

THE LANA'I CONNECTION

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NOVEMBER 2006



TRACKING THE MARINE FALCON

BY ISMAEL M. NAAEP, MD

My story begins in June 1946 on the dock of the harbor in Vigan City in northern Luzon, the Philippines. I stood in awe and was mesmerized by the magnificent ship in the horizon. "*Ania nagan na, inang ko?*" (Mother, what is its name?) I asked in Ilocno. "Marine Falcon, *anak ko.*" (Marine Falcon, my child), she answered as she read the name on its bow. I repeated its name several times under my breath and my chest swelled with pride in the certitude of my father's promise that a ship would come to take us to America. I knew he would never lie to me.

A year before, we lived in the Mountain Province in the highlands of northern Luzon where my mother taught school to the indigenous Igorot tribe and my father worked as a heavy equipment operator for the Lepanto Copper Mines. We lived an idyllic and carefree life and were left alone by the Imperial Japanese soldiers until the return of the U.S. Armed Forces under the command of General Douglas MacArthur. After landing in Lingayen Gulf, the U.S. Fifth Army quickly advanced north and forced the Japanese Army and General Yamashita to retreat into the highlands



of northern Luzon where we lived. We were caught between the mopping-up operation of the U.S. Fifth Army and the retreating Japanese soldiers. Our only hope of survival was to evacuate to the safety of the liberated lowlands. With a chicken tightly tucked under my arm, we and other families, started our perilous trek to safety. Occasionally, I would linger behind and my father would goad me along by saying, "Hurry up, anak ko, there is a ship waiting to take us to America over that hill." So I would waddle

along as fast as I could to the crest of the hill and finding no ship my father would say, "It is over the next hill." Trusting him, I would continue to waddle along as fast as I could.

Desperate for work after the war, my father and 7,000 Filipino men would eventually sail to Hawaii under contract with the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association in three batches between January to March 1946 on the SS



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Interested in Membership?
Life Membership to LACA is only \$10!

Cost to replace membership card is \$5.00.

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We reserve the right to edit any article before publication.

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Lanaiconnection.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES
March 1, 2007 for '07 April Issue

Continued on page 2

"Marine Falcon," continued from page 1

Maunawili to work in the pineapple and sugar cane fields.

In June 1946, nine hundred children and four hundred fifty wives sailed on the SS Marine Falcon from the port of Vigan and arrived at Nawiliwili Harbor on July 1, 1946 to join their fathers and husbands, respectively. My mother, brother and I were among them. The ship had to anchor off Nawiliwili Harbor at that time as it was not deep enough and we had to be taken by smaller boats to Kalapaki Landing. Passengers bound for Kauai left the landing while those of us bound for the other islands boarded the little fishing boat "Mana", skippered by Captain Calahau at Mala Wharf at Lahaina, there were less than ten families. (I remember the Macadangdangs, Ballesteroses and the Turquezas). After being tossed and turned as we crossed the channel we landed at Kaunalapau Harbor where we disembarked and were loaded onto pineapple trucks and taken to our new homes. Ours was on Block 40, House #12. Eventually, the road in front of the house was named Gay Lane. My father greeted us at the door with a wide grin his face and I ran towards him and melted into his arms. That night we had a feast with the groceries that he bought by credit from Yet Lung Store using his Bango (Banko) #840.

Through the years, I have not forgotten the Marine Falcon. Several years ago I wrote to the U.S. Maritime Institute to learn more about the Marine Falcon and received this information. The Marine Falcon was a troop transport ship that was built in 1945 by Kaiser Company, inc. in Vancouver, Washington. It was launched just before WWII ended so it did not get to transport troops overseas for battle. It eventually was operated by the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company. In April 1946, it left Seattle for Shanghai where it was due to arrive on May 15. From there it sailed to the Philippines (where we were picked up), then to Hawaii and on to San Francisco. After serving various shipping companies, the ship was converted to a container carrier in 1966 and renamed TRENTON. In 1975, it was sold to a foreign owner and was named BORINQUEN. Its present whereabouts is unknown.

With the passing of years I became restless by the urge to retrace my journey on the Marine Falcon to Hawaii. Finally, in October 2001 my wife and I flew to Shanghai. While there I walked along the Bund at the bank of the vast Huang-ho River and tried to imagine the Marine Falcon as it lay anchored in the harbor. Then we flew to Manila and drove to Vigan and I stood at the same dock where I first saw the ship as an awe struck little boy. From there it was on to Nawiliwili Harbor sans Kalapaki Landing then Lahaina and finally Kaunalapau Harbor on Lana'i.

We are thankful...



To **Karol Nakamatsu Duesendchon** who fantastically served as the Newsletter Designer and overnight got the August issue ready for print! Routinely, designers have taken one to two weeks to do the layout.

To **Donna Shiroma Nakasue**, webmaster, who has resumed her role as Newsletter Designer beginning with this November issue. Welcome back, Donna!

To **Doreen Salangron Burnham** for coordinating the October golf tournaments for LACA members for the past years. She and her husband will be relocating to Idaho. You will be missed by the golfers next October. Best wishes for happy living in Idaho.

