

# CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Town Hall / 11-Nov-2023 "Stellar Seven"



## Agenda

- 1. CORA Town Hall Session Overview
- 2. Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Vision
- 3. CORA Virtual Presentation For 2023 Inductees
- 4. CORA Hall Of Fame 2023 Guest Speakers Introduction
- 5. CORA Hall Of Fame 2023 Inductees Presentation



## **CORA Town Hall Session Overview**



CORA was founded in 1992. Yet Canadians had been participating in outrigger canoeing events in the 1970s and 1980s. Several CORA clubs were founded in the in 1980s and 1990s long before CORA ever came to be. There were many individuals whose exploits are known to very few.

The goal of this CORA Town Hall session is to raise awareness of the "Significant and Exemplary Contributions" to Canadian outrigger canoeing by the 2023 year group of Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame inductees so that you may know what they have achieved so that others may follow in their footsteps.



## Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Vision



At the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) November 2020 Pre-AGM (Annual General Meeting), there was consensus that there were many individuals who had made "Significant and Exemplary Contributions" to Canadian outrigger canoeing, but their stories had never been captured, and they had never been formally recognized.

CORA spent early 2021 tracking down this history, and fact-checking as best as possible the exploits of those individuals who founded CORA, who founded CORA clubs, who were coaches / builders with CORA clubs, who inaugurated races, who excelled at IVF / Molokai / Catalina / Queen Liliuokalani events, and who designed / built / imported / distributed canoes to grow the sport.

CORA introduced a formal process in January 2021 to nominate, research, vet, elect, and induct a backlog of influential individuals going back across four decades.

At the August 2021 CORA Board Meeting marking the end of the cycle for the inaugural year for this process, 18 individuals were inducted into this new Canadian Outrigger Canoeing Hall Of Fame. This inaugural year group of inductees will set the bar going forward for future nominees.

At the August 2022 CORA Board Meeting marking the end of the cycle for the second year for this process, 6 more individuals were inducted into this ongoing Canadian Outrigger Canoeing Hall Of Fame. At the August 2023 CORA Board Meeting marking the end of the cycle for the third year for this process, 7 more individuals were inducted into this ongoing Canadian Outrigger Canoeing Hall Of Fame.

# **Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame**

Following their Annual General Meeting. CORA announced the creation of a new award to acknowledge Athletes, Coaches-Builders, and Pioneers in the sport of outrigger canoeing in Canada. Nominations for selection may be made by any CORA member or club representative of any active CORA club in Canada through the CORA website.



Ruth Matson



David Hill



Nancy Botting



Len Morris Ir.



Lynda Roberts



Norman MacDonell



Leanne Stanley

https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/community-2/canadian-outrigger-hall-of-fame/



# CORA Hall Of Fame 2023 Guest Speakers Introduction (1 of 3)



Andrea Dillon DRAGON BOAT CANADA BATEAU-DRAGON	Waters Edge Sport Performance     Dragon Boat Canada Hall Of Fame     2002 Tahiti IVF Sprints Medalist     CORA Hall Of Fame 2022
Heather Taylor COMOX VALLEY	1994 / 1996 / 1998 IPCF Sprints     Medalist     2023 IVF Distance Medalist     CORA Hall Of Fame 2021
Ron Williams (Younger)	Paddled With Ruth Matson &     Daughters Helena Matson / Carina     Matson
Hugh Fisher  Pember Canoe A	1984 Los Angeles Olympics K2 Gold     8 Bronze     1983 Molokai Hoe Koa Open Gold     Co-Founder FCRCC     CORA Hall Of Fame 2021
Wendy Rae-Perkins  Wai Nu O Kanaka Outrigger Canoe Club	
Janet Davis  Wai Nui O Kanaka Outrigger Canoe Club	Collaborated With Nancy Botting On First OC6 In Ontario     Co-Founder With Nancy Botting Of Mississauga Outrigger Canoe Club



