The Times They Are a-Changin’

By Dr. Richard Kelley

This week I was in Denver, Colorado, and, on my laptop computer, I watched and listened as David Carey, our president and chief executive officer, held a Web briefing for nearly 100 key members of our company in various locations around the Pacific, many of them nearly halfway across the globe from where I sat. As David discussed the hospitality industry, Outrigger’s development initiatives and our brand strategies, I could not help but reflect for a moment on how much our world, the travel industry and our company have changed since Roy and Estelle Kelley opened a 50-room, five-story walk-up hotel in Waikīkī in 1947.

Over the past 66 years, transportation has evolved from steamships to jet aircraft. Information is no longer transmitted on pieces of paper hand-carried from one place to another over days and (hard as it may be for young readers today to imagine) weeks, but is now sent as a stream of electrons that appear on your “smartphone” within milliseconds.

The number of international travelers has gone from a just a handful of wealthy individuals to over a billion passengers a year from a growing range of the economic spectrum.

This travel boom has brought with it unbelievable economic growth and job opportunities as well as significant, complex and challenging economic, social, environmental and political issues.

The potential for the future is boundless if we, as individuals and as countries, can keep things in balance despite the dizzying pace of change. David Scowsill, president of the World Travel & Tourism Organization, predicts that by 2050 there will be 3 billion people enjoying middle class wealth – meaning more middle class consumers, enjoying more travel, creating more jobs and generating more income … for still more and more people.

Much of this growth will be centered in the Asia-Pacific area where Outrigger® is also focusing its investments. China, with a population of 1.3 billion, has recently built 42 airports. Another 52 are scheduled for completion by 2020, just seven years from now! Global air traffic is expected to double over the next 20 years.

Unfortunately, such rapid growth in air travel has the potential to create significant environmental hazards. A 2009 University of Manchester study commissioned by Friends of the Earth found that air travel is the world’s fastest-growing source of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, generating nearly as much CO2 annually as that from all human activities in Africa.

However, dramatically new, fuel-efficient aircraft may soon be transporting travelers to the world’s destinations. Gizmag, a publication that focuses on new and emerging technologies, reports that a research group at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is developing a highly fuel-efficient aircraft design concept that gets aerodynamic lift from a double fuselage as well as the wings. This “Double Bubble” design promises a 70 percent drop in fuel consumption, less noise, reduced nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions and increased passenger comfort.

"Double Bubble" aircraft of the future with twin passenger cabins side-by-side

So, as I listened to David Carey outline our company’s future plans, I have to confess that images of the past and predicted future changes in our world and our company also whirled through my mind. Yes, we are facing some really big challenges, but I have been around long enough...
Give the Gift of Life at Embassy Suites® - Waikiki Beach Walk®
By Ashley Cabradilla

Thursday, May 30, 2013
Embassy Suites - Waikiki Beach Walk • 4th Floor Meeting Room 1
9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

We need your help!
Two hundred pints of blood are needed every day to help maintain safe blood levels.

Our goal for this blood drive is to collect 25 pints of blood and to have 34 donors. As of this writing, we need 8 more donors...Can we count on you?

Note that now all blood pressure medications are accepted and donors that are diabetic and insulin dependent are accepted as well.

Please contact me at 921-6972 to schedule an appointment or call the Blood Bank of Hawai‘i at 848-4721.

Please help Hawai‘i’s patients by donating blood. It’s safe, it’s simple, it saves lives. 😊

Danny Wang and Heather Ballao-Doeringer at one of Outrigger’s past blood donation efforts

Saturday Briefing is published by and for employees of Outrigger Enterprises Group (OEG)

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Happy Birthday!


June 1: Joannie Cruz, Patcharin Dounimusik, De-Xian Liu, Kok Fan Shiu, Mohammed Usman, Loata Valerus and Josephine J. Villar.


Oh, Happy Day!

