



FRANCIS NAPUA POOUAHI KAUPO RANCH B. 1938

FRANCIS NAPUA POOUAHI, OR “UNCLE FRANK,” WAS BORN AT KAUPŌ, MAUI ON JUNE 19, 1938 TO JOSEPH KEAWE POOUAHI AND CAROLINE KEKAHUNA POOUAHI. HE ATTENDED KAUPŌ SCHOOL UNTIL THE 8TH GRADE. FOR A SHORT TIME IN 1956, HE WENT TO WORK IN THE PINEAPPLE FIELDS FOR LIBBY PINEAPPLE CO. IN LAHAINA. IN 1957, MISSING THE PANIOLLO WAY-OF-LIFE HE GREW UP IN, HE WENT TO WORK PART-TIME FOR THE BILL EBY RANCH IN HONOLUA, LAHAINA.

HE RETURNED IN 1958 TO KAUPŌ AND WORKED FOR A SHORT TIME FOR LILLIE MARCIEL DOING MOSTLY LAND CLEARING BY HAND. ON APRIL 1ST 1959, HIS DREAM CAME TRUE, UNCLE FRANK WAS HIRED BY KAUPO RANCH TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS FATHER KEAWE POOUAHI, A TRUE PANIOLLO. ON DECEMBER 22, 1962 HE MARRIED MELVA KAHALEAUKI, THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE AND TOGETHER THEY HAD THREE CHILDREN: EVANGELINE, FRANCIS JR. AND DORIS. AFTER 43 YEARS OF SERVICE, UNCLE FRANK RETIRED FROM KAUPO RANCH IN 2002.

DURING HIS YEARS AT KAUPO RANCH, UNCLE FRANK BECAME A TRUE ASSET TO THE RANCH. WHEN CATTLE WORK SEASON CAME AROUND FOR BRANDING AND WEANING, UNCLE FRANK WAS THE MAN AT THE GATE. HE WAS EXCELLENT AT WATCHING THE GATE ON HORSEBACK, AND STILL IS TODAY WHENEVER THERE IS CORRAL WORK. WHEN IT WAS TIME TO BRING THE CATTLE DOWN FROM NAHOLOKU, UNCLE FRANK WAS THE ONE YOU WANTED TO BE NEXT TO. HE KNEW EVERY TRAIL, EVERY WASH, AND WHERE THE CATTLE WOULD WANT TO BREAK.

UNCLE FRANK WAS EXCELLENT ON HORSEBACK, WITH A SKIN ROPE, AND LOVED TO ENTER THE ‘ULUPALAKUA, KAUPŌ, AND HANA RANCH RODEOS. HE WAS JUST AS GOOD ON THE D-6 DOZER AND CLEARED HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF LAND AND PUT IN THE ROADS THAT WE, AT KAUPO RANCH, TRAVEL ON TODAY. WHENEVER THERE WAS A NEED FOR SOMEONE TO STEP INTO THE JOB OF WATERMAN, OR TRUCK DRIVER TO HAUL CATTLE, OR TRUCK DRIVER TO PICKUP FREIGHT OR FUEL, UNCLE FRANK WAS THE ONE YOU COULD COUNT ON.

TODAY, WHENEVER ANYONE HAS A QUESTION REGARDING KAUPO RANCH, UNCLE FRANK IS THE GO-TO PERSON. HE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHETHER OR NOT YOUR SOLUTIONS TO RANCH ISSUES WILL WORK. HE IS STILL VERY ACTIVE, STILL LIVES ON THE RANCH, AND STILL VERY WILLING TO LEND A HAND. CO-WORKERS SAY “HE IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST ASSETS”.

IN 2011, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII RECOGNIZED FRANK NAPUA POOUAHI AS A “MAUI PANIOLLO LIVING TREASURE,” THUS RECOGNIZING FRANK’S LIFELONG AND EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE PANIOLLO WAY-OF-LIFE.



Francis “Frank” Poouahi Paniolo Hall of Fame

- LW: Today is March 26th, 2014. It’s about eleven o’clock in the morning and I am at Frank Poouahi’s house in Kaupo. How many children do you have?
- FP: Three... two girls and a boy.
- LW: So who’s this young man I met when I came in?
- FP: That’s one of my daughter’s sons. That’s my grandson.
- LW: And what is his name?
- FP: John... John Poouahi.
- LW: And your daughters’ names are?
- FP: Doris... the one that’s his mother. Doris Poouahi. And then I get my oldest daughter in Kula. She married a Fong. And then my son is working at Ulupalakua Ranch. His name is same as I am. Francis Poouahi, Jr. ... Napua junior.
- LW: And do each of them have children?
- FP: Yeah, my two daughters have children. Yes. My son, no. But my oldest daughter have three children. That’s my grandchildren, too. And one has two... my grandson has two. And my granddaughter has three. So I get... great grand... five of them. Well, I love them, you know. They’ve been with me all the time so. And then my second daughter that’s gone... she has three kids. Different father. He and my other grandson is Dylan Poouahi. Their father is Nunes. But they carry my last name, so Nunes has nothing to do with it but the other one, my girl... my granddaughter is HevenLee Perreira. My daughter going with that boy. The Perreira boy.
- LW: Wow... big family, huh?
- FP: Yeah... it’s getting too big.
- LW: So you’re Francis Napua Poouahi.
- FP: Yes.
- LW: And your father was...?
- FP: Joseph Keawe Poouahi.

LW: Are the Pooahi from Kaupo area?

FP: Yes. Yes, it's from here. They born and raised here. As you coming up there's that old house right below here? On your left hand side of the road. You see one old house. Nothing in there but I keep the yard clean, though. That's where they were born. My great-grandfather and my grandfather and my dad born down there. My mom is from right there, too. She's a Kahunanui girl. Not Poouahi but she's a Kahunanui girl. She married my dad and we had... I'm the number six boys and four girls. We had about ten children, my mom and dad them. We have ten of us. And we all stayed down there. But I wasn't born up here. I was born below... I don't know if you know the place where as you're coming up the hill there's houses on the right and house on the left coming up before you get to the corral. I was born down there. I left down there, I came up 1941. Just about before the World War. Then I stayed up here with my dad, them. I was staying with my auntie before, down there.

LW: Is that who raised you? Your auntie?

FP: That's my Auntie Kamai. So I stayed with them for a while and then I came up... moved up here. Been a long time. Since '41... I've been here. The World War... I was still down there. Then after that World War... '42... then I moved up here.

LW: And how old were you when you moved up here?

FP: Well I was only about four or five years old.

LW: So when were you born?

FP: June 19, 1938.

LW: Oh yeah, so you were pretty young.

FP: Yeah... I was young then. So they brought me up here. That's why we stayed up here and then I didn't stay here all the time. I went out to Haiku and I started working at Libby Cannery.

LW: How old were you when you...?

FP: I was only about eighteen... nineteen. Nineteen years old. I wen go school, too... up there. In Haiku. And then after that...

