

1972 Christmas Issue

THE VILLAGER

EMPLOYEE NEWSHEET OF THE POLYNESIAN CULTURAL CENTER

Christmas Messages

MELE KALIKIMAKA

ME KA

HAUOLI MAKAHIKI HOU

To All of You Once Again:

Last year, I wished you a most pleasant and prosperous 1971. 1971 was good to the Polynesian Cultural Center. We had a good year and grew stronger in many ways. We made a lot of new friends and retained our old ones.

Most of all, this past year the Polynesian Cultural Center has contributed to the spiritual growth of you and me. We are now in our 9th year, having reached the age of accountability in October. Let us make 1972 a year where each of us is accountable for the successful visit of each guest that comes to this beautiful place. Each guest should feel that he received his money's worth and has become intimately familiar with a living program of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

My prayers will continue with you. I hope I can have the same from you. There will be pitfalls, and there will be difficulties. There will even be a lot of good times. We can share them all together provided that we respect and appreciate each other and look to achieving the objectives of the CENTER.

My good wife, Bernice, joins me in wishing you all once again a most pleasant holiday season and another prosperous year ahead.

Vernon R. Hardisty
Director of Operations

MELE KALIKIMAKA!

The year just past was a very productive, fruitful and highly rewarding one for all of us. We should be extremely proud of our accomplishments because, working as a team, we were able to focus the eyes of the world on the Center.

Way down here in the jungle of Waikiki, we are in a position to appreciate all that you do at the Center to help us represent the Church of which we are so proud to be members. The spirit of the Gospel is felt through your efforts world-wide and all the good works you do brings honor and respect for our Church.

We in Sales are directly concerned with contact to the public and we know that the effort you expend at the Center in handling our guests is one of the greatest public relations effort the Church has had in many years.

The Church has had many experiences in Fairs and Expositions, but, no where has the Church been on public exhibit day after day, as it has at the Center and the image created is one of which we can all be proud.

We love you all and appreciated your efforts in making our job so much easier.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Stephen Bennett



"Why didn't somebody yell 'Timber!'?"



Editorial

"For unto us a child is born, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor."

Strains of Handel's "Messiah" will never cease to haunt our minds whenever we hear these familiar words. A lump in your throat or a tear in your eye may blur your physical vision for a while, but neither can ever keep back the flood of memories of Christmas past. Clearly you can see yourself in the storybook setting of your own home. Snow or not, cold or warm, Christmas tree or not, you had a house, parents, security and satisfaction which could never be copied or simulated. No fireplace could bring the warmth of loving parents, no Christmas tree could equal the beauty in the country you admire so much, and no snow could come close to the purity you feel in your heart during this season.

What other memories do you have of Christmas? Each of us remember basically similar things, but how many of us remember why we celebrate Christmas? Perhaps as a passing thought, yes! But the lump in our throats and the tears in our eyes come not from remembrance of Christ, but from our other lovely memories.

Christ--the epitome of gifts, beauty, love--indeed of everything lovely and praiseworthy! May we remember HIM this Christmas and in Christmas future!!

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,

Would you tell a few people what the word "pixie" means? I do not want a deadhead for a pixie for next year's office party.

Vern

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,

All I want for Christmas is a pair of boxing gloves!

Fia

Dear Santa,

All I wanted were my two front teeth, but thanks also for the trip to New Zealand. Do you think I can borrow your sleigh so I can take my whole family?

Whaanga

Dear Santa,

We really wanted some scales, but since we are having so many Christmas parties, you better forget that for a while!

Lovey Karla
Vatau Jo
Ofa

Dear Santa,

When are you going to bring snow? If we're going to lose money from cancelled shows every night because of rain, we might just as well have snowball fights and enjoy it!

The Theater Kids



You'd frown too if you were a man and wearing something like this around your chest.

Our wish
to you...



Christmas in the Islands

by Noel McGrevy

How is Christmas in the South Pacific? Well, in many ways, like Christmas here. Plenty of food, the gathering of family and friends, perhaps a more sincere remembrance of the Savior's birth. One thing is markedly absent, however, from the the Christmas season as I have seen it in the South Pacific; that is gift-giving. It is not a significant practice outside of the large commercial centers. Does this detract from the enjoyment of a South Pacific island Christmas? Surprisingly not. To those of us conditioned to giving, and expecting to receive gifts at Christmas, it would seem strange at first; but when one realizes that there is more to Christmas than material gestures of goodwill—a spiritual quality more expressive of this season—then it is not strange at all.

