



The Lana'i Connection

Once-in-a-Lifetime EPIC Celebration on Lana'i

by Juan "Jaughn" Degamo

The Lana'i High School (LHS) 75th Anniversary Celebration held on July 5-7, 2013 on Lana'i is now looked upon as being the LARGEST gathering of LHS alumni EVER anywhere. Nearly 500 alumni from more than 35 classes representing SIX generations of alumni of 1940's on to the present were on island to take part in the once-in-a-lifetime weekend of events:

Friday July 5, 2013

It was a beautiful sunny morning as preparations were underway for the opening of the 1988 LHS 50th Anniversary Celebration time on the school campus. A crowd of nearly over 100 alumni gathered near the *outdoor stage* to witness the opening of the time capsule. An informal program took place with LHS Athletic Director (and '90 LHS alumnus), Roderick "Sumi" Sumagit welcoming everyone back "home" to Lana'i for the big anniversary weekend. Before the actual opening of the time capsule, LHS Principal (Ret.) Pierce Myers was introduced to say a few words or welcome as well. The time capsule was then opened. Out from its chambers were a half a dozen sealed PVC pipe tubes all containing items that were "buried" 25 years ago and had not seen the light of day since 1988.



students (who are all now alumni themselves) all sharing how they see themselves in 25 years. There were hundreds of pictures, as well as all sorts of knickknacks and trinkets.



That same afternoon the items in the PVC pipe tubes were taken out and were put on display in the school cafeteria for alumni and the general public to view. Items on display were letters HAND-WRITTEN by elementary

EPIC Celebration, continued on page 2

August 2013
Vol. 34, Issue 1

The Lana'i Connection is published two times a year (February and August) to enhance the purposes of the Lana'i Alumni and Community Association.

Editor: Donna Reyes Ching

Copyreader: Coochie Caya,

Sharon Reyes

Designer/Webmaster: Donna

Shiroma Nakasue

Contributing Writers: Class Reps, Alumni, Lanaians

Interested in Membership?

Life Membership to LACA is only \$10! Cost to replace membership card is \$5.00.

<http://lanaiconnection.com/membership.pdf>

Correspondence may be sent to:

The Lana'i Connection

P.O. Box 515

Pearl City, HI, 96782

or info@lanaiconnection.com

We reserve the right to edit any article before publication.

Visit us on the Internet!

Lanaiconnection.com/blog

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

January 15 for February 2014

July 15 for August 2014



Unearth the Time Capsule

By Jaime Dugay



The chairman of the 75th Anniversary was **Juan Degamo** and it was a huge success. None of our Class of 52 turned out. It seems like they're saving their money for Vegas LACA in October.

The opening of the 25 year capsule was well attended. The contents were displayed in the school cafeteria. There was a good turnout for the parade, where possibly 22 classes participated. Lots of people turned out to watch the parade which was delayed for the tail end to pass. Lots of food, music and dancing were had at the pot luck in the bowling alley. At the Pineapple Festival held from 3 to 9 on Saturday, there was a good turnout. A fireworks display concluded the event. Gatherings for class reunions and families continued at Manele on Sunday.

EPIC Celebration, continued from page 1

Also on display in the cafeteria were *Memory Boards* shared by participating alumni classes with pictures and memorabilia of their LHS school days. A program to officially kick off the LHS 75th Anniversary Celebration weekend took place with guest speakers such as recently retired LHS Principal, **Mr. Pierce Myers**, former LACA President and original LACA board member during the Tommy Nunotani presidency, **Rosita Viduya-Hueu**, 2012-13 Associated Students of Lana'i High (ASLH) Student Body President, **Megan Amby**, former LHS Principal (Ret.) **Mr. Howard Sakamoto**, and 2013-14 ASLH Student Body President, **Tyler Pascua**. A performance was also shared by Mr. Matt Glickstein and his elementary school student members of the Lana'i Academy of Performing Arts. Also at this event alumni registration and check in took place. Containers were issued to classes who wish enter items to put in to the 2013 Time Capsule scheduled to be opened in 2038 for the LHS Centennial (100th) Anniversary.

Later that same evening at the *bowling alley* the annual LHS Alumni Throwback Dance Party V took place. This event was first held in 2009 as a way for the LHS class of '77 to celebrate turning the *Big 5-0* dubbing



the event as a "Birthday Bash". The following year the class of '78 followed suit. In 2011 however, the event was renamed as the LHS Alumni Throwback Dance Party, which is now held annually the Friday before the Pineapple Festival. Year after year since 2009 this event has grown to epic proportions as scores of alumni and their classes would plan their reunions to be held during this particular weekend which is now known as the *Pineapple Festival/LHS Alumni Reunion Weekend*. The evening started with a pot luck dinner now traditionally "hosted" by the class who's turning the *Big 5-0*. This year's class was the class of '81.

Live music was provided by reunited members of school rock bands of the 60's and 70's. Dancing also took place until after midnight.

Saturday July 6, 2013

Excitement filled the air around town square Saturday morning as preparations were underway in Dole Park for the annual Pineapple Festival. Meanwhile however, down at the school parking lot where LHS alumni gathered readying themselves for the LHS 75th Anniversary Celebration Parade of Classes. And although the majority of the participating classes chose to PROUDLY walk the parade route holding a class

EPIC Celebration, continued on page 3

**EPIC Celebration, continued from page 2**

banner, other classes that took it to another level with floats, pickup trucks, Hummers and golf carts. All were decorated with lots of school and class PRIDE! Participating in the parade were the class of '59, '63, '73, '64, '61, '67, '82, '78, '74, '79, '72, '70, '80, '75, '84, '76, 2010, '77, '85, 2003, '97, '83, '90, '86, '89, '87, '81, '88, '68, '93, and '96. The parade started at the school parking lot, down Fraser Ave, up 8th St, down Lana'i Ave, and down 7th St. At one point the parade encircled the ENTIRE parade route! The Grand Marshal of the parade was recently retired LHS Principal, Mr. Pierce Myers and his lovely wife, Jessie (who is also an LHS alumna class of '75). Throughout the parade classes proudly shouted out cheers and yells from their days at LHS. As the last class returned back to the school parking lot, Mr. Myers asked everyone to gather closer in the middle of the parking lot for the singing of the Lana'i High School *alma mater*. Then he announced and summoned all LHS alumni cheerleaders to lead the song. The SEA of alumni went wild as the cheerleaders made their way to the center. Mr. Myers then gave the honor to deliver the opening notes to class of '63 alumna cheerleader, Royalene "Mamo" Aiona-Fernandez. "*Lana'i High...*" For many, they haven't sung the *alma mater* since their high school graduation. But once the song started, it all came back! It was all like being in high school once again. The



alma mater was sung with much PRIDE! There was not one dry eye in the crowd! It was a *chicken skin moment*, no one will forget for a long time to come.