To **Joyce Oda Kobayakawa ('61)**, **Kiyomi Akahoshi Kunishige ('52)**, **Maizie Akahoshi Kimura ('62)**, **Coochie Tanodra Cayan ('69)**, **Gloria Obado Reyes (59)**, **Jacob Hueu ('53)**, **Rosita Viduya Hueu ('53)**, **Gerald Sakamura ('61)**, **Nancy Okamitsu Sakamura ('61)**, **Jane Sakaumra Nakamura ('51)**, who volunteered Sunday, July 23, and mail prepped for the August newsletters. Highlight of the day was potlucking for lunch and talking about "before" days.

LANA'I HIGH AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Lana'i Alumni and Community Association is grateful to Principal **Pierce Myers** for his support and willingness to assume extra tasks in addition to his administrative duties. He has served on the scholarship and awards and grants committees since 1995.

Principal Myers was receptive when asked to give an update on the following topics:

1. How many years have you been on the staff as teacher and administrator?

- ◆ I started at LHES as a band teacher in 1981.
- ◆ taught band for 14 years
- ◆ was vice principal for two and a half years
- ◆ currently as principal for seven years

2. About the Myers family:

- ◆ Wife is Jessie (Figuerres)
- ◆ Daughter Udella is a social worker with Adult Friends for Youth in Honolulu
- ◆ Daughter Sharah is a ninth grader at LHES

3. Student enrollment at LHES:

- ◆ 350 students in Kindergarten - grade 6.
- ◆ 270 students in grades 7 – 12

4. Number of faculty members:

- ◆ 14 teachers in kindergarten – grade 4.
- ◆ 22 teachers in grades 6 – 12
- ◆ 13 Special Education teachers

5. Update on the mobile computer lab

- ◆ The lab is being used constantly both in class with students and during staff development days.

6. When will the Master Plan “break ground” and construction begin?

- ◆ Funding has been received for planning and design of a six classroom building (phase 1) Construction Funding is in the DOE budget for the 2007 legislative session. If all goes as planned, tentative opening will be June 2009.

Mahalo nui loa, Pierce, for all that you do for LACA!

Motions Approved by the Board

The following major actions were taken by the administration and board of directors September 13, 2006. The meeting was held at the LACA Hawaii Building, 1064 Sand Island Parkway.

- The proposal from **Webmaster, Donna Shiroma-Nakasue**, on Services and Prices beginning 2006 was approved.
- **Thomas Roy Nunotani Scholarship** - From \$1500 to \$2000
- **LACA Vocational Scholarship**- From \$1000 to \$1500
- **Awards and Grants: Outstanding Student for School & Community Award**- From \$500 to \$300
- **Name change of Awards and Grants**—to Kiyoshi “Mana” Minami Awards and Grants

DEL ROSARIO AND AGCAOILI CAPTURE 2006 LACA SCHOLARSHIPS

BY ROSITA MAGAOAY CAMERO

Congratulations to **Michelle Nalani Del Rosario** and **Rosevie Ann Agcaoili**! They were awarded the 2006 LACA scholarships on May 26th at the Lana'i High School Awards Assembly.

Michelle Del Rosario, the daughter of **Glenn and Beverly Del Rosario**, was awarded the \$1,500 **Thomas Roy Nuntani** Scholarship. Academically, Michelle is an achiever and a bright student with capabilities showing superior skills. Michelle ranked no. 2 in her class of 39 and has maintained a 3.8 grade point average throughout her senior year. As a leader, she is well liked by her constituents. As an athlete she worked diligently to excel in sports. She belonged to the Girls Physical Team that won the 2003 national championship. Presently, she is enrolled at Seattle University and has taken courses appropriate to support her goal of obtaining a bachelor in nursing. She hopes that one day her dream will come true – working with young children as a pediatric nurse.

Rose Vie Ann Agcaoili is the daughter of **Moriel and Evelyn Agcaoili**. She was presented the \$1,000 Vocational Scholarship award. Despite the many challenging classes Rose Vie enrolled in, she has attained a 3.0 or better grade point average throughout the years. She has served as a class officer in her freshman, sophomore and senior years. Although she worked part-time at Four Seasons Manele Bay Hotel, she proved herself a dedicated family member, many times baby sitting her younger siblings including her many younger cousins. Rose Vie enjoys and is a talented hula, Tahitian and ballet dancer. She has also accomplished the art of defense in karate. Currently, Rose Vie is attending Kapiolani Community College. Her dream is to reach her goal of becoming a radiology technician while majoring in the medical/healthcare field.

KAYLA ELIGADO: FOUR SEASONS AWARD RECIPIENT

My name is **Kayla Eligado**. My parents are **Garek and Sheila Eligado**. I was awarded the 2006 Citizenship Award scholarship. Currently, I am taking classes at the Lana'i Education Center which is under Maui Community College (MCC). With the scholarship, I was able to pay for my classes for first semester along with the books and accessories I needed. I will use the remainder of the scholarship for next semester. Next year I plan to move to Maui and finish my education at MCC. My goal is to become an elementary school teacher. MCC has the program I need to take in order to reach my goal.

Senior year in high school went by really fast. I remember every single day of that year. I felt like a totally different person. I was in the same school, had the same teachers, and hung out with the same group of friends, but everything still felt different. I guess it was just the thought that in about a year my life would be on a whole different path. I was so excited and a bit scared!

As I was growing up, I thought of becoming a nurse after finishing my education at Lana'i High School. Now I realize that I would rather be an elementary teacher. I really love children. My dream job is running my own day care center. Nursing is a great career but it doesn't focus only on the kids.