LW: High school? You went to high school up there.

FP: No... up there is grade school. Yeah, in Haiku. Only up to eighth grade. I was supposed to graduate. My dad need help, I came back. I left up there, I came back, and I went back again, and I started work for Bill Eby. I guess... you know... they had the... what

Bobby Ferreira put on the paper. So I worked for Bill Eby for two, three months. Then I came back home and early '58... '59... yeah... early '59 I guess.

LW: Eby... where was he located then?

FP: He was living in Haiku.

LW: And what was the ranch called that he had?

FP: That's the Eby Ranch. So most of the time... he have horses but we don't ride horses. He get places in Kapalua, Lahaina. And raise cattle and I go help him... on foot. We no need horses. Just push the cattle down, put it on the truck and take it up to Haiku. Take them to the slaughter house.

LW: So he had pasturage in many different places.

FP: Yeah. He had pretty much an acre in Haiku. Most of his cattle and whatever horses he owned stayed in Haiku.

LW: So what do you remember from when you were a little kid at your parents' place here in Kaupo?

FP: Oh... I remember just that I've been doing whatever I got to do when I was young. I used to play with the... chase donkeys... catch the donkeys and ride the donkey down. Play. Me and my... I don't know if you know Charles Aki. You know him? Well, he and I used to be friends before I married his sister so. He and I been retired. Worked together. He worked two years before me. And then he started in '57, I started in '59. So we worked together and then we started going riding... I was small kid time... I would go down the school and take our ropes like that and go down and catch the donkeys and we started riding the donkeys. Then bucked off and dakine. That was fun for us. For me and my brother-in-law.

LW: And what was his name again?

FP: Charles Aki... Kahaleauki... is his last name, yeah. He's a nice guy. When he and I were young we used to do things that not supposed to do. But we go to school... even though it's not raining, we jump in the water trough, we get to school, he's all wet. The teacher send us home. Oh... we feel good coming back. That was our young days before.

LW: So were you the *kolohe* boy?

FP: Yeah... we were... we were... he and I was the *kolohe* ones. So...

LW: So you could walk to school here?

FP: We walked every day from here to the schoolhouse. You know where from the main highway or whatever you call it... that Pi'ilani Highway, you coming up the ranch. The schoolhouse right there.

LW: Oh, that's right. Soot was telling me about that there. That they're wanting that building to come to the community or something. That's a nice building.

FP: But it's old. I mean the frames underneath... is all rotten already so. You got to fix it if they want it for a community center they got to really spend big money, boy.

LW: Yeah, to fix it up. So you went all grade school there?

FP: Yeah. I went to school... I was seventh grade and then I went out to Haiku.

LW: So all your brothers and sisters went to the little school.

FP: Yeah.

LW: Are you the youngest of the boys?

FP: No... I'm the fifth one. The youngest was my brother Aloysius. He went to Kipahulu for a party and then he drove the jeep over the cliff into the ocean.

LW: 'Cause he's in the photos that Soot showed me. He liked ranching, too.

FP: Oh yeah... he liked...

LW: But did Soot or maybe you said that you were the only one that went into ranching? I forget what you said... that your dad... anyway, we'll get there. Aloysius was the youngest of your brothers?

FP: Yeah. He was the youngest. My brothers and sisters were going to the school, too.

LW: And the sisters were all younger?

FP: Step by step. The oldest one was my sister Rose. Then my sister Elizabeth and my sister Matilda and my sister Ann. But three of them died already. I get only my sister Elizabeth living. She and I are the only ones living.

LW: Of all ten?

FP: Mm hmm.

LW: And where is she living?

FP: In Wailuku.

LW: Was your dad working on the ranch when you were a little kid?

FP: Yes.

LW: He was working Kaupo Ranch?

FP: Kaupo Ranch, yeah. He started working at Kaupo Ranch at fifteen years old.

LW: Was his dad working the ranch?

FP: His dad wasn't working on the ranch... oh, excuse me. Yeah, his dad was working on the ranch. He was building all these walls that you see on the ranch property. All that straight walls. His dad was building that and his... his granddad. And my dad was working on the ranch since he was fifteen years old. And he worked right through all till he retired.

LW: He worked all his life for the ranch.

FP: All his life, yeah. When I was young... might be I was only about five, six years old. I was going with my dad on the horse. He put me on the horse and we'd go. He got to go to Nu'u... well they put the ranch boys to go look for poachers. Guards... guard the area so... my dad go and he take me. Go and we camp down there like two or three days. Then we come back home. On the horse, though, sleepy but he hang on to me. Bring me home. I always go with my dad wherever he go. Even go cowboy like that, I go with him. He teach me lot of roping and riding and stuff.

LW: Just by going with him you learned it all.

FP: Yeah.

LW: Wow... so that's kind of old ways... you learn some...

FP: Yeah. It is.

LW: What did he teach you ... what did he teach you that...?

FP: Oh, he teach me all kinds. He teach me how to braid rawhide rope and all that. But at that young age, you know we're... not interested in doing that. We always want to run out and play. And we get scoldings but that's all what we do... just only want to play. And I didn't catch his whatever that he showed me... braiding ropes and covering rawhide saddles. He do all that.

LW: The Hawaiian saddle?

FP: Yeah... the Hawaiian saddle.

LW: Awe awes on the Hawaiian saddle?

FP: Yeah. He do that and then he weave bullwhip. He make bullwhip for whoever like. But you know it's a lot of job because the leather... the ranch kill a cow then they stretch the leather. Prepare it... everything. And then afterwards he cut it and then scape all the hairs off before he start braiding. Put it in the water so soft, where you can braid. I used to be good in braiding.

LW: So you cut the hide a circular...?

FP: Yeah... circle right around. I go until the end, until there's no rawhide left to cut. And then when you start stretching... you stretch it on a tree... like from one end until the other. So I stretch. But take about...might be... if thirty or forty feet, from one post to the other, the rawhide is long. You just stretch it. You keep on stretching then take to another post. Sometimes look just like the clothesline... you go back and forth. That's how. Then braid it up. But you got to shave all the hairs on the rawhide. And you got to cut so with a strand he make about half an inch or one inch. All depend on how big you like the ropes. He braid by eight and six and four. He's good.

LW: So what was the eight braid for?

FP: Well he just do that to make *kaula ili*... you know... skin rope. He do that skin rope by eight, and it's more stronger than the six and four. But it's square, though. Not round. It's square. I don't know how it came square but if you look... just like block. But it's long. He weave... might be twenty-five, thirty feet... one rope.

LW: He was using the rope to catch cattle all the time?

FP: Yeah. That's all... only what he used. Only *kaula ili*. He no use no nylon ropes. All *kaula ili*. Like me... when I started work with him, I used lot of nylon ropes. But nylon ropes if it stretch... broke. The *kaula ili* never broke. Yeah... he ropes one *po'o* and then I rope the legs... everything. And my rope just... breaks. That's what good about the *kaula ili*. They strong. I like that rope. But he didn't... we didn't even save whatever he braided and recovered... all the horse saddles like that. We didn't even keep some of that. Just left it like that and get all rotten. It's no good for nothing.

