



December 24, 1981

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update 81

Polynesian Cultural Center

“Man Is That He Might Have Joy”



Photo by Earl Millham

As a child I remember vividly all the excitement of Christmas, which, among many things, included great anticipation of what the morning of December 25th would bring. I could never be sure what Santa might leave, but whatever it was, the gifts were always a surprise and worth the wait

My feelings then, as now, were heightened by the many celebrations at work, home, school, and ward gatherings. Christmas carols, nativity scenes, shopping, eating, and family gathering from near and far to be together for the holidays continually reminded me of the special reasons and meanings of this season. Not just here in Hawaii, but throughout the world this remembrance in December of the birth of Jesus Christ goes on year to year as we recognize that he is our Heavenly Father's great gift to all mankind.

It is because of Him that we enjoy the blessings of the gospel, and, significantly, that we are blessed with the Polynesian Cultural Center, -- a place that is a constant reminder of our rich heritage. Our success here in the Center is dependent upon our keeping the commandments.

These commandments are surely the great gifts of Christianity and of all time, for the joy of mankind is found therein: "And man is that he might have joy."

May this Christmas be even more significant and joyous to you and your families as we commemorate the birth of the Savior. I pray that in opening His gift of the commandments you will note a pleasant surprise, and that it will have been worth the wait.

William H. Cravens
December 24, 1981



kirumete - kilisimasi fiefia - manuia le kirisimasi - merry christmas - mele kalikimaka - oaoa ite mahana fanauraa

merry christmas - mele kalikimaka - oaoa ite mahana fanauraa - marau ni siga ni sucu - mere kirihimete - kilisimasi fiefia

manuia le kirisimasi - merry christmas - mele kalikimaka - oaoa i te mahana fanautaa - marau ni siga ni sucu

Six Different Marys In The Bible

The Bible lists six different Marys. Update invites you to check them out from the following references:

1) **Mary** The Virgin, cousin of Elizabeth, betrothed to Joseph, mother of Christ. Mother also of sons called James, Joses, Judah, and Simon.

Ref: Luke 1:26-56
Matt 1:16, 18-25
Luke 2:4-7; 16-38; 39; 41-52
Matt 2:11-23
John 2:3-5
Matt 12:46-50
Matt 13:55
Mark 3:31
Mark 6:3
Luke 8:19
John 19:25-7
Acts 1:14

2) **Mary** Mother of James and Joses, called wife of Cleophas (or Clopas).

Ref: Matt 27:56; 61
Mark 15:40; 47
John 19:25
Matt 28:1
Mark 16:1
Luke 24:10

3) **Mary** Sister of Lazarus and Martha.

Ref: Luke 10:39-42
John 11:1-45
John 12:3-8

4) **Mary** Magdalene - or Mary of Magdala, the woman healed of seven devils who followed Jesus.

Ref: Luke 8:2
Matt 27: 56; 61
Mark 15:40; 47
John 19:25
Matt 28:1
Mark 16:1,9
Luke 24:10
John 20:1; 11; 14-18

5) **Mary** Mother of Mark (or John whose surname was Mark).

Ref: Acts 12:12

6) **Mary** A Roman Christian greeted by Paul in his epistle to them.

Ref: Rom 16:16

New Center "Employees"



A snowman in Laie? Yes! Believe it or not, there's a full sized snowman in PCC! He appears to be under construction by two equally mysterious characters who are somewhat over dressed for Hawaii's winter.

The trio can be seen on the lanai walk between Shop Polynesia and Hale Kuai. The three figures are larger than life, and are the work of Charles Kalua'u of the Shop Polynesia staff.

Made of papier mache, chicken wire, gift wrapping, basketware, and borrowed clothing, the three new "employees" are a creative addition to the Center's festive season.

Charles had never done a project like this before, but decided that to attempt making a snowman in Hawaii might be a good idea. He took a few days to work on it, and reports that the hardest part of the job was finding the bits and pieces that make up the group.

It is easy to see that the Shop Polynesia gang can make a great snowman, -- now, how about a reindeer next year?

