

Monthly Yacht Club Flyer

Na Hoa Holomoku Yacht Club

March Club Schedule: Board Meeting 7PM on March 7th at the Ola'a Community Center. 6:30 PM on Wednesday 8th at Wailoa State Park Pavilion #3. Sail Day 11AM Sunday the 12th.

Sunday March 19th will be regular sail day activities including Hobie Cat, Sunfish and Walker Bay sailing. Sail day starts on the Bayfront beach at 11AM. For those who already have some sailing experience and want to go a step further then come down to the beach and ask to get checked out on the West Wight Potter, "Makani Kai," or the Hobie Cats.

We may have two subjects for potluck evening lectures. One will be everything you ever wanted to know about Dr. Ed Ha's favorite knot and the other will be on electrical wiring as it applies to the West Wight 19.

March 2006

Join us for fun,
food and
friendship on
Wednesday
March 8th
beginning at 6:30
at Pavilion #3 in
Wailoa Park.

Newsletter: (808) 982-5959

Classified Ads:

For Sale: "Cheers" a 26 ft Swedish International Folkboat built in 1969 of Fiberglass. New bottom and hull paint, \$9K or best offer. 935-2219

For Sale: New Nissan 5hp 4 stroke Long Shaft \$1000. 935-2219

For Sale: 8ft Portabote folding dinghy. Practically new \$1100. 935-2219

For Sale: 11ft Avon inflatable dinghy \$300 and a free 80s Nissan car. Michael Haines at 965-0043

For Sale: 36 ft Trimaran project. John at 982-9247

For Sale: A 1980 19' West Wight Potter, 3 year old trailer. Both in good condition. Furling jib. 15 hours on new 2hp Honda outboard. New battery. \$4200. Call Sienna and 937-0605.

To the right are "Skippers in the Spotlight," Daniel and Alicia Starsong who founded:

Aloha Sailing LLC

Phone: 808-883-9230

Email: alohasailing@yahoo.com



Na Hoa Holomoku
of Hawaii
Yacht Club

Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii
P. O. Box 1661
Kea'au, HI 96749

Skipper in the Spotlight—Daniel Starsong

Daniel's first sailing experience was when he was 14 at Mission Bay in San Diego on a rental boat that he sailed down the channel. When trying to sail back the boat made more leeway than forward motion due to lack of centerboard depth. He ended up paying late charges for going over my rental time.

In 1976 he converted a canvas kayak that someone had given him to an outrigger canoe with a homemade sail. It was pretty fast and he was able to keep up with the Hobie cats on Lake of the Woods in Oregon, but it kept falling apart. He sawed it in half at the end of the summer, and vowed to build a better boat.

Daniel moved to Hawaii in 1977 and met a Canadian guy with a Jim Brown 34' Trimaran that he crewed on many times up and down the Kona Coast. After that, he sailed as much as he could with whoever had a boat.

In 1980 Daniel bought an Islander 24 in San Francisco and lived on her and sailed every weekend. By owning this boat he learned so much more than just crewing on other peoples boats. He left the boat in Sausalito for the winter and returned to Hawaii. The following spring he crewed on a 41 ft. Coronado sloop from Honolulu to Seattle and he reported that it was cold and blustery with many gales and rain, but he learned about what being in real seas and gales can be like. It took them 18 days from Nawiliwili, Kauai to Neah Bay, just inside the straits of Juan de Fuca. He made a mental note to make his Islander very water tight on deck.

July 1982 saw him leaving the Golden Gate for Hawaii. He had spent the last 2 years living aboard and fixing up his little Islander sloop "Injoy". He and his girlfriend sighted the green hills of the Hamakua coast 23 days out from Santa Cruz Ca. on July 19th 1982. They endured some light winds, and one tropical depression on the way. Before leaving Sausalito Daniel had the pleasure of meeting the famous French circumnavigator Bernard Moitessier, who taught him Celestial Navigation in an 8 hour course on board his boat the Joshua. Bernard was the only

sailor to circumnavigate the world one and a half times non-stop solo, via the southern ocean.

