

Dec. 9 1988

Polynesian Cultural Center



# UPDATE '88

Employee Newsletter

Friday, December 9, 1988

## Spread a Little Cheer





## TOGAN - FIJIAN CULTURAL AFFAIRS

by Velulu Sigavata

Some workers from the Polynesian Cultural Center, along with other community members, recently returned from a successful, six day, cultural tour of Fiji.

Last November 19, 1988, at the Fijian VIP House in Suva, our ladies were officially received by Adi Lala Mara, wife of the Prime Minister. Present at this occasion was Rt. Tuakitau, son of the late Tungi of Fiji and Tonga. The Minister of Women Affairs was also present. The presentation was done in Tongan manner with two interpreters for both of the parties.

Speeches and gifts were presented by Mele Taumoepeau, of the seamstress department. These gifts were received and acknowledged by a Tongan-Fijian matapule of Adi Lala. Along with the gift from Mele, an inked-washed, pencil drawing, of Rt. Mara's and Adi Lala's wedding, done by Ken Coffey was presented by Velulu Sigavata of Village Operations.

A 200 pound roasted pig and a basket of cooked taro was presented to the visitors in appreciation for their gifts and dances. The last presentation that was performed was a mauluulu, composed especially for this trip by Chief Taumoepeau.

Later in the Afternoon, the Fijian Military Forces Major General, Sitiveni Rabuka, received the ladies and welcomed them at the officers mass. During the afternoon refreshments, the ladies were favored by special musical numbers performed by the Military band.

Sisilia Fehoko of the Village Auxiliary Department, presented gifts to Major General Rabuka and his wife. In return, the Major General signed and personally delivered his autobiography book to each of his guest.

The following day, November 20, there was a day of feasting and festivities for the visitors as well as the hosts. After lunch, each woman met her cultural trade partner for the first time. The exchange of greeting words, hugging, kissing, dancing, and giving of gifts took place at the Attorney General's home in Suva.

On the last day of the occasion, the ladies were special guests at the Tungi of Fiji's home in Bau, and were also guests of the Cakabau Methodist Church on the island. They were welcomed by the choir with several numbers that were sung beautifully. There was an exchange of words and tears were shed in the church on that beautiful Sabbath day.

A triple combination was presented to the church in remembrance of the 13 Tongan Warriors who were buried in Bau after the Battle of Kaba in 1855.

Adi Davila Toganivalu, sister of the Prime Minister, invited the ladies for a luncheon at her home in Taro Bau after church. The Minister of Tourism in Fiji was also present at the luncheon.

Now that we are back in Hawaii, our hearts are still full of joy, thankfulness, and fond memories of the six day cultural experience in Fiji.

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### SALE SALE SALE

Christmas Holiday Sale. All Market Place items are 30% off.  
Sale starts from December 1 - 31, 1988.

# AN OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

In the past each Polynesian Village have had the opportunity to focus on a major event in their country's history during an assigned week. In Tahiti the tradition has been Bastille day, in New Zealand Waitangi Day, and in Hawaii King Kamehameha's birthday. The villages have included many festivities connected with their celebration such as special competitions, guest performances, feasts, and traditional demonstrations. Very often the villages involved found among their employees, because of these celebrations, a deeper comraderie, a more energized sense of purpose, and a greater commitment to serve the Center.

Realizing that not only the villages but the village auxiliaries needed the boost of a "cultural" week, the Village Operations leaders and supervisors

approved a Christmas celebration for the Mission Complex and Museum. The month of December is especially significant to the Mission Complex since it was the early missionaries who shared the life and mission of Jesus Christ with the Polynesian people throughout the Pacific.

The Mission Complex consists of several structures. The oldest is the Food stand which has served many purposes: a grandstand for watching activities in what used to be called the May Day Area, a carver's hut, and a canoehouse. The Mission House was completed in 1984. Grandma Lily Kama and Lucy Unga have served there as quilters since that time. The Chapel, too, was completed around the same time. The first "student missionaries" to remind the guests of missionaries" to remind the guests of the beauty of hymns while serving as guides at the



Chapel were Annie Jensen and Scott Sandstrom who were the first ones to play the organ located there. The first full time missionary couple assigned to serve the Center were the Gees followed by the Braithewaites and Allreds. Presently our missionary couple are Gilbert and Maybelle Wellisch who continue the excellent work of their predecessors.



The Schoolhouse was dedicated in 1986. I am especially proud to have made the original proposal to have it constructed at the Center and thanks to the vision of Ralph Rodgers, Jr. and David Hannemann. It now stands as one of the more popular features of the Center. Presently Rick Walk is sharing daily his expertise in the Hawaiian language with the guests who seek to increase their knowledge of Hawaiian plus information on the Pacific peoples and geography.

