

GENE "GENNY" OLIVERA

Kapapala Ranch, Shipman Ranch, SC Ranch, Hawai`i



Gene was 16 years old when he started working for Mr. Sumner at Kapapala Ranch in the volcano area on the Big Island. He was the 6th of 11 children and never got the opportunity to complete his high school education. While in the 9th grade he had to start working to help support himself and his family. It could have been a blessing in disguise, as he was hooked on the paniolo life with the first throw of his lasso, and he never looked back.

Genny worked side by side with paniolo like Bill Mainapo, Gordon Cran and Tom Lindsey. After two years he went to work for Mr. Shipman at Keahou Ranch, where he worked with his brother Tony and shared a bunk house with all the old time paniolo. Genny's duties included rounding up cattle, breaking horses, mending fences and moving cattle between ranches over mountainous terrain from Pu`u O`o to Pukala. Genny was a cowboy by day and a pig hunter by night. He knew all the pig trails, watering holes and favorite wallows.

He worked for 33 years for Shipman Ranch, until Mr. Shipman died and the family gave up ranching. Although getting on in years himself, Genny still had a lot of paniolo left in him, and went to work for Dutch Schuman at SC Ranch in Pauilo. Ranch Manager Walter Slater gave Genny a small ranch house. It was at the 5,000 ft. level on Mauna Kea, had no electricity, heat or phone. But to Genny, it was like living in heaven. He looked forward to every day atop his favorite horse, Pony, under the blue skies and panoramic views from the mountains to the sea. He and Mr. Slater worked together as friends for 8 years.

Genny lived and breathed ranch life for 43 years and would be the first to admit it was not an easy life. But he'll also be the first to say that he wouldn't have had it any other way.



Gene “Gini”¹ Olivera Interview

June 15, 2009

LW: There. I see it moving now. Good. Today is Monday, June 15th and we are at Gene Olivera’s house in Keaau. And here with me besides Mr. Olivera is Gladys Suzuki, daughter Doris Olivera and Daniel Johnison. Mr. Johnison was just saying this guy was a real cowboy.

DJ: Oh, yes. Oh, yes. That I know. Oh, we used to rope bulls together.

LW: This is for the Paniolo Hall of Fame booklet. You know how they make a nice booklet and they put the transcript like this, only it’ll be of our interview today. But it’ll look like this and will go in that nice booklet and has some photographs in it. Have you seen your photographs? They’re very nice.

GO: Yeah. The one I went to Waimea? That’s the one huh?

DO: Yeah, the one at the museum.

GO: I get the book of the...

LW: Right, when you got presented.

GO: Excuse me. (Goes to get plaque he received.)

LW: What is this one then?

DO: I want to put it where it won’t get rusty, you know. Sort of laminate it. Do something ‘cause I don’t what I should do. You don’t think so?

¹ Mr. Olivera’s nickname is Gini. His Hawaiian friends were unable to say Gene, Kini is the Hawaiian for Gene but they pronounced it with a sorf “g”, hence Gini.

LW: It's brass. And it'll be fine. So I was reading about your life, and sounds like you started cowboying when you were very young.

GO: Yeah.

LW: How old were you?

GO: Was about eighteen. When I started at Kapapala he was a small boy yet, that time. (Referring to Johnison.)

DO: Small baby.

LW: Yeah?

GO: Yeah. I work with his daddy long time ago. Go take care of the water, the water dredgings. All the water. Used to take... the Hawaiians used to call it *nana aina*. That means go check the water troughs and all, the tanks. And where the water come from the reservoir, from Pahala mauka, that's where the water coming down. Through all the waters come down. That was his father's job. And his father was just like mission man. Johanson. Take care all the tanks and all.

LW: Did they call him the "Swede?"

DJ: Swede?

LW: Your dad.

DJ: My uncle Swede? Willy... my daddy? No man, they call him Johnson. Every time you call him he answer you. So you don't know his right name. They call Johnson... hey, what? Yeah, all right.

DO: The water tanks were concrete those days. They weren't galvanized like now.

GO: Then I move from there I work on that ranch close to one year. Kapapala, with Mr. Sumner.

LW: With Mr. Sumner?

GO: Sumner time.

LW: So now what year would that have been about?

GO: I don't know what year.

DO: He (Gini) was born in 1923.

GS: How old were you when you worked with Mr. Sumner?

GO: When I worked Mr. Sumner? Mr. Sumner, I work when I was about same thing. Seventeen, eighteen years.

LW: '43... Maybe. So maybe 1940, yuh?

DO: Yeah, maybe '40.

GO: That I worked there.

LW: Before the war?

GO: Just war... wartime.

LW: Wartime?

GO: Just wartime.

DO: So about '41, then.

GO: I just pau CC camp. Then I moved to Kapapala. Then from Kapapala I came Keauhou Ranch. Mr. Shipman. Double H Shipman. I moved to him. Then was Billy Mainapo, our boss. Billy Mainapo. Then he had some trouble so they lay him off. Then I move over here from Keauhou Ranch. We came Pahoa, then down here, Kea'au. Ola'a... was Ola'a that time. Not Keaau. Was Ola'a. You know was the old district here was Ola'a. Ola'a. And then we moved from there, we went back to Tom Lindsey. Was my foreman at the time. But Tom Lindsey used to go with James Shipman. And then that's when they put out Billy Mainapo, Tom Lindsey took over Keauhou Ranch, but that's Volcano. Right by the golf course, right in back there. And then that's why we moved there, then...

LW: Mainapo... he was the manager there?

GO: No, he was our foreman.

LW: Oh, foreman.

GO: The manager was Mr. Shipman.

LW: Oh, Mr. Shipman.

GO: Yeah. Mr. Shipman.

LW: Oh, right, right, right.

GO: And then we used to work underneath Bill Mainapo. But he had some kind of trouble... he was taking from the ranch. And they caught him. So they put him out. And that's where Tom Lindsey moved in. Tom Lindsey came our foreman up there.

LW: Oh, Tom Lindsey?

GO: Yeah. And then when we used to work our job, that time we had no Saddle Road. We used to go right across Mauna Loa. Take cattle, take horse and then work on the ranch. And the rest we go Pu'u O'o. And then the daughter Mrs. Shipman owned. Then that's where we used to go brand cattle, rope cattle, everything.

But we used to rope all the wild cattle down here right in Ola'a... Kea'au... Ola'a. We used to rope *ahiu* kind from every place. We used to rope cattle and lead them right up to the government road in our trucks. And that time we had only eight wheeler car. Eight wheeler truck.

LW: Eight wheeler truck.

GO: So only you could take about four head. All depend on the size of the bull.

LW: You had plenty trips?

GO: Yeah, you got to lead it by one man. Just one guy bring one bull from the forest.

LW: Oh. these are wild bulls?

GO: Yeah. Wild was... wild.

LW: That was his specialty... *ahiu* bulls. Even with Shipman.

GO: We feed them. And the night, in the tree, we cut his horns off. We leave him in the night, We go for next one. Sometimes three, four we tell leave it there.

LW: You cut his horns off?

GO: Cut his horn.

LW: How do you do that?

GO: With the saw.

LW: How is that animal going to hold still for you to cut it?

DO: You tie-up to the pole.

GO: We no cut them right out. Only the tip. Don't hurt our horses. 'Cause we seen the horse, the guts all come out and make holes in the back.

LW: So how much do you cut off?

GO: About two inch.

LW: Two inches?

GO: Yeah.

LW: Oh, okay.

GO: We cut off that much (shows with his finger how much). And then next day we go out, one man, leave them from the tree. One man, you just come out, bring him to the truck.

LW: Well you just rope it and...

GO: It's tied to the tree. And the next day we go put a rope on him. And then we let it go from the tree. For instance now another boy go and let it go. And then I lead them to the truck.

LW: Wow, scary, huh.

DO: When you tie-up to the pole, what do you call that?

GO: *Po'o wai u. Po'o wai u.* Not just like they have now in the rodeos, you know. *Po'o wai u*, it's not that way. *Po'o wai u* in real Hawaiian style, you find the tree before you rope that bull or something. You find the tree, keep your eye on the tree. When you get to near the tree, then you rope him. Save on your horse. 'Cause you near. He going fight. The bull going fight. Sometime you fall down. Throw you down right in the mud and all that. Your horse cannot hold so you fall down. So the bull, when the bull get near (to the tree you picked), that's when you rope him. Not when just like in the arena, they rope him from far. Us, no... no...

while we go after that bull, we sighting up the tree. Yeah that's the one. So then we rope him. We bring him down.

LW: You rope him... tie him right away?

GO: Tie them right away. Next man, we got a helper any time. Only one Filipino Dory was his name. Little Dory. He used to bring the ropes for me. He used to pack all the ropes. Us we used to do the roping. And then we go tie it.

LW: But he would keep your ropes straight.

GO: Yeah, he bring the rope until you no more rope... then let's go home.

LW: So how many bulls could you do in a day?