After the parade classes went over to Dole Park to "*kapu*" a spot for their class to sit and relax during the annual Pineapple Festival later that afternoon with class banner and tent. During the first 3 hours of the festival (3:00-6:00pm), festival organizers gave the LHS 75th Anniversary Celebration the opportunity for alumni to share their talents and provide the entertainment to festival goers. Pulama Lana'i's Chief Operating Officer, and LHS alumna (class of '75), Kurt Matsumoto also said a few words at the kick off of the festival. 6:00-9:00pm featured the headliner entertainers of the festival. The evening ended with

a spectacular fireworks display sponsored Pulama Lana'i. It was the largest most spectacular Lana'i has EVER seen!

It was indeed a weekend to remember of seeing SIX generations of LHS alumni sharing one common bond of being PROUD Lana'i High School alumni. For one particular alumna who graduated in the 1940's, the use of a walker did not stop her from making the trip "home" to Lana'i to take part in the celebration of events. Thanks to the popular social media of Facebook and a large extensive Email Tree of non-Facebook alumni, this EPIC once-in-a-lifetime event took place. So until next time, see you in 2018 for the LHS 80th Anniversary Celebration!

Class of 1952 Updates

By Hattie Higa

A mini-reunion was held in 2002 after their 50th reunion in Las Vegas in Honolulu at the KSSK Perry & Price Breakfast show when it was still held in the Hanohano Room. Former teachers Mr. & Mrs. Kiyoshi Minami (Nona Armstrong) and Mr. & Mrs. Kengo Takata (Evelyn Ishida) attended as well as many other classmates who could not attend the Vegas reunion.

Our 60th class reunion was held in California. We quietly remembered those who had passed on by then: Mr. Minami, Dolores Bayron Morris and Polly Sorida Ah Cook.

Plans are in the making for reunion in 2014 when we all turn 80 years old. We cannot wait another ten years as life is short! Each reunion ends with all of us singing our dear Alma Mater!



Families Converge For The 4th Caluya Reunion in Las Vegas

by Irene Dalde Seawright

As folks began to gather in the Maile Banquet room for lunch at the California Hotel on Saturday June 29 for the 4th Caluya reunion, people noticed that the nearly 100 participants were dressed in a black t-shirt with "Simply Ohana" written on it.

This was a gala occasion that the Caluya families, who originated from the island of Lanai, faithfully come together every five years.

The original Caluya family was **Manuel and Ambrosia Caluya**. Their children consists of the following: **Benny and Carmen Caluya** and ten children, **Liberato and Loreta (Caluya) Viduya** and four children, **Anastacio and Trinidad (Caluya) Dalde** and five children, **Melicio and Flora (Caluya-Narito) Garalde** and nine children, **Frederico and Evelyn Caluya** and eight children, and **Alfredo and**



Caroline Caluya & four children. The third generation left the island of Lanai between 1955 thru 1985 after they graduated from Lanai High and Elementary School seeking higher education and/or jobs and settled on Oahu and Southern California. After the parents (or second generation) retired from the Lanai Pineapple Company, they

joined their adult children and family wherever they chose to be "transplanted."

Pre-celebration was hosted by **Ben and Lei Dalde** as folks gathered in their room for hospitality enjoying snacks, music and singing on Friday night. It was a nice relaxing atmosphere especially for those who spent 4-5 hours driving to Vegas. The next morning, the group met down stairs at the Main Street hotel to enjoy two sessions of slot tournament. Everyone had a

Caluya Reunion, continued on page 5

RIZOL DAY – 1940's Down Memory Lane

By Rosita Hueu clo 1953

Going down memory lane on the float are LHS alumni: **Connie Tadios '54, Evelyn Quiocho '54, Irene Dalde '58, Rosita Viduya '53.**

Our parents left the Philippines in search of better opportunities and settled on Lanai in the 1930's.

Read the full article on our website:
<http://www.lanaiconnection.com/blog>



*Caluya Reunion, continued from page 4*

great time, especially the winners, **Franklin Baptiste** and **Duane Dalde**.

The luncheon began with a candlelight ceremony as the deceased family members were memorialized, followed by the passing of the lit candle from the oldest to the youngest of each family. For the Benny Caluya family, **Carol Caluya Voss** passed the candle to **Mason Caluya**, 2 ½ year old, for the Trinidad (Caluya) Dalde family, **Irene Dalde Seawright** passed the candle to **Kassia Lelua Alapag**, 8 months old, and for the Flora (Caluya) Garalde-Narito family, **Jane Garalde Primicias** passed the candle to her granddaughter **Giselle Primicias**, age 2. Irene is the eldest at age 72 and Kassia Lelua the youngest at age 8 months.

Entertainment was provided by the "Chicken Hekka Band", comprising of **Glenn Alapag**, **Joice Dalde Alapag**, **Jane Garalde Primicias**, **Ben Dalde**, and **Franklin Narito**. The guests were pleasantly surprised by **Anthony and Gabriel Voss**, 12-year-old twin sons of **Michael and Taniaz Voss** as they demonstrated their multi-talents of playing the guitar and ukulele and singing. They were also joined by their mother **Taniaz** and their Aunt **Michelle Voss** and grandmother **Carol Voss**. Other guest entertainers were **Kuuleialoha Tipon**, **Sonny Dalde** and **Punahele Dalde**. A fun-filled afternoon of music, songs, jokes, games and group singing was enjoyed by all.

The 5th Caluya Family reunion is scheduled for 2018.

Celebrating Juanita Tolero's 88th Birthday - LHS Class of 1945

by: Bill Avery



Does anyone know these Lanaian's in this photo?

