

will now be spent publishing the papers, analyzing the results, and assessing the undeniable success of the “Festival of Languages”. For many more years after this, the resonance of history’s largest linguistic gathering will doubtless continue to inspire the world.

And Easter Island’s Rapanui language was more than a significant part of it all: far more than a simple wooden block, it proved a veritable foundation stone.

JAMES COOK AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE PACIFIC
An Exposition held in Bonn, Berne, and Vienna

*Herbert von Saher,
Boemendaal, Netherlands.*

THIS YEAR, AN IMPORTANT EXPOSITION will be held in the cities of Bonn, Germany; Berne, Switzerland, and Vienna, Austria. It is important because of the trophies that were carried back from the three voyages of Captain James Cook between 1768 and 1780. The objects were mainly divided between the British Museum in London, the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, and the Zoological Museum of the University of Göttingen in Germany. As far as I know, this is the first time that these three collections are on display together, along with loans from many other places.

The objects include nautical instruments used during the expedition and models of the ships together with paintings of Cook and his officers; an enormous number of spears, ceremonial paddles, headrests, bowls, and other woodcarvings; headdresses of feathers, reeds, etc; ornaments of porpoise bone and mother of pearl; large decorated pieces of barkcloth; plus some objects collected by the zoologists on board the cruises. The area of collection was much wider than the well-known Polynesian Triangle: it ranged from Siberia and Alaska in the North to the Straits of Magellan, and Australia in the South. Having these objects in one exposition allows a visitor to make comparisons and, above all, to realize that the people who fabricated them all belong to one Polynesian family. Every group of islands in this area is represented by its own cluster, and if a visitor wants to find arguments against Thor Heyerdahl’s theory of an Andean origin of the Polynesians, he just has to walk through this exposition in order to be convinced.

Sadly, the Easter Island artifact cluster only contains a few objects: a ceremonial paddle and a dance staff, artifacts that most of our readers will already have seen. More rare is an elegant carved wooden hand, apparently used in the Birdman ceremonies, and held by a dancer; two shell ornaments; the only piece of barkcloth (for the *ariki*) that was collected by Cook, plus a feather headdress acquired by Johann Reinhold Forster. It is in combination with the entries from the other islands that these objects derive their importance.

I was particularly impressed by the many large-sized pieces of barkcloth on display and their beautiful geometric designs, which are rarely shown elsewhere. Also impressive

are the large feather mantles, which are in remarkably good condition. They alone make a visit to this exposition worthwhile.

A 275 page catalogue (in English or German) accompanies this exposition; it shows all the objects interspersed with articles by experts. Its price of € 29 is dirt-cheap, and it is a must for every student of Polynesian culture. The exposition in Bonn will already have come to a close when this issue of *RNJ* reaches you; the follow-up in Vienna will be from May 10 to September 13 and in Berne, from October 7 to February 13, 2011.

THE PROJECTED EXHIBIT OF A RAPA NUI MOAI IN PARIS divided the island community. A statue was slated to be shipped to Paris for an exhibit sponsored by Louis Vuitton. Louis Vuitton has held numerous art exhibits since the opening of its Paris gallery in 2006. The show that just ended was an exhibit called *Ecritures Silencieuses* (silent writing), featuring three *rongorongo* tablets borrowed from the Vatican collection. The next scheduled exhibit was a *moai* from Rapa Nui. It was said that the *moai* would be shipped via sea and likely up the Seine on a barge. The exposition was to be in the center of Paris, in the Jardin de las Tuileries, and scheduled to last for two weeks. It was said that the exhibit was to help promote Rapanui “cultural identity”. Edgard Hereveri, the Easter Island tourist director, said the statue would “expend spiritual energy to change the conscience of humanity.” However, in February, a contingent of Rapanui converged in Hangaroa village with placards protesting the removal of a *moai* from the island and 90% of voters cast a “no” vote to removing a *moai* from the island.

EASTER ISLAND FOUNDATION NEWS

WHAT’S NEW AT THE EIF OFFICE

GREETINGS FROM BAYWOOD PARK! 2009 was a challenging year for the EIF due to the state of the economy. We sincerely thank all who were able to help us out with an end-of-year donation and those who have promptly renewed their memberships for 2010. Please know that your past and continued support of the EIF is deeply appreciated! Due to your help, we were able to keep our office open, which was in danger of closing. Generous donations to our scholarship fund enabled us to award four scholarships for 2010!

