



# IMUA POLENISIA

Vol. 2 No. 3

March 1996

My dear colleagues and friends. We have enjoyed a time of great blessing with the visit of our beloved prophet, Gordon B. Hinckley, and his wife Marjorie; Elder Richard G. Scott of the Quorum of the Twelve and his daughter Linda Mickle; Elder Loren C. Dunn of the Seventy and

upon the members of the Church, the state, the nation and the world.

Here in Hawaii we face challenging times with respect to the possibilities of legalized same-gender marriage, gambling, and prostitution. Why? Perhaps it is because of the great work that has been prophesied. I continually marvel at the number of prophecies concerning Laie and the significant number of the Lord's chosen leaders who have come here. In the past four years we have had all three members of the First Presidency, 11 members of the Council of the Twelve, and several members of the Quorum of the Seventy, the Presiding Bishopric, and General Boards who have visited BYU-Hawaii and the Polynesian Cultural Center.

President Hinckley's message in our regional meeting is entirely appropriate in our personal lives as employees of this great cultural center, for he

reminded us that we are all students and should never stop learning. He gave us five "B's" by which we might learn our stewardships: "Be grateful, Be smart, Be true, Be clean, Be humble." And he stated unequivocally: "God expects us to make something worthwhile of our lives."

I know that President Hinckley

loves the Polynesian Cultural Center. He is keenly interested in all that we do here because the Center is a reflection of the Church in the lives of its employees, in its programs and activities, in its Spirit of Aloha for all people everywhere, in its respect for the traditions of our ancestors which help us have gratitude and find meaning in our



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

president of the North America West Area, and his wife Sharon; and Elder Don Hallstrom, Area Authority, and his wife Diane.

I hope all of us have expressed our gratitude to our Father in Heaven for this very important and historical moment in time. We are a global Church. Over 50% of the membership resides outside the United States. Our temples are being placed precisely where the Lord wants them. And the Lord's prophet, seer and revelator, President Hinckley, will travel throughout the Church by inspiration. Many members will not have the opportunity to see him. I know that his visit to Hawaii will have a significant influence

