



IMUA POLENISIA

Vol. 2 No. 5

May 1996

Remembering Ralph *August 16, 1936 – May 2, 1996*

PRESIDENT and General Manager of PCC from 1983 to 1988, Ralph Gilbert Rodgers Jr., had also served the Center as writer, producer, and director of cultural presentations and theatrical productions from 1977-1983. He served a mission in Samoa as a young man, and was called as president of the Samoa Mission 1971-1974.

In the sixteen years of his life that Ralph served the Lord in Polynesia, his professional achievements were numerous, his personal accomplishments exceptional, and his faith and dedication to the Lord of paramount importance. He was a good man. And he was a large man in all aspects of his life and personality. When he was generous he was largely generous. When he was hurt, he hurt deeply. And when he was funny he could provoke even visiting heads of state to instant laughter, for he owned the genuine ability to "walk with kings without losing the common touch"

He was a man who loved life passionately, accomplishing everything he did with enthusiasm and vigor. Not a man to go halfway, inviting your companionship, he loved to lead the charge to meet challenges head on, and his infectious energy, lively wit, and utter disdain of obstacles always ensured that the enterprise would be adventurous.

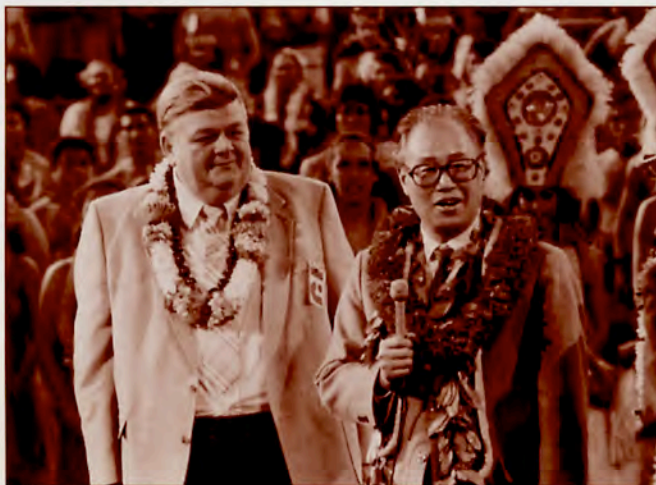
Privately compassionate, he opened his wallet on many occasions when, in the course of conversation with someone, he learned of a child's mission call, a student's graduation, or simply an individual's need of a little help to tide them over for a time – and when he gave that help it was always as a caring friend, never attaching any compunction to the gift.

He was a generous, loving husband to his wife, Joan, sharing himself with her and their children ahead of the rest of the world. For her part, Joan was always the calm sea upon which he sailed his fabulous, full-rigged craft, and when storms or tides of misfortune threatened, the Lord was their safe harbor, their sure source of both comfort and courage.

President Gordon B. Hinckley attended his viewing, Sunday, May 5, in the Page's Lane Theatre and Performing Arts School, which Ralph had built and in which he worked as producer, writer, director, teacher, and actor in over 50 productions involving hundreds of students and performers.

Elders Jeffrey R. Holland and M. Russell Nelson attended his funeral, Monday, May 6. Each commented that beneath his ready sense of humor, Ralph was a deeply spiritual individual and a committed missionary. Elder Nelson noted that Ralph had served a pivotal role in initiating high level government connections with The Peoples Republic of China and had three times accompanied general authorities visiting there. He recalled attending a banquet with many leaders of the communist gov-

ernment in the Great Hall of the People. Knowing that Ralph was a singer, their hosts requested a song from him. "What song do you think Ralph sang?" Elder Nelson asked – he stood before those powerful men in that great hall and in his clear tenor voice, sang "I am a child of God."



Former PCC President Ralph Rodgers hosted former Premier of the Peoples Republic of China, Zhou Zhiang, January 1984.



Employee Profile: Meet Sheila Waiwaiole

My coming back to PCC is truly an answer to my prayers. I was a student employee and a musician at the Center almost 20 years ago, and I was then employed with Woolworths for the last eleven years but the corporation has had a series of lay-offs and forced retirements, and my hours were cut dramatically. Of more concern to me, my day hours were switched to night hours, and being a single parent since the passing of my husband, I feel that being at home with my children in the evenings is very important for their security and well-being.

