

MARCH 2011

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A Newsletter from the
Polynesian Cultural Center



President Orgill: Recognizing Our Employees

I want to express appreciation for all of you, and particularly recognize those employees who recently reached milestones in their time at PCC. Thank you so much for the years of service, and for all you do for the Center.

In the process of honoring the milestone recipients, we honor all of you — as well as all who have preceded you, and who will come after us.

I quote from President David O. McKay: “If we make the claim to hold the truth, it is obligatory upon every Latter-day Saint so to live that when the people of the world come to test the fruit of the tree, they will find it wholesome and good.” Honestly, that’s a very good description of what we’re all about here at the Polynesian Cultural Center.

I want to express appreciation again to those we’ve honored, and to every one of you, for the way you make the “fruit” so “wholesome and good.” Your efforts and the spirit you radiate make all the difference to

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PCC team members reach ‘milestones’

Amid lots of fun, prizes, cheers and laughter on February 24, 2011, in the Hukilau Theater, the Polynesian Cultural Center honored employees who had reached five-year milestones of service in the past year.

Cheered on by team members, Delsa Moe, Director of Cultural Presentations, announced this year’s annual recipients:

5 YEARS

Cultural Presentations: **Seamus Fitzgerald, Grace Galea’i** and **Brandon Kahaiali’i**; Finance: **Renon Moors**; Food & Beverage; **Eulalia Badua, Marybell Garduque, Van Garduque, Cesario Ramelb** and **Noris Seufale**; Physical Facilities: **Edna Garduque, Qilivote Smith, Ululoloa Tauvao** and **Jovencio Valarde**.

10 YEARS

Corporate: **Von Orgill**; Finance: **Shaun Niu**; In-Center Marketing: **Keali’i Haverly**; Physical Facilities: **Orlin Clements**; Sales: **Sally Mapu**.

15 YEARS

Food & Beverage: **John Nauahi**.

20 YEARS

Cultural Presentations: **Eti Eves, Taofi Magalei, Pepe Nautu, Lanae Ngatuvai** and

Apisalome Tora; Finance: **Gail Heffernan** and **Mani Taulapapa**; HR: **Sonne Campbell**; Sales: **Susan Macgregor, Karine Molale** and **Cynthia Vakauta**.

25 YEARS

Cultural Presentations: **Raymond Mokiao, David Tiave** and **Sakaraia Yalimaiwai**; Food & Beverage: **Ete Peseta**; Operations: **Tali Galea’i**; Physical Facilities: **Tavita Asuao** and **Leandro Perdido**.

“Those from five-to-twenty-five years, they’ve reached their milestones,” quipped Moe. “Those who have reached their 30-years and up, they’ve reached their headstones,” which drew the laughter of the team.

30 YEARS

Finance: **Fred Camit** and **Larry Yuen**; Food & Beverage: **Fifita Unga**; Physical Facilities: **Lucy Crowell** and **Livingston Unga**; Sales: **Ella Manumaleuna**.

35 YEARS

Cultural Presentations: **Silina Aina**, master weaver in the Hawaiian village.

“Silina used to come to work with her mother and dad, who was the chief in the Fijian village,” Moe said. “She used to watch the old ladies weave. That has become her passion.”



Aina, 35 years

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PCC team members reach service 'milestones'

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40 YEARS

Physical Facilities: **Les Steward** (who was away on family business at the time of the program).

Speaking on behalf of all the employees

President Orgill...

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our guests who come here from all over the world.

As we celebrate these special milestone recipients, as we contemplate the PCC's 50th anniversary to be celebrated in 2013, and as we think of all of the blessings from our Heavenly Father in the years gone by as well as the blessings that are yet to come and the progress in the lives of all those associated with this place, I'm reminded of a quote from the late Elder David B. Haight of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:

"Life is a competition...not with others, but with ourselves. We should seek each day to live stronger, better, truer lives. Each day to master some weakness of yesterday. Each day to repair a mistake; each day to surpass ourselves."

I think that's a great description of how each of you live your lives. It's an honor for me to be associated with you. Thank you for all you do. Thank you for always setting the bar higher each day — doing just a little bit better to make a little more of a difference in the lives of all those come here.

Thank you for helping move forward the Lord's work in the marvelous ways you do in this special part of His Kingdom we call the Polynesian Cultural Center.

May we live worthy of those who have preceded us. May we carry these special missions forward so we can pass on such a legacy to those who come after us. And may we do so in all the ways the Lord would want.

Let us ever dedicate and re-dedicate ourselves to making the "fruit" of the gospel that people feel here "wholesome and good" as President McKay has asked us to do.



Von D. Orgill, President & CEO

recognized, Aina said, "I am so grateful to my Heavenly Father for the blessings that He has blessed me with, and for the talents that I have to share with all of you, and to share with the world — especially those who come through the [PCC] gates."

"I'm so grateful for those who came before us and set the examples, the standards and the teachings. Their knowledge and hard work, their love and dedication and, of course, their sacrifice."