NEWS from the Polynesian Cultural Center

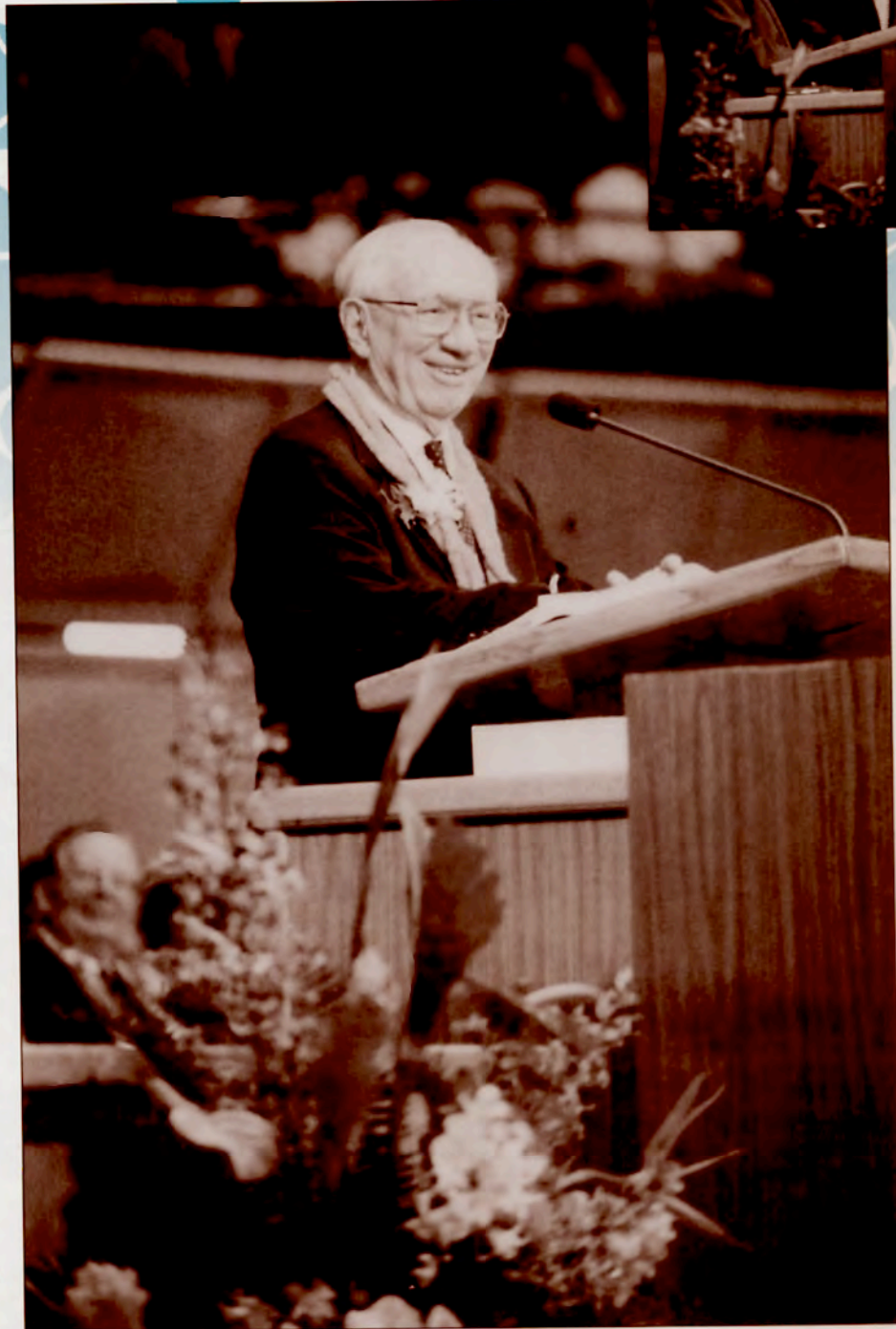


"I feel it is such an honor for the Center that the prophet was able to visit us. His coming helps to remind us that PCC is one of the jewels in the Church. We are unofficial representatives of the Church. I think his official visit to PCC was important for us – and it was very exciting."

**-Rose Tukuafu**

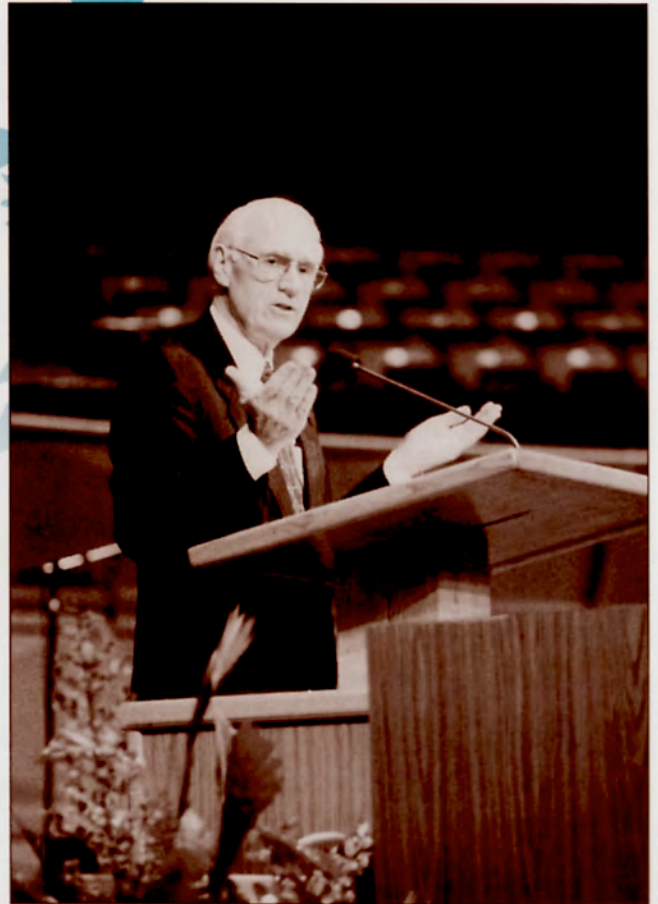
"I got to shake his hand in the Samoan Village! I felt that we were honored to have him with us because he is such a humble man. When he smiled at us it was like he knew each of us individually. I also feel that everything he had to say to us in our Sunday meetings was meant for us to hear, and I am so glad that he came."

