



IMUA POLENISIA

Vol. 2 No. 6

June 1996

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT IS WITH MUCH GRATITUDE and some sadness that we bid Aloha 'Oe this month to two of the Center's most inspiring leaders, Elder Dallin H. Oaks, Chairman, and Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin, Vice Chairman of our Board of Directors. Elder Oaks joined the board in January, 1987, Elder Wirthlin in September, 1988, and from the time of their appointments they have worked together for the good of the Center with wonderful synergy.

I had the privilege of traveling to Honolulu with Elder Oaks when I joined PCC. I was humbled by his gracious and caring interest in those travelling with him. He

never sits until he has made everyone else comfortable, and then his wit, wisdom, and insightful intelligence engage the listener in the most enjoyable discussions so that the journey itself ends all too soon.

I have learned much from him as I have observed his manner of working. He is always organized and well-prepared by studying the issues at hand. He listens attentively, notes minute details, asks probing questions, and sums up a situation with a remarkable gift of analysis. More than these skills, however, he brings a spirit of empathy into discussions, never drawing attention to himself nor away from the items requiring focus, but with genuine respect for the opinions of others, making

everyone feel good in the work.

Above all, he seeks adherence to correct principles. The strengths of his leadership include his effective use of a powerful Board, his understanding of legal requirements and safeguards, his thorough knowledge and support of BYU-Hawaii, his excellent skills of communication, and his considerate regard for our employees and the cultures of Polynesia. Underscoring everything in his life is his calling as an Apostle of the Lord, and in this, as in



everything, he is an honorable man.

Sister June Oaks, his wife, brings a great sense of humor to their partnership. She has a genuine interest in others, and a realistic understanding of the everyday challenges of home, family, school and career. Her candor, caring and humor, make her a good ally and considerate friend. She has influenced the Oaks children to many accomplishments in music and education, and she is a wonderful companion when accompanying her husband to PCC Board meetings.



Sterling Scholar Awards

The annual Sterling Scholar Awards were hosted and co-sponsored by the Polynesian Cultural Center in May. The event, televised statewide from the Pacific Theater, is the most prestigious scholastic award for high school students in Hawaii. Co-chaired by Hawaii Director of



Herman Aizawa, Hawaii's Director of Education

Education, Herman Aizawa and TV newscaster, Dan Cooke, this year, \$112,000 was awarded in cash scholarships to assist the students with college funding. High school student nominees from throughout the state spent the preceding day meeting with judges and visiting the Center. Winners were

selected in 13 subject categories, and represented truly outstanding and distinguished performances by Hawaii's top high school students.



President Moore extends congratulations to a winner



Participants enjoy island foods at the evening banquet



Popular TV newscaster, Dan Cooke, at awards rehearsal

May Visitors



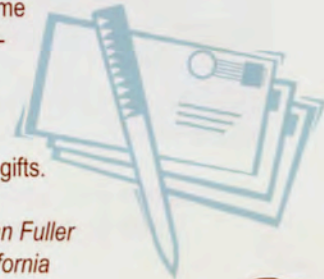
MARRIOTT Hotels Total Quality Management team enjoyed a day in the Center while in Hawaii to conduct a joint PCC/BYUH workshop.



RICKS COLLEGE president, Steve Bennion and his wife, Marjorie, spent a day with us this month and were given a Maori taiaha by President Les Moore.

Dear Friends,

We spent a wonderful day with you Wednesday, 8th of May, despite the constant deluge of rain. We experienced friendliness, gracious hospitality and many courtesies. A few names I recall are Alicia, Emili and Nau who responded to my call to Security yesterday regarding my lost bag of little souvenir gifts for my children and grandchildren – about \$75.00 worth – a lot of money for me as the wife of a retired pastor. I wish to express my gratitude to all of you for being so thoughtful and kind as to mail me my lost gifts.



*Rev. & Mrs. Glenn Fuller
Menlo Park, California*

IMUA POLENISIA

"Teena" Fa'amaligi O Matou Mo'omo'oga Naunau Mo Oe



Center employees, management, and officers alike were sorry to learn of Christina Galea'i Lauolefiso Fa'amaligi's death in a car accident May 20.

Teena, daughter of Samoan night show instructor, Vaimagalo Fa'amaligi, and niece of Islands of Samoa manager, Pulefanolefolasa Galea'i, was well-known and loved by her BYU-Hawaii classmates and fellow

PCC employees. She was also a much-loved member of two of Laie's most prominent families. She was born and raised in Laie, attended Laie Elementary School, and graduated from Kahuku High School, where she played trombone in the marching band.

