



The spirit of Christmas

Christmas carolers sing from Mission lanai

Singing groups from around the island will be performing selections of Christmas music each afternoon from 4:15 to 5:00 in the missionary complex, according to the following schedule:

- Dec. 14--Chaminade Singers
- Dec. 15--The Honolulu Boy Choir
- Dec. 17--The Kiwi Club Choir
- Dec. 18--The Christmas Connection
- Dec. 19--Kahuku Girl's Choir
- Dec. 20--BYU Younger Generation
- Dec. 21--Maile Aloha Singers
- Dec. 22--Tongan Choir
- Dec. 24--Samoan Club Choir

Don't forget your gift

As the Christmas season is now here, the General Manager and his wife would like to invite you to their home on December 21 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. to pick up your Christmas gifts. Full-time employees will receive turkeys and part-time employees will receive chocolates. Gifts will be issued upon presenting your PCC I.D. card. You may pick up a co-worker's gift upon presentation of his/her I.D. card.

If you need to pick up your employee gift early, please let your department manager know.

'Small World' no small task for big group



Polynesian dolls and toys come alive among gifts falling from Santa's huge red toy bag. That is the idea the PCC/BYU-HC float "It's a Small World," represented as costumed Village workers and BYU personnel waved to Kaneohe and Kailua residents.

Much thanks and appreciation goes to those who participated in the organization, construction, decoration and presentation of the Polynesian Cultural Center/BYU-HC Christmas float. The float entitled "It's a Small World," was entered in both the Kaneohe and Kailua Christmas parades.

The float was designed and constructed by Collin and Raewyn Shelford and the members of the PCC Auto Shop as follows: Fetuu Falevai, Ula Pula, Herbert Hilotsu, Tuavale Solipo, Angus Christy, George Palolo, Gabby Kahaulelio, and Telefomi Aumua.

Special arrangements and decorations by Raewyn Shelford, Rosemary Trani, Tammy Au, Kimo Huddy, Joe Po'uha, Charlene Horomona, Celva Boone and members of the Aloha Club.

In costume: Richard Soares, Michelle, Heather Sandstrom, Kimo Huddy, Xan Clemmer, Scott Sandstorm, Emily Smith, George Kaka, Jr., Norman Faleono, Ula Leiataua, Alex Lobendahn, Ella Silva, Sylvanna Tahauri, Mosese Tameilau and marchers Mary Rodgers, Jennifer Jackson, Deko Ah Quin, Tarrin Erickson, Telila Funaki, and Kalani Horomona, Briar Forester, April Purcell, Lupe Funaki and Laurie Safsten.



Cultural Corner

Institute for Polynesian Studies

Gift Giving in Polynesia

In the earlier accounts that record the first contacts between European explorers and Polynesians, we find description of the gifts that were exchanged.

The Polynesians presented food as was part of their cultural hospitality. From their canoes they brought forth coconuts, bananas, breadfruit, taro, sweet potatoes, yams, pigs, chickens, pigeons and other kinds of birds, all manner of fruit, sugar cane, water in joints of bamboo, and local vegetables. On various occasions other gifts were exchanged such as red feathers, headdresses, feathered cloaks, tapa, wooden and stone images, and articles of adornment.

The Europeans traded beads, nails, mirrors, hatchets, trinkets, tools, iron pots, lengths of cloth, livestock such as goats and horses, and unfortunately personal favors.

In regards to gift exchange it is interesting to note that Tahitians were delighted with Tongan red feathers which became the most valuable articles in trade, reducing nails to near worthlessness. (Dodge: Islands and Empires p.38)

In his contacts with the Maoris Cook found that beads and nails were good currency for fish and sweet potatoes, but curiously enough large sheets of tapa obtained earlier at Tahiti were the best trade articles and were valued more highly by the New Zealanders than anything else the English could offer.