They are from left to right: **Abigail (Abby) Tolero**, class of 1953, **Angie Perez**, class of 1960, **Juanita Tolero**, class of 1945, and **Laraine Saranillio Avery**, class of 1959.

This photo was taken at the Mililani Golf Course celebrating Juanita's 88th birthday. Juanita grew up on Lana'i, and is also Angie and Laraine's God Mother. When you get these four together you need an interpreter and a referee. I have learned descriptive words from them in two languages. Some of the things they say make my face turn red and my legs shake especially on the subject of sex! I have suggested therapy to them, but they say I'm the one who needs it. Why would they say that?

Laraine & I recently celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary. She scared the heck out of me when I caught her staring at our marriage certificate. When I asked her if there was a problem, she calmly answered, "I'm looking to see if there is an expiration date to this."

What da heck was she thinking!!!

Ben Dalde has a Platinum Arm... and is one lucky bugga

At the California Hotel & Casino, a craps player is designated a "Golden Arm" if they roll the dice for at least one hour. It's an elite membership as there are only about 4-6 new members added each year.

Our own **Ben Dalde** (Class of '63) has earned that designation not once, but twice! That makes him a PLATINUM Arm. The first time was on July 4, 2004 when he rolled for 1 hour and 14 minutes. The second occurred on April 30, 2006 when his roll lasted 1 hour and 17 minutes. Can you say lucky?!

Every year the California Hotel hosts a Golden Arm Reunion and Banquet for the members in conjunction with a Craps Tournament in Las Vegas that's open to the public. This year it was held on the last weekend of April. Anyone who qualifies with long rolls over the weekend gets to play in the tournament on the last day.

And guess what? Uncle Ben was the lucky overall winner!!! Congratulations ... now what comes after platinum?





Welcome Home All the Way from Florida – Alec Garalde

By Jane Sakamura Nakamura c/o 1951



On Sunday, July 14, 2013, eight members of Lanai High's Class of 1951 had lunch at the Pearl City Gyotaku Restaurant. We made hasty arrangements to meet when Alec Garalde contacted us. He had flown about 5,000 miles from Florida to visit family and relatives in Hawaii as well as attend the 75th Anniversary of Lanai High and Elementary School and the Pineapple Festival. Joining Alec at Gyotaku were Stanley Ajirogi with his wife Sally; Domingo "Tommy" Allas, Bessie Honda Kiyota, Charles Kwan, Paul Matsui, Jane Sakamura Nakamura, Vincent Ozoa and his son, Eric of Everett, Washington. (Eric picked up his wheelchair-dependent father Vincent from the Hale Nani Rehabilitation Center where he was receiving therapy.) As usual we enjoyed reminiscing with each other.

L to R. Back: Alec Garalde, Domingo "Tommy" Allas, Stanley Ajirogi, Bessie Honda Kiyota. Front: Eric Ozoa, Vincent Ozoa, Jane Sakamura Nakamura, Paul Matsui, and Charles Kwan. Photographer: Sally Ajirogi

CLASS OF 1952 at The Willows

by Hattie Higa

On May 14, the Class of 1952 met for a buffet lunch at the delightful Willows Restaurant. We had a nice private table reserved for us in the tropical setting. It was a great buffet with prime rib, Hawaiian food and many other delectable dishes.

Present were: **Suzie Pascua Damien, Mildred Esclito Barona, Richard Miyazaki, Ruth (Hideki) Nakasone, Randy Piena, David Funada, Ruth Matsui Teraoka, Kiyomi Akahoshi Kunishige** and myself. It was good to see **Randy and Mildred** join our class luncheon as it has been awhile since they have been able to attend. It was especially important for David to be with us. After all he was our guest of honor!

I thought David was really enjoying the food when he got up for the third time. HE FOOLED ME! He went to pay the bill!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU DAVID
FROM ALL OF US FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Also, mahalo to Millie Esclito Barona who is still cooking. She became a cafeteria manager in Molokai. She brought us gifts of shredded mango and two kinds of jellies. Many thanks to Suzie and Richard M for rounding up Randy. I had not seen him in a long time. Thank you Helen for making the reservations, although she couldn't come at the last minute. See you all at the next class event!





Class of 1959

By Apolonia "Apol" (Agonoy) Stice c/o 1959

At this year's 75th Anniversary of Lanai High School, the class of 1959 was well represented by **Janet Anbe Otani, Pedring Dugay, Joanna Endrina Timbreza, Hilton Lui, Marjorie Morita Asato, Leatrice Nobui Suzuki, Roy Okamoto, Richard Sabino, Harry Yamatsuka, and Apolonia Agonoy Stice.** As **Juan Degamo** stated on the social media we were the only '50s class marching in the parade around Dole Park. Our class theme was "We Remember" in which we honored and remembered our 11 classmates who have passed away. Many of the spectators expressed their sentiments that we had 8x10 photo/posters of our dear friends. It was a touching moment that we recalled **Asuncion Bertomen**

Nakooka, Pearl Fuchigami, Katherine Higa Uchino, Randolph Iona, June Joyce Jamero Babayan, Harry Lee, Ruth Morimoto Pang, Ted Nakafuji, Gloria Jean Trugillo Fortuna, Edward Yara, and Jean Yokoyama. (At the 100th Anniversary we will honor the classmate(s) who will be present!)

Several gatherings were held during the week. Lea hosted an evening at her home, Apol prepared a luncheon after the parade at her home and on Sunday the classmates and their spouses enjoyed a farewell brunch at the Manele Golf Clubhouse.

Many memories and laughter were shared during these brief days on Lanai. We had hope for more classmates to join us but all who couldn't attend were with us in spirit.



From L to R: "Thor" Timbreza (Class '57), Jojo (Endrina) Timbreza, Hilton Lui, Marge (Morita) Asato, Lucena (Magoay) Ramirez, Apol (Agonoy) Stice, Pedring Dugay



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CLASS OF 1961!***By Patty Oshiro*

We achieved another decade, but a most significant one. We are celebrating our 70th birthday this year. About nine classmates met on Lana'i for the Pineapple Festival and LHES 75th anniversary. As you can see in the picture, we proudly carried our class banner in the parade.