Thanks to some very generous EIF members, we have expanded our selection of used, rare and out of print books. For a complete list of titles, go to islandheritage.org and click on “publications”. This page is updated regularly, so check frequently and see if anything on your Rapa Nui wish list is available!

The EIF has a new presence online. Please visit islandheritage.org and check it out. A very special *Thank You* to one of our Founding Members, Alan Drake, who graciously helped us in creating our new website. *Maururu nui*, Alan!



The 2010 EIF scholarships were awarded in March. In back: Tamaru Pakarati Gonzalez; in front from L to R: Sofia Hey (scholarship committee), Barbara Gaete Tuki and her mother Marcela Tuki Hey, Carolina Hotu Hey (former Governor of Easter Island), Ana Huke Fuentes and her mother Marta Fuentes, Alejandra Cabezas Marambio and her daughter Tavake Riroroco Cabezas.

2010 EASTER ISLAND FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

EIF Annual Award (\$2000)

Tamaru Pakarati Gonzalez

Tamaru is studying clinical psychology at the University Pedro de Valdivia in Santiago, Chile. He plans to focus on clinical psychology with Rapa Nui children and youths, and mediation of intercultural conflicts. He is also interested in understanding the psychological and cultural factors involved in the disputes and conflicts that arise between adults and youths on Rapa Nui. Another area of interest is a lack of young leaders in the Rapa Nui community. Tamaru states that it is up to the younger generation to organize and act consciously, to support their relatives, and organize the task to solving community problems.

Mildred R. Donoghue Award (\$2500)

Tavake Maria Consuelo Riroroco Cabezas

Tavake has finished her third year in commercial engineering at the University of Viña del Mar, in Viña del Mar, Chile. She hopes to specialize in finance or production and would like to start her own business on the island.

Mildred R. Donoghue Award (\$2500)

Barbara Gaete Tuki

Barbara is in her third year, studying phonoaudiology at the University of Valparaiso. She would like to work with schools, hospitals and in the private sector helping patients with hearing, speaking, and learning problems. She is keenly aware of the waste and garbage issue on Rapa Nui and would like to see increased responsibility taken by both residents and visitors.

Fraternal Order of the Moai Award (\$2000)

Ana Huke Fuentes

Ana is studying Hotel and Restaurant Administration at the University of Valparaiso in Viña del Mar, Chile. She would like to finish her studies to become a "Chef Manager" and she is motivated to acquire knowledge and skills in hotel restaurant management and return to Rapa Nui to put them to use. She is 23 years old. Her sister, Maria Eugenia Huke Fuentes, was an EIF award recipient in 2008.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF MOAI EVENT RAISES \$3,000 FOR EASTER ISLAND FOUNDATION

Dave "Hep" Larsen, Dayton, Ohio

THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF MOAI PUT THE "FUN" in fundraising last fall at *Ohana: Luau at the Lake*. The three-day celebration of classic "Polynesian Pop" culture was held Sept. 18-20, 2009, at the Tiki Motor Lodge Resort in Lake George, N.Y. The tiki-themed weekend attracted more than 250 people to the vintage Polynesian-style paradise that opened in 1960, some arriving from as far away as Texas, Florida and California, France, Germany and Canada.

Proceeds from the event resulted in a \$3,000 donation to the Easter Island Foundation from the Fraternal Order of Moai (FOM). The donation will fund a scholarship and youth programs on Rapa Nui. The FOM designated the Foundation as its national charity in 2008.

"I'm overwhelmed by the response and success of Ohana," said Michael Sullivan, the event's organizer. "We've done smaller events in the past, but to have this kind of outpouring of love and support for a first-time, large event like this was amazing." "Ohana" describes the spirit of the event. Hundreds came together to experience a slice of bygone American culture that included live exotica, surf and *hapa haole* bands, a Polynesian floorshow and a Dole-sponsored cocktail contest. The festive crowd shared three days of laughter, food and drinks, and by the end of the weekend most felt like family.