The Museum has had a long history. Originally it was the Administration Building then later the Orientation Building. I can remember when I was working there as a guide in 1973-74 under a very able supervisor, Oliana Tautu. Oliana is still with the Center being responsible for the gorgeous floral display located around the Reservations area. After it was a carver's hut it was changed into a museum with Vendy Oura as the main lecturer there. Marge Christy and Moana Kalua'u now attends to the Museum educating the guests to the origins of the Polynesians.

The Mission Complex and Museum, which collectively is known officially as Village Auxiliaries, invites all employees of the Center to participate with them in their forthcoming 2 week Christmas celebration beginning December 12-24. The Complex will be lit up with sparkling lights, decorations of garlands, and examples of beautiful Christmas trees featuring quilted and woven ornaments in the spirit of Polynesia.

Below are the schedules of those individuals and groups appearing at the Christmas music hours each day from 4:00-5:00 p.m. This special time of dance and songs will be held in front of the Chapel or in case of rain in the Schoolhouse. Please come and share the aloha of Christmas with us.

Dec. 12	Mon.	Samoan Village
Dec. 13	Tue.	Hawaiian Village
Dec. 14	Wed.	Fiji
Dec. 15	Thur.	Tahiti/Marquesas
Dec. 16	Fri.	New Zealand
Dec. 17	Sat.	Tonga
Dec. 19	Mon.	Dave Warner
Dec. 20	Tue.	Napuanani Halau
Dec. 21	Wed.	Tongan Choir
Dec. 22	Thur.	Pulefano's Band
Dec. 24	Sat.	Theater Musician

*by Rubina Forester*

## BACK ON SALE

The famous Alumni Show tapes are back on sale again. It is a great gift for friends and relatives here in Hawaii or in the mainland for Christmas. The 2 hr. tapes are selling for \$15.00 and are available at Special Projects Dept.

## CONGRATULATION

Halaevalu Ofahengaue of Marketplace has received her mission call to Oakland, CA.

Terry Moeai will also be sworn in for the Marine Reserve in San Diego, CA.

## WHAT A HOLIDAY!

*It was her first paid holiday here at PCC, and she thought that the long weekend was going to be wonderful. Well, to start her fun, she headed to the beach. She was being packed on the handle bars of a bicycle. Before reaching halfway to the beach, the person packing her on the bike slammed on the brakes and send her rolling on the road. With scrapped hands, feet, and shoulders, and much embarrassment, she continue her way to the beach.*

*Once at the beach she was sure the fun would begin. Well, the waves thought differently. Her first few steps into the water, and SLAM, she was pounded by the wave.*

*After getting her footing, feeling like she had drowned, she tried to make it out to were her friends were. Once again, she was POUNDED by the waves and sent rolling up to the beach. Eight times this happed before finally reaching her friends. Time after time she was pounded by the waves while the local boys laughed at the Haole trying to master the waves at Hukilau Beach.*

*As she sat at home still feeling like she had been drowned, tending the scrapes on her legs from the beach experience and her hands, feet, and shoulders from the bike experience, and trying to comb the sand from her hair, she thought to herself, "I wonder if these paid holidays are really worth it !!!"*

## FROM THE SAFETY CORNER

by Sam Langi

What is Safeness? Safeness, like happiness, is a state of mind. It is a work style and lifestyle that helps you keep on your safe side, on and off the job. Safeness means reducing unnecessary risks and preventing accidents by keeping safe attitudes, choosing safe behaviors, and creating safe conditions. Like wellness, safeness contributes to your well-being by keeping you on the safe and healthy side of life.

**OUR SAFE SIDE:** There is a safe side to each of us that reduces our risks and prevent accidents. We all can recognize our safe side ....alert, caring and focused. Our safe side follow correct procedures, uses safety equipment, and handles conflict well. It plans ahead and takes time. It does not take offense. Our safe side is there to keep us out of trouble.

**BENEFITS:** Our safe side knows that the advantages of safety aren't always obvious, but they're REAL. In the long run, safety saves us the time, money, pain, and hassles that come with an accident. It can even save our lives. We're all responsible for each other's safety and wellness in the Center, employee and guests alike. Let us keep that in mind at all time.

