

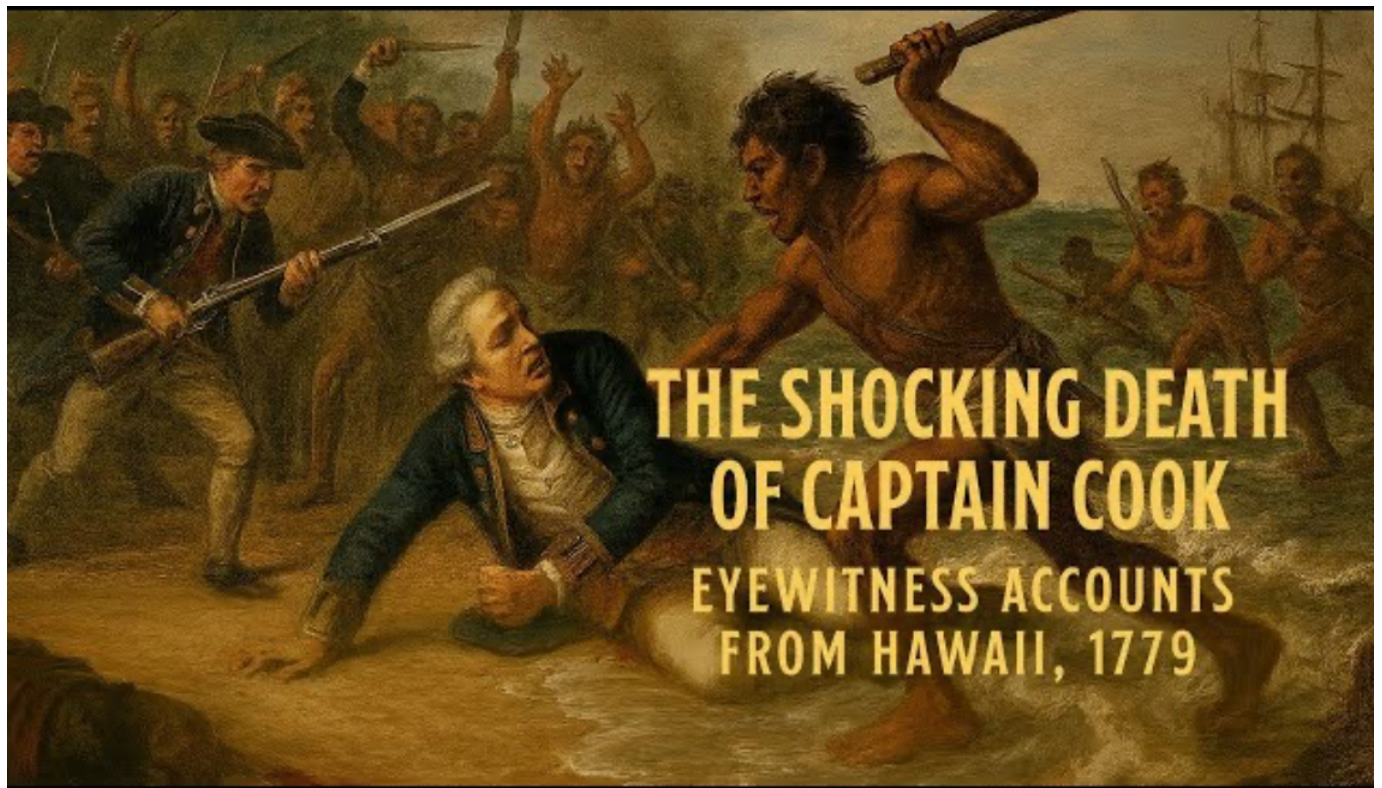
Wild Ending for Cook and Cook's Cadre

By Bob Newbert

USCG Master Captain, AP-IN

Capt. James Cook, famous British explorer, navigator and cartographer, experienced many a wild time during his three major Voyages of Discovery. His turbulent adventures ranged from violent storms at sea to the unrestrained, lascivious advances of Pacific Island women --quite a jolt to the 18th century, Georgian era sensibilities of a proper English gentleman and esteemed member of the Admiralty.

Cook's "wildest" time by far was his last. Namely, his confrontation with native Hawaiians on the beach at Kealahou Bay where Cook was gruesomely killed and dismembered!



Two hundred forty-seven years later, "Cook's Cadre," spiritual descendants of the great navigator, undertook a modern charting voyage complete with our own wild time...minus the bacchanal with local women and most definitely, no death & dismemberment.

We charted our way to the “WYLD Dock Bar” after surveying navigation aids from the Savannah River to the Herb River in our final expedition of the year. Once at the WYLD, we celebrated the accomplishments of Cook’s Cadre in 2026:

- 4 voyages of the Cadre team
- 141 Aids to Navigation examined
- 174 miles of surveyed waterways
- Boundless satisfaction in making our waterways safe

Best of all, we did this with our marriage vows –and all four limbs– intact! History will not remember us with the same vigor as Capt. Cook, but we bested him in one important way: We lived to tell the tale!



Capt. James Cook is history’s greatest naval explorer & cartographer. He discovered new worlds in his three Voyages of Discovery; and without modern instruments, he created accurate charts of unexplored seas and the lands they embraced.

“Cook’s Cadre,” is an elite group of ABCHH boaters who survey ATONS, Bridges and Marinas for the Cooperative Charting arm of the United States Power Squadrons. We make our waterways safe.



CAPT. COOK’S UNDERSTUDY, Jim Iannacchino, at work documenting the condition of Aids to Navigation in St Augustine Creek.



FATE? DESTINY? KISMET? PREDETERMINATION? KARMA?

Capt. Cook's flagship on his 1st Voyage of Discovery was the "HMS Endeavor."

Is it just a coincidence that Cook's Cadre encountered the "MSRC Endeavor" on our final voyage? I don't think so. I think the great navigator was watching us from on high and signaled his approval of our mission.



WYLD Dock Bar where Cook's Cadre ended Cooperative Charting Expedition #4.



BRAD LOESCHER (L) receives his official hat signifying induction into ABCHH's elite corps of Cooperative Charters – Cook's Cadre.



ROLL CALL for Cook's Cadre (L to R): Russ Collins, Noel Wendt, Bob Newbert, Jim Iannacchino, Brad Loescher and James Dickie. Not pictured because he was taking the photo: Pete Dion, First Lord of the Admiralty.