As we approach the end of the year, I look back with a great deal of pleasure and pride at everything we have accomplished in the past 12 months. Although our company is spread across the Pacific with operations separated by thousands of miles of blue water and hours of flight time, we have worked together as a remarkable team in Hawai‘i and Guam (and elsewhere around the USA), Fiji, Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Mauritius. We have served our customers warmly and efficiently, and in most areas earned a profit as well.

We have also made significant investments in the future of our company.

- In Waikīkī, renovations at the OHANA Waikiki East were completed and we have assumed management of the 143-room Hokulani Waikiki By Hilton Grand Vacations Club. That property was officially blessed and opened to the public just three days ago (Wednesday, Dec. 11. See article left). The opening represents the completion of our Waikiki Beach Walk® redevelopment.

- In Thailand, Darren Edmonstone and his team completed the renovations at the beautiful 255-key Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort, and the property had a grand reopening party in the first quarter of 2013.

- In Mauritius, we acquired a beachfront resort on that island of incredible natural beauty. All 181 guest rooms face the aquamarine sea, promising memorable views of the pristine Indian Ocean. The resort will encompass three swimming pools, three restaurants, a pampering Navasana Spa, and an exclusive club facility. The property is being extensively renovated before a grand reopening as the Outrigger Mauritius Resort and Spa, planned for the second quarter of 2014.

- Work has continued on new properties at Vin Hoi Bay on the south-central coast of Vietnam and at Clearwater Bay on the southern coast of Hainan Island, China.

Yes, together we are a powerful team!

As we look forward to 2014, the Chinese astrological Year of the Horse, I have a feeling we will be in for a busy, demanding, exciting ride. Horses are bold, quick-witted, strong, swift and energetic, born to compete and travel.

Will that description fit our company and the members of our ‘ohana in the coming months? We will have the answer to that question this time next year.

In the meantime, on behalf of the entire Kelley family, please accept my warmest wishes for the holiday season and the New Year and my thanks for all you have done in 2013 to make Outrigger a Great Place to Work and Grow!