In the Church I learned to be faithful in all the teachings of Jesus Christ through prayer, long-suffering, fulfilling my calling as the assistant nursery leader in my ward, paying tithes, doing visiting teaching, and being of service to others. Doing all these things, I simply trusted in the Lord that He would watch over me and my children, and I know that my job at PCC is a true answer to my prayers. He has opened another door to allow me to grow in my musical talent. What comfort this employment gives me.

My testimony has grown tremendously since I was given the position as an on-call musician and part-time promo team member. I would like to express my Aloha to those who have helped me be a part of the Polynesian Cultural Center family again. I feel that I have come home again to a place where the Lord wants me to be.



Sheila Waiwaiole with her two sons, Brian, five, and Joseph, three.



Visitors from China

Representatives of the Foreign Affairs Office of Shaanxi Province, The Peoples' Republic of China, visited PCC this month. The party met with Center officers to discuss the PCC's continuing China Internship Program in which visitor industry employees in China spend time in Hawaii working with PCC management and also taking courses at BYU-Hawaii.

The group included Mr. Zhang Kairou, Director-General of the Shaanxi Provincial Foreign Affairs Office; Mr. Zhang Shaojun, Director of the office; Mme. Liu Xianlian, Deputy Secretary-General of the Shaanxi Provincial Friendship Association with Foreign Countries; and Mme. Wang Li, interpreter.



Center Hosts Royal Visitors



Two royal houses were represented in the Center, Friday May 3rd, when Queen Te Atairangiakaahu, Maori cultural leader from New Zealand and her husband, Whatumoana Pakii, visited with a Tahitian delegation which included Madame Tita Pomare, Madame Malu Bambridge, and Madame Simone Hintzi. The group enjoyed a canoe tour and performances and received gifts from President Les Moore who hosted them at a VIP dinner.



IMUA POLENISIA

“Dear PCC Employees ... ”

On Thursday, March 14, our first graders from Princess Victoria Ka'iulani Elementary School were very fortunate to visit your beautiful center. While we were visiting the villages, one of our young students (six year old Rowland) had a bowel movement accident. While looking for somewhere to purchase clean clothes for my student, I chanced upon one of your employees, Fa'i Soliai. I presented my predicament to her. She told me not to worry, that she would take my student to the laundry room/dressing rooms and wash him as well as launder his clothes. She told me that I should remain with the rest of my class and that she would return him to me after the Imax Theater visit.

Well, time was of the essence as she had to perform in the canoe pageant. Roland's clothes were still not dried so Fa'i and some of the dancers dressed him in a lavalava and made him part of their canoe show. They even introduced him and said he was from Ka'iulani School.

Fa'i and the other dancers went out of their way to make a disastrous and embarrassing incident such a memorable event for a six year old boy. He completely forgot about the embarrassing incident. In fact, he was so proud when the rest of the students kept asking him how he got in the canoe show.

I must commend you for hiring such caring, hospitable and helpful individuals in your center. Fa'i and the other dancers went beyond their duties when they offered to help a stressed and bewildered teacher solve a dilemma. It made a disastrous field trip a very memorable one. Please convey my heartfelt thanks to Fa'i and the other dancers.

Christine K. Inouye,
First Grade teacher,
Princess Victoria Ka'iulani School.

“Dear President Moore ... ”

On the day mentioned in the letter, I noticed a young child named Rowland, who had had a bowel movement in his clothing. The teacher was trying her best to clean up the mess but seemed to be getting frustrated over the incident. I walked over asked if I could be of assistance. As I walked with this young man, it was obvious that he was embarrassed, hurt and felt left out of what was supposed to have been a fun experience for him. It was obvious also that no one wanted to be near him because of the smell. I told the teacher that I would take him to get cleaned up and would return him to her before the canoe show began.

I took him to the dressing room where we were able to shower him and have his clothes washed and dried.

I tried to get him to open up and talk but it did not seem to be working. I just kept telling him how much I loved him and everything will be alright. He began to open up a little and soon we were openly talking to each other. I could tell that he was very embarrassed by all that had transpired.