I have several hobbies here on Lana'i. I play music, go to aerobics, and I like to fish. My favorite hobby is dancing the hula. I have been dancing under Kumu **Lynette Kaopuiki** for over a year. She has been a great Kumu and motivated me to stick with hula. Also, she has appointed me her Alaka'i. Maybe one day I will become a Kumu under her.

Another favorite hobby of mine is playing the keyboard. My friends, family, and I have formed a band. We have been together about four years. We play at parties in the community. In 2003 my two sisters Kristen, Kathleen (both are singers) and I performed at the LACA Las Vegas Connection at the California Hotel and Casino. In 2004, entertaining with us were Craig (uke, singer), Donovan (singer), Ricky Boy (my boy friend, drummer). Other band members who didn't go with us to Vegas are: cousin Baba (uke), friend Sterling (guitar), friend Isaiah (drums).

Last year we entered the Lana'i High School Talent Show and won first place. Winning awarded us a trip to play in the Maui County High School Talent Show where we took third place. We did such a good job that we were asked to play at Maui's Relay for Life.

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

It's almost Thanksgiving again and time to thank all of you who gave to our funds this past year! Without you, we could not reach one of the major goals of our organization that of helping our alma mater and its students achieve their educational goals. This year, we would like to widen the base of our contributors. Fortunately we have a few alumni who contribute very generously and some who give annually. The annual LACA Las Vegas Connection and the publication of the Lana'i Connection are especially expensive undertakings.

In the past, the Las Vegas event was self-sustaining and the assessment per attendee was sufficient to pay the various committees and musicians expenses. Food for thought: If every attendee donated \$1.00 at the event, more than \$300.00 would be contributed!

LACA has the need for funds to defray operational expenses such as:

- Post office annual box rental fee
- Bulk mail postage
- Bulk mail permit
- Standard (1st.class) postage
- Printing of the newsletters
- Address labels, mailing seals
- Domain registration
- Web hosting
- Database management
- Webmaster for services
- Postage, operational use (administration, board of directors)
- Monetary deposits to book LACA events, Vegas golf
- Committees expenses
- As needed: office supplies, stationery/ envelopes, award plaques, membership cards

Your understanding and support will greatly help to make LACA a very worthy organization. Please participate.

There are two ways that you can make a contribution:

- **For a tax-deductible contribution**, please make your check out to Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation (or just PSHF) and write for LACA in the bottom left-hand corner of your check. These monies will be used for scholarships, awards, and grants.
- **For a non-tax deductible contribution** which is used for operational expenses, make your check out to LACA.

From the officers and board of directors, best wishes for a happy Holiday Season and a good year in 2007!

IT'S YOUR CHOICE

**To go or not to go,
that is the question**



As printed on the program which was distributed to the attendees in the TCBR of the Plaza Hotel and Casino, the 2007 LACA Las Vegas Connection will be on October 13 at the California Hotel and Casino in the Ohana/Maile banquet room.

No matter where the location for the event will be held there will be disgruntled members. Now here's the rub. If you enjoy the Hawaiian ambiance and are satisfied with the banquet accommodations at the California Hotel, fill out the sign-up form in the April 2007 newsletter. Reservations will be limited to 350 attendees. If you were mesmerized by the spaciousness and décor of the Triple Crown Ball Room at the Plaza Hotel and are disillusioned about returning to the California Hotel in 2007, wait until 2008 to attend the banquet at the Plaza Hotel. Life is made of choices and consequences. It's your call.

For the event at the Cal, the following will be assisting with the activities: **Tina Mendes, Jeri Hirayama Iba, Nickie Morita Oshiro, Suzanne Pascua Damian, Randy Pina, Ted Perez, Alice Eligado Miyamura, Jacob Hueu, Rosita Viduya Hueu.** (More volunteers to be added.)

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Anyone aspiring to be a president elect, 1st vice president, or 2nd vice president must serve one year as a director and attend the board meeting scheduled for June, August, September, November, February, March, April and the annual meeting in May. Board meetings are held at the LACA Hawaii Building, 1064 Sand Island Parkway. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

Two aspirants have consented to serve as director/president elect and director/1st vice president. Their names will be announced in the 2007 newsletter.

Most of the present officers and all of the incumbent directors will return to implement the new procedure as of 2007 - 2009. The new administration takes office June 2009.

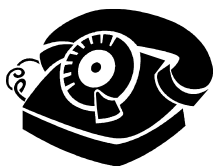
- President
- 1st. Vice President
- 2nd. Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer
- Nominations are open until January 2007 for the following positions:
- Director/1st Vice President
- Director/2nd. Vice President
- Corresponding Secretary

Positions are open for more directors from Oahu

Please kokua and volunteer. LACA needs you.

For more information, please contact:

Gloria Reyes (808) 625-2505,
Coochie Cayan (808) 348-6198,
Rosita Hueu (808) 455-7605.



GOLF NEWS

By Nelson Tamashiro

On August 19, 2007, forty-nine golfers teed off at Olomana Golf Links for the 25th Annual Lana'i Invitational Golf Tournament. This is held once a year and is open to former and current Lana'i residents. In 1981, the first tournament started as an outing among fellow Lanai'i High School alumni living on Oahu. This outing was played at the Hawaii Kai Par 3 Golf Course and fellowship followed at **Ricky Tamashiro's** ('71) home in Kuliuou. We all had a good time seeing one another again and reliving the good old days on Lana'i. Well, you know what happens when former Lanaians get together – they want to do it again. Thus, the formation of the Lana'i Invitational Golf Tournament.