Village plantation worker Moevanu Puttel shows off one of Mother Nature's wonders, a triple bunch of bananas from one stem. The bananas found on the PCC farm are Samoan bananas, planted by a Tongan and grown in Hawaii.

A Samoan Christmas Tree

Excerpts from a talk by Albert Peters
Compiled by Ron Safsten

In Samoa, where Albert Peters of Laie, grew up on a cocoa bean plantation, Christmas was an imported western tradition that was eagerly adopted, right down to the traditional decorated Christmas tree.

The hard-working, Peters family groaned at the high cost of imported Christmas fir trees, and like many the other families of limited means in their area-ried to make each purchased.

Christmas tree last several years, with predictable results.

"After the first Christmas," Peters now remembers, "the tree just dried out. The needles turned brown and no matter how carefully it was stored away, most of the needles fell off the branches. It didn't look very much like a Christmas tree after that first good year."

One year his father looked at the scraggly tree they had saved from the previous Christmas and announced they were going into the nearby jungle to find a local tree that was green and attractive and could be used as a Christmas tree.

"We finally found a short tree that had branches growing from the trunk, all the way around it, with a few large leaves on each branch," said Peters. "It looked almost like a fir tree, if you didn't look too close."

Peter's father was satisfied that this tree would solve the problem with a little help, so they cut it down a good three weeks before Christmas, took it home and placed its trunk in a bucket full of water, to make sure it would last until Christmas.

The family even cut back the upper branches to give a proper tapered look.

Now it was getting exciting, and everyone pitched in to decorate their bright green innovative tree in the best Yuletide tradition.

The night before Christmas, their unique Samoan-brown Christmas tree looked wonderful, set up in the living room, its large green leaves filling out the spaces between the branches very nicely, with festive ornaments adding the perfect holiday touch.

The Peters family went to bed early, congratulating themselves on their originality. Their tree was much nicer than any second year import, and it would certainly now last through the Christmas holiday.

Peters said his oldest sister was the first one up that Christmas morning. He said he was just waking up when her heard her go into the front room.

Suddenly there was a startled scream, then gales of laughter. The whole family rushed into the room to see what had happened. There stood their special tree what was left of it.

All the leaves were still on the tree's branches, but overnight, every branch had fallen off, leaving a nice wreath of branches, leaves and decorations on the floor around a bare, spindly, upright tree trunk standing forlorn in its bucket.

"Sure enough," Peters said, "our home-grown Christmas tree lasted just long enough for Christmas."

He said his family's funny experience with that tree taught each of them an important lesson about Christmas.

"Christmas isn't just a time of symbols and traditions. Christmas gifts should be gifts of love and caring that last all year long," not just some things we bring home because they look good and "may not even last through the Christmas celebration itself."

Marathon Manager

Shop Polynesia Manager Jerry Thompson ran and finished the 26.2 mile Honolulu Marathon last Sunday, December 9, with a time of 3 hours 47 minutes and 12 seconds.

Nearly 11,000 entrants were registered to run with a count of 8,828 actually running. Jorge Gonzales was the winner with a time of 2:17:58.

Says Jerry of his experience, "Even though it was not a hot day, it was hard running because there were high winds."

Jerry, who has been running for several years says this was his first full marathon race and claims that his only casualty was a blister on his right ankle because his sock fell down.

Manager Thompson has been training for this race for 4 months by running six days a week, between 6 and 18 miles a day.

According to Jerry, the Honolulu Marathon is a high energy race, full of excitement because of the large group of runners. "I love to run everyday, it gives me a natural high, and gets both my feet on the ground ready for a days work."



Men of the Tongan village dance in celebration at last Saturday's Tongan Cultural Day.

Pacific Passport Giveaway Drawing

KCCN, Times Supermarkets and the Polynesian Cultural Center will celebrate the \$100,000 Pacific Passport Give Away this Saturday, December 15 at the Center.