**-Ata Lau**



**Left: President and Sister Hinckley join the congregation in a song during the afternoon Regional Conference session. Top right: President Hinckley with Elder Don Hallstrom. Above: President Hinckley shares a joke at the Regional Conference.**

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Clockwise from top left: Elder Richard G. Scott, Elder Loren C. Dunn, President and Sister Hinckley, Elder and Sister Dunn.



News from the  
Polynesian Cultural Center



"I'm a student worker with Video Sales and I saw President and Sister Hinckley in the theater at the night show. I didn't want to bother them so I never actually met them personally but I thought it was really neat that he came to PCC. It was wonderful that he talked to the students after the show. I am very impressed that he took some of his time to do that."

*-Marisol Segura*



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Clockwise from bottom left: Elder Richard G. Scott; Vice President Nona Enesa with promo team members; Vice President Logo Apelu interprets the Samoan language for President Hinckley; community members greet President Hinckley; community leaders, Sione Feinga, Jack Hoag, David, Gail, Carolyn, and Mufi Hannemann; Vice Presidents Gary Myers and David Preece present gift to Elder Scott; Vice President Les Steward offers gift to President Hinckley; Vice President John Muaina presents gift to Elder and Sister Dunn; Marge Christy and Raewyn Shelford present gifts from the Maori Village to President Hinckley.



**This page: Ilaisaane Kouvaka and Suliana Mataele with Tongan Village gift for the prophet; Canoe Pageant Hawaiian royal court. Opposite page clockwise from top left: President Hinckley examines his Samoan Village gift of a roast pig; Foreign Guides await the visitors; the Tahitian Village gives a hand crafted club to President Hinckley; Food Services chefs and hostesses meet the prophet; Night Show performers and other employees surround President Hinckley at the end of a memorable day.**



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News from the Polynesian Cultural Center



"Listening to him I was impressed that the gospel is sweet and simple – and that was his message to us too – but it is also profound – and having him with us in person made me feel the gospel message much more than usual."

-Sonne Campbell



Above: Victor Narsimulu dances in the canoe pageant. Top: Nicole Sam-You meets Elder Scott.



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"I wish he could come more often because I could feel the spirit he brought with him. Even though he's the prophet, he relates one-on-one with people. He is warm and interested in us as individuals and you can feel a friendly and respectful spirit when he is with you."

*-Jared Pere*



Above: Maori Village welcome. Top right: Employees from French Polynesia. Bottom right: Fijian Village employees await the visitors' arrival.





Top: Maori Chief, Colin Shelford delivers traditional oration.  
Bottom: President Hinckley with Center employees from many islands.



Above: President Hinckley tries out his gift of a drum in the Tongan Village.



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"When I heard President Hinckley's talk at our regional conference it was a confirmation of feelings I have had about the gospel. He was so warm and understanding of the challenges ordinary human beings face every day. It was like he was saying 'I understand how life is for you – but try hard.' This seemed perfectly expressed in his quoting the centurion's message, 'Be not afraid, only believe.' I thought he was wonderful and I believe he has a great understanding of the human heart."

*-Roger Ewens*



Above: Sister Hinckley shares a smile with Liufau Tuifua. Top left: Elder Scott and his daughter Linda Mickle. Top right President Hinckley thanks Tumu Purcell of the Samoan Village for his handmade kava bowl.



French Polynesia employees await President Hinckley's canoe.



This page clockwise right: Missionary couples delight in President Hinckley's greeting; Sister Hinckley enjoys program at official dinner; President and Sister Hannemann of the Hawaii Temple; Elder Dunn greets well-wishers at the Mission Home complex.



