NEWS
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Shoreline Lake Now Home Base for an Outrigger Canoe Club

Shoreline's Aquatic Center to host Ho'oku'i Outrigger Canoe Club practices and Community Days in effort to make accessible this ancient and thrilling sport to kids and adults in Silicon Valley

Mountain View, CA. March 16, 2012 – Silicon Shores Corporation announced today it is now home base for the Bay Area's newest Outrigger Canoe Club, Ho'oku'i (Hawaiian for "to join together"), as part of ongoing efforts to provide kids and adults with access to unique activities and experiences in Silicon Valley. In addition to Ho'oku'i Club's use of Shoreline Lake as its practice and storage site, the Aquatic Center is also hosting free public appreciation days once per month (March 31st & April 28th are confirmed, with other dates posted shortly), from 10am-2pm, that will include seminars and allow Park visitors to take part in the outrigger action on the Lake.

As the only place in the lower Peninsula/upper South Bay area with an outrigger canoe club, Shoreline patrons have a special opportunity to witness up close, and participate in, an exhilarating sport with deep cultural roots. Because this sport generates so much excitement with kids and adults alike, the Aquatic Center and Ho'oku'i Club are making sure the public can take part: Along with the Community Days, to encourage membership, up until the racing season begins, practice times are on Saturdays (from 8-11am), and after April 1st will then shift to 5:30pm-7:30pm (Monday-Thursday) through the end of July.

"Bringing an interesting activity into our watersports lineup that also encourages participation from all ages was an easy thing to do," says Christina Ferrari, President of Silicon Shores. "Along with staying active and working as a team, it allows for competing at the local and international level, making it a fit with our racing scene."

While normally taking on open ocean swells, Shoreline visitors will be able to see a visual treat of a six-person outrigger crew driving a 400 pound, 45-foot long, 20-24 inch wide sleek canoe, by paddling at 64-68 strokes per minute as one powerful and gracefully precise unit. Although popularly associated with adults, kids (keikis) are some of this ancient Hawaiian sport's biggest proponents, with many top competitors having started as children.

"With so many kids involved, and seeing how adults love the physical challenge and retain good memories of when they started, this sport will provide locals with something truly different," says Scott Mutti, President of Ho'oku'i. "Given the visitors and amenities available here, we are very happy to call the Aquatic Center home."

As the newest member of the Northern California Outrigger Canoe Association (NCOCA), Ho'oku'i Club, a 501(c)3 non-profit, will help spread this culturally significant tradition in Silicon Valley. A means of transportation since the ice age, outrigger canoeing came to the mainland from Hawaii in 1959, under the guidance of Hawaiian canoe builders. Since then, thousands of California men, women and children have joined the ranks of outrigger paddlers from around the world. For additional information regarding the Club and practice, please contact Scott Mutti (408.505.9000) or Shoreline's Aquatic Center.

About Silicon Shores
Headquartered in Mountain View, CA, Silicon Shores Corporation oversees operations of the Shoreline Lake Aquatic Center and the Lakeside Café at the Shoreline at Mountain View wildlife and recreation area. Silicon Shores manages the facilities through a leasing arrangement with the City of Mountain View, which owns the Shoreline Lake park area. This private company, established in 2000, is incorporated in California. For more information, please go to www.ShorelineLake.com.

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