GO: About eight, nine. That's all depend on what ground we in now. Even Glenwood was kind of hard. About four, five. That's all.

LW: Why is that hard? Why is Glenwood hard?

GO: Only mud.

LW: Oh, mud.

GO: And it's deep, and mean kind swamp. Sometime your horse go right down to the belly.

LW: Yeah, yeah.

GO: And we used to rope. And the stones down here. To the ocean. Over here not too bad. It's only as the heat... hey, but you got lot of cracks and all that. Big holes. But not too bad. Like we can save our horses, eh. 'Cause when near, we can go get them near.

LW: So they even had wild ones down by the ocean?

GO: Oh... from way down the old Keaukaha till Kalapana... Pahoa. Mr. Shipman used to own that till Volcano. All this section here we used to rope all wild bulls. Then...

LW: So they come down even lower, too, down here.

GO: Well... we used to get certain sections. If you go in here today, we go deep in the trail this way, so when you chase them here, these bulls here going to move up. Not down because they scared that we roping down. So next day we move to the other place. After we get down and out, we move to another place. Just like we in touch, we know where they are.

LW: But you do that every year or twice a year.

GO: That's our day. That's our work.

LW: All the time?

GO: Every day. And without...

LW: Wow... that many, huh?

GO: If we don't do that, we rounding up our cattle. We're branding all dakine... We have trail, We sleep up the mountain. Have one place nine miles... KY... we call that KY House. With the big corral. We're round up that baby...

LW: That corral is where... which one?

GO: Volcano... by the Volcano golf course, above... nine miles above.

LW: Yeah, at Keauhou...

GO: Keauhou Ranch.

DO: And above is known as (KY) Keawewai.

GO: That's the rest house. That's our rest house.

DO: Then they take them from there to across the Saddle Road to Pu'u O'o.

LW: Yeah. So but that's the domestic herd?

GO: Yeah.

LW: And you would... no, no... you mean the tame herd?

GO: Pardon?

LW: You'd take the tame herd from Keauhou to...

GO: No, no, no... we get our own paddocks there. And our big corral. So we go over there. We take that cattle, we push them in that corral... and we brand them. So all the ranch, it's just for Keauhou Ranch. Right in the back of Kulani. Until they there.

LW: Okay. So you roped them in from where ever...

GO: No, not rope them in... just drive them.

DO: Well you see, they got some that's domestic in a corral. But then a few of them run away. They escape through the fence and they go into the mountains. So if they know that there's wild cattle in the mountains, at the same time they're doing the round up they go and get the wild ones and put them with the ones that are in the corral.

LW: Oh, I see. Okay.

DO: So there's wild and domestic in there.

LW: Okay. So you take them... but let's see... from Keauhou, when you market them, you bring them down to Glenwood?

GO: No. We bring them down to our golf course. Right at the main building... our place... we drive them in... we have a *pako*... that's where we keep our steers. That's another paddock. That's why hard to explain. So you know because we have paddocks. We have the house paddock. We have *Ohia Lili*. And we have *Hoaikea* and then we have *Keawewai*... we have all the paddocks see. That's why in Keauhou, that. That's our ranch. And then when Pu'u O'o branding, we take our horses through the double trail, *Keawewai*. The rest house, we sleep there, and then early in the morning we take our horses over to Pu'u O'o. Over Saddle... Saddle Road now... but no had no Saddle Road, that time. Well we take them right through.

LW: Right, right, right.

GO: Take them right through.

LW: Then you go from Keauhou to Pu'u O'o. Right?

GO: Yeah... from Keauhou.

DO: Just horses... not the cattle. The cattle that they round up stay in Keauhou.

LW: But the Pu'u O'o ones they bring back.

GO: Back... right, right. We bring them back from Pu'u O'o. We bring them back to Glenwood, to Keauhou Ranch, and then Kapapala and all the Kahuku Ranch and all. We get together and we bring them right down to Hirano Store. You know where have that little park now?

LW: Yeah.

GO: That was all the corral, that. All corral. And the box cars, those days used to be box cars. You load them in the box cars 'cause by Hirano Store, that's where the train used to turn around. That's the last stop and then put them in the box cars. And then ship from down there. Hoo... lot of work.

LW: So how long does it take to go from Pu'u O'o to Keauhou? With the cattle?

GO: Oh, we take about all day.

LW: A day?

GO: A day because we start, we go from where we look. You no go work seven o'clock like the bankers now. We go sometime three o'clock, four o'clock in the morning. We go with the moon. When the moon come out, that's when we start working. The cattle all fresh. We don't wait for the sun or no... just like when we go Pu'u O'o, sometime we take our cattle for make them fat at Pu'u O'o. So we take our cattle, we go in moonlight. Sometime three o'clock or so or two thirty. When the moon come out we moving. But take us the whole night, the whole day and until about... let's say when we get there about eight-thirty, nine o'clock in the night. They call *Pa* one place. Where we leave our cattle... That's Hilo Pa... that's called Hilo Pa... so we leave our *pipi* there. And if the two... if Tom Bell and Tom Lindsey, they not fighting, we come... we go sleep at Pu'u O'o. But if they fighting, we got to come back all the way to Keawewai house. In the night. (Laughter.) Yeah. Cold! Hoo man and we...

LW: Tired!

GO: And we get home sometime one o'clock, two o'clock in the morning. And you know where you come across Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea your horse chill, your horse shaking. Yeah.

LW: That was a tough time.

GO: And we used to sleep some time. The time the lava wen flow, we used to sleep sometime with iron rope on the *a'a*... put the iron rope and you know in the morning got the cold first. We used to make that trail, We used to keep it open. For take our cattle or horses up when we need at Pu'u O'o.

LW: Oh. And how do you keep it open? Just by walking on it?

GO: Oh, clean it. You got to. And they only about three feet wide the trail. And we take cattle but you cannot force your cattle. No. You got to let your cattle go by one by one or two wide. Don't push them because they get all raw underneath. All blood before. So we take them from Keauhou... we take them right on the trail go over, until we hit one place you call *Kipuka Nene*. When... that's way before Saddle Road had. *Kipuka Nene*. That's where we eat lunch. And we leave the cattle go rest little while. That's late, kind of late already in the evening. And then from there... and then we start taking them to Hilo Pa. Hoo... that's lot of work.

LW: Yeah. So how many boys does it take to do that?

GO: We had... work together, we had four boys. Work with right here in the ranch. But the Filipino, counting the Filipino... Doriko. Just like our helper but he's one good cowboy. He's a good cowboy. Small Filipino... little Dori... we' called him.

LW: Now was he riding, too, or was he...?

GO: Oh he ride. He always ride with us. He's a bagger... just like a fisherman, when you go for fishing, you keep the one guy for hold the bag, huh. Well he's a rope man. (Laughs.)

DO: Dad, what was the name of the Japanese man? You said he was a real good cowboy? You used to visit him Papaikou.

GO: Toshi Imoto. Toshi. Now the real guy... better than Toshi was Yakichi. Well, he died. The horse kill him.

LW: How'd that happen? Horse killed him?

GL: Kill him. One... breaking in was... what do you call that, still breaking yet... we call that in Hawaiian, *hapalaka*. Half breaking. Yeah, half broke. Yeah. So he rode that but if we use the truck... Saddle Road all made already... so every Monday when we go up either go chop firewood... and you know when... all our food... that all from Hilo. Some Monday, just like all kind. Maybe we go cut firewood and go clean, cook like... you know. And if get time we go fool around wild horse. So that time but Humu'ula... the sheep station... was shearing the ship and dip in the water. And he like that. Every time Humu'ula do that, he goes. So he was feeling kind of jake (drunk) that day. He was kind of jake. So we go do our firewood. He was an oldtimer. We no tell him what to do. He tell you what to do. So we leave him alone. But we see the horses coming in the corral. Hey, what our horses doing in the corral? No go work today. We got to go get firewood and all. That's our job. So we go hey, oh, Yakichi. And we know he's jake. We turn our horses around, turn all the horses loose. Go back again. And then we go. Do what we doing, He sneak in the back. He go get the horses

again. He bring them back again. Hey, Yakichi. Okay, turn the horses loose. That time when we was drinking. With the Filipinos... we got our pasalinc... the Filipino pasalinc... so we was drinking. We never think of Yakichi. So the boy from slaughterhouse work with our yard boys, eh. So we tell him hey, go look if the horses in the corral. Sure enough. And they know what Yakichi ride, eh. So they just go hey, no more the Pinto. All the horses in, but no more Yakichi Pinto. Oh boy... and that's a *hapalaka*. We know that's a wild horse. That's a *hapalaka*, that. So we wen go look, go look... go look around. No more. So we went up by the side. Tell the yard boy. Go up by Parker Ranch. You get the gate. Try look if you fellas see that horse. The track go up. The Hawaiians say *meheu* (tracks)... try look if the *meheu* go up. If the meheu go up, Yakichi wen go up. When the boy went there he seen the horse by the gate. He said the horse stay over there with the saddle but no more Yakichi. And the saddle is all broken. Ai! We got trouble already. If the guy... so me and that boy, Toshi Imoto, we went in the night already. In the night and wen start all that cloud... the *uhiwai* (heavy mist, fog) start and all that. So we wen go look for him. And we go look about. We find one piece over here... one arm this side... or his head over here. The horse wen drag him... kick'um. 'Cause we can see the dirt. How wen buck, the horse wen buck. We knew the horse wen buck, and kick him, eh. Arm and his all... only what we could do... put some sticks or something... with one flag... 'cause we couldn't find the place come more dark. So find all the... his (inaudible) then we go down. Call our boss Lindsey, Tom Lindsey. Hey, Yakichi wen *make*. What? Yakichi wen *make*. Boom... the horse wen kill him. He said oh no. He no can believe. He say, no, you guys bring the car, come look. So late in the night him and the cops take a look.

