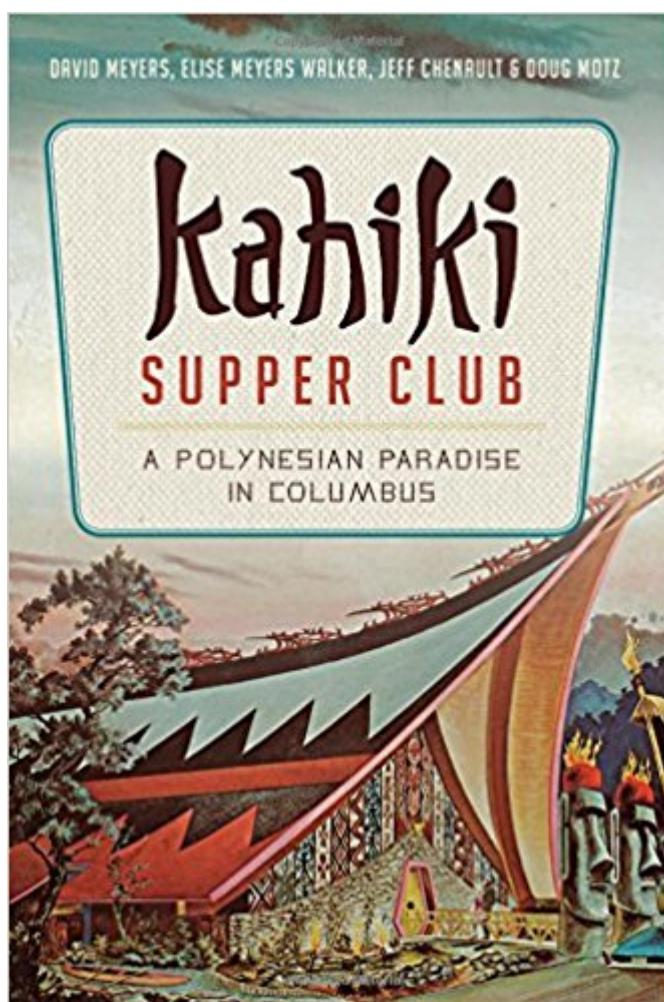


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Kahiki Supper Club: A Polynesian Paradise In Columbus (American Palate)



Synopsis

Inspired by Florida's famed Mai-Kai restaurant, Bill Sapp and Lee Henry opened the Kahiki Supper Club in 1961. They set out simply to build a nice Polynesian restaurant and ended up establishing the most magnificent one of them all. Patrons lined up for hours to see the celebrities who dined there--everyone from Betty White to Raymond Burr. Outside, two giant Easter Island heads with flames spouting from their topknots stood guard while customers dined in a faux tribal village with thatched huts, palm trees and a towering fireplace moai. One wall featured aquariums of exotic fish and another had windows overlooking a tropical rainforest with periodic thunderstorms. For nearly forty years, the Kahiki was the undisputed center of tiki culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Elise Meyers Walker is a Performer, an Author, an Organizer, a Project Manager, an Event Planner, a Teacher, a Saleswoman and an Adventuress. She is the author of five other books on Central Ohio History including "Historic Columbus Crimes: Mama's in the Furnace, the Thing, and More," "Look to Lazarus: The Big Store," and "Columbus State Community College: An Informal History."

Jeff Chenault is an Author, Producer, Music & Historian, and Exotica DJ. He has written for various publications including Cool and Strange Music Magazine Tiki News, Bachelor Pad Magazine, and Tiki Magazine. He recently produced a series of rare Exotica music for Dionysus Records and just released his first book on the Kahiki Supper Club, a famous Polynesian restaurant in Columbus, Ohio.

Used to go there as a kid. A surprisingly thorough history of the restaurant, including recipes for some of the dishes and drinks they served and a lot of photographs. If you had fond memories of the place, you're probably going to enjoy this quite a lot. Also a nice complement to a more general book, like the recent Tiki Pop from Taschen.

Finally, the long awaited history of the Kahiki Supper Club. As a lifelong resident of Columbus, Ohio, I can certainly attest the authors have returned to us our beloved Polynesian restaurant. The book provides plenty of detail; the concept of Kahiki, behind the scenes information, rare photos & diagrams. The authors provide a balanced perspective; waxing nostalgic and not holding back when there was trouble in paradise. In all, this is a book you will want to share as it reads like good friend telling a story you wouldn't mind hearing a few times over.

I loved the restaurant and miss it dearly: the quiet village, the mystery girl, drinks to die for (and some were wicked deadly!). This book is a wonderful glimpse behind the scenes and into the history of one of Columbus' lost treasures. I can't wait to try out some of the included recipes (I'm looking at you Tahitian Mermaid). Your tiki collection is not complete without this book.

A really interesting and fun book about a once iconic and wonderful place. Though I was a bit young and at the time missed the tiki trend in the 50s and early 60s, this helps bring it back to life. That it was located in that great, tropical and near paradise of Columbus, Ohio just goes to show how big the Tiki craze was back in the day! Buy the book, make yourself a Zombie and take a trip back in time! Enjoy!

Thorough, clear and absolutely unique. Generally an excellent book, on a very interesting and well-loved topic. Strongly recommended if you have any interest in Tiki culture, the restaurant business, central Ohio history, or just like a good story.

Love the restaurant! Love the book! Great keepsake!

A beautifully written history of the Kahiki. We wish it would be a series with Chin Tiki next and continuing on. These places were historically valuable and should never have been torn down. So sad. The book is great.

It's kitch-tastic!

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