



Let us help you get your *dhucks* in a row...

*Tips & Tricks*

**December 2007**

Welcome to ***Dhucks' Tips & Tricks***

### **Give Memories Instead**

We all love to give gifts as well as receive them. This year, rather than give your friends and loved ones something to hold (and dust and move and store), why not give them wonderful memories instead?

**Give a gift of your time:** Have lunch, go for a hike, or take a class together. Talk about the fun times you've had and the fun times you will have. Ask about their dreams and hopes for this next year. This year I've asked my husband, Steve, for a gym membership and personal trainer for the two of us for two months. This way, I get an exercise buddy, we spend some quality time together and both of us will be healthier and live longer (even more memories).

**Give a donation in someone's name:** You could adopt an animal at your local zoo or give to the humane society. To help out the Hilo Zoo, go to [www.hilozoo.com/foz\\_mna.htm](http://www.hilozoo.com/foz_mna.htm). For the Hawaii Island Humane Society go to [www.hihs.org](http://www.hihs.org). There is also the Hawaii Island Food Bank at <http://thefoodbasketinc.com/donate.html> or give to an organization that has helped the gift recipient get through a tough time.

**Give a gift of memories:** Steve and I invited both our families to share our first Christmas in Hawaii. Because we didn't need anything, we asked each family member to give us a Christmas ornament instead. That Christmas we got memories that we hang on the tree every year. I also took pictures of each ornament and its giver, then created photo albums that we gave back to our families the following Christmas. Now they can share the memories, too.

So, whether you use one of these ideas or create other ways to give wonderful memories this holiday season, make sure you have some fun and enjoy life.

*Shawndra*



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