Outrigger Parties on 60th Birthday

Herman Lam presents Dr. Richard Kelley with a pair of elegantly handcrafted kahili

Dr. Chuck Kelley, Dr. Richard Kelley, Colleen Kelley Heyer, Bitsy Kelley, and Jenny Kelley

Dr. Richard Kelley cuts the 60th Anniversary cake

No birthday is complete without a party, cake, and presents, and that’s exactly what happened at this year’s Annual Conference.

Conference delegates were surprised and delighted when lunch on the final day was transformed into a birthday party marking Outrigger’s 60 years of providing hospitality and aloha to millions of guests.

The festivities began when Herman Lam, Chief Engineer at the Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach, along with OHANA Vice President Chuck Shishido, and Waikiki Beach Walk General Manager Conchita Malaqui, on behalf of all Outrigger employees, presented me with a pair of elegantly handcrafted kahili (feather-topped standards, formerly used by Hawaiian royalty). Herman was the master craftsman who created the two yellow and red kahili.

The festivities also included an exchange of gifts between Kelley family members Dr. Chuck and Jenny Kelley, Bitsy Kelley, Colleen Heyer, David Carey, and myself, with representatives of the Outrigger ‘ohana, including Military Liaison Mildred Courtney, Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach Executive Housekeeper Ivy Kwok, Outrigger Maui Eldorado General Manager Scott Dougherty, Embassy Suites - Waikiki Beach Walk Hotel Assistant General Manager Dan Nakasone, and Senior Vice President Donna Leong.

Next, an incredible six-foot-tall birthday cake, created by Executive Sous Chef Andy Nelson and Pastry Chef Ed Anderson of the Pacific Beach Hotel, an Outrigger affiliate, was wheeled in, drawing expressions of admiration all around the room. Celebrating the Kelley family’s Irish heritage, two bagpipers entered the room and led everyone in a rendition of “Happy Birthday.”
Conference delegates then waved special “magic” wands that had been placed on each table. The “magic” was that they released a vibrant, colorful shower of confetti throughout the room, much to the delight of all those present.

It was a wonderful celebration -- the perfect way to mark Outrigger’s 60th birthday.