Prizes will be awarded to 2000 Kamaina winners in a special awards ceremony at 5:00 P.M. in the Pacific Pavillion, followed by the "This is Polynesia" evening show at 6.00 P.M. Second show will be at 8.00 P.M.

More than 40,000 entries a week were received for a total of 300,000 entries from KCCN radio listeners and Times Shoppers.

Congratulations Graduates!!!

Lokeni Fafai
Hiroaki Hayashi
Jennifer John
George Kaka
Lokeni Lokeni
Yoshihisa Ohyatsu
Moir Stevenson
Ivy Apelu
Richard Aspinall
Duane Clark
Kieron Going
Gregory Hungerford
Cheren Kahawaii
Carlene Kauahi
Loumaile Kilikiti
Seokze Kim
Grace Kuo
Hon Lam
Fesili Liu
Ngatokorua Monga
Pakineti Ngatuvai
Sinalevaifo Pulusi
Teu Tuna
William Tuna
Stanley Yau

Aloha United Way

The Aloha United Way organization recently awarded the employees of the Polynesian Cultural Center with a certificate of appreciation and achievement for their outstanding contributions to the AUW fund. Also awarded was Sam Langi, PCC's AUW Chairman. This year the Center not only reached the goal for contributions but is still receiving pledges.

New manager on team

Rose Fa'oliu has been appointed the Cultural Center's new compensation manager, it has been announced by Ralph G. Rodgers, president and general manager.

Fa'oliu, who is originally from Wisconsin, has been working as payroll clerk for the past year. She now reports to John Muaina, Vice President of Personnel, and is responsible for personnel audits and the study of salary market movements.

Before joining the Center staff, Fa'oliu was payroll supervisor for the Church Schools in Tonga.



Three Receive \$25 Award

Creighton Drumondo has received the General Manager's \$25 Award for his consistent, freindly and enthusiastic performances in the matinee and night show, canoe pageant and brass band concert. Creighton, who has been working at the Center since August of this year, has delighted audiences with his mischievous smile and animated performances. Congratulations

Two employees have received the General Manager's \$25 award for their service to a Center guest; they are Ailene Naitoko of the Fijian Village and Sala Tuione of the Theatre. The following letter of appreciation was received from LaFayette W. Lipscomb, Ph.D.:

Dear Mr. Rodgers:

I recently toured Oahu with eight other members of my family. During our eight days, we visited most of the wonderful sites on your beautiful island. My most enjoyable experience was the two days that we spent at the Polynesian Cultural Center. The way in which the Latter-day Saints have captured the cultural heritage of the South Pacific Islanders is beautiful and heart warming. In my many travels, I can think of no place which I have visited that impressed me more.

I had an opportunity to get to know two every charming young ladies who are students of yours. I wish to commend Ailene Naitoko and Sala Tuione for their graciousness and helpfulness during our two days at the PCC. I really would like to do something special for them, but they said that they had everything they needed. I would also like to praise the Hawaiian who is in charge of the Plantation. He too was most helpful and kind.

While I single out these three persons, we found everyone at the Center to be most cordial.

I truly wish that a similar center was located on the Eastern Coast of the mainland so that I could take some of my students, here at North Carolina Central University for a truly wonderful educational experience. I certainly will tell all of my friends who visit your state that it is an experience they cannot afford to miss. Please pass this compliment on to whom ever is resonsible for such a wonderful idea.

Editorial

Honolulu Christmas--1862

*Excerpts from Honolulu Magazine
December 1984*

Twice the night before Christmas in 1862 - the first official Christmas Hawaii had ever known. Honolulu streets and buildings, and all the ships in the harbor, were draped in flags and bunting. Wreaths of Hawaiian holly and evergreen boughs were hung and draped in festive decoration; and throughout the city, lights blazed in churches and homes.

For days in advance the stores had been filled with eager shoppers, sewing machine treadles had been buzzing busily, and bright-colored, mysterious packages were wrapped and hidden in wardrobes and dresser drawers. Here and there throughout the city Christmas trees had been set up and dressed with gay paper chains and cornucopias, gilded nuts, and nights were filled with an atmosphere of Yuletide joy, and hummed with a spirit of happy anticipation.

