



Keauhou Quarterly

Sheraton Kona Meetings & Events News



Letter from the Director of Sales and Marketing

Summer always sneaks up on us in Keauhou Bay. Maybe it's the year-round balmy temperatures or consistent sunshine that makes us forget the changing seasons. Nevertheless, we can't believe we're halfway through another year – and what a year it's been. So much has happened, and continues to happen, that we needed a forum to tell you, our extended Ohana, all the great news. That's where KQ comes in—a quarterly e-newsletter intended to entice and inspire our loyal customers and prospective parties into considering the Sheraton Kona for their next event. This document will be solely focused on what the team is doing to change the game for meetings and events in Hawaii. Renovations, program enhancements, promotions...it's all here! Our hope is that you will reconnect with what made you fall in love with Keauhou Bay when you first visited the Sheraton Kona, and rekindle that fire for your next group. Imua!!

Aloha,

Sean McNamara

Club Le'a Le'a Renovations

Dust off those ping pong paddles and chalk up your pool cue, Club Le'ale'a is beckoning! Sheraton Kona's newly renovated activity center features foosball, shuffleboard, air hockey, pool



tables, ping pong, video games and flat-screen TVs. Club Le'ale'a truly shines as a private venue for catering events, for travelers of all ages. The perfect spot for an afterglow event, pool party add-on or team-building games – this new addition to the Sheraton Kona landscape is ready and waiting for your next group. Game On!

New Holua Mele Mural!

To further beautify its interior and create a unique sense of place, local nonprofit Mele Murals recently painted a sprawling, colorful mural near Sheraton Kona's poolside restaurant. The artwork features elements from legends of Keauhou, including the Holua slide, a landmark on the slopes of Hualalai volcano above the resort used by the ali'i.



All-Inclusive Aloha Meetings

The Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay recently introduced two affordable All-Inclusive Aloha meeting packages for parties of 10 rooms or more. A first for Hawaii Island, both



packages offer a four-night stay, food and beverage, recreational and cultural activities, taxes, gratuities and a complimentary daily resort charge, starting at \$195 per person per night.

Ask Aunty Tutu



1.) People in Hawaii say “aloha” for everything...hello, goodbye, whatever!! What does Aloha mean to you?

AT: Aloha is a conscious process of living with a forgiving and joyful heart. When one forgives they open the heart to tenderness, patience, kindness, compassion and graciousness; not only for others but for oneself. To “Feel the Touch of Aloha” is what the heart is seeking. We chose to “Live Aloha”. To do any differently, makes life burdensome to the spirit.

2.) You have worked in cultural programs in many resorts on the Big Island. What makes working at Sheraton Kona so special?

AT: Sheraton Kona’s cultural programs and Hawaiian values are an integral part of its corporate fiber. The resort makes a conscious choice to not only “Live Aloha” but to “Feel the Touch of Aloha.” They are “ohana” to me, and to watch them greet and interact with their guests is a lesson in the definition of Hawaiian hospitality and graciousness.

Aunty Tutu (Stephanie Lindsay) is a cultural advisor to the Sheraton Kona. She hosts several classes each week including lei-making, ukulele lessons and hula, in addition to acting as a Ho’okipa (hospitality) ambassador for groups upon request.

Going the Extra Mile

Our sales team recently captured the attention of one of the nation’s leading outfitter retailers with a creative outdoor and camping photo shoot.



What better way to stay warm on a January morning than to sip 100% Kona Coffee in a cozy tent? Sales Administrator Anu Haalilio and Sales Analyst Raquel Ah Nee know how to do it right!

Mouy Blunt, Group Sales Manager, and Katie Vanes, Social Media and PR Manager, bring glamping to a new level with their Sorel boots and backpack. Sorels in Hawaii? Why not?...there’s four feet of snow on Mauna Kea!



Sean McNamara, Director of Sales, and Chris Colvin, Group Sales Manager ponder the best route while Yukiko Kumano, Asia Sales Manager, wonders “who gave these jokers the map?” Probably time to upgrade to a GPS watch!

Dinner and Farm Tour

Using locally-sourced, sustainable cuisine is a very important pillar at Sheraton Kona. To showcase this, our culinary and banquets team hosted a farm-to-table dinner on our Bayview Grounds overlooking Keauhou Bay, and then brought the table to the farm the next morning at Wailea Agricultural Group, where much of the resort’s fresh produce is grown.

More than 30 guests dined on five courses, including Taste of Wailea Ag Hearts of Palm, Farms Wagon, Kulana Farms lavender sous vide lamb loin and Big Island Meyer Lemon Lilikoi cheesecake.



Mana`o: Did you know?

- o Sheraton Kona is based next to Kaukulaelae, an ancient Hawaiian fishing heiau, or shrine, and fishing village. Many of the structures’ foundations, which date back to the 1700s, are still in tact in their original form.
- o Built in 1972, Sheraton Kona was designed by famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright.
- o “Keauhou” means “a new current” in Native Hawaiian, making Sheraton Kona the perfect place for weddings and couples to start their new lives together!

Mahalo nui loa for enjoying our first volume of KQ! To contact our sales team, email konasales@sheraton.com, call 808.930.4867 or visit sheratonkona.com/meetings. A hui hou!