

Re: Kilauea Volcano

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On Jun 5, 11:55 am, John Curtis <j...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Halema'uma'u is the site of a lava lake that persisted from 1823 to 1924. The lava lake influenced perceptions of the composition of Earth's interior. Might have also inspired Norman Owen into melting rocks.
John Curtis

"It was like gazing at the sun at noonday, except that the glare was not quite so white. At unequal distances all around the shores of the lake were nearly white-hot chimneys or hollow drums of lava, four or five feet high, and up through them were bursting gorgeous sprays of lava gouts and gem spangles, some white, some red, and some golden – a ceaseless bombardment, and one that fascinated the eye with its unapproachable splendor."
— Mark Twain, 1866

There is a picture of it, with people standing quite close to it actually, as well as more information and the above quote here: <http://pahoahi.tripod.com/volcano/halema.htm> How lucky for them they weren't there in 1924!

I do look forward to seeing some of this some night (and day) in the webcam, if Kilauea and Pelee are willing to show off for tourists. For at least two days now, HVO has reported "winks" in the vent wall's incandescent glow following small earthquakes, possibly due to rock falls. It suggests (to this amateur anyway) that the vent is widening somewhat, perhaps being undermined from below by the magma, which is still fairly well down. Who knows what will happen next.

Barb

Yes, Virginia, there can be such a thing as dead stones:
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Go_\(board_game\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Go_(board_game))

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