Children came home singing Christmas carols they had learned in schools, and were now convinced that Santa Claus was more than a beautiful myth belonging to the lands of ice and snow.

The Christmas Day that followed was quiet and subdued, an occasion for family rejoicing, dinner parties, gift-giving, and visits to church for prayer and thanksgiving. One thousand eight hundred and sixty-two years had passed since the coming of Christ, and now, at last, the day of his birth was officially acknowledged on this little group of islands in the middle of the far Pacific. And now, for the first time too, the children of Hawaii joined the other children of the world in their yearly watch for the arrival of Santa Claus--not the merry, chuckling Santa Claus whose greeting is "Hello, Merry Christmas," but a laughing, Hawaiian Santa Claus who calls out instead, "Aloha, Mele Kalikimaka."

As impressive as others were, the most spectacular Christmas festivities for

1862 were those of the Episcopalians. In October, Bishop Thomas Staley, sent by Queen Victoria, had arrived in Hawaii, and plans for establishing the Church of England had begun in earnest. To mark this early work of the church in a memorable way, Bishop Staley planned an elaborate Christmas Eve celebration.

The Episcopalians had taken over the building long used by the Methodists, which was located in the lower Nuuanu Valley. The church was decorated with greens from the mountains and lit with the King's own candelabra. King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma sat in the royal pew during the service and afterwards led a procession through Honolulu; as they sang hymns, their way was lighted by flickering kukui nut torches.

Excitement reached a new high as flaming barrels of tar were pushed over the top of Punchbowl Crater and, caroming down the slopes, left their fiery liquid on the crater ridges. Cannons were then fired in salute. The procession, led by the king and queen, wound its way to the palace as fireworks exploded and rockets illuminated the sky.

The celebration was finally concluded on the palace grounds, where crowds joined in singing "Good King Wenceslas."

Bishop Staley wrote in his diary, "Such a Christmas Eve was never known before in Honolulu...We inaugurated the observance of this great festival, in a way that will not soon be forgotten."

Most of the religious observances and many of the secular trappings common today were followed that year. Once the population of Honolulu had experienced the pleasures of these celebrations, they were not likely to return to the dull Christmases of years past. After 1862, Christmas was secure as a holiday in Hawaii.

Job Openings Posted

FLEET SERVICE ATTENDANT-40 hours, Monday through Friday, \$3.70 per hour.

DISPATCHER-40 hours, Monday through Sunday, schedule and rate to be discussed.

COOK-40 hours, Monday through Saturday, 11-7:30, rate to be discussed.

BAKER'S HELPER-40 hours, Monday through Saturday, 6-2:30, rate to be discussed.

SR. BAKER-same as the Baker's Helper

PROP MAKER/MAINTENANCE-40 hours, Monday through Saturday, schedule and rate to be discussed.

For Sale

Home Storage Containers--(glass, 2 gallon, crackseed jars)-with lids, \$12.50 each.

Pointsettias--potted red pointsettia plants in red foil wrapped pots, \$4.00 each.

Special Projects Department ext. 3043, business hours only, cash or check.

Marine Corps Day

Marine Corps personnel and their families will enjoy a special day in their honor at the Center, Saturday, December 15.

Village Party

There will be a Christmas party for all Village Operations employees on December 21 from 8 to 11.30 P.M. in the Moari Village. Talent contest and refreshments.

No more Dr. Gluck

As of January 1, 1985, Dr. Daniel S. Gluck will no longer be participating on the Plan B with Deseret Mutual Benefit Association (DMBA). All employees under Dr. Gluck are advised to come in to the Personnel Office and change your doctor. DMBA will give you until January 31, 1985.

Marriages

Heitiare Tuairau and Terry Panee
Tammy Au and Bruce Meyers