

# Christopher L. “Chris” Cook

Christopher “Chris” Cook grew up in Colonia, New Jersey where he graduated from Colonia High School. He moved to Brevard County, Florida, where he became immersed in the surfing sub-culture. At age 19 he moved to Hawai‘i and made the North Shore of O‘ahu his home base. He earned a B.A. in English at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa. The author traveled in the 1970s on surfing trips across the Hawaiian Islands, to California, Taiwan, Bali, France, Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.

In 1979 he moved to the island of Kaua‘i. In 1984 he married author-journalist Evelyn Simpson and two sons were born to the couple. He joined the staff of *The Garden Island* newspaper as a reporter-photographer-section editor, and served as the Kaua‘i stringer for Associated Press and United Press International. He launched the newspaper’s website [www.thegardenisland.com](http://www.thegardenisland.com) in 2000, and was editor from 2003-2005. He received a Pulitzer Newspapers Community Newspaper award in 2003. The author worked at Princeville Corporation on Kaua‘i as Manager of Corporate Communications, and as a tourism specialist for the County of Kaua‘i’s Office of Economic Development. In Washington State, the author was publisher-editor of the *Forks Forum* newspaper on the West End of the Olympic Peninsula.

The author has written, co-written, edited and served as photographer for over fifteen published books, most Hawai‘i related non-fiction. His works include the best-selling *The Kaua‘i Movie Book*, *A Kaua‘i Reader*, *Kaua‘i in History - A Guide to the Resources* bibliography of Kaua‘i’s history. He continues to be a speaker on historical topics for the Kaua‘i Historical Society and other organizations. The author has been featured in cable network productions as an expert in the history of Kaua‘i.

He has experienced the reality of missionary work on short-term trips to Indonesia, the Philippines and Okinawa.

The author is now working as a full-time, Hawai‘i-based freelance author. *The Providential Life & Heritage of Henry Obookiah* is his latest book, and the first from his own publishing house, Pa‘a Studios based in Waimea, Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i.