Congratulations to Danny Wang (Marketing) and his wife Stacy on the birth of son Bruce Ray-Sean Wang May 14. Baby Bruce weighed 7 lbs 3/8 ozs and was 20 inches tall. 😊
Duke's Waikiki
Honors “Nappy” and Anona Napoleon
with 2013 Hoʻokahiko Award

Every year across our state we honor our veterans who have passed on by placing flowers and/or lei where they were laid to rest. Here on Oʻahu school children and volunteers sew lei for veterans’ graves at the Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl but this year, we need your help. Because of the early school year, the City and County of Honolulu will not be able to depend on the hundreds of lei schools normally provide for this time-honored tradition.

The Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach will be holding a special lei making activity for guests and employees and the lei will be placed on the graves at Punchbowl. All are welcome to join us on Friday, May 24, from 8 a.m. -10 a.m. in the upper lobby of the Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach.

Let’s put our Ke ‘Ano Wa'a values into practice as we do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason, with the right feeling (Kinā‘ole); to act as a family (‘Ohana) by working together joyfully to attain our goal of making lei; and to teach and share (A'o) with guests and fellow employees at this unique activity.

This is a wonderful community service to showcase our Aloha by honoring our heroes through a cultural activity that is our trademark.

Duke's Waikiki
Honors “Nappy” and Anona Napoleon with 2013 Hoʻokahiko Award

By Ethan Chang

Duke's Waikiki honored Joseph “Nappy” and Anona Napoleon with the 2013 Hoʻokahiko Award at a private ceremony held at the beachfront restaurant May 9. The couple was recognized for their dedication and contribution to water sports in the State and for exemplifying the Aloha Spirit.

“Hoʻokahiko” is the Hawaiian term for “cling to the traditions,” and the Duke's Hoʻokahiko Award was established in 1998 to honor those who today exemplify and pass on those traditions.

Anona's love affair with the water began when she was only 10 years old. An avid surfer for over 50 years, she was a champion surfer and kayaker in the late 50s and early 60s, winning the prestigious Makaha International Surfing Championship in 1961. She participated in two Olympic trials for kayaking and also paddled in the first women's Moloka'i-to-O'ahu canoe race in 1975 as a member of the Waikiki Surf Club. She was also inducted into the International Surf Museum in Huntington Beach in 1991. Her passion for the water undoubtedly helped pave the way for female surfers and watermen.

Nappy personifies the best of the paddling world, participating in his first Moloka'i Hoe, the annual open ocean canoe race from Moloka'i to O'ahu, in 1958, when he was just 17 years old. He has competed in the race across the Kaiwi Channel every year since then, which will culminate in his 55th consecutive crossing this October. Nappy has raced with six championship teams and was inducted into the Hawai'i Sports Hall of Fame in 2008. In 1983, he founded the Anuenue Canoe Club.

Duke's Waikiki strongly and sincerely believes in the Aloha Spirit and that Aloha is the best of Hawai'i's traditions. They were pleased to honor “Nappy” and Anona who are such great examples of this Hawai'i hallmark.
Travel agents attending the Bula Fiji Tourism Exchange (BFTE), the premier travel mart for the South Pacific, were hosted to a pre-BFTE cocktail party at the Outrigger on the Lagoon – Fiji's new adults-only pool and bistro Vahavu Tuesday, 14 May.

The agents were given a sneak peak of Vahavu that is to officially open in July. The $2 million project features a banquets bure (hut), as well an infinity lap pool and pool bar.

Vahavu, which means ‘to relax’ or ‘chill out,’ in the local Nadroga Fijian dialect, is a direct result of feedback from guests and couples, in particular, who are seeking a more ‘chilled-out, adults-only’ pool alternative at the resort.

Outrigger on the Lagoon – Fiji General Manager Peter Hopgood said it was exciting to showcase Vahavu to the travel agents who will soon be incorporating the resort’s latest product into their sales.