Happy Birthday

December

Evelyn Fox	25
Tulon Nauer	25
Talaave Liaga	26
Iafeta Sao	26
Thiam Chua	26
Uila Laukau	26
Ofa Hoeft	27
Kerry Pere	27
Sepi Funaki	28
Caroline Aila	29
Nathan James	29
Fatulisi Moala	30
Sandy Hubbell	30

Christmas Definition

Modern day Christians celebrate December 25 as an annual church festival and as the traditional day of our Lord's mortal birth. Special gifts and greetings are common, and both Christmas itself and the yuletide season often take on an air of commercialism and worldliness.

Apparently Christ was born on the day corresponding to April 6 (D & C 20:1) but the saints nevertheless join in the wholesome portions of the Christmas celebration. Christmas becomes to them an ideal opportunity to renew their search for the true Spirit of Christ and to center their attentions again on the true doctrine of his birth as the Son of an Immortal Father, a fact that enabled him to work out the infinite and eternal atonement.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie



Center Mail Daily Chore



Photos by Vernice Pere

Thomas Kamae delivers Center mail

If you've been getting a run of bills in your mail lately you probably wouldn't vote for Tommy Kamae as "Most Popular Guest" -- but judging by the amount of letters, cards, and parcels that he regularly hauls into the Center, a lot of people would.

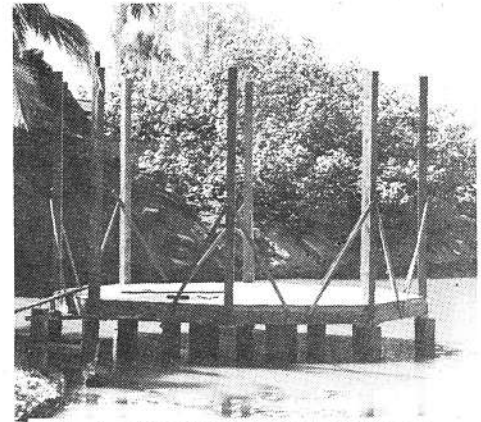
A Laie born and raised resident, Tommy picks up and delivers mail daily to the Center and makes additional trips for Special Delivery mail. He is the regular Laie mail man, and has worked about 18 years for the Post Office. His total government service is 35 years, making him eligible for a service award soon to be announced. He and his wife Thelma have two sons currently serving missions from Laie Stake, - one in California, and one in Texas.

So, if you think Santa Claus comes to Hawaii in a sleigh, you're wrong - ask his "numbah one helper" - Tommy knows he comes in a red, white, and blue U.S. mail van. A Mahalo Nui Loa to Tommy Kamae from an appreciative Center staff!

"Mystery of the Green Lagoon"

Have you wondered what the new structure is that seems to be rising from the lagoon near the main theater? No, it isn't a pizza hut. Nor is it a fale from which to catch fish, - and it isn't a trap for the Monster of the Deep either.

What it is is a secret. That's right, a secret. All enquiries to the maintenance department, including manager Pat Peters, will reveal only that. The fact that it resembles a band rotunda, gazebo, or pavilion may be happenstance. Like the emperor's new clothes, curious employees are advised that nothing is going on in the lagoon, and that all enquiries should be answered with a vague "What thing in the water?"



Center "secret weapon" in lagoon.

As the New Year rolls around we hope to have our curiosity properly satisfied. In the meantime, a physical examination may be in order -- have you been seeing things lately?

Introducing:



**Elder
Franklin D. Richards**

Franklin D. Richards, a member of the Presidency of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, was born in Ogden, Utah on November 17, 1900. He graduated from Weber Academy and the University of Utah, where he received a LL.B degree in 1923.

Elder Richards practiced law in Utah until 1934, when he was named first Utah director of the Federal Housing Administration. He was later appointed National Commissioner of FHA, with headquarters in Washington, D.C.

After devoting nearly 18 years to public service, he resigned as FHA commissioner in 1953.

Since resigning from government service, he has been engaged in the mortgage banking business in Washington, D.C. and Salt Lake City.

He was called as an Assistant to the Council of the Twelve on October 8, 1960. When he was sustained as a General Authority of the Church, he was presiding over the Northwestern States Mission with headquarters in Portland, Oregon. He was called to the First Quorum of the Seventy in October 1976.

His wife is the former Helen Kearnes of Salt Lake City, whom he married in the Salt Lake Temple on August 1, 1923. They have two sons and two daughters.