LW: Too bad, huh?

GO: Too bad. And one good cowboy. Real good cowboy, was him.

LW: So... what makes a good cowboy.

GO: Huh?

LW: What makes a good cowboy?

GO: Good cowboy... you get one good rider, good roper and know all the paddocks. Just know what the cattle going do. Just like you can read the cattle's mind, what he going to do. Just like I can read your mind what you going to do. You going to turn... or you turn.

LW: You mean from horseback you can tell which way they're going?

GO: Oh yes. You can just read their mind. What they going to do. And if you get a bunch of tame ones, let's say about two hundred or three hundred head, and he get about two, three wild cattle, you can tell. Pick out what one is the wild one.

LW: How do you do that? Do they look different or...?

GO: No. They maneuver. In the (herd)... they always try run away. So we always keep them in the center. When they cool down...

LW: They're better?

GO: Your mind... you can read... when you going you can read that... hey... watch him... little fire. (Laughs.) That's how.

DO: Whose ashes was that they took up Mauna Kea?

GO: Who?

DO: You took ashes one time. One man wen die?

GO: Oh yeah... from Parker Ranch.

DO: From Parker Ranch.

GO: Parker Ranch, that one. Not us. That's Parker Ranch guy. On the top of Mauna Kea they go bury him huh. But they took only his ashes inside box. And then we go on the highest place in the mountain, up Mauna Kea, That's where before he died, he wanted to be buried up there. He told plenty, you know. That's where he want to be buried. So we went over there on the horses. Willie Kauaniu, that Humu'ula foreman. All we went. Horse wen bleed through the nose, the climate you know, The air different, yuh.

LW: It's very thin.

DO: The altitude there.

GO: All through the... we no could *hemo* the hat with the cold, eh, so the priest say that's all right, boys... don't have to *hemo* your hat. We pray and you know... let's go. After that cement'um. Then came home. But when we came home, we down here, the other horses up here, you think the other horse going roll on top you. Hoo, coming down, I think the horses over here all raw. Only you know holding like this, eh.

LW: So you had to get off of them and just let them walk or...

GO: Oh, you got to hold, yeah. You cannot ride 'cause they roll over.

LW: Yeah... too steep.

GO: You know when you down and they on top here... don't look in the back... just keep ahead. (Laughs.)

LW: Do you know whose ashes?

GO: I knew. I forget that, Really I forget that... I know was one *haole* from Parker Ranch, Waimea. Then we work here years, eh, so we know all that ground so they tell us go.

LW: So Pu'u O'o was bigger or... than...

GO: Parker Ranch?

LW: No, Pu'u O'o...

GO: Bigger than...?

LW: Was that his big one? That was Shipman's big ranch?

DO: I don't know. Was Pu'u O'o bigger than Keauhou? More land?

GO: More land. More land than up there.

DO: Yeah... Pu'u O'o and then what was the other one? The one where the house... the house stay?

GO: Honohina.

DO: Honohina?

GO: Honohina. And then we had the Honohina. And then *Hakalau Pilau*. And then we had... Pidro horse paddock the last... ah, I forget the name already.

DO: The one with the house... they carve the names...?

GO: Honohina.

DO: That's Honohina?

DO: No...no... not Honohina.

LW: Pu'ukala.

GO: Pu'ukala. Yeah.

DO: Pu'ukala. That one was private... he owned that one? Pu'ukala? Was that lease land?

GO: No, was lease land.

DO: All lease?

GO: He used to own the forty acres below by Pu'u O'o. He sell it to Carlsmith. That one he used to own. But the other... Pu'u O'o and... Honohina... Honohina, that's our last... yeah, Honohina... that's our steer paddock. He used to own all that from the Saddle Road down until Honohina is way... you know how far is...

LW: That's a lot.

GO: Yeah... right next to Parker Ranch. We had big land. We had a bigger land than Parker Ranch had, but we had the owners. And Parker Ranch most clear ground. We had all this bush and brush, eh. And then we had different... you know. And then just like Parker Ranch all in Parker Ranch. Like us we got to come down here Kea'au... Ola'a. Now they call Kea'au. Was Ola'a that time.

LW: So it was different terrain.

GO: Yeah, it's different. No had... down here no had paddocks. Over here was most roping. All wild stocks, eh. All wild. Like Pu'u O'o. Well we had some wild bulls like that but most of it all fence up, eh. All in paddocks. One paddock we call... *Pa... Palaole, Pawahine...* all the different paddocks, eh. So...

LW: But that was at... not down here... down here was...

GO: No, no.

LW: All scrubby and...

GO: All that. Before they used to run a ranch down here.

LW: Oh yeah.

GO: Yeah. This was all ranch over here. All ranch. When the O. T. Shipman lived, was all ranch. The old Hawaiians said this was all ranch. Before, you cannot find one tree. Before they find one tree, they dig it out or they burn it. Yeah, was all... all... they say that when they used to go rope wild cattle, some leave... stay in the back of the bunch... stay in the back. They used to go rope him. And they cannot find one tree. So they had to find one good sized *Ohia* tree, they tie the *pipi*. Next thing they look and the tree and the *pipi*... coming down with the tree. (Laughter.) Yeah, no kidding.

LW: So where'd you tie the *pipi*, then?

GO: Huh?

LW: Where did you tie up the cattle?

GO: Well, you got to go find him. If not they, they throw him down and they *kupe*. They tie the four legs and they leave it there for a while. And they come pick it up right away because you cannot leave in the sun, eh. You cannot leave it there long. That's how they do it.

LW: Oh, just long enough to cool off, then?

GO: Cool off, yeah. Then they come back and get him. Take him out.

LW: Put it in a truck?

GO: Yeah. Slaughterhouse. No give no excuse. Slaughterhouse.

LW: Where was the slaughterhouse?

GO: Right down here.

LW: Oh, down here by the...

DJ: Near Shipman.

GO: Where they had the... in the back of there.

LW: Yeah, yeah.

GO: That's Mr. Shipman's slaughterhouse.

LW: Was, And then what... lot of people depended on that, didn't they?

GO: Yeah. Mr. Shipman's slaughterhouse.

LW: You wouldn't want to work in there... you were happy out...

GO: Oh no, we supply. We supply that. The old man... John Keawe used to run the slaughterhouse. And his brother used to run this Kea'au... that's Kea'au down there. Down the ocean. In the olden days that's Kea'au. So when Mr. Shipman died, that's when they named the... Roy Blackshear... that's the nephew. He was running after Mr. Shipman died. He was running this ranch. So he... that's why he named the whole place Kea'au...not Ola'a, you see. That's why they named this place Kea'au. But the regular name is Ola'a.

LW: Oh, no kidding.

GO: Yeah.

DO: Well... Ola'a meant graveyard or something, they said.

GS: It wasn't a lucky name.

DJ: Well I don't know the name but all the rainforest. We call that rainforest.

DO: That's why they changed it. They found out that it wasn't a good name.

GO: Then, when Mr. Shipman died, I quit. They wanted me take care of the... Mr. Tom Lindsay, retired, yuh. So he told me don't quit, boy. He say you go quit, you no get your retirement. And I tell, I never had no retirement. Shipman don't give no retirement. And I used to work for \$80.00 a month. And dawn to dawn.

DO: When my dad is gone I get that saddle. That's it.

GS: Hawaiian tree, yuh.

DO: He's got two of them, actually.

GS: Wow... nice leather rope.

GO: Two. Skin rope... *kaula ili. Kaula ili.*

GS: Did you make it?

GO: No. What was his name? Kenneth.

DO: That's not the same kind like your real skin rope... that one...

GO: The one I got here?

DO: Yeah... that's the one that is strong. Show them that one. Where's your real one? I'll get it.

GO: Well the olden days was all skin rope. I had one more, from the boy died... Yakichi. But my brother Tommy, instead he use the cable for the truck, he wen use my skin rope. (Doris brings out the rawhide rope.)

DO: This is the one that roped the real bulls, right? He used to make cinches, though. The cinch, he used to make them. (They display the rope.) That's the real kind. The rest is only show kind. Who made that for you, dad? You remember?