It was soon time to leave for the canoe show and his clothes were not yet ready. It was decided that we would make him part of the Canoe Pageant. We asked David Tiave, the Canoe Show Stage Mgr., if it would be alright for Rowland to sit on the canoe with us. He said that he could not allow it. It was pointed out that he would be on the Hawaii models canoe and would therefore be safe. David was satisfied that he would be safe and gave the go ahead. We were all excited to have him on our canoe. I talked to the narrator before we went on if they could alter the script to include this young man's name in the show. They too, got caught up in the spirit of what was happening and introduced him as "Prince Rowland". It was great to see the excitement of those 700 students, who for a brief moment, had literally shunned him earlier. It was wonderful to see their reaction to his being on the canoe, as well as to see the excitement on Rowland's face as he waved cheerfully and joyously to his fellow students.

After the canoe show was completed we went to pick up his clothes backstage. They had washed, dried and ironed his clothes. When his teacher came it was very difficult for her to express herself, words were not necessary as the feelings of the heart were felt. It was also difficult to say good-bye to Rowland, he gave me a big hug and said thank you for his great day in the Center, the tears came naturally. All I could think of during the entire incident was what my parents taught me while I was young. Never look down on anyone no matter what because we are all Heavenly Father's children. My dad would always tell us to seek to be Christ like in all that we do in serving others. I am grateful for their teaching me these principles.

President, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the others who should also share in the recognition of making Rowland's day a memorable one. They are: Eliza Pratt, Deon "Honey Girl" Wills, Tina Fa'amaligi, Aka, Camila Leatigaga, Cindy Mailo, and David Tiave. The girls spoiled Rowland with treats and love, and were simply wonderful with him that he came out of his shell even more. And of course David for having the ability to do the right thing.

Thank you for allowing me to share the happenings of that day with you. As a follow-up it has been suggested by my brother that we make a special presentation to Rowland at his school, perhaps an honorary canoe dancer certificate and tickets for he and his parents to visit the Center, dinner, and show, all to be present at this presentation would be the above individuals and as an added bonus, to be given this honor by the President of the Polynesian Cultural Center.

Thank you for allowing me to serve at the Polynesian Cultural Center.

Sincerely,

Fa'i Soliai

News from the Polynesian Cultural Center



Continued from page 1

As an actor, Ralph was unforgettable in several roles including Scrooge from "A Christmas Carol", and Tevye from "Fiddler on the Roof". It is Tevye, perhaps, who best articulates Ralph's simple philosophy of life when he states, "Everyone knows who he is and what God expects him to do." As with each PCC president, Ralph Rodgers was called to the Center at a time when it needed his particular vision, talents, spirit and leadership. Those who know him have no doubt that his recent, unexpected, call Home is for exactly the same reasons.

One gift he left all those who knew him is this quote from Robert Louis Stevenson which he wrote in his missionary journal while in Samoa, 1957:

"He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his tasks; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauties nor failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given the best he has; whose life is an inspiration; whose life is a benediction...."



"Oliver" BYU-Hawaii, 1987



President Rodgers baptized Mainland China convert, Rosie Wang. L to R: President Rodgers; Rosie Wang and her husband; President Arthur Haycock and President David Hannemann, Temple Beach, June 19, 1987.

Missionaries Jim and Helen Starr, David Hannemann, with Ralph and Joan Rodgers in the Marquesan Tohua, 1986.



Ralph
Rodgers'
PCC
Service



WHEN HE came to PCC, Ralph had served as chairman of the Church Pageant and Productions Committee and managing director of the Promised Valley Playhouse, a Salt Lake City, Utah, community theatre sponsored by the Church.

By the time he was released from PCC in 1988, he had initiated many important programs, including the Hawaii Sterling Scholar Awards which honor academic excellence among Hawaii's top high school scholars; three annual BYU-Hawaii "Teacher of the Year" awards; the Hawaii State Teacher of the Year awards; and annual cash contributions to the Laie, Hauula, and Kahuku public schools.

He also upgraded the Center's physical facilities by replacing black-top roadways between the villages with garden "mountains"; redesigning the special events lagoon theater to accommodate larger crowds; constructing the mission home, schoolhouse, Fiji "temple", IMAX theater, and Tahitian Village Snack Bar, and relocating the Tongan Village. In 1988 he was awarded the BYU-Hawaii Distinguished Service Award for his service to the community of Laie, the State of Hawaii, the Pacific and Asia.