LW: So do you remember your grandfather or great grandfather?

FP: No... my great grandfather, no. My grandfather, yeah. But we hardly talked to him so... he's kind of mad man, so...

LW: How come?

FP: I don't know. But we always don't bother him.

LW: He was the one who did a lot of rock wall work?

FP: Yeah... he was the one doing that.

LW: Was he fishing? How did he make a living?

FP: Oh, they go fishing... hunting. But in those days he was young... then my dad go hunting. My dad used to hunt goats and pigs. And before they used to have wild cow up in the forest. My dad go up there and rope. They done... they just rope.

LW: And then what?

FP: And then whatever on the rope, they choke'um till dead. And then they skin it up there and pack the meat out on the horse. On the horse, mule... whatever pack horses they get or mule. Then they bring down whatever meat they get, they bring'um down.

LW: So your dad always had horses and mules?

FP: Oh yeah. Those days he had about four, five horses. And mules... he had about three, four mules. And that's all what he used for. He used for when he go worklike that. But for hunting... even go fishing, he'd go on a mule, 'cause we don't have vehicle or automobiles at that time. You know... all on the horse or your two legs if you can walk well...

LW: Can you get down to the ocean pretty quick from here?

FP: Yeah. Like today, Oh yeah... you just go on a car and you're right down to the ocean. But before you got to go on the... there's no road, but you got to go on the trail. Go down to get to the ocean. And you stay down there whatever... one, two nights and you come back home. If you get luck, well it's okay. But if you no more... well, you don't have none.

LW: So your family has been here in this area for generations, yuh?

FP: Yeah... yeah. Has been here all their life... all their life. It's just like I... just like I living here all my life, you know. I've been born and raised here. And I'm still here. And my family, yeah. They've been born and raised here. They still living here in Kaupo.

LW: So did you speak Hawaiian at home?

FP: Very little.

LW: Your parents spoke English.

FP: They hardly speak Hawaiian to us. They talk regular pidgin English to us but Hawaiian... they hardly speak Hawaiian to us.

LW: Did they speak to each other in Hawaiian?

FP: Oh yeah... my dad and my mom, they speak Hawaiian to each other. But we ask them what they talking about, they don't want to say. Might be they talking about us, you know. Yeah, they speak Hawaiian.

LW: And I suppose your grandfather spoke Hawaiian?

FP: Yeah... he spoke Hawaiian.

LW: You were the generation that was encouraged to not speak Hawaiian, yuh?

FP: Yeah... yeah... but if I... if I had people that spoke Hawaiian and they teach me, I could learn. I speak little bit. Not that much... *kapulu* with Hawaiian, you know.

LW: Well I noticed when I drove up you were speaking with each other in Hawaiian.

FP: I always speak Hawaiian to Soot. And you know he speaks back to me. He's been my manager for so long so... well, we're good friends. He's nice.

LW: So you went to Kula School till seventh grade...

FP: Haiku.

LW: Haiku... oh, I thought you said you went to the little school down here... I mean not Kula... Kaupo School till... seventh grade. And your best friend whose sister ends up to be your wife?

FP: Oh... Charlie. Yeah... Charlie Aki.

LW: He's from Kaupo?

FP: He's born and raised over here, too.

LW: So did you go to Kaupo School with him?

FP: Kaupo... yeah.

LW: No how do you end up going to Haiku at...

FP: I just left Kaupo. Then I went to Haiku to stay with my brother. Boniface. That's the oldest brother I had. So I stayed with him. He was staying at Haiku so I was going school in Haiku from seventh grade to eighth grade. And those grade schools only go up

to eighth before so I didn't go to high school because when... I almost graduated in Haiku School, my dad needed help so that's why I left school, I came back over here. To help him And I was the only one. All my brothers and dakine they're here, but they're not even helping so I was the only one came home and helped my dad. They're home but ... my dad... he cannot rely on them because they... just like they only know themselves... they no care for do what my dad want them to do. They only care for themselves.

LW: Yeah... that happens. But sounds like you were his helper all along.

FP: Yes. I've been helping him since I started work Kaupo Ranch. I've been helping him until he passed away.

LW: So when you came back you were in eighth grade?

FP: Yeah.

LW: So in eighth grade you're about thirteen years old?

FP: Yeah.

LW: So what kinds of things were you helping him with?

FP: I help him with whatever he got to do. He used to raise cattle. That's why I came back because he raised cows. I came back to take care his cows. And then he had horses. You know I stay with him, ride horse and then take care of the horses and when he... the calves... we don't brand them but we just castrate them. And then... let them go with the mama and I help him do whatever chores he had me to do so I do all that for him.

LW: So he had his own herd?

FP: Yeah. He had... not that much. I would say about ten. Ten.

LW: Soot said you had family land around here.

FP: Yes, it's right below here.

LW: So he had those cattle on his land?

FP: On his land, yeah. He kept that. He had eighteen acres below here. That's the one I taking care now. Well it's not only that... I getting problem with the people own some shares in there. So I stay fighting for it but... anyway... that's what I was doing. Taking care of his cattle.

LW: So what were your chores then?

FP: Like I say... clean potato patches like that. I come back and go help him. Even from school, I come back help him and he stayed there in... after work, he *pau* work... three o'clock, three-thirty... he stayed in the potato field till six o'clock in the afternoon and I help him every day like that. Do that... all those. That's why he like me for stay with him.

LW: Were they sweet potatoes?

FP: Sweet potatoes. They had plenty sweet potatoes and cabbage. Not head cabbage but Chinese cabbage and all that.

LW: So he had a big garden there, too. You helped him in the garden.

FP: Oh, not that big. But the potato field, yeah... it's big. Oh, might be... in square foot, might be twenty by thirty. But it's patches after patches. 'Cause the ground, you cannot get one good ground that only get dirt. So mostly get rocks. You had to pick up all the rocks. That's why he like me... pick up all the rocks and pile it up. So that's what I do. And then he plants the potato.

LW: Did he feed them to his animals or did he sell them?

FP: No, no. That's what they live on. We live on before.

LW: Oh, lived on them.

FP That and breadfruit. We always used to live on that. We make *poi* out of that.

LW: So you had some breadfruit trees over here?

FP Yeah... we had lots of them. I don't know if Soot told you but as you turning up you look on your right on the Hana side, there's big fields of breadfruit trees.

LW: And they belong to you guys?

FP: Well, they're in the ranch property. And if we like, we just go up and get it because our parents working at the ranch so we just go get... might be a half bag, like that, and bring it home. Cook it.

LW: Did he plant taro, too?