GO: Mr. Kaliko. The old man Kaliko. Broke one time. One time wen broke, I patch'um. This... no can buy.

DJ: Hoo... that rope fly. Guaranteed.

GO: My bullwhip.

DO: And then they went to the nylon ones.

GO: You see all with ring. The others. you look, couldn't find the O ring.

DJ: Yeah, hard to find that O ring. All store kind now.

LW: What is that?

GS: At the end of the rope they have the iron ring.

DJ: Hoo, that thing used to fly... stay open. Good shot! Wow.

GO: This one here had no ring. No rings. This one I call the moon ring. Half moon. You know what I used most of this?

LW: What?

GO: When the bull pull, you don't choke him. You don't choke him. And you hang on to it. No slack. Then the bull fall down you *kupe*. Bull that's why you use this half moon or get a full moon.

LW: Yeah, yeah, that way they don't...

GO: Rodeos nowadays they don't use the ring.

LW: Well they're not trying to get them to market, right? Nowadays the rodeo... they don't need to get some money out of them.

DJ: Never. They have this other kind rope that's so stiff it stays open but still they miss. But these guys... hoo... I tell you, unreal, unreal. Just to see... to believe.

LW: How good they were with ropes.

GO: That's *okole puka*... that's the horse with the big stuff like this in the back. That's *okole puka*, we call it. That's a... that's a dirty word. *Okole*... in the Hawaiian... that's your backside.

LW: Yes, yes.

GO: Big hole with the bull. The bull wen hook him. That's how one of our... in Glenwood... Glenwood. (Looking at photographs.) That's me... that's when I was young.

GS: You're still young.

GO: No.

DO: This is when he was young.

LW: Oh my...

DO: He look like one move star, yuh?

LW: Yeah, he does kind of look like a movie star. You got a pipe there....

GO: That's a cigar. Cigar... I don't smoke. But that day for form, eh.

LW: Oh, it's a cigar. When was this one taken?

GO: This was taken... oh, I don't remember. I remember when this was taken. The gym, Mt. View gym was just open. The plantation just opened the gym. Had one Chamarita Day... Chamarita dance in the gym. So we go take picture for make handsome, yuh. That's when I was working for Dutchie Schumann. When I was working with Dutchie... Schumann... Pa'auilo Mauka.

GS: SC Ranch.

GO: SC... forget...

LW: So when did you work for SC?

GO: When Mr. Shipman... I was going continue with the story... changed about ropes and...

GS: Oh, that's right. No more retirement so Tom Lindsey told you stay.

GO: Stay, yeah. And then from there, that's why I went to what his name... Dutchie Schumann. He went to the office. He know me well because one day when I was working Kapapala, he came with Teddie Sumner. Then we used to brand cattle, they used to give us a hand. They went school together. So they... he came over and give us a hand. He give us (a hand) here. He know I was working Keauhou Ranch. So he want me. So Keauhou Ranch and they couldn't raise the pine in... they got to replace the well, huh. They couldn't bring their cattle in. So when he came down the office see for me, then they call me down. I was working that time. I was working with the fish. I was down the ocean looking fish but I supposed to take care the mullet pond, yuh.

DO: He couldn't swim. We had to take swimming lessons because both our parents couldn't swim.

GO: So from there...

LW: But at some point they wanted you to take care of the mullet pond at the house? Down at the house?

GO: Yeah. I was taking care of the mullet pond. So my boss retired. Mr. Tom Lindsey retired. So he never like I retire. All they was... only was five dollars retirement, huh. How much I had from them?

DO: No, from Dutchie. You didn't get anything from Shipman. From Dutchie you got \$30.55.

GO: I worked for Mr. Shipman thirty... twenty-three years and I had no retirement.

DO: He didn't even give him land. Sometimes they used to give people land. An acre here, two acres there. A couple of the cooks got land.

GO: Then that's how I come up to the office. And then I saw Dutchie Schumann. I said hey, Dutch, how's it? He said hey. So RoyBlackshear, he was taking over that time. He said Gini... they called me Gini... Gini... (Gene said) What? I like ask you one question. You want to work for us or what? I said sure. I only like my retirement. He said you going get your retirement. But I said what I going do with first? Take care of mullet pond again? He said no, no. The three of them, they get the ranch again. So I said you go make one ranch I stay with you guys but... he said oh... Dutchie Schumann like you go Keauhou. And then my chance came up. Hey... go back Keauhou! I say what he going do up Keauhou? He say he going run up his cattle and try get all his cattle and then he go Pa'auilo Mauka. He get big ranch over there. So he want to take this cattle up there. So he want to give a job.

LW: Yeah... because you would know how to do that!

GO: Yeah. So Dutchie says come on, Gini. You go work for me, I pay you good and on your work scale. And then you go Pa'auilo. And then we separate the cattle. Separate all the cattle that used to be over there... and then you want to quit... you quit. But no, we took all the cattle from Keauhou to Pa'auilo Mauka, and the boys they brought from Honolulu, they laid them off and they keep me. I stood here nine years. I stood here. Until I had accident. (Laughs.)

DO: He was working for seven and a half years and then he wen get mad and then he quit. So he lost his retirement. When he came back, they started his retirement again but they never give him the previous years before. But he... you know... he was happy where he was at. That was the main thing.

LW: Yeah, because Pa'auilo Mauka, there's no... it's all grass up there. There's no trees... are there trees up there?

GO: Pa'auilo Mauka?

LW: Yeah.

GO: Yeah, beautiful. Beautiful, that. We used to from Mana Road... you know Mana Road... above Pu'u Maile... until Mauna Kea. Used to get cattle all over there, right.

LW: You know, I was talking to... I can't remember his name. Young man. But he worked on the Kona side. And they still like in the last ten years, are gathering up wild cattle up there.

GO: Yeah, yeah.

LW: And they said they would try to round up that cattle. And they'd kind of spread out in a line, the boys. But they couldn't see each other because of pretty dense undergrowth. And then they'd kind of try to move in one direction so... like that. Did you have to do stuff like that?

GO: That's how we do it.

LW: Yeah? Tell me about that.

GO: All our tame cattle, we get one paddock. Like our paddock is down Ishimoto... that's our corral. It's one paddock. So we go, we line up, we go so many feet apart and we yell go down. We *huli* them. That's why that *huli pa*. That means we *huli* that paddock.

LW: Oh, I see. Yeah, yeah.

GO: In Hawaiian this *pa*... means the paddock. So we *huli* the paddock down. So it's a motor corral. We got light up. All light up. But on days all that *pa* over there, is all tame cattle. That's our breeding stock. That's our breeding stock. And then when other side, we had the outside *pa*... different paddock. More trees. That's why more men... in a bunch of trees, more men. That's why more men you got to... more short, eh. We can yell out to them hey, coming to you or going. That's how. We *huli* all the same way you tell. And then if the wild one... you see... when the wild one get, we grab the gloves... go to all the corral... we change our horses. We go back and we rope the wild... you know... then they take the habit... then take another... next year... when we do the driving again, then the tame some other cattle if get... you know maybe take two, three... and then come all wild. So we give them a chance teach the other cattle. We go out there rope them, bring them. 'Cause we have our own dogs. The dogs go... go get them. Bring them out... we rope them.

DO: That day we were up there doing the round up, three hundred and sixty head of cattle. Five of us. Right now three hundred and sixty head of cattle. And he brought two *ahiu* bulls out of the bush that he knew was in there. 'Cause the dogs get tell.

LW: And how recently was that, Doris?

DO: Oh that was about thirteen years ago.

LW: But still, that's pretty recent.

DO: Oh yeah. And this summer come and spend time with us.

LW: And who is that... and is that your cattle? Whose cattle is that?

DO: No. Dutchie Schumann.

LW: Dutchie Schumann.

DO: With Mr. Slater. He was the foreman then.

LW: And... and... but that was up Pa'auilo Mauka.

GO: Pa'auilo Mauka. Yeah. The Turkey Track. That's what the ranch you call. Turkey Track.

GS: Lots of wild turkeys.

GO: Hoo, lot of wild turkey. I think you know. Yeah, you must know.

DO: Lehua trees, ohia trees... yellow ohia... I mean lehua.

GO: Nice place.

LW: Very pretty.

GS: My good friends... the DeLuz family... Ernest and Margaret...

GO: Oh, DeLuz... oh yeah... Kuka'iau.

GS: Yeah.

GO: Yeah... Kuka'iau right next. Yeah... I used to go up Kuka'iau. What was his name? Had Richard and all them up there. DeLuz.

DO: What was the slaughterhouse people?

LW: Andrade.

GO: Slaughterhouse?

DO: Was a Portuguese man. They used to go down there. They had the slaughterhouse right below. Pa'auilo Mauka.

LW: Andrade, yuh?

GO: Andrade.

DO: Oh, freezer they had, where they used to take care...

GO: Andrade.

DO: Was Andrade?

GO: Andrade.

LW: 'Cause the Andrades are in Ahualoa. They're Ahualoa. It's still running, that...