"I know there were many members who would have liked to get close to the prophet, so the PCC employees were very fortunate to be in his presence. Even in circumstances other than a formal setting, his presence made us feel admiration and respect. He said more than once that he knew our respect was for the position of prophet rather than for him as an individual, but I met him before he was the prophet when I was on my mission in Taiwan years ago, and he hasn't changed at all. Even now as the prophet he still has his sense of humor and warmth toward people."

-Bishop Larry Yuen

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"Some time around 1971 President Joseph Fielding Smith came to PCC and everyone was excited preparing for the event. At the time I was a young inactive kid from Hauula, and being caught up in all the excitement among the local people I decided that I wanted to go and find out what it was all about. I remember I was standing in the Center at the front of a huge crowd and as the president's cart passed by me he looked me straight in the eye. I felt a feeling as if lightning had struck me! Last week as we waited in our village for President Hinckley's visit I thought of that experience 25 years ago and realized 'Today I'm greeting another prophet – and now it's as a bishop in the Church.'"

*-Cy Bridges*



"After only seeing him on television, it was really exciting to actually see him in person. To have him with us here in Laie and right in the Center was wonderful."

*-Maka Obina*

"I was impressed with both his humility and his humor – and his wife's as well. He is so healthy at 85 years of age. I hope we have him as our president for many years to come. Seeing him in person was a great experience!"

*-Matt Widman*



**Clockwise from bottom left: President Hinckley greets each missionary personally; Emosi Damuni and students prepare to welcome the official party to the Fijian Village; Elder Don Hallstrom visits with Cy Bridges; President Hinckley greets a student visitor.**

News from the Polynesian Cultural Center



modern lives, and in our quest for excellence in all that we do, say, promise, and exemplify. Our Mission Statement promises that we will "Demonstrate and radiate a spirit of love and service which will contribute to the betterment, uplifting and blessing of all who visit this special place."

President Hinckley's visit among us and particularly his admonition to "Be thou humble and the Lord shall lead thee by the hand and give thee answer to thy prayers" has convinced me of the absolute need for two powerful values in our lives – both personally and as employees together: We

must have humility and we must have integrity. We must have the quiet humility of servants of the Lord which is the foundation of character, which allows us to be teachable, to seek truth throughout our lives, and to never stop learning. Humility is a great antidote to pride.

And we must have integrity. The principle of integrity incorporates decency, dignity, propriety, respectability in the way in which we conduct ourselves and our business, honor, reverence, and respect. We must have integrity in living and working within the principles which reflect gospel

precepts and personal ethics. And we must have morality in the motives of both our personal and public lives – for motives are born of reason and are given shape in our acts.

My heart swelled with joy and pride to see the work and love you put into preparing to welcome the prophet. Every village, every department, and every individual was blessed to be with him, even briefly, during his visit. I thank you for the beautiful decorations on bridges, archways, canoes, carts, houses, and hats; for the flowers, fine mats, roast pigs, shell leis, and gifts of all description; and I thank you for the way you looked your best in



Right: Elder and Sister Dunn enjoy a humorous moment in the Samoan Village. Bottom: Elder Scott wears colorful leis made and gifted by Center employees as the day draws to a close.



beautiful costumes which showed your respect for your traditions.

I was also very deeply touched by those who turned to our Father in Heaven. I'm keenly aware of the many prayers, even fasting and prayer, in preparing ourselves and our facilities for President and Sister Hinckley. I attended several Saturday morning and evening temple sessions and saw many of you there. It was wonderful to worship with you for the ability to serve each other and our Church leaders better.

My love and thanks to all of you.

-Lester W.B. Moore

The officers and employees of the Polynesian Cultural Center present this special issue of Imua Polensia as a memento of President Gordon B. Hinckley's visit with us.

The April issue of our newsletter will report regular news items.

Photographers for this issue of Imua Polensia: Network Photo, Barry Markowitz, Bobby Akoi, Jeff Hanson.