"I am grateful to my parents who have taught me about hard work through their examples, their service to each other, and to those around the world — especially those who come through the gates."

"I've seen so many changes growing up here in the Center, and there are more that are in the process of coming up right now, and I'm excited. We've also been through

some bad times: We fall and stumble, but we get up and move forward."

"I'm grateful for my family and husband who support me in everything I do for the Center — staying up late trying to finish up all the assignments that I have." She added she was also thankful for her "family" in the village "for teaching me how to be Hawaiian... They taught me how to be Hawaiian in my heart."

"I love each and everyone of you who dedicate yourselves to moving forward. That's what we all should be doing," she said. "No matter where you work, we've all got to move forward together."

She also recalled that President David O. McKay said, "The privilege to work is a gift. The power to work is the blessing. The love of work is success."

"I'm grateful for being a part of this special place," Aina said.

2011 Special Events get underway with hula

Several hundred dancers — ranging in age from 5–85 and from as far away as Japan — participated in the Polynesian Cultural Center's 21st annual Moanikeala Hula Festival on January 15, 2011, in honor of our first kumu hula, Aunty Sally Wood Naluai.

"We're grateful that you could come and be a part of this," said emcee Harry Brown, who pointed out that several of the halau have performed every year, and that there are almost 700,000 hula students in Japan. "The

love of hula is growing all over the world."

The late Aunty Sally, as everyone called her, taught hundreds of the early PCC performers the finer points of hula; and her influence at the Center is still felt through Ellen Gay Dela Rosa and Sunday Mariteragi — her nieces, Cy Bridges and Keith Awai, among others.

"This is one that Aunty Sally taught us," Miller said of the hula pictured below.



Members of the Laie-based Halau Hula o Kekela, led by kumu hula and PCC alumna Kela Miller, perform during the PCC's 21st annual Moanikeala Hula Festival on January 15, 2011. (photo by Mike Foley)

50th anniversary committee forms

Looking forward to 2013, the PCC has already formed a 50th anniversary committee, with Logo Apelu, PCC Senior Vice President of Operations, as the overall chairman. Other committee members — including current staff, alumni and community representatives — include:

Bobby Akoi, Jay Akoi, Cy Bridges, Fred Camit, Sonne Campbell, Seth Casey, Orlin Clements, Lei Cummings, Ellen Gay Dela Rosa, Mike Foley, Tali Galea'i, Tipa Galea'i, Keali'i Haverly, Francis Ho Ching, Tema Hunkin, Mark James, David Kammerer, Allen Kroff, Steve Laulu, Esther Macy and Raymond Magalei, Jimmy Mapu, Raymond Mariteragi, Kela Miller, Delsa Moe, Losa Moors, John Muaina, Wilda Paalua, David Ralph, Rowena Reid, Les Steward, Tevita Toafa, Fifita Unga, Christian Wilson and Vernice Wineera.

Tentative support service sub-committees include: Alumni directory; commemoration booklet; facilities; finance; food; housing; public relations, marketing and graphics; registration; technical services; transportation and packages; VIPs; merchandising and alumni DVDs; fundraising; and temple sessions.

The Gateway undergoes complete makeover

While Ambassador guests are temporarily dining in the Marquesas and our regular dinner buffet is served in the Hale Ohana, the PCC's Gateway Restaurant facility is getting a major makeover.

Plans for the building, first opened in the mid-1970s, include removing the mezzanine, adding new entrance porticos, and moving the buffet lines to the mauka side of the building "so there will be no cross-traffic between the servers and the guests, among other changes," said Orlin Clements, PCC Director of Physical Facilities.

He added after the changes are complete in approximately six months, the building "can very easily be reconfigured" for dances, receptions, and concerts. The Marquesas will also be available for special functions.

Tentative program sub-committees include: Temple activity; employee recognition; a day in Polynesia; conference/firesides; educational panel discussions; an evening at PCC; family home evening talent show; a hukilau and luau; an island ball; South Pacific/USA show; welcome home dinner; anniversary parade; golf tournament; musical fireside; and other special events.

Additional details about the PCC's 50th anniversary celebration will be released as plans are formulated and approved.

Cook island-style without hot rocks

Our new learn-to-cook-island-food demonstrations are, in a word, hot.

Keali'i Haverly, Director of In-Center Marketing, said the demos which currently focus on making Hawaiian pork laulau and taro dishes, are offered twice a day: At 2:00 p.m. on the Hawaiian village bridge, and at 6:50 p.m. in the Pacific Marketplace.

"Since we've started, it's been highly successful. It's amazing how interested people are in learning how to cook Polynesian food, and we're happy to showcase it," he said.

