

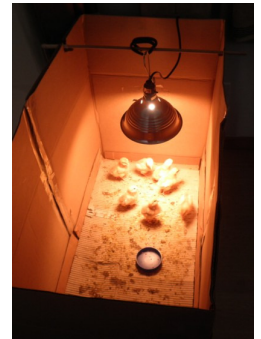
Holy Moly! Another year gone. Yikes! 2015 was pretty good for us. The biggest news is that we are no longer “between boats.” We purchased a lot on the west end of Molokai in 2004 thinking to build a home someday, but sold the land in September and after years of searching for a used boat here and on the mainland, finally bought a new one on Oahu as our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary present to ourselves. It’s a cool cat (power catamaran, that is) 18 feet long; and has a nice top and stataglass windshield enclosure with twin 50 horse Yamahas. We named her Mimi Iti which means “Little Cat” in Tahitian.



Having never owned a trailerable boat before, it’s a grand new adventure launching her and especially backing the trailer up our long curved driveway. It is usually too windy, but whenever the trade winds die we go. There is a buoy 18 miles south of the island where fish congregate and Mimi Iti rockets out there in less than an hour. On our last outing, we trolled up and down the south coast of our beautiful island with our fancy new fishing gear, and caught a nice mahi mahi and 2 aku (skip jacks.) Just like the good old days!



We eat from our mini farm every day and our wholesale produce and egg business is doing well. Anything not consumed is sold to a local farmer who resells it at the Saturday farmers’ market. Last January, we bought baby chicks and raised them, (never did that before.) The little puff balls become full grown in about 3 months, and the “girls” are laying an egg a day each. The money we make from selling fruit, veggies and eggs pays for water, feed and fertilizer.



Lorraine and I planted more fruit trees last January, and our venerable mango tree went bonkers this season, fruiting like crazy. We sold more than 1500 mangoes with the entire month of August spent picking, washing, boxing, peddling and pruning!

Our lifelong and their decided to go and invited us



friends, Tom and Sue Miller family from the Bay Area to Kauai for Thanksgiving to join them so we did. island is mountainous and cloudy days with some sun slippery, very dangerous had muddy butts from hitting

Robby finally saw Waimea Canyon! The wet, yet we were fortunate to have mostly and little rain. The Napili Coast Trail was a hike. More than half of the people hiking the slick ground. Lorraine has fond memories of the Coco Palms Resort where she stayed with her family when she was 16, but it was destroyed by Hurricane Iniki in 1992. We most particularly enjoyed the heiau (ancient Polynesian temple) overlooking the gorgeous Wailua River. Reminded us of magnificent Taputapuatea in Raiatea.

Our Thanksgiving “feast” was quite unconventional; sitting on a rock wall at Russian Fort Elizabeth, built 200 years ago. We enjoyed salmon, Caesar salad, and Maui Style potato chips, fresh bread and butter and a huge plate of fresh ahi sashimi. Nobody around but bazillions of wild feral chickens.



On our way home from Kauai, we stopped on Oahu and a real Thanksgiving dinner with Jim and Cindy Rector, cruising friends we had met in Tonga, highlighted our stay. And of course we shopped, and schlepped and loaded 54 boxes onto the barge for shipping to Molokai. During our absence, Larry and Debbie Blank, boating pals from the 80s, stayed at Pu'uhonua (our home) watching after our wild guard cat and mouse huntress, Schnookie, and the chickens. Upon our return the four of us enjoyed reminiscing about our voyages to the Sea of Cortez.

After living in Pu'uhonua for nearly 5 years, we are finally getting our pictures hung. Below are gorgeous reproductions of Pacific charts that had been drawn in the 1700's. On the left is Oceania; center New Zealand; and the one on the right is Captain's Cook's first voyage to the "Sandwich Isles" (Hawaii) drawn by Captain Bligh of Mutiny on the Bounty fame. We are so proud of ourselves having sailed Southern Cross all the way across Oceania to New Zealand.



Much of our time is spent pruning the 60 plus trees we have planted since moving in; as well as tilling and planting and replanting veggies. Lorraine still paddles Polynesian outrigger canoes with both the "masters" and recreational paddlers and hopefully the trade winds will die down soon so we can go fishing in Mimi Iti!

Wishing you all a safe and healthy New Year and blessed 2016. Love and aloha, Robby and Lorraine