One of the purposes was also to invite the Lana'i Golf Association, whose members were our fathers, to play at an Oahu golf course and spend a weekend with other former Lanaians.

One of the most memorable tournament was in 1984 when ninety golfers participated. **Bruce Matsuura** ('69) and I would receive applications and not recognize some of their names. A quick phone call to our Historian **Jake Hueu** ('53) took care of that problem.

Those 25 years have come and gone so fast! So until next August, hopefully, we'll be seeing you at the 26th Annual Lana'i Invitational Golf Tournament.

Nickie's Edamame Rice

This is not an exact recipe. You will have to add ingredients and alter to your taste.

5 cups uncooked rice (2 cups brown & 3 cups white rice)
 About 3 tbsp nori tsukudani (wet nori in bottles found at Don Quijote)

1 bottle nametake mushroom (beige, sliced stems in sauce.)

1/2 bottle ochazuke furikake

1 pkg. frozen edamame, boiled and shelled (shelled edamame sold at Don Quijote)

Cook rice. Add remaining ingredients to the hot rice in large bowl. First add the edamame. Stir. Then add the mushroom and nori. Stir. Add the furikake.

If you eat it right away, you can taste some of the crunchiness from the furikake. Ono!

AWESOME REUNION AT THE PLAZA!

A joyous time was had by all as evidenced by the smiling faces, warm embraces, and genuine hometown fellowship at the LACA Vegas Connection on October 7, 2007. Guests reveled and danced in the spacious and comfortable Triple Crown Ball Room at the Plaza Hotel and Casino. Co-chairs for the event were **Donna Reyes Ching** and **Rosita Viduya Hueu**.

LACA would like to thank the following for their input, time and dedication, in carrying out this milestone event. We apologize for errors or inadvertently not listing volunteers or members who had a vital part in this event.

LACA Hospitality Suite, 10/5/06

Solidad and Mariano Masicampo

Sign-In/Wait List Committee from California

Co-chairs: Sally Tabura Cadiente & Caroline Miyamoto Asuncion

Ben Asuncion, Roy Cadiente, Bobbie & Randy Mizuno, Lei Dalde, Glenda Obado-Ito, Leo & Eleanor Valdez Robles, Nora Miranda-Raboy, Jeanneal Miranda, Caroline Voss, Irene Dalde Seawright

Ushers: Joy Maile Enfield, Jocelyn Lee Celcer, Steven Garalde, Al Tipon Jr.

California Chicken Hekka:

Glenn Alapag (bass guitar), Joice Dalde Alapag

(ukulele), Jane Garalde Primicias (ukulele), Ben Dalde (ukulele), Butch Alcantra (ukulele), Roy Duran (steel & electric guitar), Dennis Pavao (hula dancer)

Kauna'oa from Lana'i:

Garek Eligado (keyboard), Larry Endrina (guitar), Mark Alboro (bass guitar), Julieanne Mock Chew (vocals), Len Fabrao-Wong (vocals), Marty Wilson (guitar), Matthew Ives (ukulele), Dennis Himalaya (guitar)

Logistics: Patty Oshiro

Emcees: Len Fabrao-Wong, Jane Garalde Primicias

Ukulele Drawing: Gloria & Pedring Dugay

Grand Prizes: Maisie Akahoshi Kimura, Plaza Hotel & Casino

Door Prizes: Chairman: Sheila Awakuni Eligado
Marge Morita Asato, Gloria Obado Reyes, Glenda Obado-Ito

Name Tags: Delaine Miyamura Ige, Jacob Hueu

Memoriam, Invocation: Joice Dalde Alapag

Lei for VIP's made by: Alice Eligado Miyamura,

Printing of Program: Donna Ching

Sign-In Records: Joan Yamanaka, Rosita Hueu

Photographer: Jeff Whaley and assistants

Plaza Catering Manager, Jules Carralero and the Plaza Catering Staff

Plaza Special Group Sales Dept.: Ruthie Allred

(Las Vegas) Beef Jerky Store: Judy Nitura

LACA Deceased Members Gone But Not Forgotten

LACA extends heartfelt condolences to those who lost a family member or dear friend.

FIRST NAME	MAIDEN	LAST NAME	TYPE/MEMBERSHIP CLASS OF - -	DATE OF DEATH
Nedine	Kimokeo	Gali	1961	07/26/05
Pauline		Kimokeo	1953	08/14/06
Norman		Nakafuji	1954	10/11/80
Kazuo (Jack)		Nakafuji	1946	05/28/01
Clarence "Hoss"		Richardson	1958	07/20/06
Adolfo		Sanches	1954	09/18/06

Since the June issue which requested for an update on **registered members** who have passed away, there has been an increase in posthumous enrollments. A membership form can be downloaded from our web site at www.lanaiconnection.com. Enrollment fee is \$10.00.