"Visitors learn how to prepare food they enjoyed at the PCC. The demonstrations are designed for all skill levels using practical techniques, substitute ingredients and mod-



Abel Trejo leads the laulau cooking demo in the Hawaiian village

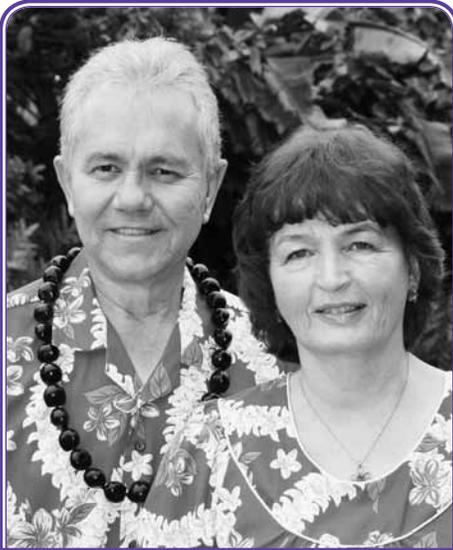
ern equipment to create savory Polynesian dishes at home, including tips and tricks for putting on your own backyard luau."

"Most likely before summer we'll also roll out a Tongan and Samoan dish in their respective villages; then we'll rotate all of them in the Marketplace," Haverly continued. He added that some of the dishes are for sale at Concessions, while various island cookbooks and seasonings are for sale in the gift shops.



The interior of The Gateway has been completely gutted to make way for the new changes, which should be completed by early summer. (photo by Mike Foley)

Meet the New Service Missionaries



The Montgomerys

ELDER EDDIE & SISTER CHRIS MONTGOMERY

Elder and Sister Montgomery arrived from their home in Ogden, Utah, on New Year's Day to serve their 18-month mission. He is assigned as a CAD operator in the Physical Facilities department, and she is in the Islands office.

"I'm trying out retirement," said Elder Montgomery, an electrical engineer who has worked for Rocky Mountain Power in Salt Lake City for about 32 years, most recently designing and estimating the construction of power lines. He also earned a criminal justice degree from Weber State University. One of his first assignments at the Center is to help upgrade the power grid and add a back-up generator.

Sister Montgomery said she was primarily a

homemaker but also has clerical and office experience. The couple, who previously visited the Center several times as tourists, has four children and 12 grandchildren — all of whom live close, "so we got to see them often."

This is their first senior mission, but Elder Montgomery served as a young man in the Great Lakes Mission, later renamed the Indiana Michigan Mission.

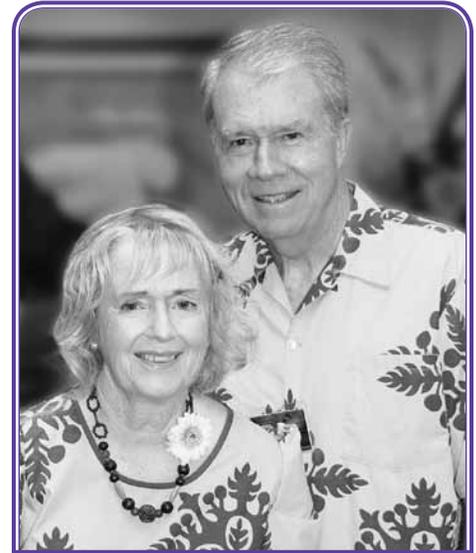
"I absolutely love the people and the PCC. When I was growing up I actually took hula lessons and I danced a little bit," said Sister Montgomery, "so I've loved it ever since. We also like to stay busy and serve the Lord, so this is a perfect place to do a variety of things to help out at the PCC."

"I like being a missionary," added Elder Montgomery. "We're happy and excited to be here."

ELDER DON & SISTER JOLENE PUGMIRE

The Pugmires, who are both from Murray but for the past 15 years have been living in Midway, Utah, arrived on January 22, 2011, and are serving an 18-month mission. He is assigned to Human Resources as an HR specialist and helps coordinate the other PCC senior service missionaries. She divides her time between the Seamstresses and the Hawaii Mission Settlement

This is the couple's first senior mission, but as a young man, Elder Pugmire served a proselyting mission in Sydney, Australia. Returning home, he graduated from the University of Utah, earned a master's of public administration degree from



The Pugmires

BYU Provo, and retired five years ago from human resource management — primarily in the health care industry.

Sister Pugmire, who has secretarial experience, has been a homemaker for the couple's four children and 16 grandchildren. The couple first came to the PCC 21 years ago as tourists.

"I've loved every minute of being here," she said, explaining she waited for her future husband while he served in Australia. "I thought, someday, maybe, we can go on a mission together. This is the fulfillment of a dream, and I so appreciate having this opportunity to be here."

"We're also very impressed with the students — their spirits and their testimonies on Sundays," he added "They're very mature and they're being an example to us."

Kamaaina Pass promo available through May

The 50% discount rate on the PCC'S Kamaaina Annual Pass has been extended from March–May 2011.

With Hawaii ID, a passholder gets unlimited gate admission to the Center and all regular daytime activities, plus space-available seating at our night show, free admission or low-cost rates for special events, and add-on promotions. Call Reservations at 293-3333 for additional information.



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