FP: He plant taro. Not up here, but down at the... at this place called Waiū. And we used to go down there camp, too. We have a small shack down there... not shack, but it's a place that we can cook and sit down and eat. He plant taro down there. Just one taro patch. Just only one. Might be he had thirty to forty plants, you know. Whatever taro he get, he bring it out and then cook it and pound it. And make *poi* out of it.

LW: Put the *keikis* back in...make the *hulis*...

FP: Yeah. He take the *hulis* and put'um back down in the ground.

LW: So did you eat more sweet potato at home?

FP: More sweet potato.

LW: Than poi?

FP: Yeah. We used to eat more sweet potato than *poi*. I like... I like eat poi but not that much. I rather eat sweet potato. In those days...

LW: You have ten kids, you got to feed ten kids. That's a lot of mouths. So when did you start working at the ranch? Well, you helped your dad with his animals. So when did you start working for Kaupo Ranch.

FP: Oh, I started April 1st, 1959.

LW: How old would you be then? Let's see... almost twenty... nineteen?

FP: I think I was twenty-one, twenty-two.

LW: Oh right, because '58 you would have been twenty. Twenty-one... yeah.

FP: So I worked that ranch at that time. In April and then... before I started work, I went with my dad. They had a big branding down there. So I went with my dad. He got me a horse from the ranch... I wasn't working at the ranch that time. And then he saddle up the horse for me. I went with him. Had this big drive about... oh might be five to six hundred head of cattle. And then we separated them. Put the cows one side and take the calves all one side. And then we start branding. And before I started to work with his friends, the manager was Robert Von Tempsky. I guess you heard about him. He was good. He's old but he's good. He told dad who was I? My dad tell him I was his son, and we were roping. He tell my dad... he speak in Hawaiian, too, yeah. He tell my dad if I want to work, if I want job? My dad said well, he don't know. He going try talk to me. So I went down there roping. Then my dad came and talked to me. I tell him oh yeah, I get nothing to lose because I need work. So my dad told him yeah, that I wanted to work. That's how I get into the ranching. That year '59.

LW: So how often did they do the big drive like that?

FP: Well they usually go... like they go branding, they go season or they go every once a year or every twice a year. This used to go by season... might be three, four times a year branding, because we had a lot of cattle before. And all Hereford. There's no mixed cattle. Only Hereford... pure breed Hereford, some of them. Mostly Hereford anyway. That's what they were raising at Kaupo Ranch before.

LW: Under Von Tempsky they were raising Herefords.

FP: Yeah. Von Tempsky and them. But when he gave me the job I was glad that I get a job, something to do. And my dad and I, we worked together. And every time get branding, they put me on the gate watching cattle. Like separating cattle. I stay on the gate watching, separate the cows from the calves. Just like you see on the movies like the cutting horse. You know they get cutting horse... animals like that. This is just me and the horse separating the cows from the calves. I do that right through... I've been working with seven managers and Alex Franco was the last one. But I was separating cattle from then until Alex left the ranch. I think he left the ranch in 2002, I guess... three.

LW: So how does that work? You on a horse or...?

FP: I'm on a horse. I got to get the horse to separate the cows from the calves. So I want the cow to go to my right, I just go like that... and the calves to my left.

LW: You said you worked the gate?

FP: Yeah.

LW: That's what that means? To separate the calves from the cows?

FP: And we call it... the Hawaiians, they call it the *wāwahi*. That's the separating the calves from the cows. So that's what I do. Since I started work until I retired.

LW: That takes a lot of skill on the horse.

FP: Yeah. And you know your horse learns more of what they can do. But I like that. I like that job, you know. You got to pay attention to it.

LW: You got to be really focused.

FP: Yeah... focus on the cow, on the calf. I do that all the time for Kaupo Ranch.

LW: Is that what you were doing when you were in your twenties?

FP: Yeah. And if we not guiding cattle, then I go on the dozer. Soot ever tell you I go on the dozer?

LW: Yeah... but I want to finish with the cattle first. So four brandings a year, you think.

FP: Four... four brandings a year.

LW: And the herd was about five hundred, maybe?

FP: Yeah. I mean that's not all, you know. That five hundred and might be they get another four hundred more cows outside. So that we finish with five hundred, we got to get that four hundred to brand. And then put the five hundred where we like 'um. Put them away and then brand the four hundred. Kaupo Ranch had over a thousand cows before. They had about ten thousand acres. But not ten acres were used.

LW: So how are you guys branding in those days, back there in the... late '50s? You rope the calf by the heels and drag 'um? Is that how you brand?

FP: No, it's only one man on the horse. And most of the men down on the ground. If the animal is like three, four hundred pounds then we use two cowboys. One heel, and one head. But this one, the calf is three hundred or two hundred pounds, you just go in one small pen, put the rope, catch the two hind legs and just drag it out. And the man on the ground just knock the calf and they brand them. That's how we doing right now.

LW: Yeah. I've seen that. Not too different. It hasn't changed.

FP: But if the animal is four hundred pounds and over, then you got to get two cowboys on a horse.

LW: 'Cause otherwise too heavy...

FP: Too heavy to knock over. Right. Cannot bring 'um down.

LW: So how many cowboys would it take to round up those herds?

FP: We started with fourteen cowboys. I mean for round-up we go pick up six hundred head here, we don't come in with all six hundred sometimes. 'Cause that area don't have fences. It's old... Kaupo Ranch was an old one. No more fence to separate the cows, this bunch here, this bunch there. We just drive it right down to the Lucinda corral. We start from up the gap. Start driving. We go up five o'clock in the morning. By the time we reach down to the corral it's about four, five-thirty in the afternoon. And then we don't get all the six hundred head of cattle. Then we go back again the next day, go get some more because we lost plenty in the back so... go get some more. Bring them down and put them all in one place. Separate them and then we start branding them.

LW: So Von Tempsky was the first manager?

FP: Yeah.

LW: Who was the second one?

FP: Von Tempsky. Then came Burgess. Russell Burgess. He was a veterinarian at that time. He do lot of doctoring and stuff.

LW: And then after Burgess, came who?

FP: And then Burgess came... Nick Cleghorn. After Nick Cleghorn came Soot.

LW: Oh, then Soot. What did he say? Let's see... '67 to '82.

FP: He came '67, I think.

LW: So he was here a while.

FP: Yeah, he was here a while.

LW: Okay... so that's... four... so after Soot...?

FP: Leighton Beck.

LW: 'Cause he was working here before. He's in those photos.

FP: Yeah.

LW: Okay. And then after Leighton comes...?

FP: After Leighton came... this... Rick Habein from Big Island. But he was here only one year and he get thrown out. I don't know what he did, but the owners never liked the idea of what he did and put him out.

LW: And then after him is... who's the last one? You said his name.

FP: After Habine... I get lost now...

LW: You said his name earlier but he went to 2002...

FP: Oh... okay, okay. Sorry. Franco... Alex Franco. He went out 2002... that's when I was retired. And... I think 2003, he left. And then he started with the Cattlemen's Association. They were the managers.