GO: Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's still going. Still going.

LW: Yeah. Still going.

GO: Right by the main turn, when plenty gingers... the gulch, yeah, right there. Right there the slaughterhouse. I remember that place.

LW: So this is working down here. Now see one thing that I hear when I listen to the cowboys talk is that really, they have to do something different when they're in a different environment.

GO: Oh yeah.

LW: Now this is not like... down here it's not like...

GO: No, no, no, no. Over here when we do roping like that, all go to the slaughterhouse.

LW: 'Cause they're just scrubby?

GO: No. No. Some scrubby kind. But we don't go for most of those scrubby kind. We go for the good size kind, worthwhile take it slaughterhouse. Good condition, good body. The scrubby kind we leave it. And then afterwards, Rudy Tong bought the place from Honolulu. Rudy Tong bought it from Mr. Shipman. And then before we had three months... three or no, six months... extend us, huh. And then the scrubby kind we go with the knife, we poke'um in here from the horse.

LW: Why is that?

GO: What?

LW: Just kill them?

GO: Yeah, it's our cattle. And the boss tell us do it we got to do it.

DO: Oh, you waste the meat? You just kill them.

GO: Nobody going get them.

LW: It's not good meat anyway.

GO: Nobody going get them. They going die just same. Why let them suffer, huh? So... gone.

LW: Just get rid of them. Control the population.

GO: Yeah, and before if you go to the slaughterhouse, your cattle get cancer, they can still take your cattle. Today, your cattle... only got water on the eye... they don't take them.

LW: Really?

GO: They say cancer. But before they take your cattle with worm in the eye. They cut off the head. The meat is still good. But today only water come down the eye, they say cancer. Stop it. That's why the ranchers no can make money. They go down. And everything is so expensive. And in our days, you raise your cattle on the grass. No more feed like now. You inject. All kind of injection. They got to give vitamins and all that. We no had that before.

LW: You didn't do everything.

GO: Only the late part, when I start working for Dutchie. And then start to do that. Hoo, the injects for black leg and all that, you know. The ranchers could live. Now, you go buy one iron post today, that's sky high. The ranchers before only all *ohia* post. That's how. That's how.

LW: So you know some places now they do real fine tune pasture management, you know. They make little pastures, lots of little paddocks.

GO: Paddocks. Paddocks.

LW: Were you doing that? Or just free range kind of thing?

GO: Oh no. We run... run them. One paddock can hold about six hundred head... six to eight hundred head. It's one paddock alone. So that's our breeding stock. That's all our breeding stocks. And then from there, we ship it out to Pu'ukala. Pu'ukala, that's where we raise our steers. That we change from Pu'u O'o. All the weaners, we took them to Pu'ukala. From Keauhou we took them across the mountain. And sometime our steers, we took there. They tighten up, so we got to raise them over here.

LW: The weaners... where do they go? Wait, I didn't get that. Where do you take the the weaned cattle... the little ones?

GO: The little ones they go to Pu'ukala.

LW: Oh, Pu'ukala. Okay.

GO: And we have Pu'u O'o now... that's our breeding paddocks, where they have all our steers. We take them to Pu'ukala. And then from Pu'ukala, we stop by the house paddock. We call it Pu'ukala One, Pu'ukala Two. From there, next day, if this can sell, that Pu'ukala Two... Pu'ukala Three... and then all right down to Honohina. From Honohina, we took slaughterhouse. Rotate now... yeah, we rotate them. All paddocks, That's a big... cattle it's hard. Then we got to way down by the *Hakalau pilau*... that's when we took bulls out. All roping. Some of them run away and jump the fence, huh. They get wild, huh. That's what we would do. Most all go roping. When we get time we got to break in our horses. We got to get new horses. Sometimes four horses a day... we use four horses a day.

LW: Really.

GO: Go down to Lahaina from Honohina and you bring them up, reach the corral. You got to change your horse. Your horse blowing. So you can go down and come back up again. You kill your horse. So we change our horse. We take our horse from Pu'ukala house, we take our extra horses. We drive over in the morning. All in the morning we drive them.

LW: Wow... four horses some days.

GO: Yeah. Four horses a day, a man, now. One man. And over there we had about seven men.

LW: Yeah. That's a lot.

GO: Then we drive them about... sometimes we go to Parker Ranch. 'Cause Parker Ranch and us, boundary, eh. Parker Ranch is here and us is right down here. All the way.

DO: Did you have somebody to break in the horses or anybody... everybody have to break your own?

GO: No, you break in your own horse. If you no bring your own horse that's your tough luck. 'Cause they the horses... we drive in our wild horses. We got our own stud, and our own mares. So like us we know, what the ones are good mares already retired. Good mares, old mares. So we know. Most time we go for their *keiki*. Their *keiki* means that's their babies, yuh. So we know that's the good mother that. So we go for them... for their baby. We know... we know... we keep the eye on.

LW: Yes, yes. Say I want that *keiki* 'cause I like the mother.

GO: Like you go... For instance now if all the boys go in there. But the foreman, he pick up his own horse. Okay... well it okay... like Toshi Imoto. Okay, Toshi or Yakichi, go ahead. He just pick up. Well that's from Keauhou, eh. He tell okay, you go pick up your own horse. We don't know. I slide in after Toshi. What one? You see there... that one the mother good. Hoo... that one I like! (Laughter.)

LW: So Toshi was how much older than you? He was older than you?

GO: Toshi?

LW: He was older than you?

GO: No. Toshi was younger than me. But Yakichi older than me. Yakichi... the one died... over the horses.

LW: How much older was he?

GO: Oh he was... about... let's say about thirteen, fourteen years older than me.

LW: Were there many... he was Japanese... or Okinawan?

GO: Japanese.

LW: Japanese?

GO: Japanese boy.

LW: How many Japanese cowboy were there? Many?

GO: Well two Japanese guys... but from the old times had... Toshi Imoto, the father came from Japan. And had another Japanese. They came from Japan, come Pa'auilo. From Pa'auilo they went to Pu'u O'o and they stayed there. So he used to go down Pa'auilo. He was married to one Pa'auilo Japanese lady. Toshi's mother. Used to go down there. And some of the... his sisters died up there. So they bury them up there by the Christmas tree.

LW: Oh wow. They liked it up there.

GO: Oh, nice... nice... Christmas tree right around (indicates circle). They buried.

LW: How sweet, yuh.

GO: So they no can miss the spot, eh. Yeah.

(Look through photos.)

LW: This is Toshi.

GO: Yeah, right there (in the black hat).

DO: I got negatives, too, of pictures...

LW: Which one's Toshi?

DO: There... Wyatt Earp there.

GO: Here another boy used to work with me. Lorenzo.

LW: What's his last name:

GO: Arthur Lorenzo. Make saddle. Yeah, here's my other brother. That's our horsebreaker, this.

LW: He did a lot of horsebreaking?

GO: Tommy, me, and my brother Tony and Lorenzo. Here... this boy was good cowboy... Japanese.

DO: That's Mr. Imoto.

GO: But the other one I no more. Yakichi, I no more.

DJ: Too bad they no more six shooters, no? (Laughter.) They get rope, though. Skin rope. Skin rope. You get six shooters, you get them.

GS: No need, yuh? No need six shooters.

GO: Oh, we used to take. My boss Lindsey used to take.

LW: Really?

GO: Yeah. In case you in the pinch and you cannot let the bull kill your horse. You kill the bull. No let him eat your horse. You kill him.

LW: Did you ever have to use it?

GO: Some time he use it. Sometime you know, our own boys... two boys, too young... they young. And they don't know how to lead cattle. We lead the cattle so much, and then when they no get fire means they all ready. They not that wild, just like. So we give them to them (the two boys). They go down towards the corral, them two (boys) tangle with ropes. Right across the belly like this. Tangle. With the two horse, one horse they went up there. Hoo, my boss was looking. But Bob, he seen that, huh. He letta go his bull, he came down with his rope. He cut it right out. The bull... if they would stretch, that Hawaiian boy will die right there. Will cut him in half. Yeah... had some mean accidents and squeeze (its) called.

DJ: That's why he say never take your eyes away from the bull. He always tell me that.

GO: Yeah. Never, never take your eyes away from that bull. You cannot. Like a bull can be thousand pounds. He get out like a bullet. Before you say ouch, he would give you ouch. He going to pin you against the wall. Yeah. My brother, Tony, in Glenwood...

LW: He got where...

GO: And the horns cut. He was leading one bull. We went our place... was Keauhou Ranch, we wen go inside Glenwood that day. Was a Monday in fact. One Monday we wen go rope in there. We go rope some bulls. Mr. Simmons been like slaughterhouse steers. So we wen go. That evening load the truck and we wen go. Go steer. Like my brother know. My brother stayed back Keauhou. So all of us wen go back Pu'u O'o, get the steers. We came back Friday and Tom Lindsey told us, tomorrow Gini... tomorrow you and Tony go lead the bull outside... in the truck. But if *wiwi*. She means... *wiwi* means skinny in Hawaiian. So if skinny, he said, leave them go. He say... *ho'oku* that... you know *ho'oku* is... leave them go, yuh. So but when that bull one week tied to the tree only you see blood. But that bull was the same. like the same hundred pounds, hundred pounds... he was the same thing that day we left.