“Vahavu, our adults-only pool and bistro will be a game changer for the resort, and we had a fantastic opportunity to showcase this amazing project to our travel agents who were able to experience for themselves this amazing new facility,” Peter said.

“Whilst we are a family resort, we also cater to couples who are looking for a more quiet and secluded holiday, and Vahavu offers our guests this relaxed alternative,” Peter added.

Guests were also treated to a fusion of food served from themed food booths, as well as entertainment from Rako Pasifika and Vou dance group. Also present at the function was Outrigger on the Lagoon – Fiji Chairman and CEO Geoffrey Shaw.

Sunrise TV Australia Beams Live from Outrigger® on the Lagoon – Fiji

Sunrise on Australia’s Channel 7 beamed live and direct from the Outrigger on the Lagoon – Fiji.

The Sunrise crew, who are on a Tourism Fiji promotional tour, crossed over live weather updates from various locations at the resort.

Sunrise Weather anchor Edwina Bartholomew incorporated various features of the resort such as the famous Bula Man, the premium Talai Butler service, as well as the mouth-watering pork ribs from Sundowner Bar and Grill.

Resort guests were equally surprised to see Ms. Bartholomew and her crew filming at the resort with some guests grabbing a chance to get their picture taken with the crew of Australia’s most-watched program.

Outrigger on the Lagoon – Fiji General Manager Peter Hopgood said hosting the Sunrise crew was a highlight for May. “The live crosses around the resort gave us a great opportunity to showcase our beautiful resort to Australian viewers,” Peter stated. “We’d like to thank Tourism Fiji for incorporating our resort into the Sunrise schedule, and we look forward to future partnerships that will help us market our beautiful country Fiji.”

Sunrise Weather Anchor Edwina Bartholomew with meke (traditional style of dance) dancers
May 14 and 15, 2013
the staff of Wyndham
at Waikiki Beach Walk
partnered with Waikiki
Elementary School
students to celebrate
Arbor Day (officially
celebrated April 26) as part
of Wyndham’s continuing
green effort. It was also
an opportunity for the
staff and management
of Wyndham, along with
members of the Wyndham
Sales Department, to
celebrate Paddle 5 -
Celebrating how we do
what we do and Paddle 6
- Celebrating our successful
journey. Rolling up their
sleeves and pitching in to
help tend to the students’
garden, the staff worked
side-by-side with second
graders to weed and clear
the garden, as well as
prepare planting beds with
mulch for future crops.

In an effort to share
some of our culture and the
Outrigger Way, as well as our
partnership with the Arbor
Day Foundation, Wyndham
generously donated two
kukui trees that they
planted in the playground
and dedicated to the
kindergarten students.
At Outrigger, the kukui
represents enlightenment
and wisdom and is a
symbol of our values of Ke
'Ano Wa'a. As we entrust
the care of these trees to
the keiki at the school, not
only are we providing much
needed shade on the hot
and sunny playground, we
also bestow this important
symbol of our culture and
values to students for
generations to come.
The Times They Are a-Changin’

Entertainer-songwriter Bob Dylan had just recorded an iconic song titled The Times They Are a-Changin’. It was a symbol of the times not only then but throughout the past half century.

It looks as if Dylan’s song will also symbolize of what we as a company, we as individuals and we as a world community will face and experience in the years to come.

I don’t know Dylan personally, but next Friday, on May 24, as he celebrates his 72nd birthday, I plan to send him a message in care of his agent to congratulate him on his accomplishments. He had it so right in 1962, and based on the way things are going today, everything he sang then is still valid.

The Times They Are a-Changin’!

Fabulous Form

Lights low, candles aglow and music calming to awaken one’s practice and elevate focus. This was the scene as first-time and veteran yogis spent an hour moving through various asanas (postures), while focusing on the breath, bringing one to the present. Those who attended this month’s Lunch & Learn, Yoga & Stretch, learned first-hand some of the benefits of this thousands-year-old practice.