LW: So you learned how to use that big dozer early on, then.

FP: Yeah. When Soot was here... before Soot came, I was on the dozer already at that time. I was doing little bit. But I was mostly working cattle. Then we're not doing cattle, I go on the dozer. All the roads here that goes up the mountain or all inside here... I put in all these roads. That one road below here that goes out and hits the main highway way down... I put in all those roads. Because whatever roads get here, I did all that.

LW: So that big dozer has a big scraper in the front.

FP: Yeah.

LW: What's it called again? D...

FP: Six.

LW: D-6 dozer. How does that one work, then?

FP: If you want to grub... you're cleaning a big pasture, you just put the blade down and just push. Whatever stay in your way, it's going to go, you know. Whatever they put there... if get a house, that house is going to go. (Laughs.) So pretty good. Oh... we had one before that... a D-6-C. Our D-6 now, that's a D-6-H. I don't why get the H and the C but I was operating the D-6-C before. First I put on a 275 round by 175 wide. I only could go down about twenty feet deep. I went down with one tractor only. Only me with one tractor. I went down, start picking up, picking up... until I finished the reservoir. Then we start lining it inside. With rubber lining. We had all these people from Honolulu came down and do all the lining for us. They bring all the rubber down here and I came down with the tractor, pick it up and we on the trailer... I took it right up to the reservoir. And then start laying them down. Go down with the tractor and the rubber. Go up the other side. Just to get the rubber inside. It's heavy, yuh. We had about thirty people up there. We couldn't put that rubber down. Got to put it with the tractor. So we get it done and it's being used now. A long time we've been using it.

LW: So did you have to maintain that machine or did they have a mechanic?

FP: No. We maintain our own. We do. I mean if big problems, like the motor then we got to get mechanic from outside, come inside. But minor things like changing oil and stuff like that, we do that.

LW: Because the tractor mechanism must be... you got to keep that nice and... or it'll be moving and...

FP: The tracks is... I forget that word but you don't have to put oil. You just can use it because the inside there... just like they have oil in the rollers like that. The sprocket, you got to put oil. And then the idler, the rollers below, the track rollers... all that... they get oil inside already. Some we got to grease it. And then the blade part... lot of greasing nipples get so lot of greasing got to get.

LW: So some of those paniolos you worked with when you were young, from your dad's generation... you remember any of them?

FP: Oh yeah. All those old timers? Yeah. Before my time, those cowboys that working with my dad?

LW: Yeah.

FP: I know the oldest one... I seen him. John Hapakuka was the oldest. And then John Auwae. And Henry Gibson. They were the three older ones. All of them... passed away when my dad was still working yet. My dad was young yet anyway. He wasn't that old. But that was the oldest ones that I remember working at the ranch. It was those three old guys.

LW: Did they speak Hawaiian to each other or...?

FP: They did speak Hawaiian, yeah. I know Gibson, Hapakuka and Auwae, they good... yeah they speak Hawaiian. My dad them, they all speak Hawaiian. But they're good.

LW: So did you use a lot of Hawaiian words for the things you did in the ranching?

FP: You mean, did I?

LW: Yeah. Since those guys were all talking Hawaiian... while your dad was maybe in his forties and you're maybe in your twenties... right? Those guys may be in their... I don't know how old they were, but they were older than your dad. So you're hearing them and they're working and speaking Hawaiian to each other, when you learned how to do some ranch things, did you learn it in Hawaiian?

FP: Yeah, yeah. I speak Hawaiian. But... like from the time I was working hardly any more Hawaiians working with me. All those Hawaiians that were working before, they all retired, some... and some passed away. That was working before my time but... and they had some Hawaiians that working when I was working... Pimauna... they call him Joseph Pimauna. Nickname is Nahale. And Francis Marciel... Tito. They call him Tito. That's his nickname. They speak Hawaiian. And my dad speak Hawaiian. That's the only ones speak Hawaiian. Because when come to my time, I'm the only one that can speak Hawaiian and the other rest cannot. But I speak Hawaiian to my dad, and then my dad speak Hawaiian back to me.

LW: So you worked for the Marciels a little bit?

FP: Yeah, but it's working just after school like that. After school I work for the Marciels. Clean... what you call... lantanas... go dig lantanas for them after school.

LW: But they were a ranch family around here? What did they do around here?

FP: The Marciaos? Yeah they had ranch. I ride a bus there. They call that Ala Akua Ranch. That was the Marciel Ranch. She sold it to Denman. She sold to Gilbert Denman and Gilbert Denman sold to these people now over there... Waterhouse. That's the ones own it now.

LW: Where's Na Holoku?

FP: It's right above here.

LW: That's the area below the gap there?

FP: Yeah. You know before I started work here, this place was all nice. Not too much bushes like this. Was open right up... right up the gap was open. There's no trees. Now get lot... see all those trees? That's all silver oak trees. Never had that before... my kid time. I used to run around here. Over here used to be a corral but I used to run around below here. And then looking up it was beautiful. Real nice.

LW: Because the cattle were on it, I guess.

FP: Yeah. And you can see the cattle roaming around up there before. But not now. Now you look and it's all grown up. And they get these various trees. They all grown up already. You get hard time go inside of the trees to get the cattle out. That's why they use dogs now. To get their cattle up. Can hardly use the place now because it's all overgrown brushes but... they should have sprayed all that before.

LW: Oh, keep it down?

FP: Keep it down. But now it's too overgrown. It's too much.

LW: So Kaupo Ranch is still running? And who's managing it now?

FP: Ferreira.

LW: And who owns the ranch?

FP: Well get three owners... four... four owners. Get Jack Keane. Steven Goodfellow. And this other owner, Jimmy Haynes, on Maui. And Wendy Baldwin... I mean not Baldwin but Meekhof. She used to be... now she married another guy. I don't know his last name but. Wendy. They had Goodfellow and Jack Keane. And this... one more guy from Maui. He's over here. But four of them.

LW: But is anybody living in headquarters houses?

FP: No, it's only for them. When they come the owners come, stay there. The weekend kind, they come.

LW: I can tell they use the headquarters... the garage... it looks like it's still in use.

FP: The barn, they call it. They still use that. That's what Ferreira them use all the time.

LW: But where does Ferreira live?

FP: Right below here. I mean he lives Kaua'i, but he just came back on Sunday. He's hardly around.

LW: He lives on Kaua'i.

FP: He lives on Kaua'i.

LW: And he comes here to check on stuff?

FP: Check on stuff. And he had his foreman, Joe Santos, from Kokomo. Makawao.

LW: So he's here all the time?

FP: He's here all the time. I know what they're doing, but I hardly see anything whatever they're doing. He's only up here sometime in the shop welding something. I hardly go down and check on what he's doing but... that is not my business but...

LW: You did that already. So how many years would you have worked at Kaupo Ranch?

FP: Forty-three.

