

HAWAII CLIPPING SERVICE
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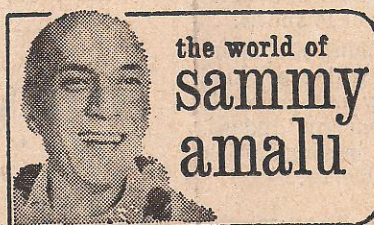
learning to love the Ilikai

If you happen to live on our side of the Hilton Lagoon, it does not take too long before you build up a vast hatred for the Ilikai Hotel. You just cannot help it. It is inevitable. Every single time you walk out on your balcony, there it is in all of its highly dubious splendor. There is absolutely no way to escape it or to ignore it since it crowds the entire horizon.

After a couple of months or so, you find yourself walking around mumbling nasty little epithets to yourself and cursing everyone who happens to live there. Then you begin studying witchcraft and sticking sharp pins in little cloth dolls fashioned in the likeness of Mr. Chinn Ho who originally built the Ilikai. After a couple of more months, curiosity overcomes you and you go out and buy yourself a pair of binoculars in order to spy out the type of creatures who must be at least paleolithic else they would never live in those stacked up caves across the way.

OF COURSE, when you finally train your binoculars on the Ilikai and focus them, to your great surprise, you find ten pairs trained right smack back on you. This is the kind of thing that happens to you if you choose to live in the Kalia area of Waikiki. And if you think the situation is bad on our side of the Hilton Lagoon, you should try living in Fred Dailey's Waikikian which is only two storeys high. Every time someone dives into the Ilikai pool, half the Waikikian gets soaked in the splash.

But now everything is forgiven. I have developed a fond love for the Ilikai and have even managed to evoke no end of affection for Mr. Chinn Ho. Of course, I still



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cannot see anything else when I walk out on the balcony, but now I do not really mind at all. In fact, lately I have been walking out on the balcony and throwing kisses at the Ilikai. But I only do this in the evening since people who live in the Ilikai are probably disposed to throw kisses back at you.

MY CHANGE of attitude came about under rather peculiar circumstances. Anita Carlisle met my father at the Outrigger and got my number from him. So she calls me up and invites me over for a drink, and it is just impossible for me to refuse a free drink. Actually, I have known Anita for centuries and have always adored her. We both used to be familiars of the old Rathskeller and Hawaiian Town crowd of fond and cherished memory.

During the course of our reminiscences, Anita tells me that a new place has just opened up at the Ilikai called the Primo Gardens of all things. She swears that it is almost a carbon copy of the old Rathskeller with a couple of touches from the Hawaiian Town thrown in. Nothing could possibly have kept me away. I had to go and find out for myself. So off to the Primo Gardens my nephew Rick and I went the other night, and the place is exactly what Anita said it was. I felt almost as if I were back in the Thirties again.

BOYCE RODRIGUES runs the entertainment. Boyce is one of my closest relatives. His grandmother was my Auntie Katie Stevens. His grandfather was my Uncle Jim II. His mother is one of Hawaii's finest singers, Victoria II. For that matter, so is his entire family. Helping Boyce is a group called the Primo Warriors, an appellation that is perhaps a bit more familiar on the Kona Coast and in parts of the Lahaina area. Sonny Kamahele is on the steel.

Charlie Pokipala plays the bass. Cy Ludington takes care of the guitar and Bruce Hamada handles the drums. What comes out of their efforts is pure music. Actually, I understand that there are two different groups of warriors. The first which I did not hear plays from 5 to 9. I heard the second group that plays from 9 until 1 in the morning. And they are a swinging bunch of guys.

BUT WHAT I LOVED best of all was something that you do not see too often in the Islands any more except here and there. Audience participation. People get up and sing. They get up and dance. They get up and have a ball. The night that I was there, the audience put on a show that you would have a difficult time trying to match. This was exactly what they used to do at the old Rathskeller. And at the old Hawaiian Town when my father used to own it. I loved it.

So if you happen to be walking on our side of the Hilton Lagoon, look up to one of the balconies. You will probably see a bald headed Kanaka madly throwing kisses in the direction of Chinn Ho and his damned Ilikai Hotel. See what that crazy Primo can do to you.

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HAWAII TRIBUNE HERALD

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Big Isle Girls On 4th Place Team

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. — Two Big Island girls have arrived here to compete in the top national volleyball tournament after their team of "rejects" won fourth place in the AAU women's volleyball tourney in Cleveland over the weekend. Another Hawaii girls team took first place.

The girls, Lyndell Lindsey of Hilo and Leslie Spaulding of Kona, belong to a team named Opala, Hawaiian for "rejects," and had not been able to make the regular Hawaii girls team sponsored by Nick's Fish Market of Hawaii.

They formed a non-sponsored team anyway, raised money with a dance, and took a chance on using food money for travel expenses when they still came up short.

The Nick's FishMarket team won the AAU tournament women's division, placing Hawaii in the first and fourth spots among 18 teams. The Outrigger Canoe Club men's team from Hawaii was knocked

out early in the tournament.

The Opala team went undefeated into semifinals, then lost to Portland, but beat Grand Central of New York in the losers' bracket to place fourth. The regular women's team defeated the Rebels of Chicago for the championship.

The girls will now compete in the top national volleyball tournament at Binghamton, the U.S. Volleyball Association tourney, to last Wednesday through Saturday.

Paul Maxwell, a publicist for Performance Associates of Honolulu, who has maintained communication with the girls, said they are still short of expense funds. He said donations can be made to the Opala Volleyball Team checking account in care of the Liberty Bank, Kahala Mall Branch, Honolulu, account No. 1213-0105; 19-000311. The team can be reached by telegram at Holiday Inn West, Binghamton, N.Y., he said.