LW: Hmm.

GO: Yeah, that same... ho, when I see...

LW: They're tough things...

GO: That's why I say the biggest bull you see is in Glenwood. All the one over here nothing. No more that... like Glenwood. And when you see a bull, you know you roping something. Yeah... no playing... no nothing... because it was serious when you rope a Glenwood bull.

LW: Yeah, they had plenty water or something...

GO: No, the swamp. All the swamp. And the... and they...

LW: It makes them strong.

GO: And they big. They big and they... some of them they don't see men, you know. Only in the forest. You tie them to the tree, they lick your hand with their tongue. Oh no... all your hairs stand up. All rough, huh. Hoo... I tell you. Your hairs all stand up. He want to bite you, you know. Yeah. He want to bite you. Yeah... yeah... (Laughter.) He lick you with that, man, I'll say that he fix you up. Yeah, they all rough with that... oh, your hair all stand up. Yeah.

LW: So now are there cows, though? There are wild cows, too, they're not all bulls?

GO: Aw... cow, cow easy.

LW: Oh, cows are easy.

GO: Yeah. Cow you rope with them, they *pau*. They gone. Not bull. More than rough. More worse. More so them... more so... cows nothing! Cows and steers... big steers can be thousand pound steers and all, just like a human. Just like they going chase you for a while. But you give them a couple of jerks, *pau*. They follow your horse just like a cat. Just like a kitten... they come. (Laughter.)

DO: Yeah, because... females little bit smarter than males. (More laughter.) why choke myself?

LW: But they're not as big, They're smaller, the cows. The bulls are the real big ones.

GO: The big one, yeah. Yeah, he get some nice cows, but cows, they weaken. You give rough treatment, they *pau*. Not bulls. Bulls... bulls... they can take it. They can take it, them. That's why the bull that if you have him, you take him from the tree, you lead him and he chase about a good mile in there. All what that horse can go. He's after you! Only you look back and you pick up your slack... your *alu*... you look in the back... slack... and sometimes they chasing you...and sometimes they cut on the side... you got to cut your rope over (indicates ducking under the rope holding the bull)... you look this side and you picking up the slack. All just the opposite. And no... don't take that jerk. Don't give them the jerk because they going cut one time

they going give you the jerk, eh... so you keep your slack on your rope little bit, until little more... by the end, you turn your horse. 'Well your horse already know he going get the jerk. The bull when he get the jerk he going turn around, eh... turn around the horse, keep going. He going come chase you again.

DO: Well you know if you get tension on that rope he can tip your horse right over.

GO: Oh yeah...

LW: So part of is it to keep the rope at the right distance, keep your horse going at the right speed...

GO: Yeah. All the speed he can go.

LW: Oh, yeah.

GO: Sometime you using your spurs to make him go faster. He's riding ahead of you from the BQ, yuh.

DO: Big bull chasing and your horse connected to bull... oh my God... (laughter).

DJ: It's not fun when somebody chasing you, too, huh.

GO: Yeah.

DJ: You dig!!

DO: Like I would let go the rope and just keep going.

GO: Yeah.

LW: So were some horses better at that than... than others?

GO: Oh, we used to train them. We used to train our horses. Our leading horses most. We used to get check bulls we call it. The smaller ones. You know they like to hook, eh. So we get a kind of lazy horse, you know he no like go fast, huh. Okay. We put the rope on him and we letta go. When the cow go, he come hook the horse, huh. The horse get scared. more fast he go. More go, you let them hook him. That's our leading horses, now. When he see... when he take a professional lead, well, he know already. And he look at the bull, bigger size. They not dumb, you know. No, they not dumb. They smart. They *akamai*. They know. So they must tell oh, I better go for my life. 'Cause he's going hit me. (Laughter.) And sure enough... you get ready, brother. He's going. (More laughter.)

DJ: To me the horse can read your mind.

GO: Yeah... they not dumb. Animals not dumb. They...

DO: He used to train all our horses. And he used to buy horses for me. And I would come maybe four or five times a year and ride my horse. It's about my horse. And as soon as I get on the horse, completely different from how the horse would act compared to when he get on them.

LW: Oh, I'll bet.

DO: Completely different. They know. He would never behave like they... and all he had to do was yell at them. And then it would be a whole different story when I was on that horse. So they know each person.

LW: Yeah, yeah. They're pretty big brained.

GO: I make my own horses. I don't buy horses that somebody rode them already. No. I don't want nobody handle that horse. That's the horse I want to buy. Then I'll make my own. Right? And so give horses... in fact get the pictures over here... some pictures.

DO: That's Pony.

GO: Yeah, that's my old horse. My Pony. That's an old horse.

LW: Pony was his favorite?

DO: Yeah.

LW: How come? Why was Pony your favorite?

DO: Pony was his best cattle horse, yuh?

LW: What makes a good cattle horse?

GO: All depend on the bloodline. On the bloodline. And his body. And then you like a horse that move, yuh. Kind of be in the alert.

LW: Oh wait, say again.

GO: Yeah you you no like no scrub go around like their head only down like this. You want some horse they alert already. They moving...

LW: Oh, they moving.

GO: They move, huh. Ah, you like that horse. You no pick up any scrub.

LW: Oh, I see. Yeah, yeah. Well that description of using a rope with wild cattle. I bet you that's not recorded anywhere. See, that's why we got to talk to your dad.

DO: Everybody's got different stories about how you do it.

LW: Yeah, well the stories, but it's the real technical stuff that gets lost. The little stuff that he learned 'cause you did it... he did it every day. You know?

GO: Yeah... yeah. Well that was our job so we got to do it. Yeah. And I didn't tell you, when we ride wild horses, you ask anybody in these rodeos if they know about something about *kaula hele*. Know what is about *kaula hele*? See.

DO: That's how he used to break in horses.

LW: What is that?

GO: We tied our two stirrups... you see... (he demonstrates with the Hawaiian tree saddle). The stirrup go right... this stirrup here we tied. We tied them on that side. Come over, underneath the horse belly and tie this stirrup. So when the horse buck, this stirrup cannot come out. And all it is, is always like this. Open. And with a rope tied across... *kaula hele*. You ask all these cowboys... they don't know. The olden days... that's what we used to use... that. And the horse with this raincoat. We put this raincoat in the front here. *Kaula hele... kaula hele... nobody know but... no think these days these boys, they don't know what is kaula hele.*² They don't know.

LW: Did you ever sit with Dr. Bergin and...

GO: Bergin. I know him back when he was small.

LW: He collects all those cowboy words, He collected all those Hawaiian cowboy...

GO: Yeah, he the one put that in there. 'Cause I know Bergin and his sister. He was up Keauhou by the golf course. When they was small. He was a horse killer, that boy. Oh, he could run that horse, back and forth. Yeah, the whole day around. Yeah. Bergin and the sister. Yeah. Bergin I know when he was one small boy. His father used to live right across the road, eh. By the bridge a little over. And the house is on top, eh. That's where they used to live. Yeah, I knew Bergin when he was a small boy. In fact was one horse he used to ride... Coosing (phonetic)... that's the sister ride. And he used to ride Girlie. That was my boss Lindsey's horse. That's when Bergin used to ride.

LW: So Tom Lindsey worked for the Shipmans for years and years, huh?

GO: He work long time. Long time.

LW: But not for W. H. Herbert... Herbert

GO: Herbert Shipman. W. H. Shipman...

² At a subsequent meeting with Mr. Olivera, he asked that we also include the term *pani maka*, which means blindfold. This device, a rawhide strap tied over the horses eyes, was also commonly used in breaking wild horses.

LW: Was it his dad or his uncle.

GO: No he, Mr. Shipman. And his father was O. T., eh. O. T. Shipman.

DO: Well Shipman was never married, huh?

GO: No... he no... no.

LW: Not Herbert.

GO: No. Not Herbert.

DO: And then he had two sisters? Were they married?

GO: Three. Three sisters.

GS: Yeah, that's how Blackshear...

DO: Oh that's right 'cause he had a nephew so somebody had to get married.

LW: No, no. They were maiden. They were maiden.

DO: 'Cause they were married.

LW: No. They were maiden, I think.

GO: Two of his sisters, two wen get married. One to English and one to Roy Blackshear.

DO: Oh, English was married.

GO: English. They had a dairy. Volcano. And the English... uh, Roy Blackshear... that's Mr. Shipman's sister. The two. And then Roy used to get chicken farm down here. Kea'au. Yeah.

DO: 'Cause I know the two sisters used to live up by Wainaku.

GO: Three... three sisters. Margaret and... I don't know the other one. The two big sisters, yuh.

DO: But they used to live in that house over there by...

GO: High school?

DO: ...Reed's Island.

