EIF News

Follow this and additional works at: https://kahualike.manoa.hawaii.edu/rnj

Part of the History of the Pacific Islands Commons, and the Pacific Islands Languages and Societies Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://kahualike.manoa.hawaii.edu/rnj/vol11/iss3/12

This EIF News is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Hawai‘i Press at Kahualike. It has been accepted for inclusion in Rapa Nui Journal: Journal of the Easter Island Foundation by an authorized editor of Kahualike. For more information, please contact sheila.yeh@hawaii.edu.
WHAT’S NEW IN HANGAROA

More fallout from the ill-fated Mata Rangi:

The yacht Stray Dog that went to the rescue of the sinking Mata Rangi, as described in our last issue, has itself met a sorry fate. The day after the Stray Dog arrived to Easter Island, it was pressed into service by the Chilean Maritime Authority and it left immediately to rescue the men from the sinking Mata Rangi. It took 30 hours of sailing to reach the reed boat, which was barely afloat some 150 nautical miles (279 kilometers) northwest of Easter Island. It was spotted with the help of flares that were first seen at 8:30 p.m. After the rescue, it took another 30 hours to return to the island.

In command of the yacht was Bryan Scott Kronemeyer, the owner. The rescue maneuver was directed by the captain of the port of Easter Island, 1st Lt. Eduardo Rubilar and 2nd Sgt. Luis Vergara, who traveled in the US yacht.

The Navy office on the island reported that the rescued men were all huddled in the aft section of the raft and were in good physical condition. Upon arrival back at the island, they were received with great joy by some 600 islanders who were waiting to greet them at La Pérouse bay. The Stray Dog subsequently was anchored at La Pérouse, but broke loose during a fierce squall on May 29th. She was totally destroyed after smashing up against the rocks. A few pieces of soggy navigation and electronic equipment were retrieved but everything else, including clothes and credit cards, was lost. The two norteamericanos, Kronemeyer and Cinque Ryan Corrin, his companion, stated that the uninsured ship was valued at US$110,000.

No mention was made of the fate of the two stowaways (see RNJ Vol. 11:2, pg. 96) who presumably are still under indictment on the island. (Leaving the island as a stowaway on the Mata Rangi is akin to trying to stowaway on the Titanic. Bad choice).

Following all this, Kitin Muñoz, who had initiated the Mata Rangi project, stated to newsmen (as reported in El Mercurio de Santiago) that he would begin boat building again soon, but perhaps in Arica or Peru and he declared that totora reeds are a “... super choice for they float so well and stayed on top of the waves.” Muñoz reported that “... little by little the raft was breaking apart and losing totora where the boat separated . . . .” and “... a fierce storm with waves of 6 meters [caused] the raft to began to break up.”

When asked if he considered the expedition a failure, he replied “These things are normal in an expedition. This isn’t a vacation, right? These are the things that demonstrate the problems and the risks of an expedition of this type and we have to assume that these things happen and it is necessary to assume it might happen—as expeditionaries, men of the sea, and men in general.” [Clearly, this is a guy thing.]

[In consideration of the needs of the island—for example, the school—the expenditure of nearly one million dollars, plus the loss of the ship Stray Dog, suggests that this entire project is beyond sense. And now we will undoubtedly be treated to yet another raft expedition, by “men of the sea.”]

NEWS FROM THE EASTER ISLAND FOUNDATION

“Ingrained Images. Woodcarvings from Easter Island” is the title of the exhibit which opened in June at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. The exhibit, sponsored by the Easter Island Foundation and curated by founding President of the Foundation, Dr. Joan Seaver Kurze, will be in place until October 12, and will be a feature of the South Seas Symposium in August. A museum reception will be held on Wednesday, August 6th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and directly following the Wednesday sessions. Exhibits director, Ian Wagoner, designed the layout of the exhibition.

Guest curator, Joan Seaver Kurze and exhibits director of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Ian Wagoner at the opening reception of “Ingrained Images” (Photo: G. Lee)

Ingrained Images is a delight for Rapanuiophiles. Various kinds of wood carvings are displayed along with photographs that illustrate the island as well as life today in the village of Hangaroa. A special part of the exhibition contains earlier pieces and drawings from the collection of Mark Blackburn.

Joan Seaver Kurze stands before the entry display for Ingrained Images at the Maxwell Museum which features colorful examples of Polynesian crab claw sails, designed by artist Mark Oliver (Photo: G. Lee)
A popular addition to the exhibition is a short video by Seaver called “Legacy” which deals with wood carving and how the traditions are passed along from one generation to another. The footage includes anciano Juan Haca in the process of carving one of the pieces in the exhibition.

A lavishly illustrated book/catalog (titled “Ingrained Images”) that accompanies the exhibit will be sold at the Maxwell Museum bookstore and is available through the Easter Island Foundation (see page 131).

**PUBLICATIONS**


*Bulletin of the International String Figure Association*, Vol.3, 1996. ISFA Press, PO Box 5134, Pasadena CA.


*Le Bulletin du Cercle d’Etudes sur l’ile de Pâques et la Polynésie.* No. 10, October 1996. Délégation de la Polynésie Française à Paris, 28, boulevard Saint-Germain, 75005, Paris. The yearly subscription for this bulletin amounts to French Francs 250.00 or US $60 for six issues and specialized papers. Email: hlb@ppm.u-psud.fr


*Le Pasefika: The Pacific Island Travel and Lifestyle Magazine.* Subscriptions are $20 a year. For further information, contact Le Pasefika, 558 E. Double Street, Carson, CA 90745-2121.


*Pitcairn Miscellany*. *The Miscellany* is a monthly newspaper of Pitcairn Island with a circulation of 1500. Address: Pitcairn Miscellany, South Pacific Ocean, via New Zealand.


*Rongorongo Studies,* 1997. Vol. 7(1). Edited by Steven Roger Fischer. P.O. Box 6965, Wellesley St., Auckland 1, New Zealand. Email: rongonz@iconz.co.nz. The current issue contains papers by K. W. Cook (Subject Pronoun Fronting in Samoan and Hawaiian), and A. Bierbach and H. Cain (Tangaroa: Another Final Demystification). The latter is a continuation from the previous issue.


*Tok Blong Pasifik:* News and Views on the Pacific Islands. Vol. 50 No.3-4 South Pacific Peoples Foundation, 1921 Fernwood Road, Victoria BC, Canada V8T 2Y6. Email: spfp@web.apc.org. [Tok Blong has a spiffy new look. Check it out.]


*The University of the South Pacific Bulletin,* Suva, Fiji. 1996. Vol. 29 (30-31) for September. USP is the regional University serving Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Soloman Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

Watson, Rubie S., Nynke J. Dorhout, Juliette R. Rogers. 1966. Pacific Collections at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University: The Early Years. *Pacific Arts* 13/14:57-68. *[This collection contains 77 items, many of which were collected by A. Agassiz who visited Easter Island in 1904. Agassiz’ papers are now in the Ernst Myr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard. Some of his photographs are part of the Peabody’s Photographic Archives.]*

THE 23RD SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE for the Study of Australia and Oceania (Department for South Pacific Studies, Institute of Oriental Studies, Academy of Sciences of Russia), was held on May 29, 1997, at Moscow. Papers by N.A. Butinov, I.K. Fedorova, V.I. Belikov, D.D. Tumarkin, M.V. Tendryakova and others were presented and the Proceedings of the Conference have been published. Two titles may be of interest for readers:
