
Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2008/02/01 04:01

Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii on the island of Oahu. Kailua is where I was raised but recently returned from 12 years on Maui due to recent death of both parents. I sold my boat when I was still on Maui so was going thru water withdrawals when I noticed an ad in the local Craigslist listing a 17' aluminum canoe. I called the guy and discovered he lived 5 minutes away via boat, and that he would throw in a "ama" or outrigger float in the deal at no extra charge. A couple days later I had my wife drop me off at seller's and I paid the man and paddled back home on stream we both shared. I got this boat for fishing and diving in the ocean so stability in the seas was a must. I attached the ama using 'iako (outrigger booms) I made from CPVC conduit pipe with wood closet rods inserted, works great. My wife and 2 sons did a trial run paddle of about 2 miles to the beach. On arrival it was a blustery day so stayed out of ocean. On paddle back we had the strong trades at our backs and just this made paddling half the effort. I knew then and there I NEEDED a sail. I already had a mast from an old windsurfer which I was using for a fruit picker handle, all I needed was a sail and boom which I picked up used at a local windsurf rental shop for \$35 for both. I just today fabricated a leeboard out of an old centerboard my Dad had lying around for years using pieces from the hardware store and the house. Still need to fab a mast base and rudder but have these figured out, just need time. I will be using my sailing canoe to troll Kailua Bay for various fish species (dinner!). I will post more pictures as the work progresses but in the meantime here are pictures from her maiden sea trials.

I named her Makule Akule (Mah-coo-lay, Ah-coo-lay) Hawaiian for senile mackerel. I added eyeballs to scare the fish into submission. Also added a outboard motor bracket and my 3hp Tanaka. Here's her maiden voyage pictures.

Bringing her home diamond in da rough 17' Grumman

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-DADOOMAKULE2-1.jpg>

Makule Akule on Kailua Beach

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture005-1.jpg>

Her "angry eyes" to scare the sharks away

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture004-1.jpg>

A mile offshore from Kailua Beach

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture007-1.jpg>

SCORE! One 2 pound UKU (Gray Snapper)

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture009-1.jpg>

Mt. Olomana with the Ko'olau Range in back from a mile offshore

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture016-1.jpg>

Mokulua Islands with Manana Island and Makapu'u Point in background

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture015-1.jpg>

Close up of backside of Mokulua Island

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-Picture018-1.jpg>

The UKU was filleted and sliced into SASHIMI and consumed that night

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/MAKULE%20AKULE/mini-P1010118-1.jpg>

It was not a bad day at all!

All rigged for sailing...

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/Makule%20Sails/P1010011-1.jpg>

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/Makule%20Sails/P1010001-1.jpg>

Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by dannyb9 - 2008/02/01 07:05

thanks for the beautiful photos. and nice job adapting your grumman into 'island style' outrigger. how do you transport it to the beach? please keep us posted on your sail rig progress. do you plan to steer with an oar?

Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Woodchuck - 2008/02/01 08:17

Nice job on your ama... I am building a 17' Nomad cedar stripper and will be putting on an Ama. I have my own designs for the aka's and was thinking of using a plywood vertical rib and foam with fiberglass over the whole thing for the ama. Gary Dierking from Australia gave me the idea. I would appreciate any design aids you can give for your design. Looks great...

Thanks in advance...

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by voyageur - 2008/02/01 10:32

Hey Ahnkochee:

What an incredible rig you have created. Once the sail is on you will have about the most versatile canoe I have ever seen. Thanks for the great photos. Up here in Wisconsin it is hovering around 10 degrees with 55" of snow on the ground, the lakes and rivers are all frozen up. I love the winter but after seeing your photos a trip south might be in order.

The photo was taken in late December on the Wisconsin River.
<http://canoesailingmagazine.com/images/fbfiles/images/DSCN0195.JPG>

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2008/02/01 15:21

Aloha Gentleman, mahalo for all the positive comments.

Danny- I have a stream which leads to the ocean in my backyard so all I do is side my canoe into the stream and paddle the 2 miles to the ocean when I get the urge.
Yes I will be steering with oar with oarlocks mounted on engine bracket and using clamp-on type oarlock to secure oar to boat.