ALUMNI NEWS

Class of 1941 Reunion

Pagoda Restaurant, May 1996



Nona Minami, (LHS faculty), George Ichihara, Dorothy Fukuda Takahama (LHS faculty) Betty Hahn Sun



Sitting: Katherine Minn, Betty Sun, Paul Lee (deceased). Standing: Charlie Takahama, Kimie Ichihara, Mana Minami (deceased)

Class of 1945 Luncheon Gathering

Pagoda Restaurant, February 27, 2006



Front sitting: Juanita Toliro Pojan, Mieko Shiroma Norr (Utah)

Back: Marie Pascua Perriera, Mrs. Archie Takeshita, Rosalie Soleris Yuh, Pacita Maria Ramiscal, Archie Takashita, Kwi Soon Lee (guest)

Bottom Photo:

l-r: George Lee, Mieko Norr, Nickie Oshiro (guest, class of '44), Robert Hahn (guest, class of '45)



Class of 1948

Parents' Pride: Dr. Arao Bryant-Greenwood



Bianca Kamakea KamLin Arao Bryant-Greenwood, daughter of **Sharon and Alehandro "Ale" Arao**, graduated from Lahainaluna High School in 1988. After graduation, Bianca attended UH Manoa in the travel industry, but her interests remained elsewhere. Bianca then attended classes at Maui Community College, earning her Associates in Arts as well as completing certification as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

At this time she worked at a number of jobs to help fund her continuing education. Science classes and introductory training in the healthcare field inspired her to further her education. Bianca applied and was accepted at the University of Maryland on College Park, where she earned a bachelor's of science degree in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics in 1999. Bianca worked in a pediatric clinic for one year and was accepted at the Medical College of Pennsylvania-Hannemann University, now known as Drexel University College in Philadelphia.

In 2003, the opportunity to transfer to the John A. Burns, School of Medicine was offered and Bianca gladly accepted after living on the East Coast for seven years. Bianca graduated with her medical degree on May 13, 2006. Currently, Bianca is doing her internship in general surgery through the six major hospitals on Oahu.

Bianca lives on Oahu with her husband, **Dr. Peter Bryant-Greenwood**, the interim chair of the department of pathology at the John A. Burns School of Medicine and as a pathologist at the Queen's Medical Center.

While this journey has been a long and winding one, it is something Bianca would not change for anything. "I have found something truly enjoyable and will always be learning."

Ale and Sharon are so very proud of their daughter that words cannot express their feeling of pride for her outstanding commitment to herself by completing what she started. The journey just begins for Bianca.

Class of 1952, Hawaii Group

By Kiyomi Akahoshi Kunishige

Our class met at the Cattle Company Restaurant in Aiea on September 14, 2006. We had a good showing with special guests being **Dr. Daniel and Donna Anbe** from Flint, Michigan. Attending the luncheon were **Marilyn Cuyno Fernandez, Ruth Fukushima Nakasone, Polly Sorida Ah Cook, Hank Pascua, Dolores Bayron Morris, Helen Kaya Takenouchi, Hattie Higa**, and last but not least **Suzie Pascua Damian**.

While we waited for our food we filled ourselves with bread. It was so delicious that I bought two loaves to take home. The dark, round bread was topped with oats. I wonder if it was a pumpernickel bread. Finally, the meals were brought in and everyone seemed to enjoy what they ordered.

As this group talked about aches, pains, arthritis and prostate problems, Dr. Anbe reassured us we will get something wrong if we live long enough. The bill took a long time in coming. As we tried to figure the cost per person, Hank who was in a hurry, picked up then paid the bill! The rest of us pitched in for the tip. Mahalo, Hank!

Our next luncheon will be on October 19, at 11:00 a.m. at the House of Dragon located in the Pearl City Shopping Center, near Long's Drug Store and Ben Franklin.

Class of 1952, California Group

By Richard Kawakami

We were invited again to **David and Elena Funada's** beautiful home on the hill on Friday, October 13, 2006. Superstitious or not, **Marcellino Sugitan** may have lost his way for he was a No Show at the 11:00 a.m. get together. Then there were **Eddie Hokama, Irene Bersamin Asuncion,** and **Nita Remiticado Vergara,** who got lost in search of the Funada's residence. **Edith Kinoshita** Gikiu unknowingly parked in the neighbor's driveway. Classmates joining the clueless drivers were: **Mitsue Akiyama Hokama, Mildred Kawasaki Tanaka, Frank Gikiu, Jane Okimoto, Pete Vergara, Richard Kawakami.** Absent due to appointments were: **Barbara Kawakami, Stanley Juan and Fred Remiticado.** Trivia: match the following to the absentees: cataract surgery, mammogram, crop harvester.

Unlike the picture perfect day when we met outdoors for our first gathering at the Funada's this time we stayed indoors because of the overcast weather. "Warm" fellowship ensued especially for Elena, Eddie, Frank and Richard who enjoyed the two bottles of wine: Blackstone Winery California 2001 Merlot Robert Mondavi Napa Valley 2003. For a pleasurable change, majority participated in karaoke. Hostess Elena scored the highest with 93 on her rendition of "Country Road" by John Denver. Most of us had passing scores. Nita still reigns as top karaoke singer. Nita strummed on the ukulele as we sang Happy Birthday to David, our host, and to **Kiyomi Akahoshi Kunishige** and **Norante Fernandez** who live on Oahu.

In our flashback to the past we fondly discussed picking pineapples with the bag, spreading carbide on the plants, and how the females didn't look too sharp outfitted in their pineapple plantation working clothes.