Another birthday celebration will be held Oct 12 -13, 2013 during LACA weekend in Las Vegas. Let's meet there to blow out the candles!

Front left to right- Ralph Ruidas, Nancy (Okamitsu) Sakamura, Carol (Nobui) Pajari, Harry Masada, Linda Masada. Back row- Gerald Sakamura, Maning Dugay, Jerold Hayashida, Wallace Au.

**Class of 1963's - 50th Reunion***By Herman Calbero*

Our long anticipated 50th Class Reunion of Lanai High and Elementary School has come and gone. We leave behind our beloved Lanai and take with us our renewed friendship and strengthened the bond that binds us together. This year's reunion has turned out to be the best, maybe because the 6 days of fun mixed in with the LHS 75th school Reunion, together with the Pine Festival made this triple bombshell a blast. Or maybe because reunions

become more meaningful and priceless with age. Great Big Mahalos to Lynne and the whole reunion committee-John, Wayne, Charles, Mamo for all their hard work and a successful Reunion. The week of celebration started with small gathering at the Senior Center as classmates start arriving from distant lands.



Seated L to R. Nancy (Belez) Lantz, Barbara (Kuhar) Masicampo, Doris (Anbe) Quon, Harvey Maioho, Alde Tolentino, Mamo (Aiona) Fernandez, Lynne (Funada) Ota, Standing L to R. Charles Yara, Alberta (Morita) De Jetley, Herman Calbero, Tony Asuncion, Wayne Kim, John Park, Creighton Nobui, Ben Dalde, Peter Agliam, Julian Dahang, Melvin Mitsunaga, John Rivera. Present but not in the picture: Ben Asuncion, Albert Kawai, Dinah Del Rosario, Leslie (Pinkey) Au.

By Thursday on the 4th of July most of the classmates had arrived and breakfast was made available as we transformed the Senior Center into Alde's vision of the 50's-60's style Malt Shop. We officially opened our 50th Anniversary Reunion at 4 o'clock with a blessing and reintroduction of classmates and families. There were music of the era, entertainment by Max Kincaid, caricature by Frank Uratani with Lots of food and camaraderie. Friday was spent in

participation with the school's 75th Anniversary Celebration with the opening of the 25 years old Time Capsule. We broke away early to resume with our class activity that included a steak and Sausage Barbecue with entertainment by Henry Dulan and more camaraderie. Saturday started with an awesome

Class of 1963, continued on page 9

*Class of 1963, continued from page 8*

breakfast buffet at the Senior Center followed by our march at the Parade of the Alumni's in the continuing celebration of the school's 75th Anniversary. Next on the agenda is our usual visit to the cemetery where we pay homage to our fallen comrades and as some of us seniors has had enough by now there were still lots of energy in others to continue on Mamo's escorted trip to Maunalei Gulch. The rest of the evening was spent enjoying the entertainment at the Pine Festival and more fellowship with classmates. Sunday was the Big Beach Day as we spend the whole day enjoying the sand and sea of Manele, Our delicious picnic lunch was fully catered by 565 and even included sweet cold watermelon. A perfect day in the company of childhood friends, all classmates, sharing memories of times so long ago when worries did not exist and friendship was all that matters. The sun must set and so all reunions must end as we all headed back to the Senior Center to officially close this event and say farewell once again to each other. We sang our Alma Matter and our Class Song with teary eyes literally "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

We had 25 classmates participating in this memorable event and along with their significant others and family members made for a big and happy celebration. A bit of sadness however as we honor the loss of 12 classmates with 7 passing just within the last 5 years. Stay well and stay close my friends.



Parade Ready: Charles Yara, Mamo Fernandez, Creighton Nobui, Herman Calbero, Dinah Del Rosario, Lynne Funada, Ben Dalde, Julian Dahang, Leslie Au, Melvin Mitsunaga, Nancy Belez, Carl Lantz, John Park, Peter Agliam, Doris Anbe

BASILIO MAGAOAY-INOCENCIA AGONoy POSTERITY CELEBRATES

By The Descendants

"Laid To Rest" on a high norfork pine trees plateau of Lana'i are Basilio Magaoay and Inocencia Agonoy (maiden name), who dared to leave their homeland of the Philippines and ventured to the islands of the Pacific nearly a century ago. With a modest vision to spare of the good they were about to do, they laid the foundation for future generations to plant their roots in Hawaii and throughout the world.



In July, descendants of this Philippine-born couple reunited in San Diego, bringing together four generations, numbering 123 in all, to pay homage to them.

Papa and Mama were married in Bacarra, Philippines, in 1925. When their 1-year old girl, died in 1931, Mama followed Papa who migrated to Hawaii two years prior to labor in the sugar cane fields. As they moved from one sugar plantation camp to another on the Big Island, Oahu, and Maui, six children were born. Eventually, the

Basilio Magaoay-Inocencia Agonoy, continued on page 10

**Class of 1950***By: Bob Kinoshita*

On Friday, July 12, **Shinsuke Tengan, Walter Manriki, Juan Tanodra**, and I got together at The Ward Warehouse Kincaid's Fish Chop & Steak House for lunch. Since it has been over 63 years ago when we graduated from Lanai HS, it was a fun time trying to recall what we did. Few of our classmates were no longer around and it is very sad for any school and classmates to acknowledge some of them have passed on. I took a group picture but it is only of four classmates getting together before anything happens to any one of us in the years ahead.



As we know, Lanai is especially a very special place to grow up since we came from one very small city. As an example, when someone attends a school like Farrington HS, the students come from Kalihi, Kapalama, Mapunapuna, Dillingham, Alewa Heights, Moanalua, Iwilei, etc., all having populations that makes Lanai's population like one small part of Kalihi district. With a population of less than three thousand, the majority immigrated to the island from Asia, it makes the student populace like a "hand full" and as a result, the identity and friendship that developed and carried on until adulthood was really sparse. With Ellison taken hold of the island, it is really a blessing that will be appreciated one generation from now. Since those that graduated in the late 40's to the early 50's are nearly 80 years or older, in all probability very few will still be on the island or had moved on to be with their children who had found a career for their own benefits.

