo to Alana Burrows and Mel Chang for their help through the year. There are so many people we are grateful to for their help and it is hard to name them all but we do appreciate all of you.

**Last but not least there have been some changes on our board of directors.**

Hovey Lambert, our president, has stepped down and Mark Kalahale is now president. Jerry Vasconcellos is vice president and Dottie Mack is still secretary and Alicia is still on the board. Noe Puniwai is still with us but is taking a year to complete her education. Other than that all is the same. We thank Hovey for his services and we are happy that he is still on our board. We are looking forward to another good year with the foundation.

**The paddling workshop is scheduled for February again and our Casino Night fundraiser will be on April 11, 2015.** Mark your calendars! Oh yes, we are almost there with our permit to build our canoe pavilion. We already have our Right of Entry so it won't be long now. Please come to our fundraiser – believe me you won't regret it. It is a lot of fun!

**Please also remember to sign into our website and renew your annual memberships.**

***Mahalo and have a wonderful 2015 from the The Puakea Foundation of Hawaii!***

