

Aloha from the Big Island of Hawaii! Mr. Blogger and I are taking a break from the beautiful NW winter to soak up some sunshine and take in some island sights.



### Hawai'i Scenery

We both love the ease with which we see whales, turtles and exotic birds here. We were here only a few hours when we spotted whales spouting in the bay outside our place we call home this week. We have visited beaches and seen turtles sunning themselves (see below). They are very carefully guarded and respected here and you are not allowed to get closer than 20 feet.

Yesterday we visited Kilauea, the local volcano that has been active for 31 years. We walked the rim of the volcano and were able to see and experience up close the steam vents that are everywhere! Right now the only hot and flowing lava can only be seen from the water so we settled for watching steam and walking the lava tubes.



### Turtles to the beach to get some sun!

Shorts and sandals everyday are a nice winter break but we look forward to our return to our home in Stillwaters next week.



Kilauea Steam Vents



Sunsets here are amazing!

Here is a little Island language lesson. The Hawaiian language only contains twelve letters. Aloha is used to say hello and goodbye and is also used as an expression of kindness and affection. The street and other names are challenging at first but soon become familiar and easier to pronounce. We live here on a street names Ali'i (uh-lee-re) and today as I am writing this I learn it means "hawaiian chief". Something new every day!

Next week we will be back to "life as normal" in the blog world. Enjoy the rest of your week. Maholo!