Grand Wailea
A WALDORF ASTORIA RESORT

Sharing Hawaii's People, Culture and Nature

Happy New Year—Hauʻoli Makahiki Hou

Let us celebrate the Hawaiian lunar month of *Kāʻ elo*, the time when the drenching winter storms come to an end and the uplands are clothed in the vibrant greens of thriving plants and grasses. The rivers and streams have been replenished and vines begin to put forth new leaves. This is the season for peace, rest, and rejuvenation. In old Hawaiʻi, *Kāʻ elo* was a time of *pilina ohana* (family kinship) when young and old gathered together around a warm fire to share stories, chants, and mythologies.

During *Kāʻ elo*, *na kohola* (whales) give birth in Hawaiian waters and the migratory bird, '*Ua'u* (Hawaiian shearwater) grow fat and greasy.

Kāʻ elo arrives midway through the annual *Makahiki* season when the constellation *Huhuikokoamakali'ikauiluna* (Pleiades) appears at sunset in the east. *Makahiki* is the Hawaiian holiday season covering four consecutive lunar months, approximately from October or November through February or March.

Similar to harvest festivals common to many other cultures, *Makahiki* celebrates the success of the harvest with gifts of praise to the Creator and various deities, but especially to Lono, the god of agriculture and fertility. *Makahiki* was a time of peace and tranquility, a time when all battles and warfare were forbidden. Hard work in the gardens and fields ceased for a time and villages organized games and athletic competitions. Several of the rigid *kapu* (religious and social laws) were temporarily lifted to encourage an atmosphere of celebration.

Traditionally a time for rest and recreation, the lunar month of *Kāʻ elo* offers an opportunity for personal renewal and bonding with family and friends. The Grand Wailea invites you to share in this Hawaiian tradition of rest, relaxation, and reconnection as a meaningful way to welcome the New Year.

Note: Hawaiian cultural information courtesy of Kahu Lyons Kapiʻioho'okalani Naone, a lineal descendent of a South Maui family well versed in the oral histories and traditions of the region that includes Wailea. Kahu Naone is a member of E Ola Pono, cultural advisors to Grand Wailea.

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