LW: So in that time you lived here all that time...

FP: Yes.

LW: ...and you started your family here and you had your children here.

FP: Yes.

LW: So you didn't have to go Viet Nam War or Korean War or...?

FP: No. I wasn't drafted 'cause I didn't pass my physical. They got me in 4-F so I stayed home. I didn't have to go. Thank God, though.

LW: Yes. No kidding. So you worked the cattle... your job on the ranch was to work the cattle for all those forty-three years?

FP: Yeah. I've been working cattle way before that. Forty-three years. But mostly, like I say... I'm only on the cattle job. Whenever I don't do cattle then I go work on the tractor. Or go do something else. Might be only for a week or so, then they put me back on the cattle again. They always want me to go on the cattle job to do the separating part. On the cows and the calves. Every branding or every drive they get or they're weaning, they always want me to be there. So from the time I started until now, I still did that until I retired.

LW: So did anything change over those forty-three years?

FP: No.

LW: They didn't bring in the four wheeler and the...

FP: They die... they did. Oh, they did that way, way back. I mean before I retired they bring in couple of four wheelers.... ATV but... they trying to use the ATVs to bring the cattle down. The ATVs cannot go inside the bushes. The cow stay inside the bushes, you going with the ATV? No. So we use the horses most. Just to get the cattle down. When Alex Franco came as the manager, he and I worked together and we put all this fencing. I push whatever fence he like... you know... paddocks he like make. He put up... might be five to ten acres, one paddock. And then we do all that. That's why this place now is just like come small. I told you, we used to drive from Na Holoku right down this whole thing. Now we don't have to. They don't have to now.

LW: 'Cause you put in all that fence?

FP: We put in all that fence, me and Alex...not only me and Alex... we used a couple of boys that I worked with. But I was the one that pushed all that for Alex and then we get this guy that comes and do the fencing for us... for the ranch. He come, he do all the fencing. Until we finish. So right now over here, it's so easy. And the cowboys now, they like go with the dogs. You know the cattle... especially the young calves, and the cows... you put the dog in and push the cows with the young calves... the cows not going to go because they trying to protect the calf because the dog is there.

LW: So they got to run with the horse.

FP: Yeah... you know... you got to go on the horse without the dog. And then start push, push... takes time but you going get down. But now they like go with the four wheeler like you said... the ATV. Go and then the dogs going with them, try push the cattle down. I told my brother-in-law, Chunga... you know the animal get more stress. The cows and the calves going get more stress. They're going to run here, run there, and the cows trying to protect their babies and then the dogs are way in, trying to get to the cow, and then you lose the cow and the calf because they get away from the dog, they try to get in the bushes. That's why we don't use dogs over here before. Now they bring in so much dogs. This guy Joe Santos, I think he get about ten dogs down there. All in the kennel. Ten dogs. And I don't know what he going use them for... he don't need ten dogs. When Alex came... like I say we put in all these fences. We called the animals. We called the cows. Alex called the cows. The cows respond to Alex and then I go with Alex, I start calling. Hey... they listen. They listen to me. They go by the voice, I guess. But we get all the cows and calves down. We don't need no dogs. Now... they going with these dogs... I don't know... they losing plenty calves, too.

LW: Yeah, and they probably don't even know how many they're losing.

FP: Yeah. They probably don't even know. That's true because you don't know if the dogs taking the calves down or they killing them, you know. That's a bad, bad way of

ranching. If you stay with the dog all right, but just keep the dogs away from the calves or the cows. But if you not with the dogs, they going to chew those calves up.

LW: Did you have to use more men, though, if you only had horsemen and horses?

FP: No... no...

LW: Can you use less... fewer men if you have an ATV and dogs?

FP: Yeah. Now they go with the dog and the ATV, they go with only one person or two.

LW: Yeah. That's why they do it. Because men are expensive.

FP: So like my time when I was working with here, we only go with four cowboys. And we don't use dogs. Just four cowboys go. They start calling. One calling the animals in the front of you and the other three behind start pushing. Push down. We get all dakine down. We never use dogs. We never use dogs. On the ranch. We never use dogs. We rather work without the dogs than with the dogs. But these guys as they come around now they like dogs for help them. You going make... give the cattle more stress and get hard time for get them down anyway.

LW: And if there's more brush up there it's even harder.

FP: Yeah... mm hmm.

LW: So did you work on planting grasses at all?

FP: Oh... yeah. We used to. I used to with Soot. He take us one area, I clean. I wasn't on the tractor that time. We had one small D-4. My brother-in-law, he was working. But he died already. Kawai... you know Andrew Kawai? You don't know. Okay. And the brother used to work over here before. Well he go push... grub first for us and then we go plant grass. Up in the valley. With Soot.

LW: Did you take seed or how did you plant grass?

FP: You know kikuyu grass? We dig the grass. We cut all the grass with the grass knife and then we put it on the truck, we take it up, then we plant it. It grows, though. We don't use seed. After that then we start getting seed. We start cleaning the area then throwing seed. Now we get green panic brand and... guinea grass but at least you get something for the cattle for eat, yuh. So the *haole koa* better for the cows here. That's what we was raising the cattle on before. My time working, I used to go with my dad, them, they used to throw grass seed inside the pasture. They throw when not raining but by the time the rain get to the grass it's all dried up, eh. That work out all right. And you get some grass.

LW: What were the names of the grass?

FP: Kikuyu grass. Green Panic. That's the one we throw. And then we had some other buffel grass... we throw that. It grows. And then now get so much goats, the grass doesn't grow because too many goats, get.

LW: Do they eat other stuff, too?

FP: The *koa*... they eat the bark of the trees, the *koas* all die. The trees. They eat the bark, the trees all dying.

LW: Yeah. I noticed there was a lot of dead *koa*.

FP: That's why you see plenty dead *koa*... that's from the goats.

LW: The was maybe higher up on our way down. Ulupalakua area maybe.

FP: Ulupalakua there's a lot of *koa*. You know where the windmill is... as you guys coming in there's a windmill. Over there only when it get rain. But if no more rain, that place... no more nothing. Not even grass. I don't know why. I don't see why they no go throw grass seed when get rain. When they put the cattle inside the cattle just eat everything now.

LW: So there's a lot of waterfalls back here. That's good fresh water, yuh.

FP: Yeah... yeah...

LW: Do the cattle like to go up back in there?

FP: No, the cattle can't get in there. But we have a small spring pond up there. The ranch. Way before. We go in there and get the water, to fill up the reservoir that I made up here.

LW: Oh, I see. Through a pipe?

FP: Yeah. We had two... two inch pipe. Three inch to two inch, inch and a half to the reservoir.

LW: So can people get back in there?

FP: No.

LW: How come?

FP: The National Park don't want them to get in there. 'Cause that is all National Park area. It's all fenced, you know. They fenced the bottom, the National Park.

LW: When did they do that?

FP: Oh... about ten, twelve years ago. They did all that.

