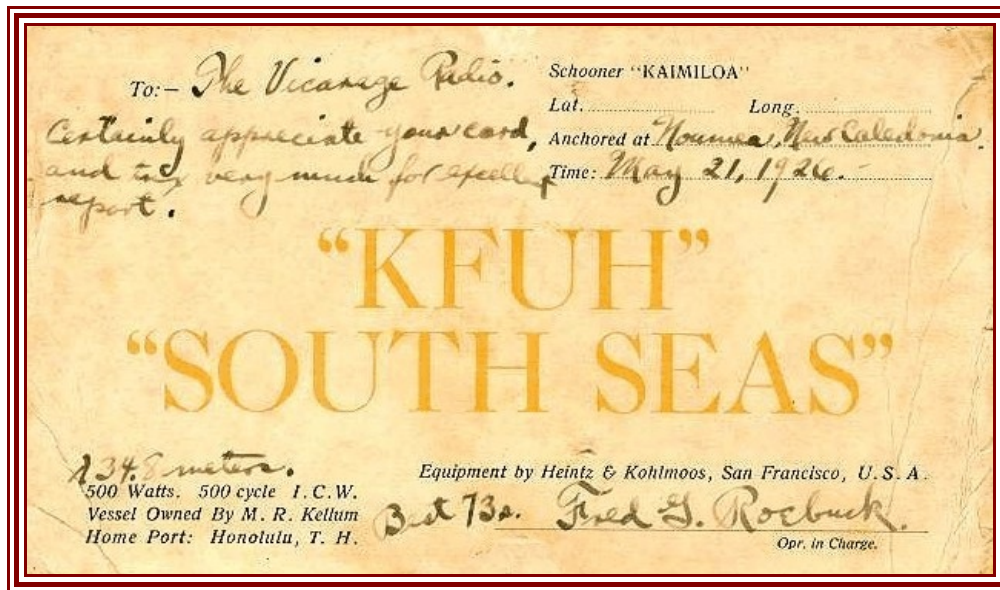


Schooner Kaimiloa “KFUH” Owner millionaire family Mr. and Mrs. Medford R. Kellum. This is a multi purpose story including what became of the Kellum’s and “The Kaimiloa Expedition.” Our subjects wife, Elizabeth Lauder Kellum was the niece of Andrew Carnegie. Liz was probably one of the most wealthy young ladies in the U.S.A. at the time. The rest of the story; Medford Kellum’s younger years an alumni of College of William & Mary 1895. Starting in 1907 had served as a seaman and tourist guide for the Lauder family, holding captains operators license 65178 from the 1914 list of officers of merchant; steam; motor and sail vessels. He had supervised the Lauder family on Florida fishing trips for Tarpon in the Florida Keys.

January of 1910 Med married Elizabeth Lauder, half his age. From 1920 to 1923 he made a fortune in Miami real estate. In 1924 the couple sailed in quest of eternal happiness, only to have it end in Reno Nevada divorce courts. It (1928) was a tragic year, the end of the Kellum marriage and Elizabeth expired a year or so later after the divorce, leaving some children and their daughter Anna..



However in the better years of the association Med Kellum formed an expedition in 1924 through the Bishop Museum in Honolulu who invited a select a group of scientists to accompany them on their private four masted schooner Kaimiloa (Explorer) on a visit to many island calls in the south Pacific. Their expedition into Polynesian Anthropology would be known as “The Kaimiloa Expedition.” The Schooner Kaimiloa Captained by A.E. Carter with steam auxiliary, specially fitted for the South Sea cruise and exploration work, arrived from San Francisco Oct 31st with owner M.R.Kellum, wife and family and party of friends, they planned to enjoy the islands by again sailing to visit Maui, then to Hilo, to permit the party’s visit to the volcano.

Our Radioman stationed aboard the Kaimiloa, one Frederick G. Roebuck, a veteran ex 6ZY and 6FD employed many first shortwave radio contacts with experimentation along the whole trip. Many QSL cards of the expedition still exist today! Just yesterday I observed a battered KFUH card on Ebay.

Zoologist Stanley C. Ball, was chief of the party of six which included Kenneth P. Emory, ethnologist and Armstrong Sperry, associate ethnologist. The Kaimiloa sailed from Honolulu on November 9th 1924 and made short stops at Fanning, Christmas, Malden and Tongareva, where some archaeological research was possible. The schooner arrived at Tahiti on Jan 1 1925, where the scientific personnel disembarked. Emory and Sperry remained for some months to continue the study of archaeology in Tahiti and the Tuamotus. Continued page two.

The Kellum dream of a perpetual honeymoon may not have been achieved. You be the judge. Your author is going to give you some homework to view the apparent tumultuous (Kellum/Lauder) marriage. Please remember Kellum did not defend himself. His education and proper sailing masters credentials were obtained by your author. He showed keen judgement having a veteran Captain in charge of the SS. Kaimiloa on the "South Seas."

Roots Web has the marriage and unfortunate status of the Kellum/Lauder affair in black and white. Dial up the information by the following;

<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/th/read/KELLUM/2004-02/1075765731>

Should that URL fail and bring up the registry instead, click on February 2004 -7 messages, then click on the first header. You should be in business with the family history (2 pages) via Rootsweb.

We might add, Medford R. Kellum born 1874 Vincennes In, (home of Red Skelton) expired at Del Rio TX in 1934. Ships view of the Schooner Kaimiloa, radio call KFUH. Picture taken November 2nd 1924 before leaving port in Honolulu T.H. - On the "Kaimiloa Expedition."

Did the owners have some cash? You bet they did, that is a monster of a sailing ship and would have taken a well equipped crew to handle her.

It is noted Armstrong Sperry one of the technical party who sailed along, learned the languages, the legends and the music. He drew pictures and stored memories that have found their way into many of his published books. He was awarded the Newbery medal in 1941.

With an expedition the size of the Ka-imi-loa one would think there would be a sizeable radio file. But was not the case, only two small references of being on the air in the Pacific and she was removed from the FCC Radio Service Bulletin December 1929. Meaning she was either sold or scrapped. The owner expired in 1934. With appreciation Robbin Kellum Harrison, Comings and goings Time Magazine July 2 -1928; www.nzetc.org www.ogram.org QSL card www.qslcollection.co.uk Kaimiloa photo owned by Bob Ballantine 2009.