Teena was a young woman who had to battle diabetes most of her life and several times she pulled through close calls when she was rushed to the hospital as the disease became active. In spite of her condition, however, she was a long-time PCC canoe pageant, night show, and promo team performer and she danced with beauty and grace, representing the Center, her family, and her Church with dignity and integrity.

Throughout her life, her mother was her friend and companion, raising her daughter in the absence of her father. Both Teena and her father, Lauolefiso Fa'amaligi, died in car accidents at the same age. Center management and employees are grateful for Teena's time with us and will long remember her sweet personality and great courage. Aloha. Teena, until we meet again.

Dear PCC Employees...

May I congratulate you and all involved on the great work you are doing at Polynesian Cultural Center. My daughter and I recently spent a vacation of several days in Hawaii and I must say that our highlight was definitely a visit to Polynesian Cultural Center. Not only does the Center offer a fantastic evening show and other programs at the villages, but the student workers received us and guided us most warmly. My daughter spent the happiest time in Hawaii at the Center and we decided to write you a thank-you letter when we returned home.

We wish you all the best.
Sincerely,

Norio Ohta
Osaka, Japan



Surprise Visit

President Thomas S. Monson paid a visit to Center President Les Moore after accompanying President Gordon B. Hinckley at the dedication of the Hong Kong Temple. Shown here, (L to R) Losa Moors, Chris Hardy, Holly Hardy, President Monson, Wilda Pa'alua, President Moore.

Center Hosts Pacific Air Forces Outstanding Airmen



WINNERS of the Pacific Air Forces Outstanding Airmen and First Sergeant of the Year awards met President Lester Moore and enjoyed a day at PCC with their partners this month. Winners were Senior Master Sergeant Robert C. Muthard, Senior Master Sergeant Michael L. Hensley, Technical Sergeant Gina K. Sullivan, and Senior Airman Joe Gilbar.



World Fire Knife Competition

For the third year, the World Fire Knife Competition was held in conjunction with a Junior Fire Knife Competition and a "We Are Samoa" festival of high school cultural competitions. Ifi So'o, an auto mechanic and part-time entertainer from Maui emerged the winner of the hotly contested title and accepted a \$4,000 check and trophy from Center management staff. PCC employee, So'o Tufaga, came in second place and received a check for \$2,000.



Ifi So'o, center, thanks the PCC for his award, So'o Tufaga, second-place winner stands to his left.



Competitors were fearless in their command of the flaming knives.



Junior competitor Harris Mata'afa grimaces through flames.

Junior fire-knife competition

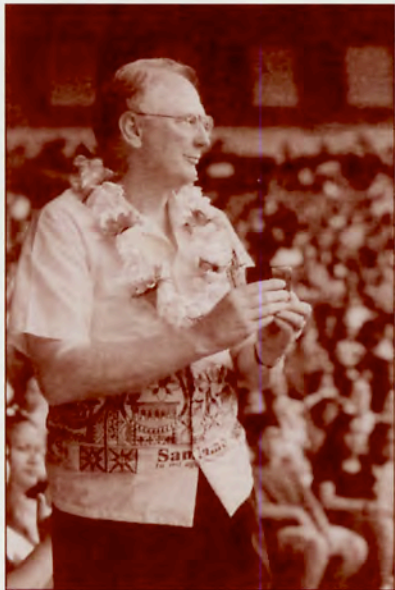
Junior Fire-Knife competitors may have been pint-sized but they were superstars in their talent and performance May 10-11. Thirteen contestants, aged 5-16, participated in the event including some from Colorado and Utah. Contestants were judged on the speed of their routine, the level of difficulty, their aggressiveness, their creativity and the height of their throws. The event thrilled audiences who enjoyed the spirit of the young performers and their creativity which ranged from 'moon-walking' to jumping into the lagoon all the while keeping their flaming knives spinning. Winners were:

1. Trumaine Oto - Laie, Hawaii (11 yrs)
2. Salatielu Brown - Salt Lake City, Utah (12 yrs)
3. Tufue Sumeo - Memphis, Colorado (11 yrs)



The can

IMUA POLENISIA



“We Are Samoa” Festival

Young Samoan student teams from nine Oahu high schools competed on the Center stage, lagoon, and in the villages for coveted awards in oratory, dance, canoe racing, fire making, and other activities. Their youth, freshness, beauty, and creativity were equally impressive with their dignity, grace, and respect for their culture. President Lester Moore was present to encourage the participants in their efforts as well as to thank American Samoa's U.S. Senator, Olo U. M. Letuli, known as “The Father of Fire Knife Dancing” for his invention and original performance of the dance in 1936.