My memories of Christmas times spent in the South Pacific are of people, of loving kindness which no gifts could ever express, of a spirit I had noticed at other times throughout the year—a genuine concern for the other person's happiness. I was in villages far from commercial centers, alone, so to speak, in my isolation from my own people and customs, and yet surrounded by people who by their behaviour might have been thought to have been my family. It was possible thus, not to feel homesick, but at home.

Of course, our island Christmas feasts were lavish, to say the least, but the best and most meaningful part of these Christmas festivities did not depend on decorations or gifts (there were neither) or even the food, but rather upon the love in the hearts of the people who could make room in their hearts for a stranger like me.

Such love reflects the love of God which is able to find room for the least of us as He has demonstrated by sending us His Son. Love like this may be all the people of the South Pacific can afford, but it is the best Christmas gift that anyone can give. Giving of oneself—that is CHRISTMAS IN THE ISLANDS!



Little did they know how hard they would earn their way through school.

Aloha Day

The P.C.C. celebrations of the Aloha Week was culminated in a flurry of activities on Saturday, October 23. Canoe races, food carrying, coconut climbing, tug-of-war, as well as the presentation of the Royal Court and entertainment, filled the day with anticipated excitement that attracted a large crowd of tourists.

The activities started with a canoe race at 1:00 p.m. Starting from their own village, two rowers (plus a department chairman to see that things were done fairly) took off for each of the other villages along the way to participate in some kind of Polynesian activity. In the Maori village, they had to do the titoru (stick dance); in Fiji they had to eat doughnuts hanging from strings (a sport reputed to have been a favorite of Fijian nobles at the time the long white clouds descended upon New Zealand); in Tahiti, sew a headband; in Hawaii, string a lei; in Tonga, weave a mat from coconut leaves; and in Samoa husk, grate and squeeze a coconut. The race lasted for about 45 minutes; and after the votes and calculations were tabulated, the Tongan canoe with NAIOKA FA, KITIONE MOKOFISI, and ROD ANDERSON were declared the winners. The Fijian canoe with TIMOCI SIGAVATA, KUINI LEWENILOVO, and SAM LANGI took second place.



Boy, will my mother ever spank me if she sees me in this feather cloak and helmet.

At 2:00 the Maori villagers showed their strength (and weight maybe?) by winning the tug-of-war. The anchor man for the Maoris was none other than their village chief, GEORGE COOKSON. SAOLOTOGA SALANOA and LUMAN HOHAIA flexed their collective muscles to sweep the food carrying event for Samoa and Maori. In coconut climbing, the monkey antics of SAOLOTOGA SALANOA (again?) and GUSTAVE TAUPU won the event for Tahiti and Samoa.

The big event of the day took place at 4:30 when the Royal Court arrived to reign for the day's events and to be entertained by the different island

groups. With VILIAMI MOALA as king, and NEVADA WHITFORD as queen, the Royal Court looked majestic in their costumes. After the royal procession arrived, entertainment started with the different Polynesian islanders performing their native dances.

Perhaps the most beautiful thing about the whole event was that, not only did the tourists get a firsthand look a Polynesian entertainment but they also saw that the same Polynesians really enjoyed doing what they did.

Night Clubbing

The employees of the Guide Department took off for a night of fun and entertainment in Honolulu. On November 13th, PAUALOKE DELACERNA, DOROTHY KAPAPA, LUANA PHILIPPOOM, MERHAU MOO, ESPELL MATAALII, WILMA & ELLA KAMAUOKA, under the direction of renown songwriter-entertainer Alice Namakelua, and accompanied by SIMI TAUMALESUA and KITIONE MOKOFISI, visited a few of the well-known shows in town.

Their first stop at ZULU's show. Their report was that Zulu had a fabulous show; and when he found out they were present, he had the whole group stand while he put in one of the biggest plug the P.C.C. ever had. In essence he told the audience that no Waikiki show could ever top the authentic, well-rehearsed show here at the Polynesian Cultural Center.



Cy, the dance is not for another month. Why don't you ask me then?

The group received a great ovation, on behalf of the Center, from the audience. Thanks to a great entertainer named ZULU.

Their second stop was at Don Ho's show. Yes, he asked them to drop by. They did, but it was a little late—they caught his last three numbers only. And guess who they saw coming out of the show? —RICHARD WILSON and wife!!!!

The group's final stop was to see Sunday Manoa at "Chuck's Cellar". And excitement was at a peak when PAUALOKE was asked by the Sunday Manoa to do a hula for the audience.