Our scrumptious potluck luncheon menu included: chicken breast, shrimp tempura/sauces, chow fun, green beans, vegetable platter, sushi platter, pinacbet, chicken asada, bentos, strawberry birthday cake, apple cider, pomegranate juice, chip/dip, Gyoza.

Everyone went home with a huge doggy bag. For several, after the dining and drinking, driving out of the Funada's driveway was a challenge.

Next meeting will be on November 8, 2006 at Marukai Food Court.

Class of 1956 50th Class Reunion

By Lucia Garalde Tabbal & Tony Magaoay

The Class of '56 gathered on Lanai City for its 50th class reunion. They came together headquartered at the Senior Center. The reunion celebrants included: **Susan Akahoshi Tanaka, Amy Fuchigami Wilson, Nellie Fuchigami Yuen, Lucia Garalde Tabbal and Sim, Charlotte Richardson Holsomback, Mike Kimura, Leonard Lee, Tony Magaoay and Marjorie, Stephen Pahente, Ken Sabin, Donny Tadios, Violet Vergara Barroga and Ermie, and Connie Wong Kunishi and five former classmates: Rose Allas, Thomas Cleghorn, Moana Perry Freitas, Irene Masacol Pacol and Wallace Tamashiro.** Thomas Cleghorn last seen by the class 53 years ago was the surprise "lost-found" classmate.

First on the agenda was Friday's meeting with the senior citizens and the donation of thirty lap blankets and a monetary gift. This was to show our appreciation for caring for our parents and for being who they are, "Lanai Senior Citizens."

On Saturday a guided tour of Lanai's museum by the gracious **Kepa and Onaona Maly** was enjoyed by all. Nellie and Amy were overwhelmed with the discovery of a photo of them as infants in the arms of their mothers.

That night an informal dinner banquet was held that included special guests **Mary and Sam Shin, Irene Perry, Kepa and Onaona Maly, Lui Obado, Angel Allas and Richard Sabino.** The highlight of the evening was a DVD slide show of our school years at Lanai High School, our families and the honoring of the Lanai Veterans who were killed in the wars. Sharing memories brought tears and laughter throughout the night. True to form this group of "seniors" did retire early!

Sunday was a free day where we simply cruised around the city and enjoyed the peace and quiet.



Class of 1958

By Robert Viduya

Members of the class of 1958 welcomed **Bernard Oshima** at a dinner at Ige's 19th Puka Restaurant in Aiea on June 29, 2006. Bernard and his wife June live in Torrance, California. They along with daughter Michele, son Ryan and their families were in Hawaii for the fourth Oshima Family Reunion held at Turtle Bay. Every four years the Oshima clan has held a reunion. Previous ones were on Lana'i, Maui, and Kauai.

The family style setting and delicious food at Ige's were conducive for rekindling fond memories of what growing up on Lanai was all about. But, like all such gatherings the evening came to a close all too soon. As we parted ways, we pledged to keep in close touch in the future.

As the guest of honor, Bernard was joined by classmates **Carol Ann Tsumura Fujimoto, Jeri Hirayama Iba, George Higa, Emidgio Jamero, and Robert Viduya.**

Class of 1959

By Gloria Obado Reyes

Happy 65th Birthday!

Thank you, LACA. We of the Class of '59 were able to celebrate our 65th birthday together for the last time.

Pedring Dugay chaired our moonlight picnic on Lana'i on June 30th. It was for classmates who weren't able to attend our Vegas event which was held at the Main Street Hotel & Casino Restaurant on October 6th. **Lea Suzuki** and **Marge Asato** were co-chairs. Pedring produced a Memorabilia Class Book which rekindled the closeness we shared while growing up. Many thanks to Lea Suzuki for keeping our classmates in touch through her hard work, effort, and years of correspondences.



L-R: Carol Caluya Voss, Janet Anbe Otani, Lea Nobui Suzuki, Laraine Saranillo Avery, Gloria obado Reyes, Asuncion Bertomen Nakooka

Back L-R: Harry Yamatsuka, Jo Endrina Timbreza, Pedring Dugay, Sonja Okamitsu Tyau, Kay Nakao Shiematsu, Allen Dumling, Frances Goshi, Marge Morita Asato, Jocelyn Lee Celcer

Class of 1970

By Dot Eharis Yoza

In celebration of their 54th birthday and for missing out on their 35th 2005 class reunion **Dot Eharis Yoza** and **Valerie Kodama** decided to get together with classmates at Ige's 19th Puka on March 25, 2006. The birthday bash would also include **Pinky Blanko** and **George Kahooalahala** since their birthdays were also in March 2006.

According to Dot, "We danced, ate and drank. I never knew Nelson could dance that well. The group that played at Ige's was really good. All of us girls still have our size 5 figures from high school. Only Val and Mert went to size 2. **Dennis Himalaya** (whom I hadn't seen since we graduated from high school), **Jum Cayan**, **Larry Eskaran**, **Mert aka Chris Agliam**, **Larry and Darlene Endrina**, **Ricky Oyama**, **Nelson Tamashiro**, **Robert Garcia** (who sacrificed going hunting on Lana'i to be at our birthday bash), **Rita Dombrigues Cabras** and **Winona Dinong** (this was her first class function) presented us with a cake and lei. The band called the Kingpins played Happy Birthday. We exchanged gifts from Lana'i and coffee mugs from Starbucks in Honolulu. We issued a challenge to the class of 1970 from Farrington in singing the alma mater – they neva' take the challenge. The best part was singing and dancing as a group to "Proud Mary."

