

EXPLORE THE PACIFIC

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Elderhostel
Adventures in Lifelong Learning®

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ALOHA FROM HAWAI'I...

Dear Pacific Islands Friends, crazy office. Be sure to say hello when you call.

So much has happened in the past 3 months! We have been busily developing new travel programs, updating our computer systems, attending conferences and looking to expand our office space.

First of all, some changes in our office...Michele Tolentino, our wonderful office manager, has moved back to New York with her husband. However, we are happy to say that she will working remotely for a while until she settles in and of course we wish her well in the Big Apple.

Meanwhile, we welcome our new administrative assistant, Katja "Kat" Boehle, who started at the end of August. Kat has caught on quickly to the ways of this

Our Elderhostel programs continue to keep us busy; however, we are also looking at expanding our cultural and eco-travel programs to reach broader markets – such as nature groups, museum and aquarium memberships, church groups and family gatherings. If you belong to or know of such a group that is interested in a travel program with expert guides to Hawai'i or Polynesia, Micronesia or Melanesia, please contact us and will be happy to help plan an exclusive trip.

We continue to develop and offer amazing programs as we have done since 1979. Our first Elderhostel Golf-focused program (#13902) will run in February 2008, and we are offering our first



family Elderhostel over the 2008 holidays next December on the inter-island cruise ship (Program #11513). If you haven't checked out our latest programs, visit www.elderhostel.org and search under "Hawaii" or "South Pacific".

More to come in our next issue of "Explore the Pacific". Until then...

Aloha,
Andrew Lockwood
President

WHAT'S NEW?

You may already have heard about the new travel trend: "voluntourism". This is travel that includes a service aspect such as helping to rebuild in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina or helping to re-forest a tropical rainforest in the tropics. As a volunteer, you gain

insider perspective to the region you are visiting, meet and work side-by-side with the local people and get opportunities to explore as well. It's a chance to give back and learn about a destination at the same time.

Pacific Islands Institute is developing such a program for Elderhostel in Easter Island. It will be featured in a future issue, but for now if you are interested, check out other available Service Learning programs at www.elderhostel.org.

◆◆◆◆◆ DID YOU KNOW? ◆◆◆◆◆

Have you discovered Road Scholar?

Road Scholar combines the flexibility of independent travel with the insider's perspective only resident experts can offer. Road Scholar takes you behind the scenes to experience firsthand the world's most fascinating cultures and habitats.

Road Scholar is for adults of all ages over 21 years who want to discover the world in new, experiential ways. Road Scholars enjoy exploring on their own, but also welcome the camaraderie of sharing the journey with a small number of like-minded travelers who are passionate about learning and exploration.

Free time incorporated into each program gives you the chance to pursue

the experiences that matter most to you.

Road Scholar limits the size of their groups—typically with fewer than 24 people.

PII currently offers two Road Scholar programs (one is featured in the Featured Program article in this issue). Both are international programs – a snorkeling marine study in Palau and Yap (Program #14265) and a cultural festival and natural study in Papua New Guinea (Program #16341). PII will be offering other Road Scholar programs in the future.

Visit www.roadscholar.org for more information.



ROAD SCHOLAR®
LEARNING - IT'S A TRIP®



◆◆◆◆◆ Meet the PII Family ◆◆◆◆◆

In this issue, we would like to introduce you to a long-time instructor and group leader for Pacific Islands Institute and HPU Elderhostel...Dr. Art Reed. Art has been working with us since 1979!



Art is a retired professor from the Zoology Department at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. He and his wife, Ann (who often travels with him), have lived in Hawai'i for over 37 years and have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. Art enjoys palm frond weaving and woodworking, and keeps busy volunteering in the emergency room at two local hospitals when he is not lecturing or group leading for PII.

About his work with PII, Art says "I thoroughly enjoy meeting and getting to know the people who come to our Elderhostel Programs. They are always full of the desire to learn more about our Islands and they bring with them their own vast store of knowledge and wisdom to share with us."

Mahalo Art for sharing your knowledge and guidance with us all these years!

◆◆◆◆◆ Featured Programs ◆◆◆◆◆

If you enjoy snorkeling and want to see some amazing coral and our Road Scholar program #14265, "Dive in and Discover: Snorkeling in Palau and Yap". Marine adventures include snorkeling in Jellyfish Lake and special areas of the Rock Islands in Palau and rarely accessed spots in Yap.

Experience village visits with an ex-

clusive welcome from the village chiefs and expert-led cultural visits to historic sites on an exclusive itinerary. Enjoy regional cuisine prepared by local residents.

See the Road Scholar article in this issue for more information on whether a Road Scholar program is right for you. For more details or to register

for this snorkeling-based program, visit www.roadscholar.org.