**Basilio
Magaoay-
Inocencia
Agonoy
Celebrates**

*Article continues
on page 11*

family settled on Lana'i, home of the world's largest pineapple plantation.

Papa passed away in 1991 and Mama died in 2000.

Calixto Magaoay, Pasito Magaoay and Carmen Ramirez now reside in California. In Hawaii, Arcinnia Dugay lives on Oahu and Tony Magaoay calls Kauai home. Rosita Camero is the only sibling holding the home front on Lana'i.



Back: Calixto (79), Rose (80), Arcing (81)
Front: Pasito (78), Tony (74), Carmen (72)

Dubbed the Super Six by the younger generations, they organized reunions regularly when their own children were young. But as the families grew larger and moved apart, reunions were no longer feasible.

2001 was the last reunion attended by the six siblings and all their children. Last year, their children, called the "Third Generation" or the 23 Cousins, decided to give the Super Six a rest and organized the 2013 reunion.

Michele Ramirez Weinhouse, one of the 23 Cousins, along with cousin Pamela Magaoay Fowkes, spearheaded the reunion-planning endeavor.

"All of us cousins decided it was time for us to step-up and plan the reunion," Weinhouse said. "We wanted the reunion to be a time to honor our parents and grandparents."

Attendees ranged in age from 11 months to 85 years old. Of the four generations of families from the Basilio-Inocencia line, only five members were unable to attend.

"To have everyone here – all 23 Cousins, the grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and spouses – was an unforgettable feeling. Many of the descendants have married into other races which made the reunion a very interesting gathering," said Phil Camero, the eldest of the 23 Cousins. "The reunion was a rare and

important opportunity for the younger generations to learn from the second generation or Super Six. Growing up, the Super Six had nothing in terms of material things. But they loved each other, worked hard and honestly. Their main purpose was to pave the way for a better life for the entire clan."

Weinhouse and Fowkes planned three all-day parties, which included a spam musubi contest, volleyball tournament, beach party and a talent show. The festivities also included tributes to family members who had passed away. A descendant pedigree chart was drawn which showed 5 ancestral generations linked by Papa and Mama to the 4 younger generations. With mugged pictures inserted next to their names, the chart had become a major factor in knowing our ancestors.

"By talking about them, we honor them and keep them alive," said Fred Camero, Jr., of the Third Generation.

The family also took time to celebrate the six members of the fourth-generation who recently graduated from high school and are headed for universities. Collectively, their career plans, which include medicine, law, dentistry, and politics, are in steps of their parents who themselves are educators, engineers, military leaders, press secretaries, and entertainers.

It should be noted that the Super Six are all graduates from Lanai High and Elementary School. However, Inocencia went only to 5th grade and Basilio had only received a 3-month first-grade education before his family sent him away to become an indentured servant for a wealthy family.

"I know Grandpa Basilio and Grandma Inocencia are proud of their posterity," Weinhouse said. "And I hope our grandparents know how proud we are of them."

Noticing the quality of the younger generations, there is no doubt that in the future a descendant will step forward to serve and write the next chapter in our Family History . . .



LHS Class of 1956 Memories

By Betty Itakura

Recently, many of the Class of 1956 met and talked story about our school days at Lanai High School. Here are some of Betty's memories:

- During our years in elementary school, our 2nd grade teacher, Miss Baylor, took us to Koele Ranch, where we enjoyed looking at the horses. Very few of us actually rode horses except for the children who lived at the ranch.
- In the 5th grade, Mrs. Tom had a reputation of being strict although she was very nice and interested in her students. During this time, all teachers were required to check their students' hair for head lice. Mrs. Tom found some head lice eggs in my hair! My sister, Hatchan, spent all her spare time pulling the eggs out of my hair. My mother poured vinegar through my hair which till the present time some strands of my hair is reddish. Luckily, with the effort of Hatchan and Okasan (mother), I no longer had hair lice.
- In the sixth grade, Mrs. Carlson, who taught many of our older siblings, was our teacher. She made school interesting for us, such as researching our own state to write a paper.
- Junior high school was a fun time with teachers who were good teachers and fun to be with -- Mr. Yoshigai, Mr. Takata, Miss Morikawa, Mr. Mizuba and Mr. Look. Once in Mr. Yoshigai's class, Susan and I were reading a comic book, hidden behind our textbook, while the rest of the class took turns reading aloud. Suddenly, Mr. Yoshigai said to the class, "Let's see what



Betty and Susan are reading!" He picked up the comic book and showed it to the class! Everyone laughed, and happily, Susan and I weren't reprimanded beyond that!

- In high school, we had good teachers like Mr. Takata, Mr. Nakamura, Mr. Matsui, and others. We enjoyed school with our teachers who helped and taught us many life skills in homemaking, psychology and so on.
- Margie, a good friend and classmate, and I once "took the day off" from school. We went hiking up to the Ranch and up into the foothills. Then, we saw Tony and Roger also walking up the hill. We both shouted, "What are you guys doing? Playing hooky?" They shouted back the same question to us! Good fun!

It was sad to part with my friends and classmates since we were together from grade school until we graduated from high school.

Class of 1956, continued on page 13



**Class of 1956, continued from page 12**

Thankfully years after we graduated, we had several reunions.

- After our 2003 class reunion on Lana'i, Tony, Margaret, and other classmates and I worked on our Class Booklet.
- A year or so later, Tony, Margaret, Daniel, with help from other friends and classmates including Rosita Hueu, Glen Oshiro, Nickie Oshiro, Bob Kinoshita, worked on a project called "Lana'i's Fallen Heroes." It was to honor Lanaians in the military who had given their lives in service to our country. The "Lana'i's Fallen Heroes" scrapbook included photos of our courageous men was on display at the Lana'i Culture & Heritage Center after a heartfelt opening ceremony.

More memories will be in the making this summer from July 5-7th as many alumni and folks will gather to observe and celebrate with class reunions, a community dance, the homecoming parade around the town square and the Lana'i High School time capsule opening.

Class of 1949

by Rosita Viduya Hueu, LHS '53

Class Motto: *"We Build the Ladder by Which We Climb."*

Class Colors: Blue and White

Class Flower: Pansy

The prophecy by the late **Moriichi Nishihira** for March 18, 1988 to March 18, 2013 was retrieved from the Time Capsule on July 5th at the LHES 75th Anniversary Celebration.