## BREAK A LEG, GANG!

*Congratulations and thank you to our Waikiki Promotional Team as we salute their 4th year of togetherness. Neither rain, flood, storm, hailstorm, deters them from their mission, providing musical support to our investigator accounts, worthy charities, and/or state affairs. To Kiki, Klyde, Dreena, Kaleo, Liko, Kim, Lui and Piilani. Mahalo*

## CONCESSION SPOTLIGHT

When she retires, she hopes to go on a "mission". "Mama" Faleola Ofahengaue has always been a woman to admire. She has been with the Polynesian Cultural Center since September 1977, and works as an artisan at the Market Place. She believes in "making sure that the Market Place floor is organized, clean and ready for service by 12 noon, daily." All the employees of the Polynesian Cultural Center and especially all the staff at the Market Place appreciate her special personality and loving ways.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*The Village Administration congratulates Bobby Akoi of the Village Office in completing his Masters of Science Administration Degree. He will be graduating Decemebr 17, 1988 from Central Michigan University. He say's, "It has been a long two years, but I have never regretted it."*

*We wish Bobby alot of success in the coming years, and hope he stays with the Center.*

## THAT NEW OFFICER!

.As you can see in every Security post, entrance and exit through out the center, there are quite a few new faces around. The Security Dept. under the leadership of Newman Lake would like to welcome, Rylen Akana, Todd McDonald, Jason Cragun and Ken Macatiag.

## WHAT A DEAL!

The Polynesian Cultural Center has worked out a special deal with Morris Travel. Take advantage of the special rate from Honolulu to Salt Lake City for \$200.00 roundtrip or one way for the same price. (passengers must depart from Honolulu). The plane leaves the late night of December 19th and returns to Hawaii on January 3, at 5 p.m. It's limited to 40 people. So, make your reservation now! It is a great opportunity for faculty, students, and anyone else who would be interested.

For more information, please call Tali Galeai (293-3005) for flight and payment arrangement.

## COMPUTER CORNER

Be looking for your next issue of the MIS newsletter which will list the dates of upcoming Microcomputer/Mainframes training Classes to be held in the Training Classes to be held in the Training Room. We will feature such classes as:

*Beginning WordPerfect  
Intermediate WordPerfect  
WordPerfect Macros  
WordPerfect 5.0 Desktop  
Publishing  
Beginning Symphony  
Intermediate Symphony  
Ulticalc  
Ultiword*

and many more! We'll keep you posted! All classes are based on a pre-register basis only, so let us know if you'd like to attend.

Lei Cummings  
MIS Department

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dear colleague:

Because of your commitment and service to the Church especially your study and teaching of the Book of Mormon, I am writing you for help in collecting Book of Mormon conversion stories.

When President Benson, at the beginning of Conference, challenged "our Church writers, teachers, and leaders to tell us more Book of Mormon conversion stories that will strengthen our faith and prepare great missionaries" and to "let us know how [The Book of Mormon] lead us to Christ," my heart immediately responded. I thought of my father's conversion to the Savior through the Book of Mormon when he was a teenager reading in lonely rented room in Pocatello each morning before going to work. I thought of my discovery of my own mature testimonies of Christ, as I was finding ways, in the Book of Mormon teachings on the atonement, to help backsliding sinners repent when I was a missionary in Hawaii. I thought of many other testimonies and conversion stories--from Delaware, Samoa, Poland, Africa--I had heard and read. I called Deseret Book right after Conference with a proposal for a collection of faith-promoting stories of conversion to Christ and his Gospel through the Book of Mormon, to be focused on contemporary, first-person accounts from all over the world-wide Church, with a few historical accounts for variety and perspective. The proposal has been accepted, and we are working to produce such a collection as soon as possible.

If you wish to have your own conversion story--or a particularly good one you know from the pass--considered, please sent it to me as soon as you can. If you can encourage people you know, here and abroad, to send such testimonies to me, please do so. If there are people you would prefer I contact directly, such as converts who you believe may wish to tell their stories or mission president and other leaders who may know people with such stories, please put their names and addresses on a sheet of paper and mail it to (Eugene England, 1775 Andrus Lane, Provo, Utah 84604).

I realize you are very busy, and I deeply appreciate any assistance. I believe this proposed collection of testimonies can help realize President Benson's goal "to move the Book of Mormon forward now in a Marvelous manner" and that our efforts can be one way to respond to his charge to "help with this burden and with this blessing which [God] has places on the whole Church."

Best regards  
Eugene England

### TRIVIA OF THE WEEK

(Know our Gateway Restaurant)

1. Who is the Gateway Manager and the V.P. for the Gateway?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name at least 6 people who works in the Gateway kitchen.  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ e. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ f. \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the seating capacity in the Gateway Restaurant?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name the four main dishes offered with the Gateway dinner menu.  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ c. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_
5. What new areas are now under Gateway Management?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_

### ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK TRIVIA

1. D,A,E,C,B,G,F
2. 12
3. 3 months
4. H,H,G,G,D,E,C,B,A,F
5. Paul Benzmiller
6. Waimea falls, Sea life Park, Paradise Park, Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm.
7. Bank Of Hawaii, Hawaii Central Credit Union, Honolulu Federal, Oahu Credit Union, First Hawaiian Bank, First Nationwide Bank, OEE FCU, Kahuku FCU

AND THE WINNER IS....

Grace Lee  
Payroll Department