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Premier Zhou and other official guests thrilled to sites and sounds in the Samoan Village during the event which involved weeks of planning and more than one hundred U.S. State Department, Secret Service, HPD, and other security personnel.



Secretaries' Day

President Moore and PCC officers treated their secretaries to a luncheon in the administration boardroom, April 24. Shown here l to r: Taloa Solitua, Dinah Tovey, President Moore, and Jacquelyn Harrison.



Special Friends of the Center

Members of the BYU-Hawaii Board of Trustees Executive Committee, Elder Henry B. Eyring, Elder L. Tom Perry, and President Merrill J. Bateman, president of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, conducted their annual administrative review of the university in April, meeting with the President's Council members, academic deans and other faculty and staff people. The group then spent a full day at PCC meeting with employees and enjoying the activities, demonstrations, and shows.

The visitors participated in many demonstrations. Shown here, Elder Eyring takes drumming lessons in the Tongan Village.

The group also renewed acquaintances with Sielu Avea in the Samoan Village.





PCC Venue For Kahuku High School May Day Program



Kahuku May Day Queen Mileka Garrigan dances her solo hula.

King "Hoku" Kamakeeaina entertains the large appreciative crowd.



Doug Shumway performs with Vocal Motion.



Jury Duty Leave

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Polynesian Cultural Center to grant its employees paid jury duty leave when they are ordered by the court (State or Federal) to perform such service.

COMMENT:

1. The employee shall receive full pay for the first five days of service, and retain the money paid by the court. After five days, the regular salary or wage of the employee is paid, for days of service, minus the amount of payment for services received from the Court.
2. The employee shall immediately inform the supervisor of the court order (show the original order) and the effective date.
3. The supervisor shall instruct the employee of the following:
 - a. Employee shall produce a court receipt for days he or she perform jury duty. Failure to do so will result in loss of salary or wage;
 - b. Employee shall report to work (PCC) on days he or she is not required by the court to perform jury duty. Failure to do so will result in loss of wage and salary; and
 - c. Employee shall be warned that his job or the Center shall not be used as an excuse or reason for failure to comply with the court order. One's wish not to perform jury duty can only be determined by the judge and granted by the court.
4. An employee who receives a court order to perform jury duty is placed on a 30-day "on call" jury pool. Anytime during the next 30 days, he or she may be called to active duty for jury selection as a juror. As a prospective juror, alternate, or a full fledged juror, the employee will be instructed (by the court) of certain procedures to follow in case of illness or other emergencies during the "on-call" period.
5. Employee absence for the purpose of appearing as plaintiff or defendant in a court action (subpoenaed or not) does not qualify for leave with pay under this policy.
6. For compensation purposes, the department shall mark on the time card "J" and attach the court receipt to it at the end of each pay period.

IMUA POLENISIA

PCC Opens New Sales Office in the Waikiki Trade Center



President Les Moore and Vice President of Sales and Marketing, David Preece, untie the maile at the grand opening, April 19, 1996.



Left to right: Alfred Grace and guest, Vice President David Preece, and Mufi Hannemann, Honolulu City Councilman, visit during the event.