# CORA Hall Of Fame 2023 Guest Speakers (2 of 3)



Karen Simpson	Physical EDGE Wai Nui O Kanakā Outrigger Canoe Club	•	2003 Wai Nui Molokai Na Wahine
Alan Thompson		•	VCKC Secretary (1990s) & Lead Author Of The VCKC Fifty Years Of Paddling Publication
Karen Malmqvist		•	Calgary Canoe Canoe Outrigger Programs Executive Director Former Team Canada Area Coordinator
Donna Harrision	Gibsons Paddle Club	:	Gibsons Paddle Club Director Former Team Canada IVF Rep
"Uncle" Leonard Kimokeo Kapahulehua	HIDENS FOUNDATION	:	HOCVS President Founder Kimokeo Foundation Collaborated with Lynda Roberts on Hawaii Inter-Island Voyages 2008 1,650-Mile Hawaiian Archipelago By Canoe
James Hill	PAILOL® C H A L L E N G E	:	Latitude 48 Co-Founder Pailolo Challenge Gold Medalist x 2



# CORA Hall Of Fame 2023 Guest Speakers (3 of 3)



David Hill	RC-CRC	VCKC President 1990s CORA Executive 1990s Introduced Outrigger to VCKC CORA Hall Of Fame 2023
Mhairi MacDonell		VCKC Member 1 of 4 Siblings Including Sandy, Elizabeth-Anne, and Norman
Zoe Norcross	COMOX VALLEY RACING CLUB PADDLESPORTS	1999 Molokai Na Wahine Iron Crew     Hana Hou Paddlesports Co-Founder     2023 Samoa IVF Distance     Championship Gold Medalist
Melanie Conard	LATITUDE -	Latitude 48 Co-Founder     2023 Samoa IVF Distance Championship Gold Medalist
Gordon Martinez & John Richardson	Carpet Cleaning LLC 253-344-7239 AlohaCarpetCleaning.biz	Kikaha O Ke Kai Head Coach     Organized PNW 2019 Molokai Hoe Silver Medal Crew
Rita Morris	SAAAICH SAAAICH	Generation Len Morris Jr. Mother  Generation