Girls performed both Sasa and Mauuluu group dances and exhibited grace and style in the solo Tauluga



President Moore accepts the cup in the opening ceremony.



Elaborate hand made costumes are used in the performances



Canoe races were a popular audience event



Neatness and speed counted in the weaving competition



The level of performance and individual talent was extremely high - a fact that was much appreciated by the record breaking crowds in attendance



Employee Awards

Two Center departments recognize outstanding employees on a regular basis – Guest Services and Food Services. Guest services employees from each of nine divisions are recognized on a quarterly basis. For the first quarter of 1996 these are:

Hazel Ng - Night Show Usher
 Lanceford Aina - IMAX Usher
 Chad Bevan - Canoe Guide
 Davina Iese - Laie Tour Guide
 Rebluud Kesolei - Multi Purpose Guide
 Tua Sanerivi - Customer Service/Office
 Shoko Tanzawa - Japanese Guide
 Colin Choo - Chinese Guide
 Kyuu Tae Lee - Korean Guide



Lanceford Aina, IMAX Usher



Davina Iese, Laie Tour



Employee Profile:

Meet Matt...

Matt Widman, Human Resources Supervisor, is at the heart of the personnel department overseeing the employee hiring process. He enjoys the challenges of the job and says the working in a company that is gospel orientated helps him to maintain balance in his life. He sees the Human Resources department as focused on service particularly as the department serves all other departments, employees, and potential employees.



Colin Choo, Chinese Guide



Rebluud Kesolei,
Multi-purpose Guide



Hazel Ng, Night
Show Usher



Shoko Tanzawa,
Japanese Tour
Guide

Food Services recognizes two of their divisions with Employee of the Month awards. The April winners were:

Gateway - Alvin Amstead
 Ambassador - May Mariam

Food Services also honor outstanding employees as 'Celebrities of the Month'. These workers are chosen from each division and spotlighted in their division monthly newsletter.

July Calendar

3	Safety Committee Meeting 10:30 am Islands Conference Room
8	JTB Buyout (Duskin Service Master)
10	OAA Employee Training Workshop Bishop Museum 8:30-12:30 pm
11	Jr. Guides 9:30 am
16	PCC Team Meeting 10:00 am IMAX Theater
17	Safety Committee Meeting 10:30 am Islands Conference Room
17	(Special Guests) Elder Boyd K. Packer, Beneficial Life
19	Jr. Guides 9:30 am
22	Management Team Meeting Update 8:00 - 12 noon
23	Jr. Guides 9:30 am
24	Training Meeting Phase II Giving Constructive Feedback
25	Jr. Guides 9:30 am

IMUA POLENISIA

Student Profile:

Laura

**Leialiokalanihekilimakaneilunaonapali
Mano'i**

Laura, an 18 year old from Kaimuki, Oahu is currently working in the Hawaiian village where she is grateful she has the opportunity to share her heritage with others. She speaks fluent Hawaiian and has danced hula for the past seven years.



She was attracted to BYUH because of its Pacific Island program. No where else could she experience such a large and diverse Polynesian student body and spirit.

She converted to the church and was baptized earlier this year. When she arrived here in Laie last August, she was overwhelmed by the kindness others showed to her. She couldn't understand how people could have fun without drinking or smoking. With the encouragement of friends she began to attend church and took the missionary discussions. She gained a testimony of the gospel and was baptized on Jan 7. The examples of her friends and love she has felt amongst her Hawaiian village workers has helped her as the only active member of her family.

Laura plans to teach after graduation with her dream being to help and encourage Polynesian students. A confident and friendly person she feels, "We do the Lords work, by serving others...It is our job to make them happy."