Woodchuck- I like Gary's ama design especially the plywood back bone. On my first ama I used a 6" PVC pipe filled with expanding polyeter foam then capped both ends with Pilipine Mahogany, then shaped the wood to match and painted, a tad heavy but indestructable, here's a picture of it on my ply/glass canoe I built 20 years ago:

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v504/Ahnkochee/OYAKO/mini-MaidenVoyage-1.jpg>

voyageur- what is this "snow" you speak of? Yes, I can't wait to sail and troll with my canoe, i'll post pics as work progresses.

MAHALO A NUI LOA everyone!

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by voyageur - 2008/02/01 17:23

Hi Ahnkochee: Thought I would show you what snow looks like, If I can figure out how to upload an image.

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by dstgean - 2008/02/06 09:25

I'm into the outrigger canoe madness too. I have gone a bit over the top with mine since I added a 128 square foot sail. I would think strongly of adding some sort of spray deck or buoyancy to the canoe as I have had to right a canoe during my camp days... not so easy even on a calm day with no waves. You could get some of the whitewater canoe gear to add buoyancy, but they would not do well with fish hooks;-) I too steered with a paddle Hawaiian style for my first summer, but that's not a good singlehanded option as paddle steering is a two handed affair and you need to tend the sheet even with the stability of an outrigger canoe. I'd buy Gary Dierking's book "Building outrigger canoes" as he has a wealth of information in it--although you look to be on the right track already.

Dan

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2008/02/06 11:06

Aloha Dan, Mahalo for the input. These Grumman's come with a sealed foam (Polystyrene?) flotation bow and stern so that is taken care of. My steering is a hybrid design combining a paddle and rudder and is secured to the outboard motor mount, I'll post pictures here when I'm done. I already installed a retracting leeboard, just gotta make time to set the rest up (LOUSY weather here lately). My sail is 50sf for leisurely sailing on calm days, I'll post pics when she's ready. I've been in email contact with Gary Dierking and he has provided valuable input, nice guy.

A hui hou, Ji

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by catketch - 2008/03/24 17:52

Hey, Seeing your post from Hawaii made me miss Maui where we lived for 11 years, in Haiku. I kept my sailing outrigger at a friend's in Kanaha, and sailed a sloop out of Lahaina Harbor. I can't wait to get back for a visit..... Aloha!

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Woodchuck - 2008/03/24 18:02

Ahnkochee...

What happened to your Photobucket photo's? A box shows that says they have been moved or deleted? Sure would like to see them...

Thanks, CYA, Joe

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2008/06/23 06:07

Aloha, Sorry for delay but pictures have been edited and reposted, MAHALO for your patience.

I had my office in the basement of the old Lahaina Court House across from Lahaina Harbor for 10 years, small world.

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Isteel - 2008/07/14 08:53

Great Pictures I just got back from there on vac. Did not have my sail Boat only an inflatable kayak. Had a very good time though. I envy you being there all the time. Keep posting the pic!!

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by eberla - 2009/01/10 21:33

Thanks for the picture of the 3 hp Tanaka on your canoe. I'm putting together a sail, fish, floating Ozark river canoe from a 17' Grumman squareback and was worried that the 3 hp Tanaka would be too much motor. I like the trolling rig too. I'll copy that eventually.

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2010/06/05 15:51

WOW After over 2 years of being on hold I finally am back on target (delays health related). I decided to trim the sail down from 60 to 35 SF, and fab a new boom (hated the ugly aluminum windsurf boom) from 1' CPVC pipe. Few more details to work out but should finally be ready to sail by next week end weather permitting. Here's a couple pictures of what the sail looks like now.

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Re:Aloha from Kailua, Hawaii

Posted by Ahnkochee - 2010/06/11 22:15

Been brainstorming a way to reef sail without making drastic changes to the basic windsurf sail design. Quickie I came up with is securing the boom to batten above using a velcro strap at an angle reducing the sail area by 14 sq from 35 sf so 21 reefed. This idea raises the center of effort a tad but I hope this won't be a problem with 21 sf. What do you think?

Reefed Sail

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