We looked forward to partying with **Judge Dean Del Rosario**, **Clyde Awakuni**, **Debbie Awa Williams**, **Warren Tolentino** who were No Shows with acceptable reasons. We closed the place down and were upset it was time to leave."

Class of 1970

Robert Garcia: ESCRIMA 9th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Juliet Garcia

The biennial 9th World Escrima Kali Arnis Federation (WEKAF) World Championships were held from July 2-8th in Orland, Florida at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort. Students of the Bandalan Doce Pares Association (BDP) from California and Hawaii captured 2 silver, 2 bronze and more than 15 gold medals in forms and fighting competitions.

The USA team participants were required to qualify for the national team by first placing in the top two of their divisions in previously held regional and national tournaments of the Filipino martial art.

Lana'i native, **Robert Garcia**, 54 the chief instructor of BPD's Hawaii school, defended his 2004 World Championship gold medal in the lightweight senior men's division for single-stick fighting.

Danfired Alconcel, a senior instructor of BPD Hawaii, assisted with coaching the Hawaii fighters and officiated tournament matches. Alconcel is related to the Alconcels of Lana'i.

Bandalan Doce Pares Association, with schools in California, Arizona, Chicago, and Hawaii, is led by Lana'i's homegrown, **Grandmaster Alfred Bandalan Sr.**, who founded the organization 25 years ago. Grandmaster Bandalan is also a professor of Kempo Karate. Guro Garcia said, "It's an honor to be recognized as being from Grandmaster Bandalan's organization which is held in high regard by other WEKAF members. I'm just a little guy in his organization. I owe a great deal of gratitude to this man."

The 10th World Championships will be held in Cebu, Philippines in the summer of 2008. For more information, go to www.wekafusa.com or www.bandalan.com. For class information, call Guro Garcia, in Honolulu, at 808-224-2551.



Front: Danny Alconcel, Sonny Napial.
Back: Robert Garcia, Alfred Bandalan, Sr., J. Dadolas

NICKIE OSHIRO

BY JANE SAKAMURA NAKAMURA

Nickie Nobue Morita Oshiro, daughter of Toyoji and Nobuko Morita, was born in Pahoa, Hawaii. She was raised on Lanai where she attended Lanai High and Elementary School graduating with the class of 1944.

Since the early days of LACA in the 1980's and early 1990's when meetings were held in places such as Kemoo Farm Restaurant in Wahiawa, public libraries, Farrington High School, Shiro's, Mana's home, Nickie's home, etc., Nickie was one of the pioneers. The late Tommy Nunotani recognized Nickie's talent and potential when he asked her to become the organizer and keeper of the Lanai School Archives. Dedicated to this mission entrusted to her by Tommy, she has faithfully and conscientiously worked on the Archives for over 20 years.

Nickie has single-handedly compiled many volumes of albums to preserve photos and articles of the students, the school and the community. When I asked her what motivated her to do such tedious work, she replied, "I want to leave something for the younger generation—A historic legacy of Lanai School and the students."

Always ready with her camera no matter what the occasion, Nickie has taken thousands of photographs on Lanai, Maui, Honolulu, Las Vegas, and in other parts of the world. She has diligently kept up with the latest developments in photography including the use of acid-free paper and albums with problem-free pages. She has generously donated hundreds of dollars worth of film processing and albums to LACA. She strongly believes that "LACA is something that no other school can top," and I am sure you would all unanimously agree with her."

Nickie also stated that, "The LACA Archives is a worthwhile cause because the history of the school and the people need to be preserved." She has also bought albums as needed to display photos given to her by various class representatives or other Lanai photographers. The older albums contain family photos taken in 1945 with her little Brownie camera.

In addition to the marvelous work she has produced as keeper of the archives, she has attended most of the LACA meetings except when she was on a trip off island. In addition to the wonderful work she has done for the LACA Archives, she has been helping with the archives of the famous and highly decorated 442nd Regimental Combat Team which served our country in Europe during World War II. Nickie's husband, Richard Masaichi Oshiro, is a proud veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

JACOB KALAWAIANUI HUEU

2006 DISTINGUISHED MEMBER

BY ROBERT VIDUYA

Since its inception in 1995, the Lana'i Alumni and Community Association (LACA) has been the recipient of Jacob Hueu's unwavering and absolute commitment and support. Although a person of few words, Jacob, through personal sacrifice and exemplary hard work, led others to fulfill LACA's goals. It would be difficult to pinpoint only one or two of Jacob's achievements because he did so many things well. He did them without fanfare or thought of personal recognition. Truly, Jacob has been one of the unsung heroes of LACA.

In high school, Jacob was a gifted athlete who excelled in basketball, baseball and football. He was an avid sportsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, swimming and skin diving. His appreciation and respect for the aina was instilled in him at an early age by his grandfather who tilled the soil, raised taro in Keanae, Maui and fished for a living.

After graduating from Lana'i High School in 1953, Jacob joined the United States Marine Corps. He served in various stateside and foreign assignments and attained the rank of sergeant.

In 1958, Jacob attended Church College of Hawaii (now BYU Hawaii) where he continued to excel in sports. Well liked, he was voted the 1959 Most Preferred Man on campus. He graduated from CCH in 1963 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in physical education and a minor in math.