What Do YOU Think Will Bring



Iraani Bridges: "If men would learn to love one another."



Albert Pilimai: "Having an understanding between people of different cultures."



Chai Yoshimura: "To me it would begin with love in the home."



Teina Waka: "No fighting."



Edward Aina: "Spending time with your friends, and remembering the Lord."



Sandi McCleary: "A positive feeling about ourselves and others."



Bella Magalei: "The spirit of giving, and being together with family and friends."



Simi Niumatalolo: "Give us good football and that will help."



Tofi Masoe: "Sharing the spirit of giving and loving."

"Peace on Earth" This Christmas?



Keri Napoleon: "For everyone to forget about their troubles and problems."



Iava Posala: "To get together with family, - that will bring the true spirit of Christmas."



Tracy Naval: "If everybody thought of others instead of themselves."



Lokeni Lokeni: "Love one another!"



Oli Fiso: "Love and unselfishness!"



Angus Christy: "Humility and patience with one another."



Togia Siteine: "Trying to forget the hurts that others have given you, - it's a day of forgiveness."



Alice Matagi: "If we have more love in our hearts."

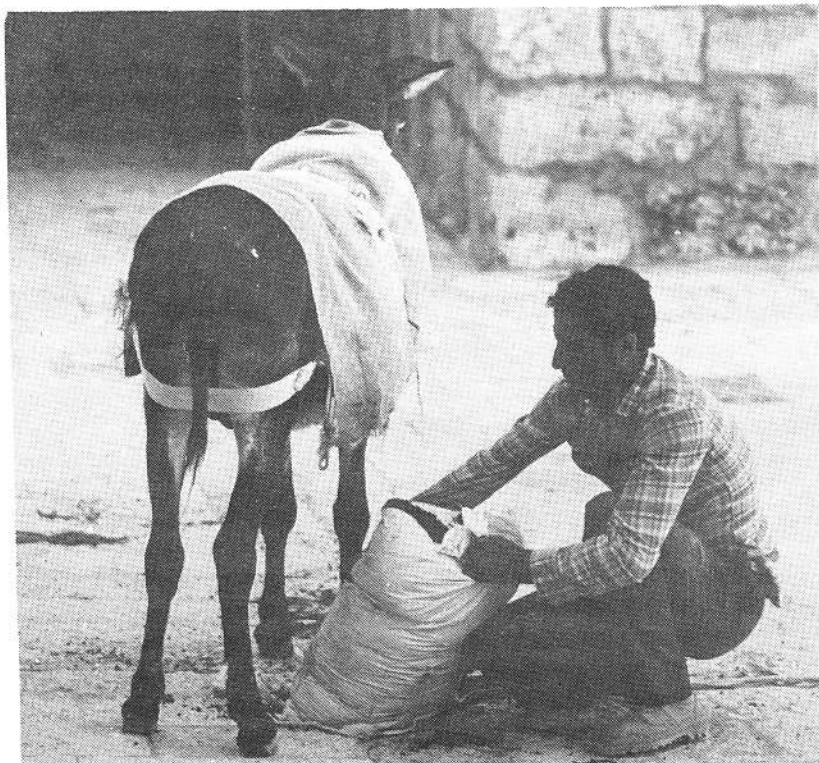
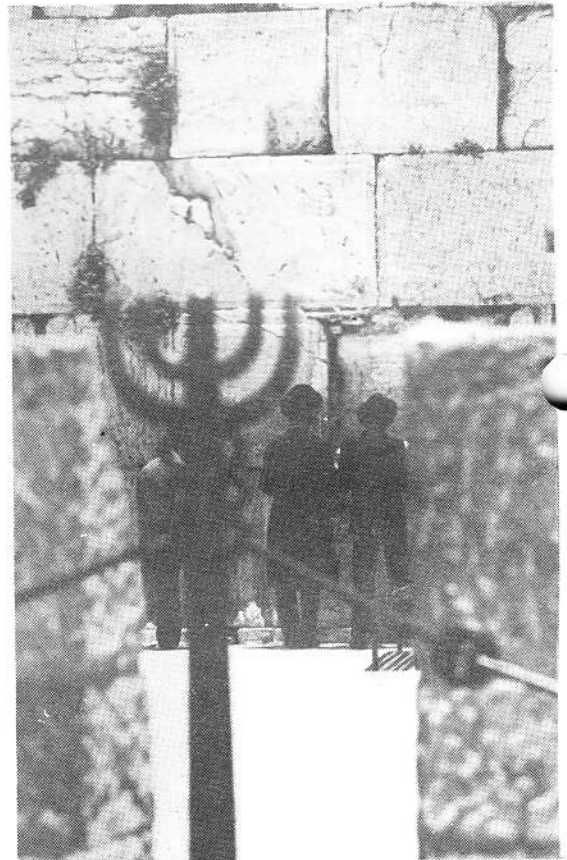