June Birthdays

1	Lanceford Aina	13	Doug Neher
1	Bonnie Leatigaga	13	Kim Kong Toh
1	Bill Shum	14	Arvin Narayan
2	Stella Keil	15	Edward Judd Coleman
2	Laiuni Mauigoa	15	Olesa Pauga
2	Taufao Tavana	16	Miriam Jean Esteves
2	Richard Tokataake	16	Titus Nihi Napoleon
3	Jay Akoi	16	Emily Shaw
3	Tamaroura Bopp	17	Suitumua Alaiasa
4	Malu Haapai	17	Dustin Baxter
4	Kerry Moeai	17	Ada Lee
4	Terry Moeai	17	Florence Prasad
5	Munkhzul Ivaanjar	17	Kelepi Valu
5	Melenaite Lavaka	19	Michael David Allen
5	Diane Mauia	19	Elaine Beatty
5	Warren Tarati	19	Karen Ponia
5	Fifita Unga	20	Telefoni Aumua
6	Muni Devi	21	Lai Kuen Cheng
6	Rachael Francom	21	Talilagi Galea'i
6	Pulefano Galea'i Jr.	22	Maile Kahananui-Pope
6	Lilo Sasauli	22	Mereia Qovu
6	Leinaala Schultz	22	Michael Reid
6	Poni Tufuga	23	Peniette Ah Puck
7	Sereima Damuni	23	Patrick Bull
7	Jonathan Tufuga	23	Henry Garduque
8	Alfred Grace	23	Mele Iketau
8	Gregory Magalei	23	Faatagitau Leiataua
8	Jeerawan Marler	23	Steve Napoleone
8	Josephine Moeai	24	Anitelu Toimoana
9	Vivian Filiaga	24	Viva Donna Tonumaipea
9	Charles Scott	25	Karine Molale
9	Moana Waretini	25	Poelani Peltzer
10	Erika Tania Boeck	25	June Piakura
10	Davina Nieuwenhuizen	27	Caroline Taitin
10	Kwan-Hong Park	28	Alvina Gin-nen
11	Batsaihan Jargalsaihan	28	Chun Hee Han
11	Nedra Perez	28	Kim Naeole
11	Edwina Patricia Plunkett	29	Kilarihna Diopulos
12	Saisamoa Monise Fata	29	Jeeny Suzette Hicks
12	Yoshie Iwama	29	In Ho Jung
12	Eliza Kahawaii	29	Joseph Pauga
12	Trina Malungahu	30	Ginger Ann Bulter
12	Jenny Nagata	30	June Clawson
12	Lisa Wintrode	30	Thelma Kamae
13	Jan Ili	30	Mele Matelau
13	Brenda Law	30	Sharon Spencer
13	Susan Leilani Naihe	30	Jodi Thorp



Continued from page 1

Elder Wirthlin's quiet integrity is matched by his gracious warmth and interest in everyone he meets. His attention to his duties on the board is an example of constancy, loyalty, and diligence. No task is too small for his full attention. He takes assiduous notes, never missing a point, and in his insightful summations reduces complex issues to logical, manageable matters.

In everything he is considerate, gracious, and concerned for the well-being of all individuals. He is especially mindful of those who work in the background or who go unrecognized on the front line. In his work with the Board he exemplifies both leader and follower. He was consistently supportive of Elder Oaks, speaking highly of his accomplishments, keeping him informed of our work, and always reporting back as he took care of assignments. Working under their advisement, I felt their unity and strength and the rightness of their course of action.

Sister Elisa Wirthlin is always appreciative of every detail of her visits to us. She is a gracious companion to her husband, a woman with no affectations and one who enjoys a marvelous relationship with the Savior and a strong testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith. She is the mother of a talented family and it is a delight to converse with her on any subject, for her ready sense of humor ensures an enjoyable visit.

Both of these exemplary men stand up for those things which are right, true and good. Both bear special witness of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of the world and both live lives which exemplify this knowledge. Each is an Apostle of the Lord in lifelong service of Him, His work, and His Church. Their release from our Board of Directors is to allow them more time to focus on the world-wide needs of the Church.

I am personally humbled by the great generosity, kindness, and patience these accomplished men have shown me in their work with the Board. I have felt the strength of their spirit through many challenges and marvelled at their stamina and composure. They have a lively inter-



est in everyone who works at the Center, recognizing the diverse talents and abilities which each individual contributes to our success. They have completed their work here and leave the Board at the strongest the Center has been in over ten years. Many records of accomplishment have been set under their capable leadership.

On your behalf I thank each of them for their long years of service to PCC and pledge our support of them in their new assignments. More than anyone, I am most grateful to have had the great privilege of working under their leadership, for each has been my advisor, my confidant, and my friend.



Aloha 'Oe Elder and Sister Oaks and Elder and Sister Wirthlin. We hope you will return to visit us whenever you can!

POLYNESIAN CULTURAL CENTER

IMUA POLENISIA

President
Lester W.B. Moore

Executive Editor
John Muaina Jr.

Editor
Robert Akoi Jr.

Creative Director
Vernice Wineera

Graphic Designer
Randy Y. Sasaki

PCC Photographer
Barry Markowitz

Student Assistant
Karyn Johnston

Printing
BYU-Hawaii Press Services

IMUA POLENISIA is produced by the Polynesian Cultural Center Human Resources Division, 55-370 Kamehameha Hwy., Laie, HI 96762. Phone (808) 293-3152, Fax (808) 293-3022.