

Ka'ililā'au FAQ's

1. What kind of wood is the canoe Ka'ililā'au made of?

Most of the canoe, and particularly the hull, is made out of albesia wood.

2. Where did the tree to make the canoe come from?

We got the tree from a valley north of here.

3. How long did it take to make the canoe?

We cut the tree on November 9, 2009 and launched the canoe on March 9, 2010. It took us exactly 4 months.

4. What does the canoe's name, Ka'ililā'au mean?

Literally it means the skin of the tree (or bark). However, it was named after a boy who accidentally died at the age of 11 yrs. old. Since we got the tree from his family's property, his father asked to name the canoe after their son, Ka'ililā'au.

5. Why did the hotel build the canoe?

Because we're the most Hawaiian hotel, we observe the traditional Hawaiian Makahiki season from November to the end of February. The first 2 years each department made Hawaiian implements and tools. In 2009, the entire hotel made one canoe.

6. Where can someone see the movie of Ka'ililā'au

The movie is played in the guest rooms on Channel 25. It is also being featured on in-bound flights on Hawaiian Airlines throughout the 1st quarter of 2012 (Jan-March).

7. Where is the canoe?

It is situated on the hotel grounds, next to Hale Akau by the pool.

8. Who worked on the canoe?

All employees worked on the canoe in some way or form. For example, if they didn't work on the hull, they may have made the lei hulu (feather lei) that flies on the mast, or in some other capacity.

9. Did someone teach the hotel how to do make a canoe?

A canoe builder, Charlie Noland, led the employees through the whole experience.

10. Can someone purchase the DVD?

Yes, it will soon be available in the Maui Breeze Shop and the Deli Corner. The proceeds go to the Hotel's Employee's Council.

11. How can someone make a donation to the family?

Refer all inquiries to Lori Sablas, Director of Po'okela at 808-661-0011 ext. 217.

12. Who produced the movie about the canoe?

Emme Tomimbang, a multi-media producer for film and TV and a several Telly Award Winner

13. What is a Telly Award?

A Telly Award honors the very best film and video productions, online video content, and outstanding local, regional and cable TV commercials and programs.

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