1. Beginning construction of Lanai Hotels at Ranch site and Manele (White Sands)
2. Year 2013 Hotels should be booming. Maybe with celebrities, Lanai population from 2,200 may be 5,000.
3. How many signal lights will there be with the heavy traffic problems?

On display in the school cafeteria were the additional items placed in the capsule by the late **Jane Kuwada Thornburg** and **Alice Eligado Miyamura** which included: a graphic cover, lists of names of forty two graduates, class officers, the commencement program/committee, and an acknowledgement to the people for the success of their commencement. Untouched by the winds of change on Lana'i in the past twenty five years, the memorabilia remained intact. The printed texts were in good condition, each page ironically stamped, it seems, in four corners with splotches of rustic hues.

Lulu's Back in Town!

From L to R: "Thor" Timbreza (Class '57), Jojo (Endrina) Timbreza, Hilton Lui, Marge (Morita) Asato, Lucena (Magoay) Ramirez, Apol (Agonoy) Stice, Pedring Dugay

Lulu (Lucena Carmen Magaoay Ramirez) was back in town! She arrived from Chula Vista, CA and was here to celebrate two events regarding her sister **Rosita** (class '51). Rosita celebrated her 80th birthday and her 60th wedding anniversary. This was also a time for the Class of 1959 to organize a luncheon at Max's in Waipahu. Filipino cuisine, laughter and talk of school memories were enjoyed by all who attended on Thursday, the 14th of March luncheon.

Mahalo, Contributors!

Contributions Received:

- **Elissa Richardson**
(Jane Sakamura Nakamura's daughter, class of 1951)
- **Brandie Alboro**, class of 2001



**“It’s not every day you get to see a Rare Diamond”*****A Cinderella Story from a granddaughter’s perspective***

Written by Kalena Kettering, granddaughter of Fred and Rosita Camero Sr., daughter of Tony and Aimee Kettering

Photo credits: Glenda Antonio Camero



It’s not every day one gets the opportunity to witness a 60th “Diamond” Wedding Anniversary. Nowadays, divorce rates continue to climb to percentages higher than that of those who choose to stay together. However, for **Fred G. Camero Sr.** and **Rosita Magaoay Camero**, 60 years is just another milestone in their long happy life together.

67 years ago, Fred Camero enters the high school gymnasium ready to perform in front of a gathering of Filipinos on the island of Lanai. He is 18 years old. From the audience sits a young and impressionable 13 year old Rosita Magaoay, eager to enjoy some Filipino entertainment. Fred begins to sing, and is soon the prize amongst most teenage girls in the room, all swooning to his soothing voice. Rosita yearns to meet him and thanks to her brother Calixto, Fred is soon invited to their home to meet Rosita and other singles. It is from this meeting Rosita catches Fred’s eyes and thus the relationship began.

After 7 years of courtship: secret love notes, chaperoned dates to the movies and dances (even dates in which Rosita managed to sneak out at times), on April 5th 1953, Rosita and Fred read their vows and promised to remain faithful till

“death do us part”. Fast Forward another 60 years and Fred and Rosita now have 3 sons, 3 daughters, and 14 grandchildren, all of whom were present at their 60th anniversary celebration. As the oldest daughter of their youngest daughter, I am the 6th oldest grandchild, and I’m here to tell you more about my Grandpa and Grandma’s 60th “Diamond” Anniversary celebration from the perspective of one of their many grandchildren...

It was a lovely evening at the Natsunoya Tea House; large glass pane windows covered the right hand wall, overlooking Downtown Honolulu and Punchbowl on Oahu. The Camero family is busy setting up, as Rosita and Fred enter the room. Rosita wears a lovely green dress, and Fred wears a blue aloha shirt and slacks. Guests begin to file in, signing in, and dropping off presents. The evening begins with pupus, drinks and amazing Filipino desserts made by our one and only, Aunty Maggie. The stunning couple for the night is officially introduced amongst a crowd for the “60th time” as “Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Rosita Camero”. On stage, Rosita now wears a bridal veil, and Fred is wearing a baseball cap with the word “Groom” embroidered on the front. The crowd rises with roaring ovation!

Rare Diamond, continued on page 15

*Rare Diamond, continued from page 14*

The evening commences with dances and songs put on by their oldest and youngest granddaughters, all of their grandsons, one of their nieces, and Rosita's brother. The emcees entertain the audience with fun facts about the 1950s, like a Coke bottle only costing 8 cents, and allow the evening to run smoothly. A band named, "On the Flip Side" plays both Filipino songs and pop hits, while the guests enjoy their delicious dinner of pansit, chicken, sushi and shrimp tempura amongst other dishes.

A slideshow plays, documenting their 60 years of marriage, and contains some family video clips, coupled with Rosita and her siblings talking about the early relationship between the couple. Afterwards, Fred and Rosita are presented a gift, a priceless book of family pictures and personal words put together by their children and grandchildren. This gift was presented to them by their eldest son with heartfelt sharing.

As the evening winds down, Fred and Rosita cut the cake and participate in the traditional money dance, which morphs into them dancing to traditional Filipino songs for all their guests. Fred as usual sings and leads the whole family in fun Ilocano songs and all the grandchildren joins in. Many pictures were taken, laughs abounded and hugs were given.

The event was nothing less than magical, as it was amazing to see a love that could last six decades. Half of the guests wouldn't exist without Fred and Rosita Camero, and the other half were grateful to celebrate in the love and life that have been brought into being by these two. "Thank you Grandpa Fred and Grandma Rose for leaving us a life of legacy, bounded with so many wonderful memories and unconditional love!"

It's not every day that you get to see a 60th "Diamond" Wedding Anniversary Celebration, but on March 24th 2013, I did just that.

CLASS of '52 MEETING (JULY 2013)

By Richard Kawakami

Met at MFC, July 17th. Present were **Marcellino, Stanley, Mitsue, Takeko, Mildred** and **Richard**. Mildred brought her friend **Tomi Matsumiya**.