Shortly after returning to the Big Island, Daniel got his Captains license and after that was offered a job with Pacific Sail and Snorkel, which ran a 26' Tri called the Kahlua. He started off as crew and eventually Captained. That was the start of Kamanu charters which became Kamanu when they got their new catamaran. It was mid to late '80s that he closed down his auto body business he helped build the second boat for the Fairwind, called the Ho'okele. About '90 he took a job captaining the Noa Noa (a 50 ft Catamaran) for Red Sail Sports out of the Waikoloa Hilton which he says, "didn't pay much, but the job had it's enjoyable moments, especially the whale watching." He also filled in as Skipper on the Maile out of Kawaihae, she is a 50' Gulfstar that does day sails and overnight charters.

A few years later Daniel and a friend were on their way to surf when they decided they wanted a boat. He suggested his old sloop which was sitting up in Kawaihae looking very sad; next thing they knew they owned it as partners. They joined the Kona Sailing Club and raced her successfully, winning quite a few races, but they both wanted to be captain so they acquired another boat, a 16' Prindle cat, which they alternated racing every year. This boat also won lots of trophies in KSC races.

In the mid '90s, the owner of Fairwind Cruises asked him if he wanted to help deliver the new aluminum Fairwind II over from Portland Ore. to here. They spent 6 weeks in Portland finishing the new boat before it went in the water. That included finishing "everything" on the interior. They took off down the coast to Monterey, where they spent about a week doing more work to it and arrived in Keahou Bay from Monterey in 12 days.

In the late 90s Daniel took a break from racing his own boat, and raced with friends. He campaigned Kai'ahulu a Hobie 16 with the owner for a year and

had a great time and won lots of races. He spent about a year sailing on various "A" fleet monohulls, Sack lunch, (an Express 27) won "A" fleet several years in a row, then sailed on Fast Company (an Olson 30) for a couple of years, including one race from Maui to Honolulu, as navigator/tactician. He's competed on Oahu in the Lipton 2 cup, sailing J-24s with a crew from KSC for the last couple of years, and had a lot of fun.

The last two years Daniel has spent more time coaching kids and teaching adults sailing. He's treasurer of the Big Island Sailing Foundation, a non profit corporation in which money is raised to facilitate youth sailing, with emphasis on getting low income and at risk kids out on the water and away for damaging influences. He's taken some of the star participants and created an all kids sailing team acting as coach. They took 2nd place in the fall "B" fleet regatta, with 16 year old Tasha as captain, and 11 year old Desire'e as first mate. He also got some of the boys crew positions on other race boats. Big Island Sailing Foundation has sail days for the kids on Lasers and similar boats to brush up on their skills

Daniel is the founding partner of Aloha Sailing LLC; a club which offers memberships to individuals and families. Aloha allows members to receive sailing instruction and to use their boats once they are properly qualified. Aloha has several families and individuals that are currently using boats or are taking lessons. Aloha has 3 boats at this time. His old Islander 24 "Injoy", a J-24 called Wavedancer, and a San Juan 21 called Windancer, (although the kids want to rename her Rasta), which just won 1st place in "B" fleet for the year.

Daniel says, "My goals now are to facilitate an environment for kids to learn how to sail where otherwise they would not have the opportunity and to help adults learn sailing. My students learn a lot about boats and sailing, so that once they are proficient sailors they will have a much better idea of what kind of boat they really want, and what kind of sailing style appeals to them."

Na Hoa Holomoku of Hawaii
P. O. Box 1661
Kea'au, HI 96749

We're on the
web: www.hilo-sailing.org

Membership Dues are \$40 for Regular Family Membership, \$24 for Associate (off island) and \$20 Juniors/Fulltime Students. These make good Christmas Gifts

If you have something marine to sell or find ads are available free of charge to YC members. Send email to SkiprJohn@aol.com

Important notice. The YMCA owns the Sunfish sailboats numbers 1 through 9 and these boats should be treated with the utmost care. YMCA membership (935-3721). **Attention!** Boats 1 through 9 can only to be used on club/Y sponsored official sail days or for Y sponsored training.

Daniel Starsong is "Skipper in the Spotlight" for March