LW: So the Hawaiian... the ancient Hawaiians...

FP: Oh, maybe the ancient Hawaiians. Before they never had fencing, but they up there and they try get water for them.

LW: Did your parents ever talk about the ancient Hawaiians?

FP: No. Not to us.

LW: Never told stories about them?

FP: No. No...

LW: Was there an old town here, an old Hawaiian town?

FP: Not that I know of. No.

LW: So your great-grandparents' people... they didn't live in a Hawaiian grouping or...?

FP: Not even that, I don't think so. I don't know.

LW: So when your parents couldn't find something here, where would they go for it?

FP: Oh, something like...?

LW: I don't know. If they had to go out of Kaupo, did they go Hana...?

FP: Oh, oh... okay, okay. If they couldn't get anything here...

LW: They needed something special, they had to go to town?

FP: In those days, there was no road going to Hana. You know when my parents were here, even with their parents, there wasn't any road going to Hana, and there's no road going out to this side until they put up the road. The prisoners put up this road over here.

LW: When did they do that?

FP: Oh, it was way before... I was small yet. I remember the prison camp. They had one big house down Nu'u... Nu'u Bay. Did Soot tell you that name? Nu'u Bay?

LW: Yeah.

FP: Over there had one big house just for the prisoners to stay and to go work.

LW: They built the road?

FP: Yeah, they built the road. They built the road till Nu'u... Huakini. Soot know where is that I'm talking about. If he were here. Huakini... you know when there's a dip and the culvert, there's a tractor on the hill? Or a loader. Did you see that this morning?

LW: No. I missed the loader but I remembered some of the hills that go into the pali...

FP: Yeah. And then as you coming inside to Nu'u, there's a culvert there where the new road pavement they made ends... and then get over the culvert and they start again? Just like a small little bridge. That's Huakini. And the prisoners came till there to make the road.

LW: So did your parents go out on canoe or how did they get... the take the horse on the trail or what did they do?

FP: Oh, they go on the horseback. The horse can go through here... because there's a trail. If he go even into Hana you go on the horse... and the donkey or...

LW: If they had to take the donkey somewhere, did they go to Hana? Or did they go back to...?

FP: No, they go to Hana. Or Kipahulu. Because they... my dad them said they had stores in Kipahulu before, yuh. So if they need something they go to Kipahulu, the store. Nick Soon, I think he was here at the time. The store below here. So I think mostly they get their stuff from Nick Soon but if he don't have it then they go to Hana.

LW: So when you were living here, would you go towards Haleakala or would you go towards Hana if you needed to go to the store.

FP: Right now I would rather go there than Hana.

LW: But when you were younger?

FP: When I was younger we always go out, yuh.

LW: Soot said the cattle... you trucked the cattle out this way.

FP: Yes. We trucked the cattle out there and then come back again.

LW: That must have been a chore, to truck the cattle out.

FP: And then before we used to take the cattle, never had this paved road, you know. All dirt road and big kind rocks and bumpy and... and then we used to... Soot knows about that. There's no pavement road or oil road. All dirt road from here to Ulupalakua. I used to

take the tractor from here just to fix... for Pacific Machinery pick up the tractor, I walk'um from here to Ulupalakua.

LW: You walk'um?

FP: Yeah... on the tractor. Whatever speed the tractor can go, I just put... whatever speed.

LW: The cows in front of you?

FP: Huh?

LW: Where are the cows.

FP: Oh no... I'm talking about the tractor going on this road now.

LW: Oh, I see. You just walked the tractor to Ulupalakua?

FP: Yeah, to fix. But the cows we take them on the cattle truck and the trailer. But it takes all day... just one way. Slow. You got to take care the truck and all dirt road, yuh. And you cannot take off, too. And by the time you reach back over here, might be the trailer broke something or the truck. We used to do a lot of hauling here.

LW: How often did you haul, do you think?

FP: Whenever the ranch get cattle to sell. Mostly all weaned steers. The ranch get the steers together then we take it out. We take it to Sakugawa's some time. Kula. Ōma'opio side. Most of the cattle we take over there to him. Or the cows that not pregnant. If dry cows we take'um, too... and cow cows we take'um, too. Cow cows, we take'um to Sakugawa.

LW: And the steers you not keeping for bulls.

FP: Yeah. We keep that for bulls, too.

LW: Do you think you did that once a month, once every other week... how often did you do this?

FP: Maybe once every two months. Because sometimes we run out of whatever we got to ship. Then we got to wait for the next batch so every two months sometimes.

LW: So was it fun to go to town? Did you ever go on the town with trucks?

FP: We don't go that far, though. We only go to Kula.

LW: Kula. That's not town is it?

FP: Yeah. But we go to downtown. When you ship cattle to Honolulu, Hawaii meat market, we go down to the pier. From here maybe we take two trailers and two trucks. Cattle trucks. Big cattle trucks. Take the animals outside. And we do a lot of hauling. Before even shipping up the mainland, we do a lot of hauling. Sometimes we take 'um out there, there's a pen there that we can keep for the next day. We go today, load all the cattle, put 'um in the pen, then the following day we go up and load again. To go to the trailers to ship to the mainland. Yeah. We used to keep 'um out there. All the cattle. Oh, lot of cattle we used to take. Some jump the fence, running down the main highway. The road. We got to chase 'um on foot. We don't have horse. Like Haleakala Ranch and Ka'ono'ulu... they see us, they get horses, they come help.

LW: So did you know the people at Ulupalakua and...

FP: Yeah. Like now all the old-timers all gone so... well, right now I know quite a few. Emerson Makekau, and then... get Jimmy Gomes... he's the manager over there so. And then my sons, they working up there, yuh.

LW: They doing cattle work or...?

FP: Yeah. He's mostly taking care of the cattle. He mostly taking care of herd... cattle. And the kind cattle he... it's not only hundred, two hundred. He taking care like seven hundred cows. And that's... that's only one bunch up there. And then get some more he take. At least about eight, nine hundred head of cattle. He watch every day. That's all he do. But they put him mostly on a horse to do. And then they go check the fence... they raise elks and stuff like that. They get sheep and goats. So he like working up there. He working up there quite a while. Maybe... seven, eight years now, I think. Or seven years.

LW: Did your wife work for the ranch, too?

FP: No. She used to work for Intercontinental Hotel at Kihei.

LW: Oh, she had to drive to Kihei all the time:

FP: No. She had family used to stay in Makena, so she stayed out there. And I stay home here. And I go out during the weekend or whenever she have a day off, she come back home. At that time, my two girls were going school yet. High school. But they were staying with the mother. 'Cause I cannot take them from here to go to high school. Too far. So they were staying with the mother and they were going high school.

LW: What do you want people to remember about you?

FP: I hope they remember about me and thanking me for what I did in Kaupo. You know what I mean? For Kaupo Ranch. I mean I'm talking about not only the people. It's the ranch. You know if the ranch would think that I was doing all this for them and the

people, I would feel real proud of myself because I like somebody to think whatever I do for them.