GO: Reed's Island. Right.

DO: They had to get it... well wasn't (inaudible)... their personal collection. Blackshear owns that one now. And he spent...

GO: Blackshear?

LW: No, she's the daughter. Their daughter... Roy's daughter... whose last name is Anderson. She runs that now.

GO: Yeah, that's why over here came Kea'au through Roy. If was Mr. Shipman, no. Still be Ola'a.

DJ: That's why this old timer you can interview. 'Cause no more other old timers. *Pau*. He's only the one I know.

LW: I know we've been talking to some other folks. They're a lot younger. How old are you?

GO: Huh?

LW: How old are you?

GO: How old? I just going make nineteen.

LW: Nineteen?

GO: Yeah. My teeth didn't come out yet. You know that's how they pick the horses.

LW: Really? Their teeth.

GO: Eighty-five. I going make eighty-six in August. This coming August.

LW: Oh, that's great.

DO: Dad, you remember Keoki from SC Ranch.

GO: Oh, Keoki.

GS: He's at Parker now.

GO: Yeah, yeah. He was with us. Kea'au... Dutchie Schumann. Yeah. He work with me. I know Keoki.

DO: He's over there now (Parker).

GO: Keoki, yeah. He's at Parker Ranch. He was with us.

DO: What about Branco, Manfred Branco... where he stay?

GO: Branco... he stay the other side. Kohala side. They get their own place.

DO: Gone already 'cause he was Parker Ranch for long time, too, eh?

GO: Well he no... he no can... he's kind of sickly now. Yeah... heart trouble.

GS: Joanne's... Joanne's husband, yuh?

DO: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

GS: His son is a good cowboy.

DO: His son?

GS: Yeah.

GO: Manfred... Manfred...

DO: Oh, good. The son cowboy now.

GO: Oh, the son, you mean? The son, yeah.

GS: Yes.

GO: The son is mean.

DO: But you know, all the interviews I see something about the paniolos, I watch. And they all interview the Parker Ranch guys, but they never mention him (Gini), because they don't know him, the younger guys.

Maybe the father or the grandfather know him but the young guys, they don't know anything about him. You mention Gini... even a couple of times like Dr. Bergin came to Honolulu to sell books. He brought a couple of the Parker Ranch guys. I forget who they were already.

GS: Sonny... Keakealani?

DO: Yeah, and I mention to him, he don't know my dad.

LW: Well he's younger than him. He's only sixty or something.

DO: So he said maybe the father or the grandfather or something.

GS: The father...

DO: Yeah, yeah. So it's kind of like disappointing, too, because they get all the glory from the old days and you know, the young guys don't see him on TV or any of the interviews on TV.

LW: Well, of course.

GO: You know why they use Parker Ranch?

DJ: Why? Why?

GO: Telephone. Yeah, telephone, they get. All the cowboys, they telephone. (Laughter.)

LW: Did Dr. Bergin sit with your dad, taking down Hawaiian words? Did he ever do that?

DO: Oh, Dr. Bergin knows. He calls my dad all the time to ask him. In fact he was the only...

GO: He know. Dr. Bergin know me by Gini.

DO: In fact he was the one that... who (inaudible) the Hall of Fame.

GO: He know me by Gini. He call me by Gini.

DO: But even in his books, he no mention my dad. I read Dr. Bergin's books about the cowboys and...

LW: Bur that's because he hasn't done... they're all focused on Parker.

DO: Yeah. Exactly.

LW: Yeah, 'cause...

DO: Shipman's a big ranch, too.

LW: Well, because the ranch kind of closed up. So early on, kind of... I mean not that early on but it didn't come forward.

DO: But Kapapala Ranch, you know that's still happening. I mean Gordon Cran just passed away not too long ago. They don't even mention that. There's a lot of ranches that are still happening on the Big Island.

LW: Well... both, I think.

DJ: But he mentioned his name. We were sitting down at the funeral. He mentioned his name.

GO: The Kona... one Kona wahine saw our story, too. From Kona. Nobody know.

GS: You know what I like? You saw all kinds of different places, yuh?

GO: Yeah. Yeah...

GS: Parker Ranch... grass...

GO: It's all in Parker Ranch.

GS: But you went...

GO: I went all different ranches.

GS: You know you went... *makai*...*mauka*... way up the mountain...

GO: I went with Johnny. Johnny, in Kona. What that... Medeiros. You know Johnny Medeiros?

GS: No. I don't know Kona people too well.

GO: Before you guys hit the old place this side... Honomalino, way *mauka*... up there... go chase one cattle up there.

DO: So he's been all over. He worked at Kahuku Ranch, he worked at Kapapala Ranch, he worked at Keauhou Ranch... Pu'u O'o... Shipman Ranch... Pu'ukala. And all they talk about is Parker Ranch. It's like there's so much more knowledgeable people out there.

GO: And I never tell you yet about Aina Hou. We work down Aina Hou to raise our cattle.

LW: Well, Aina Hou's kind of a weird place 'cause you know there's only water way down there close to the beach, yuh?

GO: That's brackish water.

LW: Or up... you have to be up close to the house where the tanks are, yuh?

GO: We had one pool there. We had one waterhole.

LW: Oh, there is one?

GO: Yeah. By the old house. Had the two, eh. Sabba's house way down. Below the boss house. We had a Filipino stay there. And on the side of it they had a big shade. We used to collect the water. Go underneath the shade. Inside the pool. Had a big... that's from there we get our water. Deliver to our cattle. The truck. And our good weaners, just like our regular stock, we take them down Aina Hou, down the beach. The brackish water. That's where you see nice cattle.

LW: Down by the beach?

GO: Always get the *kiawe* bean. Oh, they eat the *kiawe* beans and acorn. Hoo, nice cattle.

LW: Is that all along the coast or just there in the...?

GO: No, no. Just between the Hilina Pali and Kalapana. In that section. We have one section right there. Call it Aina Hou. Right in next is Hilina Pali or Halape. Right next. But we have that section from National Park.

LW: But I mean that the cattle come nice by the ocean?

GO: Yeah.

LW: That happened all the way along or just there by the...

GO: No. We until our second *pali*. Had *pali* all right through... one big *pali* and had crack they no can go over. That's our fenceline. Only when we fence, when the horse is our trail. That's how they wen fence. We take them till there, and then we take them right down to the water. The stock. And we kept down there for a couple of days. So when the cattle go up, we bring them down to water again. So they used to going down for water. That's the only place get water. So they go down there. And they like the *kiawe* beans, eh. So they stay right there. Hoo they come. Hoo, they just like your mainland cattle. Yeah.

LW: That's nice because I was just saying that Aina Hou was never really ranchable, you know. But I guess so.

GO: Oh, you can. You can make a good ranch over there. So main thing no overstock. You cannot overstock over there. 'Cause there's a lot of goats and all and if the goats come in the grass, you got to think about the goats and your cattle. So your cattle, he go down to the... we call it Kukui... till the first *pali*. And so you all batch your top one see, and you leave it there. They no go down. So we take them down. Well down ones we like bring them out. We run down this other ones. We put them by the boss house. We have this small holding pen down there. We bring down this cattle from there and put them in there. And just open the gate. You open the gate, look down, you bring your cattle right to the gate. Leave them there. They come home by their self. The next morning they up by the boss house.

DO: Never had that much trees on that land. So there was a lot more for the cattle to eat. But now they just let all the trees grow wild.

GO: Hoo...

LW: Well but the water was weird, you know. There wasn't a lot of fresh water except close to the ocean, but you created a water source.

GO: Yeah, the water shed was all the time out there. You had them out there. And then way up by the boss house, by the ending part, they used to get the great, big tanks. The water tanks. Yeah. We used to put them there. That's why we bought the Santa Gertrudis from mainland, King's Ranch. That's why we raised the Santa Gertrudis over there.

DO: When we went with Alana down to Ainahou and she took us around, she was telling him that there was a fence somewhere. She was telling him that there was a paddock. And they looked for years and they didn't find it. They took him down there, he found the wire. We were just passing by, she happened to mention the story and he said stop right here and look outside. And sure enough we saw the wire and the fence post. She said for years they were looking for that fence line.

LW: Yeah, yeah. I worked with them to do work on Aina Hou. For a while,

GO: That's a nice place that, you know.

LW: Yeah, it's beautiful.

GO: And the old man, Mr. Shipman, he used to get a yard boy, you know. Down from Ainahou there. Special, take care up there. Yeah, beautiful, the orchids and the... no was like that. Because last time I went down there, no wasn't like that.

LW: No.

GO: Was park... all nice trees and all... was nice ground.

GS: Was the Filipino boy, yuh?

GO: Huh?

GS: Wasn't it a Filipino boy?

GO: No was...

LW: Henry took care...

GO: Henry was his driver. Henry was the driver. Was Eddie and David... David Keawe. He the one. David used to take care the garden and Eddie, the yard, eh. Eddie used to take care the yard. And they had the Filipino take care the cattle. Ah... Sabbas... he wild for fighting chickens... Sabbas...