The following items were discussed:

1) Mitsue brought Orville Redenbacher's Fat Free Butter Popping Corn for everyone and Richard brought Bok Choi from his garden. 2) Happy birthday to Irene and Hawaii classmates Ruth T. & Richard M. 3) Class Reunion News: The consensus of LA classmates prefer that the 2014 reunion be held in May on Oahu. The decision should be made primarily by Hawaii classmates since not many LA classmates can commit at this time. Stanley

mentioned that 3 classmates will go to Maui in July to see the flowers bloom. 4) Health News: Marcellino and Mildred had surgeries recently and recovering very well. Tomi is 88 but looks very healthy. She exercises every day. 5) Travel News; Takeko returned from Hawaii and visited Lanai after July 4th so missed all the celebration. She didn't see anyone of her friends and assumed they were watching Korean Dramas. Her passion now is watching them and occasionally going to Indian Casinos. Richard returned from Vegas on Monday from annual family reunion-- exhausted, heavy and broke. 6) Garden News: My tomatoes, zucchinis, bok choi, green onions and cucumbers are doing great. I am making cucumber Kim Chee

every other day. The eggplant will be ready soon. 7) Tomi is shopping in Marukai longer than Mitsue. Hope she didn't get lost in there, she was still shopping when I left. Mitsue was waiting for them to return because Mildred drove them to the meeting. 8) Some discussion about how Larry Ellison's plan to improve Lanai. He will widen the harbor for some yachts, build expensive homes near the harbor, buy homes that are on sale, buy small airlines companies, transfer some of his people there, etc. 9) Kiyomi, thanks for the Hawaii meeting notes.

Next Meeting will on August 21st at MFC.



Road Trip from California to Canada

By Irene Dalde Seawright c/o 1958

Sonny Dalde, his wife **June**, sister **Irene** and her husband **Jerry Seawright** all went on a road trip from Southern California to Vancouver and British Columbia, Canada from July 1 through July 24. The couples each drove a Road Trek van conversion and racked up 3,980+ miles on this journey. They camped at various state parks throughout California, Oregon, Washington and Canada. "The trip was interesting, educational as well as culturally fulfilling" says Irene Seawright. "We learned about a lot about how families migrate to seek a better lifestyle even though there would be much sacrifice and trepidation."

They visited relatives in Vancouver, Canada where June met two of her cousins **Jerry** and **Pauline** whom she had not seen since childhood. Sonny and Irene met their cousins **Nieves** and her brother **Ronnie**, whom they have never met until this trip. Nieves and Ronnie are both originally from the Philippines. On a recent trip to the Philippines, Irene learned that she had family members who have moved to Canada many years



Pictured are: (standing): Ray Carlos Alonzo, '65, Francine Lum Schafferty, '68 (?), Tony Sanchez, '61, Sonny Dalde, '65, (sitting): Lui Obado '62 and Irene Dalde Seawright, '58.

ago. This was one of the reasons why Sonny, June, Irene and Jerry made this road trip. It was a wonderful meeting.

During the road trip, they also made a stop in Tacoma, Washington. On July 18, 2013 they were met by other Lana'ians.



Arsenio with his birthday cake



Arsenio and Randy Piena

Happy Birthday, Arsenio

By Linda J. Perez

The Class of '52 celebrated **Theodore Arsenio Perez**' 80th birthday at the Kapolei Recreation Center, O'ahu on December 14, 2012.

The festive event featured a theme of "Casino" with a beautifully decorated cake decked out with "5 Acres". Tama and his hula troupe and Ohana put on a enjoyable show. The finale was Arsenio's good friend and surprise guest, **Mel Cabang** who kept everyone in stitches! Also, Arsenio's childhood friend **Randy Piena** and other LACA members attended and enjoyed the festivities. Happy Birthday, Arsenio, and many many more!

**60th Reunion Celebration for Class of 1953***By Rosita Viduya Hueu*

The class of 1953 celebrated its 60th Reunion at Goko Steak and Salad Bar (formerly Sizzler's) in Aiea on July 13, 2013. While partaking of the scrumptious buffet, the over-the-hill revelers recaptured nostalgic memories. We remembered classmates who are no longer with us and in their memory Rufina danced the hula to "My Prayer" accompanied on ukulele by Valentine.

Gone but not forgotten were: **Lillian Shimizu Arakaki, Rosita Raposas Awai, Adolpho "Tiny" Barino, Pauline Benanua, Haime Cabalo, Teophilo Cabalo, Albert Enfield, Margaret Lopez Evans, Eloise Botelho Mahaulu, James Pagay, Juanita Rivera, Tsutomu Sakuma, Leonardo Tadios, Eleanor Miyajima Uchida.**

A poignant moment was looking over the items our class enclosed in a black cylindrical PCV tube and buried with nine other tubes from various classes in a Time Capsule 25 years ago at Lanai High and Elementary School. Rosita and Jacob attended the 75th LHES Anniversary Celebration and retrieved the items which were in excellent condition!

Sending a letter of regret along with a generous monetary contribution, an excerpt from **Shirley Nunotani Smith** said, "Dick and I are very sorry we won't be able to attend what looks like a fun reunion gathering. I have a picture of my loving classmates in my head as 18 year olds. I'll just save that memory." Dick and Shirley live in New Mexico.

Bonded by a warm kinship for each other we remembered the personal sacrifices our parents made and the pride of being a Pine Lad and Pine Lass at Lanai High and Elementary School. We had terrific teachers! We graduated then ventured into various occupational fields and pursued our aspirations. Now as retirees we have time



Sitting l-r: Pauline Shiroma, Rufina Kula, Gustancia Roach, Nita Vergara
2nd row l-r: Jean Piena, Earl Honda, Robert Godinez, Rosita Hueu,
Valentine Tanodra, Pete Vergara; 3rd row l-r: Bruno Oroyan, Alex Eligado,
Jacob Hueu

to savor the fruits of our labor and enjoy more time with family and friends. With gratitude to our Ohana, alma mater, and Lana'i community, we humbly share how we perpetuated the Lana'i spirit of living aloha, making a positive difference in the lives of others and glimpses into our future.

Rufina Rabbon Kula, Public

Health Nurse, who resides in Texas and Molokai became Tutu Lani to granddaughter, Giselle Leilani Kula on December 19, 2012.