"Every chance to spend time with Fellows, friends and *tiki*philes is a trophy moment," said Jeff "JJ Tiki" Westlake, a Fellow Moai of the FOM. Ohana opened on Friday night with a performance by Bamboo Saxotica, a Hawaiian surf band from New Hampshire. The band was joined by Jimmy Virani, a Theremin player whose most recent album is "Jimmy Virani Goes Beachcombing in Outer Space." The Theremin is an early electronic music instrument controlled without contact from the player, and is best known from the Beach Boys' hit "Good Vibrations" and 1950s sci-fi movie sound effects.

That evening's musical performances took place in the resort's outdoor pool area, featuring a thatched *tiki* bar decorated with carved *tiki* figures. Friday's performers featured 9th Wave, an instrumental surf rock combo, and the WAITIKI 7, a seven-piece exotic jazz ensemble modeled after the classic groups of Martin Denny, Arthur Lyman and Gene Rains. The bands' sets alternated throughout the evening with the "Ohana Room Crawl," in which guests went door-to-door at the resort to sample cocktails in "round robin-style". The original cocktail creations included such potent delights as the Big Island Firebird, Hawaii Kai Treasure, Kahiki Warclub and Kokuru Punch.

Saturday's events got underway with the Dole Cocktail Contest, in which 14 guests pitted their mixology skills against one another by making an original cocktail creation that used at least one Dole product. The phrase "sober as a judge" didn't apply for long to the panel that sampled the

cocktails. The contest was won by Greg "HulaCat" Andrews of Vermont, with "Fire in the Dole," a fruity concoction topped by a flaming shot of rum.

Ohana guests also spent the day shopping for *tiki* and retro treasures from among the festival's many vendors, who included the well-known carvers Tiki Hana and Lake Tiki, as well as FireMonkey Glass, Fashion Tramp Fashions and Castaway Ceramics, among others. A silent auction featured one-of-a-kind items; much of the money raised was dedicated to the FOM's donation to the Easter Island Foundation.

Saturday culminated with an elegant dinner and classic Polynesian floorshow in the Waikiki Supper Club. The show featured traditional music, dances and costumes from the islands of Polynesia, highlighted by a fire knife dance performance. During the evening's two dinner show seatings, live music was provided in the Paradise Lounge, a tropical *tiki* bar beautifully preserved for more than 40 years.

Saturday's festivities continued late into the evening with social gatherings in various rooms, as well as "Drive-In Movies" projected onto the side of one of the hotel buildings. The films, from the collection of Jon "JpmArtDog" Mooers, included the classic "Brady Bunch" Hawai'i episode, as well as a 1950s documentary about a trip by Shriners to Hawai'i.

On Sunday, revelers enjoyed brunch and a seminar about the history and artifacts of the Tiki Resort before saying their goodbyes. "It was magical," said Patty "Savage Patty" Sullivan of Springfield, Illinois. "You have that much fun and friendship and split-your-sides laughter squeezed into one glorious weekend . . ."

Ohana: Luau at the Lake was "fun with a purpose," according to Sullivan. The majority of proceeds from ticket sales, auctions and sales of the custom event mug by Squid benefited the Easter Island Foundation.

"The generous support of sponsors like Trader Vic's, Folly Cove Rum and Dole Foods allowed us to make this a great event and helped us to more than double our prior year's gift to the Easter Island Foundation," said Caroline "Princess Pupule" Roe, Ohana's sponsor coordinator.

Ohana sponsors included Frankie's Tiki Room, Kahiki Foods, Royer, Tiki Magazine, Luxe Couture, Daddy Katz Kustom Culture and SquidArt.com. Plans are underway for the 2nd annual *Ohana: Luau at the Lake* on June 25-27 at the Tiki Motor Lodge Resort, Lake George. Once again, proceeds will benefit the Easter Island Foundation. Ohana 2010 will be held in conjunction with the first FOM National Convention, also at the Tiki Resort.

The Fraternal Order of Moai is the premiere fraternal organization and social network for all those interested in *tiki* culture and the Polynesian pop era; the 5th anniversary will be this year. Official FOM chapters are Kahiki (Central Ohio), Kokoru (Chesapeake Bay Area); Kon-Tiki (S.W. Ohio), Red Palms (Illinois), Gumbo Limbo (South Florida) and Queequeg (New England). For more information, please visit <www.fraternalorderofmoai.org>