LW: Sabbas what...?

GO: Sabbas... Filipino. Had a lot of fighting chickens. Used to sleep in the bedroom with the fighting chickens. I think Mr. Shipman had a... he used to love his fighting chickens. (Laughter.) Hoo... Sabbas... Ainahou. That's a good place... nice place... lot of goats...

LW: Well they... didn't they have to control them from Kapapala? And at...

GO: No, National Park.

LW: You didn't have to control the goats at Kahuku?

GO: No. Kahuku was the other, different place. We used to... National Park had us. So they hire us go round up the goats. By the thousands. One time we bring... *Kipuka Nene*... down the place get *Kipuka Nene*, yuh. They have the corral right here by *Kipuka Nene*. We used to drive them through National Park. But if you driving Aina Hou. Pretty soon now you can. Ainahou... here is Hilina Pali and here is Ainahou, yuh. So when you bring them up, these Ainahou goats, we bring them up through here. Yeah. *Hilina Pali*. They want to go back this side but get the fence line, eh. They cannot go back. They got to go follow the fence line till they go up. And then we... we drive *Hilina Pali*. We put them on this side... Ainahou. So they want to come back. So that's the difference. I rotate them right up. So when they want to come up they want to go home, eh. Then, they break out, go run them out no. They want to go home. But they cannot go 'cause get the fence. Hawaiians they say *akamai*. We used to make good money. You sell the goats... (inaudible)... get away, he say. No get away, you fellas make some money. National Park they cannot. State they cannot make money, eh? So by the end they agree. And we told them no take them all. No. Over there is all the grass and then the bottle or cigarette so going be big fire. No, they went by the end. They start shooting. What happen? Fire. Well we told you guys. We told you guys.

LW: Yeah, lot of fire. They needed those goats to control some of that.

GO: Yeah. We got trouble with the holding of the goat.

LW: So he didn't run... he only ran those Santa Gertrudis there at Aina Hou. Did he run them any place else? The Santa Gertrudis?

GO: Yeah. Pu'u O'o. We took them... we sell them out, too. Different ranches. All the breed... that's why our Santa Gertrudis they all around now.

LW: Yeah they are.

GO: Shipman bought eleven heifers. And then after a couple months... oh, Gordon Cran went down and he brought one quarter horse for us. But... didn't get the real quarter horse. They gave us. We wanted the working quarter horse. Gordon Cran pick up the running quarter. And the one, running quarter just like a thoroughbred. You cannot... you know no more that body... no nothing. So when he get over here hey, what kind horse this? Not a pure quarter. No, that's a quarter. A quarter is a quarter. But he never know it's a running quarter. And then Mr. Shipman call him back. Say you guys send me the wrong horse. So send him back. We sent him a quarter. He say no, we got all this ranching, we got the track, the old Ho'olulu Park track, where the Civic at. That was all ranch, only for cattle. Never had no nothing else. No baseball. No nothing. Only for cattle, horses. So we had the track, we go race the horses. We race all this ranchers. Dutchie Schumann and all. We clean up all them. (Laughter.) Parker Ranch come... a lot... all these ranches, we clean them up, all. Kipu our stud... Kipu.

DJ: And the goats we used to sell only for wine. Hmm... those days, good the wine.

GO: In fact Dutchie Schumann went in special in mainland buy another horse thinking he could lick our stud. Okay, man to man. Letta go. Ha... he leave the mainland stud way in the back. Good-bye, Dutchie. (Laughter.) Gone with the wind, Dutchie. Don't play with the stud. And that's how and our own breed. That's how our old horses... that's one of them that came out stud. Big, big animal, but he could fly. Wow. Wow, he could run. Just like in the back of him just like one thunder... hroom, hroom... right in the back we were... whsst... gone.

LW: Well, if I asked you what made a good cattleman, what would you say?

GO: Well, that's all depend on it, see. How like nowadays, most of the cattlemen... they learning from the books. Us, no. We started from the ground. That's how we come the good cattlemen. 'Cause we started with... most... you study the books. Old guys, eh... different kind ideas, yuh. But you starting from the ground, you going start without one, because your idea no can change. You starting from the ground. And no... where you go... the older the cowboy, you know... he's an old timer... you take points from him. That's how make cowboy out of you. Not from the books. Books you never learn because everybody have a different way of making. Just like you breaking horses now. In the books get all kind ways of breaking the horse... that's wrong. You look to the Indians how to break in your horse. Real different. So to make a cowboy, you got to learn through your own experience. So maybe sometimes cannot lead. Some guys, the old timers. they cannot lead. They cannot rope. So you from your own self, if you like be a cowboy, that's how our bosses we get trouble. We show the boys, maybe let's say about four, five guys. We show him to be a cowboy. And if he no catch on, brother, you got to fence. On the fence crew, we put you. That's how it is,

LW: Yeah you had to be able to handle a horse well.

GO: Yup. You got to handle a horse right. How study a cattle. How the cattle moving. when you drive them, know where and how to *huli* the cattle. Not if you going this way. You want the paddock. The cattle go in that paddock there. You don't want that cattle go there. Go bring it back. You got to go all there. You got to hold it in that direction. Just keep your cattle... because we had men on the side. To guide them how to go. 'Cause bumby they go this way, when you go far place the cattle be all tired, eh. So you keep in one section. So you through experience, your experience, you got to know all that.

LW: Yeah. And I bet it seems like you guys are kind of tough. You don't complain, you don't mind if get wet. You can't be kind of fussy or what...

GO: No, no, no. Uh uh. And we count, We don't eat lunch the whole day, you know. No eat lunch. Just keep it going. No lunch. Only when you have lunch, when you branding. When you branding. We invite

some people. The school, that's one thing with the boss. He put it in the newspaper, who want to see branding and all that come, come certain place. We meet them there. The boss meet them. Us, we go make everything ready for the branding. So when the boss come with the people, we branding right there. So that's how go. You no can be any Dick and Harry. You got to get experience your own self. Your heart got to be in it to be a cowboy. Not you no more your heart for the cowboy, no. No. No even study. Your heart got to be there. And the cowboy is no chicken, you know. You no act like a chicken. You act like a man. You be like a man. And you got to sleep outside. In our days, no house for sleep. We used to live out in the stone house. Made of stone. On the dirt. We use our saddle, for our pillow. And the horse blanket for us in the stone house. I had a fire right between. But no go and just get out the next week. Two, three days later, no go in there. Because we take our dogs. We get for supper our own pig. We catch our own pig. That's where we have our meal. Or we depend on goat or pig. That's how. That's how we have our own meal.

LW: So you just slaughter it right there?

GO: Slaughter, right. Skin it right there. That's why you tell... you take these days boys, young days... old *pipi* you tell how to skin one goat. Yeah but you don't know how to skin a goat. To use one knife, you use the knife. always you use the knife. Cut the goat here, right up to here. Cut it here. Cut the inside here. And then you *lomi*. Yeah, you grab the skin, you *lomi*. That's how you skin a goat. And the sheep, same thing. Not just like a cattle and pig... you just skin them, eh? No you *lomi*. Goat and sheep, you *lomi*. Yeah, yeah. (Laughs.)

DJ: You learn plenty today. Got to be one old timer, yuh? He's the last old timer we can find.

GO: What you got on your mind?

LW: Well I was just thinking it's a lot to do more than an hour and a half. So we may be about ready to quit. What do you have in your mind that you want down in this interview?

GO: I want to answer your question.

LW: Yeah, you've answered. You've got some really full answers. Gladys is... Gladys is the one who types it up. She's the... she's the one who really works hard.

GO: Gladys... I bet that camera going to broke. (Laughter.)

GS: No... it's a cowboy camera.

LW: So I think the big question I just asked you. I asked everyone about that one about being a cattleman and what it meant. So see some of them are younger and they're manager types. So they say more about the business. But see the beauty of talking to you is that you're from that generation that was really out there.

GO: I went through it. I never go through that. That's what I told you about books. Like this generation, they're foremans and everything. They go through books. Us, no. Right from our own feet we started right up. That's why we know every move in here. And every paddock. You know your paddock, and you know every ground, you know where get the holes, the water troughs. I used to be a man. I used to drink. And every water trough, I had one bottle whiskey hide underneath.

LW: Oh yeah?

GO: Yeah. And know if I was shipping cattle and they had the railroad tiles, eh, where you go to the truck... manual and start. Well they had wires in the tile. Well one tile come out. I put my whiskey in there. While they shipping cattle, I go around the trunk or underneath the truck and suck it. Hey, that's what they used to tell me. You getting drunk, the guy, huh? No, no, no, no... I not. I've been drinking on the job. But...

DO: Okay. He and I would be riding all day. And I no see him drink. By the time we get back from saddle horse he'd be side saddle. Underneath one rock, or behind one tree, he had a stash everywhere. (Laughter.)

LW: Well that's how come you could ride all day and not be...

GO: All day!

DO: And be relaxed.

TAPE ENDS.