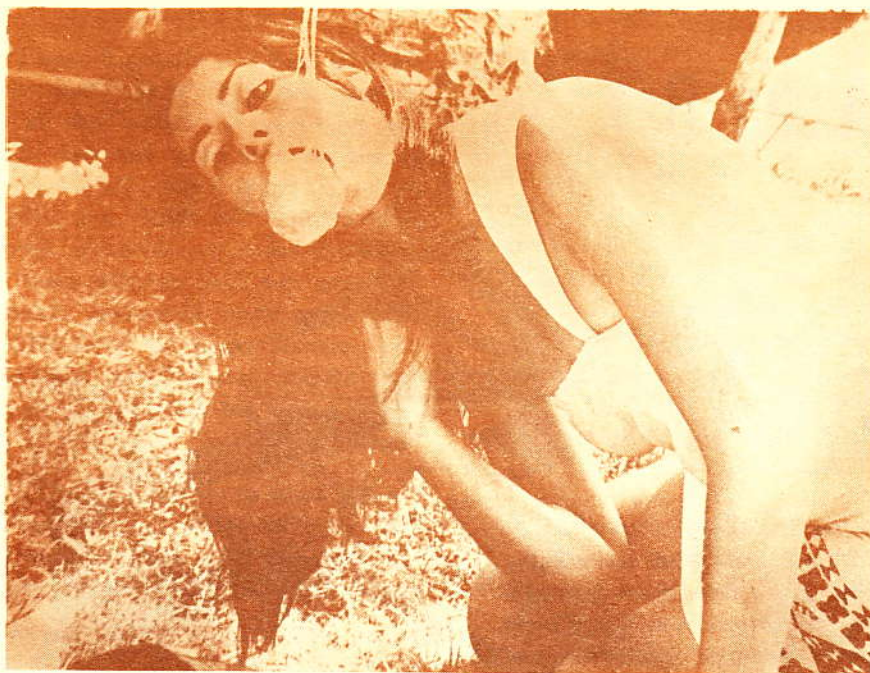
To top off their fine evening of night clubbing, they had a flat tire on the way home. But none of the girls minded, because it was the guys who fixed the flat.



Blimey! These Samoan coconuts are tough.



First they push me in the lagoon. Now they want me to do this stick dance.



I wonder if the Fijians really did this sort of thing.

WHO'S NEWS

Can you believe that we have such important people as CARY GRANT, JOSEPH SMITH, and JOHN TAYLOR working at the P.C.C.? Yes, we do! Cary Grant works in the Tongan village and Joseph Smith and John Taylor dance in the Samoan section!! If you really want to know who they are as CARY FA, JOE DANIELSON, and JOHN MANUMALEUNA!

ESTHER DELAROSA (Theater) daughter of TOALO DELAROSA (Food Service) took top honors when she won the Miss Na Hoa Pono title at The Church College of Hawaii. Congratulations to a talented young lady!

Former Employee (Business Office) SALLY FOLEY and hubby MIKE now back from a 6-month, 19-country visit to the Pacific basin. They loved every minute of it, too!

Other island hoppers were VERNON HARDISTY and ALICE LOGAN, who both toured the South Pacific in two weeks while buying up for Shop Polynesia!

Speaking of ALICE LOGAN, her favorite weekend pasttime is taking her son to Disneyland! Yes, she did it twice in a row!!

An estimated crowd of 2,000 watched the CCH Acapella Choir and Windward Symphony perform at Kapiolani Park the evening of December 11th. Spotted in the choir were such faces as VAITUU KAIO, NANI MAIOHO, TEARO MOO, and QUINCY MATAGI—all F.C.C. employees. Look out, Tabernacle Choir!

Christmas wedding bells are ringing for: PEATO ENA and Susan Jane Zabransky, QUINCY MATAGI and TEARO MOO, SIMAU MANUMALEUNA and NAIOKA FA, JOHN ELKINGTON and DEBBIE CUMMINGS. Just a passing thought for Santa: when will they ring again for LOVEY TOKI!?



Did you know that the Tahitians were very well advanced in their ability to understand numbers?

According to Ellis (Polynesian Researches, i., p. 191), they understood a million, or an iu, and "...they could...enumerate with facility, tens, hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands, or hundreds of thousands of millions." Long ago they used the decimal method of calculation which is just now becoming worldwide.



What do I think of all this? How about Merry Christmas and Happy New Year?