LW: Yeah. I noticed in your bio for the induction ceremony, people talked about the roads around here and how that was something you did and everybody benefitted from it. Is that what you mean?

FP: Yeah. Mm hmm. Yeah.

LW: Do you think that Hawaii ranching is going to keep going? Does it have a future?

FP: Well, I hope so, you know. But I don't know. But I really do hope so that Hawaii ranching will still keep going. Because... might be not going have ranching around now... you know... the next time around but... I hope they're still going and keep going.

LW: I guess your son is doing it... ranching.

FP: Yeah. He like that. He like that. I guess... if they really want the ranch to go ahead like Kaupo Ranch, they got to do something that they think they can do. I know if I were working there I really want the ranch to go ahead, you know. And not only that... Kaupo Ranch... all the ranchers... you know... all the ranching. And go ahead with this Hawaii ranch thing.

LW: Well Haleakala and Ulupalakua are these big ranches. They're still functioning and they seem to be doing enough to keep themselves going. Kaupo, too.

FP Well, I know Ulupalakua and Haleakala, yeah. And well I'm not sure about Kaupo, but I hope Kaupo do it, too, because that's where I... (interruption with phone call). I hope that Kaupo Ranch keep going ahead. Like Haleakala and Ulupalakua. But to me I feel I don't know right now. 'Cause Kaupo Ranch is not doing anything that they can keep themselves going. I like the ranch, you know. I like Kaupo Ranch. I don't mind doing things for them. I really love the ranch. I hope they become like Ulupalakua and Haleakala Ranch.

LW: Do you still do stuff now and again for the ranch?

FP: Yeah. I help them if they get big branding like that. I go down and help them branding. But I only stay on the horse so... I'm not going be on the ground.

LW: That's for the young men.

FP Yeah... that's for the young men.

LW: Do your grandsons help with those brandings?

FP: Yeah, he goes. He goes. But I'm trying to keep him away from doing all that stuff. But he likes cowboy, I guess. Might be... it's not going to benefit you anyway. So he got to find someplace else to go, find some job to do. You know... cowboy life... cowboy... you can do every day if you want to. After when you do your work, if you have a job, you finish your job. You get day off, you can come back and fool around with the ranch. But now, no more. No more jobs.

LW: You got to do something else and ranch.

FP: Yeah... you got to do something else.

LW: You got to have a day job.

FP: Yeah...

LW: Yeah, seems like that. What did you like best about living the ranching life?

FP: Oh... what I like best...? I really want to be in the ranch, you know... like you're talking about. I like to still be in the ranch and then doing something... whatever I think I can do, you know. And especially for myself, I'm... here forty-three years I've been working the ranch. I really like to be and stay as a cowboy here for Kaupo Ranch and some of the ranches.

LW: So even if you're not full-time you still like to be involved?

FP: Even though I'm not full-time, but I still like to be with the ranch. Yeah.

[Interruption as Carl "Soot" Bredhoff arrived. The conversation continued:]

SB: Yeah... he played the guitar and his brother plays the bass guitar. So he's a guitar man... the other one's the bass man. Aloysius played the bass guitar. Visited Kaupo Ranch once when at Kaalualu Ranch in the mid '60's (Cattlemen's tour) and Frank, Aloysius and a couple others played during lunch. Anyway, Frank and the ranch group played at all of our get togethers. Hawaiian and Western music ("Oakie from Muskogee") etc.

FP: My father played the bass, yeah.

LW: But you had a violin, too?

FP: Yeah, before that. Now I don't have any... I just have two guitars. That's all. That's what I use for.

LW: What kind of music?

FP: Hawaiian music.

LW: Hawaiian...?

FP: Yeah, we play Hawaiian music.

LW: And who did you learn those songs from?

FP: Well, I... I sometimes sing Hawaiian songs. But I have somebody else singing, too. The group that I play with... David... you know David Kamai... Yeah, I play with him. And with Donnie... Jarles You know Jarles?

SB: Jarles? Yeah, Donnie's name when small kid.

FP: Yeah. He plays the drums.

SB: Oh, oh... I didn't know he played drums.

FP: And then with one more other guitar player. I used to play with. And then Baisa. But now he's pau so. And one bass player. Kehano... you know Kehano... Roland Kehano.

SB: Mmm.

FP He play bass for me.

SB: I think I know him, Sherman, yeah.

FP: So...

SB: That's the Kehano who works for... Haleakala... Haleakala Ranch.

FP: Yeah.

SB: Oh... he plays music, too.

FP: Yeah... he good... he good bass player.

LW: So where do you perform?

FP: For parties, like that. We play for nothing, you know. I like... I like play music so we don't charge. But when we play for... when we go hotel... then we charge them. For friends, like for Soot if he want, we play for nothing. Or you or that...

LW: So did your sisters and brothers play, too?

FP: Oh yeah.

SB: The brother was Aloysius. He was a guitar man. He was a bass man.

FP: My sister Anna told me about... she was our singer and then my brother Bobby... Robert... he sings, too. And I play lead guitar and my brother Aloof [Aloysius] play bass. He plays the bass.

LW: So do you play with the family every day... or play...

FP: Yeah, only play with them. We practice every day when we get nothing to do, we start practicing. Then they call us, we go Lahaina, we play for the hotels like that. Napili... Remember the sea flight they had going round Maui to O'ahu, to Molokai?

SB: Oh that was the ferry? The ferry boat? Yeah, yeah. You played on that?

FP: Yeah. We played on that one, too.

LW: Just your brothers and sisters?

FP: Yeah. My two brothers and my sister. The four of us.

SB: That was the first one, yuh... the very first ferry they had.

FP: Yeah, yeah.

SB: Not this last one with Linda Lingel.

FP: No, no... not this one.

SB: But the very first.

FP: The very first one that goes from Ma'alaea to Moloka'i. Moloka'i to Honolulu. Then back to Moloka'i, then back to Ma'alaea. We used to play... we played two hours straight from Ma'alaea to Moloka'i to Honolulu. Four hours we played.

SB: Did you spend the night?

FP: No... just a day.

SB: Oh, they turned around and they come back.

FP: Go Honolulu and then pick up some more people and then come back to Moloka'i. Pick up Moloka'i, then come back to Maui.

SB: Kind of long day, huh?

FP: By the time we reach back around four o'clock. To Ma'alaea. Jump on the car. Put all the music on top. Free ride already.

LW: Wait... I wanted to ask... so who taught you the music... the songs.

FP: From my sister.

LW: Your older sister?

FP: Yeah. She write all the Hawaiian songs (lyrics) and we follow her sing whatever.

LW: And she'd learn them from where?

FP: She learned from the records, like Genoa Keawe and all those big 45 records.

SB: All the Hawaiian stars.

LW: Yeah, yeah.

FP: She get all that from the records.

Tape Ends.