Pete Vergara, Continental Airlines Leadman/ Technician, is jack-of-all trades, enjoys tending to his vegetable garden. He and Nita live in Torrance, CA.

Nita Vergara, LAX Airport Security Supervisor, visits Lana'i annually with Pete and both are frequent visitors to Las Vegas.

Pauline Funaki Shiroma, graduate of Baldwin High School, was a Registered Nurse at Kula Hospital in Maui.

Alex Eligado, Hawaiian Western Steel Purchasing Agent. In the past he raised horses and cattle. He is an avid, weekly golfer.

Gustancia (Connie) Amoncio Roach, Homemaker, has traveled extensively. Her daughter, **Captain Zoe Ann Roach**, is a pilot with Hawaiian Airlines and former Hawaii Visitors Bureau poster gal.

Earl Honda: Registrar/DOE Teacher, Pearl City Baptist Church gardener receives compliments in enhancing the landscape. Regularly, goes to McDonald's in Pearl City where he catches up on reading. (Hmmm.)

Jacob Hueu: Coach/DOE Teacher, "Mr. Mom", "Get-Away Golfer"

Class of 1953, continued on page 18

*Class of 1953, continued from page 17*

Rosita Viduya Hueu: DOE Teacher, LACA, Ohana Nanny/Dispatcher

Valentine Tanodra: Federal Service Signs and Graphics employee, Musician Extraordinaire. Printed: banners, name tags, posters, 1988 Time Capsule booklet for class of '53.

Robert Godinez is a Farrington High School graduate was a Heavy Equipment Operator. His broke da mouth maruya, (Filipino banana fritters) is always in demand.

Jean Piena who graduated from Leilehua High School was a Unocal Telephone Operator/ Receptionist and worked for the Dept. of Health. Her service to church, LACA, our class, the Piena Ohana is commendable!

The spouses and guests who joined the festivity were: **Dennis Shiroma** (Pauline), graduated from Maui High School, retired as a DOE Teacher and is involved in Maui's HSTA – R. **Janice Eligado** (Alex), class of 1958, Waipahu High School, Branch Manager for Maguire Bearing Co., loves gardening **Pinky Blanko**, LHS Class of 1970, works as a receptionist at her sister's business, Corinthians Financial, is a certified Notary Public official and golfs with the St. Jude club. **Ceny Cabalo**, class of 1965, spouse of the late Teophilo Cabalo, retired June 1st. as a DOE Teacher, graduated from Misamis Oriental High School in Northeastern Mindanao. She looks forward to traveling to the Philippines and Las Vegas. **Camille Cabalo**, class of 2007, Kalani High School, Donor Coordinator for the Hawaii Cord Blood Bank. She was selected in 2010 to be an intern at the Smithsonian Institue in Washington, D. C. while earning academic credit. Her dad, the late Teophilo Cabalo was so proud of her achievement. We share that sentiment.



1st row l-r: Pinky Blanko, Camille Cabalo, Ceny Cabalo, Dennis Shiroma

2nd row l-r: Shirlene Delgado, Jean Piena, Janice Eligado



Efipanio "Ted" Tabura (Class of 1958)

Born August 26, 1940 – Passed Away August 12th, 2013 (Would have been 73 years old 8/19)

Memorial Services were held at the Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, CA on August 24, 2013. Another service is planned for February 2014 on Maui at Lahainaluna and ashes to be scattered.

Wife: Lois, sons Baron & Casey Tabura, daughter DeeDee Gibbs. Cards of condolence can be mail to: Lois Tabura & Family, 1915 West 154th Place, Gardena, CA 90249. Any questions please direct to Sally Tabura Cadiente at 949-837-8641.

In Loving Memory

Frederico Caluya, class of 1944

Winona Pavao Brown, class of 1948

Lionel Mano, Jr., class of 1968

Rachel Jio, class of 1943

Efipanio "Ted" Tabura, class of 1958

Please submit LACA member namess to be remembered to editor@Lanaiconnection.com.



In Memoriam - Edith Etsuko Gikiu July 24, 1934 - December 19, 2012



Born on the Hawaiian island of Lanai in 1934, long-time Gardena, CA resident and beloved wife of professional artist, Frank Gikiu, **Edith Etsuko Gikiu** passed away on December 19, in her home.

Edith is survived by her husband, Frank, her son Shawn, daughter Debi (Carlos), her grandsons Joshua (Alexis) and Raymond, along with a multitude of other family members.

Edith attended grammar school and part of high school in Lanai. The family moved to Oahu in 1950, where she graduated with Castle High School's Class of 1952 in Kaneohe. After graduation, Edith left for the mainland where she was employed in various companies. It was at one of these companies where she met her husband-to-be. After marriage, Edith became a lifelong business partner with Frank in his art production and sales business.

Throughout Edith's life, she consistently demonstrated her love for her family and friends by sharing her delicious baked goods and home cooked meals, which she was well-known for. She also personified her goodness in her character. Edith was loving, kind, thoughtful, unselfish, generous, helpful, nurturing, patient, and demonstrated her compassion toward her family and friends. She always held her faith in God close to her heart.

Although our beloved Edith is now in Heaven, her family and friends now sadly mourn her absence.

A private family graveside service was held at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, CA on January 6, 2013.

Lanai Connection Photo Moments

Submitted by Glenda Obado-Ito



Douglas & Priscilla Obado from the Big Island, Vince & Gloria (Obado) Reyes and Glenda Obado-Ito met for breakfast on Oahu.



Glenda Obado-Ito, Soledad Obado, Connie Del Rosario, & Philip Obado

LANA'I ALUMNI &
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 515
Pearl City, HI, 96782



We're on the web!
lanaiconnection.com/blog

Visit us online for
more photos and features!

In this newsletter...

articles about the recent 75th Anniversary
Event held on Lanai, unearthing of the
Time Capsule, family reunions, and news
about your classmates and friends!

See next issue for...
"The History of LACA"

>>>> 75th
Anniversary Event

ENDRINA SISTERS:
CHRISTINE, FRANCINE &
JOANNA



Del Rosarios, Tanodras & Obados



**Blast from
the past!**

Class of 1952 in 2002 at the
KSSK Perry and Price Breakfast
Show in the Hanohano Room.

Read the class of 1952 update on
page 3 of the newsletter.