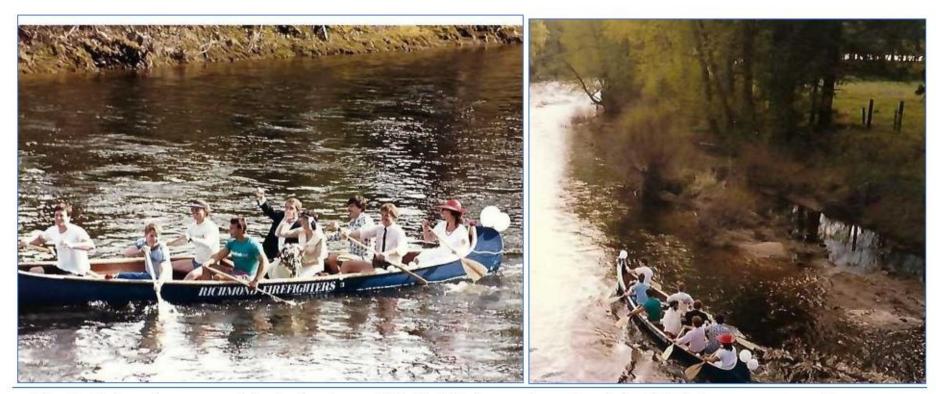


## CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Ruth English Matson



#### Highlights / Nanaimo

- 3rd Generation of Shack Islanders
- Picked up her rowing skills by racing cousins from Shack Island over to the wells located down Hammond Bay Road
- Paddled / steered with White Raven Canoe & Kayak Club out of Departure Bay Nanaimo BC
- Paddled the 8-hour crossing from Nanaimo to Vancouver for 10 straight years as fund raising for the Variety Club Telethon
- Mentored by Bill Seward (Tuknuska) of "Sneyumeux" Nation and Arvid Charlie of the Cowichan tribe
- First and only woman to have raced the 6-to-7-hour Hyack Hope to New Westminster marathon canoe race on the Fraser River
- Organized first-ever all-Canadian Molokai Na Wahine crew in 1985 consisting of paddling legends Annie Boulding, Cathy Nixon,
   Diane Chippindale, Gail Timmer, Janice Henderson, Joanne Woods, Kathy Gallagher, Lee-Ann Hodgkinson, Sheila Chadwick, Sheila Taylor and would place 5th overall for one of the best-ever showings for an all-Canadian women crew at Molokai Na Wahine
- Acknowledged in the Hawaiian press as the first woman to ever iron steer the Kaiwi Channel Crossing at that time in 1985
- Tag-teamed steering with another all-Canadian women crew at Molokai Na Wahine 1990 consisting of Annie Boulding (lead steersperson), Audrey Mowchenko, Catherine Slimming/VanBuren, Alison Hart, Jeannette Callahan, Justine Barton, Daphne Hougard, Sheila Taylor, daughter Helena Matson and would place 7th overall
- Steered NCKC Masters 40+ Women crew ("Just for Kicks") to CORA Distance Championships Title 3 consecutive years (2010-2012)
- Finalist at the 2012 Nanaimo Sports Achievement Awards in the Masters Athlete Of The Year category
- Steered Powell River Masters Women crew for Team Canada to Gold & Silver at the 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints
- Steered Masters Women crew for Team Canada to Gold & Silver at the 2022 London IVF World Sprints
- Steered Masters Women V6 Team Canada crew to Gold at the 2023 Samoa IVF World Distance
- For many years the Provincial Representative for BC Marathon Canoe Racing Association, where she wrote and published the
  monthly newsletter for BC Marathon Canoe Racing, and acquired coaching certification for C1 / C2
- Provided a vast set of material on White Raven Canoe & Kayak Club, Nanaimo Canoe & Kayak (NCKC,) and Nanaimo Ocean Paddling Club (NOPC) and provided a wealth of photos / names / dates that will become the "The Nanaimo Legacy"
- Published in 2004 her acclaimed book "Shack Island, a Nanaimo riddle, nae herring, nae fish.", which captured her family history
  as well as photos and stories of her early life and the families on Shack Island



Hugh Fisher has provided photos of Ruth Matson steering his 1986 honeymoon Voyageur trip starting at Rock Creek Church and paddling down the Kettle River to Midway.





Alwyn Morris, Don Irvine, Don McKenzie, Ian McKenzie, Mike Flesher, Pete Tonseth, Wayne Halabourda, and many others are in the photos. Ruth is steering the Voyageur.



## CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Nancy Botting



#### Highlights / Mississauga / Oakville

- One of five individuals who have made Significant and Exemplary Contributions to Eastern Canada outrigger canoeing including Sheila Kuyper, Wendy Rae-Perkins, Janet Davis, and Karen Simpson
- Former Canadian National Team Kayaker from 1988 to 1996, competed with and against Sheila Taylor, Kamini Jain, Nancy Olmstead, Natalie Burke, Caroline Brunet, and Simone Valere
- Nancy was at 1984 Los Angeles Summer Olympics where she witnessed her brother Stephen "Steve" Botting compete in C2 500M & C2 1000M, and also see Hugh Fisher & Alwyn Morris take Gold, and also see Sue Holloway take multiple medals
- Started up her own full-service Sport Medicine clinic in Oakville ON as Principal Owner of Physical Edge Physiotherapy as of 1997
- Partnered with Janet Davis in bringing the first OC6 to Toronto, and growing the outrigger canoeing community in Eastern Canada
- Nancy / Janet met Donald Michaelson of Connecticut at Lake Tahoe in 1995 & agreed to buy a Force-Five from a container of OC6s
- Mississauga Outrigger Canoe Club (MOCC) formed in 1997 with arrival of this Force-Five OC6
- Nancy / Janet were able to form crews from Toronto Dragon Boat & flatwater crews and attended Liberty Challenge in 1999
- MOCC hosted an exhibition OC6 race with the one OC6 at the Mississauga Canoe Club Regatta starting in 1999
- MOCC grow and changed the name of the club to Wai Nui O Kanaka Outrigger Canoe Club in 2004 when Wendy Rae Perkins joined
- Wai Nui partnered with TSCC to host the Toronto International Outrigger Challenge (TIOC) for the first 3 years
- Nancy was Commodore from 1997-2007 when the club fleet grew as Wai Nui got Trillium grants and eventually acquired 1 Outrigger Connection – Mirage, 2 Bradley – Lightning, 2 James Takeo Yamasaki – Malia, 2 Walter Guild - Force 5, and 2 Woo – Kamanu OC6s.
- Nancy has had the role of Wai Nui Vice-Commodore since 2007 when Wendy stepped in as Wai Nui Commodore
- The 2003 Molokai Na Wahine crew after 2 years of training consisting of Nancy & Sheila Kuyper & Wendy Rae-Perkins & Karen
   Simpson & many other GTA luminaries was a turning point for Mississauga as it brought together Wendy with her fundraising skills as well as Sheila with her athleticism and commitment to women in canoeing
- Member of the Canadian Medical Team at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics & 2004 Athens, 2008 Beijing, 2012 London Paralympics and Toronto 2015 PanAm and ParaPan Am Games, and the upcoming 2024 Paris Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Chief Therapist for Team Canada at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games and 2018 PyeongChang Winter Paralympic Games and again at the 2020+1 Tokyo Paralympic Games