May Birthdays

1	Keresi Tulele	16	Richard Sharma
1	Irena Vongue	17	Folototo Ai olupotea
2	Eun-Jung Choi	17	Ivan Iraia
2	Rachel Davis	17	Melissa Leung Choi
2	Lorraine Leung-Wai	17	'Ilaisa Makaafi
3	Akeimo Birima	17	Livingston Unga
3	Sione Keni	18	Kimber Mactagone
3	Alapeta Lealaisalanoa	18	Heilala Niu
4	Wai-Kuen Kwan	19	Lloyd Chandler
4	Sitaimata Masoe	19	May Mariano
5	Ferron Fonoimoana	20	Siniua Hoeft
5	Natalie Oldham	21	Natasha Duval
7	Norris Alaiasa	21	Kevin-Todd Loo
7	Joseph Bacon	21	Nina Strother
7	Alicia Colburn	22	Raymond Brothers
7	Moana Ofahengaue	22	Jubilee Satele
7	Sela Pasi	23	Laura Mano'i
7	Jeniel Sika	23	Reginald Schwenke
8	Maricel Dacuycuy	23	Fa'aiuga Soliai
8	Adeline Lee	24	Dorothy Faasou
8	Hope Moeai	24	Allen Kroff
8	Tia Muti	25	Dennis Chai
9	Ramona Crowell	25	Masakazu Ishida
9	Mee Mee Ling	25	Lawrence Yuen
9	Josaia Tavaiqia	26	Travis Jackson
10	Rachel Boyce	26	Jimmy Tetuanui
10	Hwa-Jung Lee	27	Sofia Elias
10	Benjamin Shipley	27	Toe Gago
10	Lillie Tuifua	27	Dossi Gali
11	Namomi Kaiminaauao	27	Hyun Heo
11	Peter Taillele	27	David Kekuaokalani
12	Viliani Fehoko	27	Zoltan Laszlo
12	Tetsuko Haneda	27	Narengere Showdrug
12	Jessica Lepak	28	Taofi Magalei
14	Michael Boateng	28	Brennan Sika
14	Sione Falevai	29	Meileah Elkington
14	Danny Lindley	29	Pili McFaul
15	Kurt Fonoimoana	29	Maveni Palu
15	Janae Judd	29	Mele Sika
15	Jessie Maiwiriwiri	30	Lara Kammerer
15	William Numanga	30	Jeremiah Moeai
15	Lavon Paongo	30	Marie-Laure Pollard
15	Carolyn Purcell	30	Violeta Talatana
15	Margaret Sokia	30	Bayaarsaikhan Tegsheegiin
15	Carleen Stiles	30	Kalei Tupou
16	Joseph Croft	30	Tasuku Yukimoto
16	Lin Hou Ng		



IPS Board of Fellows Hosts Maori Scholar

Pulefano Galea'i and Bill Wallace visit with Dr. Huirangi Waikerepore at the April Institute for Polynesian Studies luncheon meeting. A Maori scholar from Taranaki, New Zealand, Dr. Waikerepore worked for many years to get the Maori language recognized as an official language by the N.Z. Government. When, as claimant, he lost his tribes' case in the N.Z. Supreme Court, he travelled to England, presented it before the Privy Council, and won. Accordingly, Maori was accepted as an official language in New Zealand in 1987.



Left to right: IPS Fellows Pulefano Galea'i and Bill Wallace meet with Dr. Huirangi Waikerepore at the April business luncheon.


POLYNESIAN
CULTURAL CENTER

IMUA POLENISIA

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Calendar of Events

MAY:

- 13-16 Training Meeting 8 am-12 noon
Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
- 14 & 16 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 19 Laie Seminary Graduation 10:00 am
Cannon Activities Center
- 21 PCC Team Meeting 10:00 am
IMAX Theatre
- 22 Training Meeting Phase II 8:30 am
Getting Good Information from Others
- 23 BYU Devotional 10:00 am
Cannon Activities Center
- 24 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 24 Boy Scouts of America (Promo Team)
Hilton Hawaiian Village
- 24-25 LDS Hawaiian Conference
BYU-Hawaii
- 26 Kahuku High School Baccalaureate
Pacific Pavilion
- 28 Management Team Meeting Update
8:00 - 12 noon
- 28 & 30 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 31 Kahuku High School Graduation 7:00 pm
BYUH Cannon Activities Center

JUNE:

- 1 Kahuku High School Senior Breakfast
- 5 Training Meeting Phase III
Challenge of Effective Team Leadership
- 6 BYUH Devotional 10:00 am
Cannon Activities Center
- 12 Training Meeting (Tentative)
PCC Policies and Procedures
- 17 Management Team Meeting Update
8:00 - 12 noon
- 18 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 19 Training Meeting Phase IV
Solving Quality Problems
- 20 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 20 Capital Campaign Kickoff
BYU-Hawaii with Elder Oaks
- 21 ACB Graduate Dinner - BYUH
- 22 BYUH Graduation at CAC
- 22 Kintetsu Poarade (Special Events)
- 28 Jr. Guides 9:30 am
- 28-29 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30 am
Elder Oaks' and Elder Wirthlin's Farewell
Luau Grand Opening
- 29