Roland Logan: "The Aloha spirit!"

Photos by Vernice Pere

The Many Faces of

Jerusalem 1981 is a gathering place for people of many cultures and many religions. Shown here are Orthodox Jews, Bedouins, Egyptians, and a Greek Orthodox priest. The city is a blend of old and new, traditional and modern. This Christmas, as every year, thousands of Christians will make a pilgrimage there to worship in the birthplace of the Savior.



Jerusalem AD 1981

Photos by Vernice Pere



As a vital military location, Jerusalem's history is one of war. It is the hope of Christians everywhere that the coming year will bring peace to the Holy City.



EDITORIAL



viewpoint

vernicepere

I once had a religion teacher who, being trained in biology, was fascinated with details. I remember a question he set in an exam that centered on the journey of Lehi and his family from Jerusalem into the wilderness. The text was 1 Nephi 2:6 which reads: "And it came to pass that when he had traveled three days in the wilderness, he pitched his tent in a valley by the side of a river of water." The exam question was: "On which side of the river did Lehi pitch his tent?"

My mind explored all the possibilities - The left side? The right side? North? South? East? West? I even figured it had to be the dry side, but avoided that answer as this particular teacher had a sense of humor that could only be described as minimal. To this day I can't recall my answer, nor can I recall the correct one, which, with my luck in guessing games, would most certainly have differed from what I wrote.

All I remember is the question -- and how I felt it to be the dumbest question I'd ever read on an exam. It prompted a frustrated query of my own: "What does it matter on which side of the river Lehi pitched his tent?" I had already decided that the next verse was more important anyway: "And it came to pass that he built an altar of stones, and made an offering unto the Lord, and gave thanks unto the Lord our God."

This week's Honolulu Star-Bulletin ran an article headed "Mystery of Chronology, Message of Christmas." Most of it was devoted to the historical controversy concerning the exact date of Christ's birth. To quote: "Various dates have been advocated -- January 6, February 2, March 23, April 19, May 20, October 4, November 17."

The reporter then concludes: "For all of the clouded chronology, however, the biggest mystery is in its message -- that God entered the human race in love for it, one with it and one of it."

That is the mystifying core of Christmas, an awesome concept that has challenged hearts and minds since. It holds that Jesus was truly human, sharing the nature of all people, yet also truly God."

I was glad of the shift in focus. Some things about Christmas are just more important than others. This summer I attended church in the Jerusalem Branch, Israel. It is held on Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath. Somehow, I needed no adjustment to my spiritual clock, for it felt every bit like the Sabbath to me. I was glad that Mormons don't bother quibbling over such things.

May December 25 feel like Christmas -- and may we remember, like Lehi, "to give thanks unto the Lord our God" tomorrow!

BYU-HC Calendar

Friday, December 25th

SA Dance
Ballroom, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 26th

Basketball
Pacific University
Cannon Center, 7:30 p.m.

Movie
"Jeremiah Johnson"
Auditorium, 6:30 & 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 27th

Stake Fireside
Cannon Center, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, December 28th

Basketball
Pacific University
Cannon Center, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 30th

Basketball
Oral Roberts
Cannon Center, 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 31st

Bi-Stake New Years Dance
Ballroom & Mall
10:30 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.

Did You Know?

--That Christmas was banned in 17th century England by Oliver Cromwell? He forbade it on the grounds that it was a "heathen celebration."

--That it was also banned in colonial New England, and that it wasn't made a legal holiday in Massachusetts until 1856?

--That a German astronomer by the name of Johannes Kepler calculated a three-planet conjunction of Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn in the constellation Pisces in 7B.C. and figured it was the "star" referred to that dates Christ's birth?