Photos Provided By Janet Davis For Nancy Botting



Photos Provided By Janet Davis For Nancy Botting



### CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME David Hill



### Highlights / Victoria

- VCKC President in 1994 and 1995
- Major change agent as the Outrigger Canoe program came into being on his watch and was on the first VCKC dragon boating team
- David and Norman MacDonell paddled as white-water slalom paddlers from about 1983 to 1990
- Former member and President of the University of Victoria Kayaking Club and a Senior White-Water Kayak Instructor with the White-Water Kayaking Association of BC
- Borrowed the UVic rowing club trailer, took it up to Whistler and brought back the CORA loaner OC6 "The Burrard" to VCKC
- Established dragon boating at VCKC, by entering a team in the 1st dragon boat festival in Victoria, and serving on the board of the Victoria Dragon Boat Society
- Served on the CORA Executive where he helped to develop the CORA racing and safety guidelines
- While on the CORA Executive, successfully lobbied to get Island Iron & Wake Up The Gorge (WUTG) on the CORA race schedule
- Assisted with having VCKC join CORA in 1999
- Competed in the 2007 Edmonton World's Masters Games and the Canadian Marathon Canoe Championships with Barry Leslie
  under the tutelage of Ron Williams Sr.
- Instrumental in having VCKC host the Canadian Olympic Flatwater team for several years
- Served as VCKC's Commodore for Sprint/Canoe Canada
- Provided CORA with a complimentary hard-copy of the "VCKC 50 Years of Paddling" publication which has provided a wealth of information on the early history of Outrigger Canoeing and names of many of the individuals (Norm MacDonell; Rosemary Henry; Janice Henderson-Kyle) who have made significant and exemplary contributions to the Outrigger Canoeing community and contained the only know photos of "The Burrard" at the time patching together the complete story of "The Burrard"



### CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Lynda Roberts



#### Highlights / Calgary

- Started competitive paddling in 1984 as a member of the Calgary Canoe Club's Sprint Canoe/Kayak program
- Coached at Club & Provincial level & attended various Western Canada & Canada Summer Games as coach and/or Team Manager
- Manager of the Calgary Canoe Club since 1995
- Volunteers as member of the Calgary Dragon Boat Society on the Steering Committee & Advisors
- Partnered with Calgary's Sistership Dragon Boat cancer survivor team to develop their outrigger canoe paddling skills and get them
  involved in Paddle for Life, a cancer survivor voyage event in Maui
- Collaborated with her close mentor "Uncle" Leonard Kimokeo Kapahulehua and Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe Voyaging Society to share experiences of both ocean paddling and Hawaiian culture with Canadian paddlers
- Has overseen the growth of the canoe fleet for the outrigger canoe program at Calgary Canoe Club to 2 Clipper Advantage OC6s, 4
   Bradley Lightnings (legacy of 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints), and 2 Giblin Vortex Unlimited OC6s
- Encouraged Calgary Canoe Club to invest in a full fleet of both OC1 and rudderless V1 so that Team Canada Sprint Trials may be held on the Glenmore Reservoir using a fleet of similar boats
- Past member of the CORA IVF Committee and was on the IVF Board from 2015-2020
- On the IVF Technical Committee since 2021 offering assistance to the IVF World Championships hosts in running their event
- Attended 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints as both Area Coordinator and competitor
- Acted as Area Coordinator (Manager) and Race Director for 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints
- Attended 2014 Rio IVF World Sprints as Race Director
- Attended 2016 Australia IVF World Sprints as CORA IVF Representative
- Attended 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance (inaugural year) as CORA IVF Representative
- Attended 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints as Area Coordinator and CORA IVF Representative
- Attended 2019 Australia IVF World Distance as CORA IVF Representative
- Oversight of the 2022 London IVF World Sprints selection process for crews that resulted in what may have very well been the bestever showing for Team Canada
- Served in a variety of roles as IVF Representative, Area Coordinator, Race Director, and competitor through-out the 12-year (2010-2022) continuous evolution and refinement of the Team Canada selection process and crew development



## CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Norman MacDonell (Posthumous)



### Highlights / Victoria

- His induction a testament to the 100s of individuals across Canada like him who have made a lifetime commitment to the paddling community by working tirelessly out of the limelight
- Recognized for a lifetime of selfless contribution to the paddling community and for having made a lasting positive impact on
  everyone that has ever had the good fortune to have spent time with him
- · Competitive white-water kayaker and member of the BC Provincial team many times and also competed at the National level
- Norman and David Hill paddled as white-water slalom paddlers from about 1983 to 1990
- Supposedly the first white-water kayaker to paddle down the Class IV rapids above Skutz Falls on the Cowichan River
- Represented Team Canada at 2019 Australia IVF World Distance
- Placed 7th at 2019 Australia IVF World Distance in V1 Masters 60 and raced with a Canadian crew that placed 6th in Master 50 Men
   V6
- Easily earned the V1 Masters 60 seat at the 2018 Team Canada World Distance time trials for someone with minimal V1 experience
- Podium finishes through-out his paddling career in Open Marathon Canoe (MC1) and Open Marathon Canoe 2 (MC2)
- Norman, David Hill, Gord Oliphant, Shelia Allen, Arpad Szatory, and Rosemary Henry were the first outrigger canoe paddlers at VCKC when David Hill brought "The Burrard" over from Whistler
- Additional funds to support purchase of first VCKC outrigger canoe came from the sale of surplus stock from Van Isle Windows
  where Norman worked
- Contributed in 1996 to VCKC Committee organizing first Island Iron Outrigger Canoe Race based in Cadboro Bay
- Cited in the press frequently as well as recognized by the Better Business Bureau for 35 years of exceptional service delivered to the community by Victoria-based company Van Isle Windows and Sales Manager Norman MacDonell



#### CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Leanne Stanley



#### Highlights / Kelowna

- Teaching since 2005 for almost 2 decades now from Classroom Teacher, to Department Head, to Student Success Teacher, to Academic Coordinator, to Principal to Education Director, to Executive Director
- Started out in marathon canoe in 1998 and since then has competed at the Provincial, Canadian National and USA National levels
  where she has won numerous individual titles and has since added dragon boat / outrigger / SUP / surfski / outrigger canoeing
- Helped get the dragon boat festival going in Parry Sound, was recruited for the Premiere Women's National team and went to compete
  for Team Canada in China, USA, and Prague in the Czech Republic in 2009
- At 2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints, raced with a Canadian crew that would take Silver in V12 500M Open Women, take Silver in V6
   1500M Open Women, take Silver in V6 500M Open Women, and placed 4th in V1 500M Open Women
- At 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints, raced with a Canadian crew that would take Gold in V6 1500M Open Women, take Gold in V6 500M Open Women, and take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women
- At 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints, raced with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in Open Women V12 500M, take Silver in Open Women V6 500M, take Bronze in Open Women V6 1500M, and placed 4th in V1 500M Open Women
- At 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance, raced with a Canadian crew that placed 4th in V6 Open Women, and placed 4th in V1 Open Women
- At 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints, raced with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in V6 Elite Women 500M, and take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women
- At 2019 Australia IVF World Distance, raced with a Canadian crew that placed 6th in V6 Open Women, and placed 4th in V1 Open Women
- At 2022 London IVF World Sprints, raced with a Canadian crew that would take Bronze in V12 Masters 40+ Women 500M, take Bronze in V1 500M Open Women, take Gold in V1 500M Masters 40+ Women, and take Bronze in V6 500M Elite Women
- At 2023 Australia IVF World Distance, raced with a Canadian crew that placed 1st in V6 Masters 40+ Women, and placed 4th in V1
  Masters 40+ Women
- Has now collected 14 medals since her first IVF World Sprints in 2008
- Founded The Stanley Edge in 2016 to offer clinics, lessons, camps, and training programs to paddlers in Canada, the USA, and Europe
- Served in a variety of roles as Coach, CORA IVF Committee Member, and competitor through-out the 12-year (2010-2022) continuous
  evolution and refinement of the Team Canada selection process and crew development



#### CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Len Morris Jr.



## Highlights / Brentwood Bay

- Long overdue recognition not only for Len Jr., but also for the unheralded achievements of 4 generations of Geronimo Canoe Club
- Geronimo Canoe Club has been a paddling juggernaut on the Coast Salish canoe race circuit since the early 1970s
- Len Jr. represents a continuation of this multi-generational paddling family with grandparents Ivan and Madeline (Henry) Morris, with father Leonard Morris Sr., with wife Ashley Morris and now son Jasper Morris and daughter Sakora Morris
- Geronimo Canoe Club with Len Jr. would place 1st in Open Men at 2013 / 2015 / 2016 /2017 CORA Distance Championships
- 2016 CORA Distance Championships title qualified Geronimo Canoe Club crew with Len Jr. as the Team Canada Open Men crew for
   2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance
- Len Jr. won the Open Men solo race and qualified for Open Men V1 at 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance
- Len Jr. won the Open Men division in 2017 in every Pacific Northwest OC1 race including the PNWORCA 2017 Small-Boat Winter Series Championships in Seattle
- Len Jr. paddled with a Masters 40+ Pacific Northwest crew named "Kikaha Northwest" at Molokai Hoe that included Bobby Fontes
  (WA), Jacob Murray (WA), Gordon Martinez (WA), Jono Saunders steersman (WA), Matt Taufaasau (WA), Eric Scharffenberg (OR),
  Taz Lee (OR), Ashley James (BC), and Len Morris Jr. (BC) taking Masters 40+ Silver
- Geronimo Canoe Club and Len Jr. raced as Team Canada Open Men crew for 2019 Australia IVF World Distance with Len Jr. placing 11th overall in the world in V1 Open Men
- At 2022 London IVF World Sprints Len Jr. would take Bronze in Masters 40+ Men V1 500M and his son Jasper Morris would take
   Gold in Junior Men V1 500M
- In December 2022, Len Jr. would race with a Canadian V6 crew and take Gold in Masters Mixed at the 90KM Brazil Vibe Ilhabela
- Len Jr. found his love for canoeing when his grandparents, Madeline and Ivan established the Geronimo Canoe Club, and then the
  parents took it over, and now it is the turn for the 3rd generation to keep the tradition running, and years later, Len Jr. is passing on
  the same skills to his own son Jasper Morris and daughter Sakora Morris





Molokai Hoe 2019. Gordon Martinez, head coach of Kikaha O Ke Kai, had a vision of a Masters 40+ Pacific Northwest crew that would be competitive in the outrigger canoe racing Super Bowl that is Molokai Hoe. Gordon assembled a stellar crew named "Kikaha Northwest" of nine rock-star paddlers from six different clubs that included Bobby Fontes (WA), Jacob Murray (WA), Gordon Martinez

(WA), Jono Saunders - steersman (WA), Matt Taufaasau (WA), Eric Scharffenberg (OR), Taz Lee (OR), Ashley James (BC), and Len Morris Jr. (BC). This crew also had boat coaches John Richardson and his son Keala Richardson, who captured a photo / video journal of the event.





The crew spoke highly of the great experience coming and working together



with men from different clubs. Gordon attributed one key to their success in that everyone had

respect for each other as equals, no chip on the shoulder, just pure trust and hard work together. During their crew training, everyone made sacrifices to travel as far from Oregon, Washington, up to Canada. The result was Kikaha Northwest finishing 44th overall and taking Masters 40+ Silver — one of the best showings ever by a Pacific Northwest Molokai Hoe crew — with a top Tahitian team taking Masters 40+ Gold.