For almost thirty years with the Department of Education, Jacob taught and coached at various schools including Lanai High School, Nanakuli Intermediate, and Pearl City High. He served as junior and varsity coach in baseball, basketball, football and golf. Etched in his memory are the years the Lanai High School Pine Lads participated in baseball and state tournaments in 1964 – 1967.

In 1981, Jacob was featured in the Star Bulletin in a front page story, "Jailhouse Helps Students with Studies." It related to the assignment he had which was to implement a new program at Pearl City High School called the In-School Suspension. Instead of out-of-school suspension for a school violation, a student spent the time in Jake's class, closely monitored and followed rigid rules in completing classwork.

Continued on page 14

Continued on page 14

"Nickie Oshiro," continued from page 13

Systematically preserving the record of LACA activities with photographs of thousands of alumni, Nickie urges the membership to get involved and look into the many albums which need to be updated with appropriate captions and proper identification of the Lanaians pictured. Without Nickie's unselfish devotion and dedication to her cause, precious memories of our School would be lost. Nickie has truly distinguished herself in this endeavor for the sake of posterity and for the benefit of us all. She truly deserves this Distinguished Award which I have the privilege of presenting to her.

"Jacob Hueu," continued from page 13

After retirement, Jacob remained actively involved in youth athletics with the Pearl City Little League and Pop Warner Football. He continued to instill the values of good sportsmanship, self-discipline and teamwork.

Jacob's service to LACA has been invaluable. For the past ten years he has served as the golf coordinator for putting contests at the Lanai Golf Invitational Tournaments. These efforts resulted in more than \$1000 donated to LACA's operational fund. Regarding the newsletter, The Lana'i Connection, Jacob handled the tedious mail preparation (labeling, stamping, recording, and organizing) for both the bulk and first class mail.

He has helped Rosita discharge her myriad of leadership challenges and responsibilities which began in the 1980's with the late Tommy Nunotani chairing the Lanai High Alumni Association. He has been generous in donating out-of-pocket money for operational expenses.

Jacob's personal contributions to LACA have been extensive and noteworthy. More than material and manual support, he epitomized integrity and selfless service to LACA. He continues to inspire many of his former students and athletes. Jacob and his wife Rosita have a son, Darren, daughter, Roberta, 7 grandchildren and a 22 months old foster grandson.

Down Memory Lane

If you look closely at the photo, you will see a lei draped on an empty chair that was usually occupied by the late **Adolfo Sanches**. In his memory and remembrance of the good times, his breakfast buddies met at Canoe's on Lana'i: **Wally Tamashiro, Vincente Ozoa, Gregorio Cabuslay, Randy Sanches, and John Eharis, Sr.**



Randy Sanches and John Eharis, Jr., who reside on Oahu, will meet regularly at a restaurant in Waipahu and expand Adolfo's Breakfast Club. If interested in being a breakfast buddy, call Randy at 542-6425.

Everyone Welcome!

LACA Hawaii Holiday Craft Fair

Affiliate of the Lana'i Alumni & Community Association

Date: November 11, 2006 (Veteran's Day)

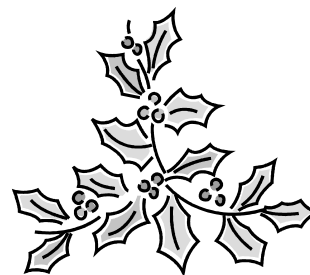
Time: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Place: 91-5335 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei Middle School**

For details, call Rosita Viduya Hueu, 455-7605



- * Creative Crafts
- * Delightful Entertainment
- * Homemade Baked Products
- * Ono Grinds



9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Emcee: **Randy Piena**

Karaoke with **Jerry & Joan Momohara**

(Karaoke Instructors, Adult Edu. Farrington High School)

Swingtime with dancers **Fely Gaboya and Jim Miura**

Kanikapila with **Jay Reponte** and other musicians.

Contact Rosita at 455-7605 if you want to “jam” with the group or would like your claim to fame and showcase your talent.

Donation of door prizes will be greatly appreciated. Contact **Randy Sanchez** at 542-6425.

Many thanks to those working behind the scenes: **Val Tanodra, Alice Miyamura, Denton Miyamura, Rita Goshi, Robbie Carlos, Robert Kinoshita, Donald Yanagi, Guy Figueora, Jan Muranaka, Donna Ching, volunteers.** To the media: **Sonya Mendez** (West Oahu newspaper), **Star Bulletin ~ Island Life.**

LANA'I ALUMNI &
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LACA Hawaii Bazaar

(See inside for more photos from the event!)

August 26, 2006

From Juliet Garcia

"Although the part that there were more sellers than buyers will stick in your thoughts, I do want to say from an 'outsider's' point of view, that I was impressed with the number of vendors present, and also impressed in the age range of the participants. Other organizations struggle along because there are only young participants or old participants; but LACA has a diverse range which is what will bring it continued success. The close-knit feeling is obvious and would be the envy of many. - I enjoyed shopping for goodies to bring home."

From Myrtle Dalde Reponte

"I'm so tired and worn out. But it was so much fun. Suggest the next one be at a cooler time of year, i.e. mid November. Thanks, Nene (aka Rosita), for your hard work and all out effort in coordinating it. It was an enjoyable event for us Lanaians."

