Class of 1975 F.Y.I.

Special points of interest:

- January 1, 1975: Watergate scandal: John N. Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman are found guilty of the Watergate cover-up.
- March 1, 1975: Color television transmissions begin in Australia.
- April 30, 1975: The Viet Nam War ends as Communist forces take Saigon and South Viet Nam surrenders unconditionally.
- Born in 1975: Drew Barrymore, Angelina Jolie, Charlize Theron, Tiger Woods, David Beckham.
- Aristotle Onassis, Chiang Kaishek, and Moe Howard died in 1975.

(from wikipedia.org)

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November 28th, 30th, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

The Tale of a 30th High School Reunion

It all began in the summer of 2005 ... well it actually began the summer of 2004. I had been wondering if anyone would call and get our 30th reunion going since it was coming up. Planning a reunion was not on my priority list because my parents decided to sell their Aina Haina home and because we had lived there with them since 1996, we were going to be relocating soon.

My husband began moving furniture from room to room to patch and paint and I was helping to move the smaller things back and forth, sorting and throwing away anything I could thing of. No one called so the reunion pile got packed up ready to be moved, too.

Then in June '05, I got a call from **Jill Doughty Becker**. I had the class money and told her that I was more than happy to help in the committee. Life was calmer for me and my family now.

Our first meeting was held on June 7th at Canoes Restaurant at the Ilikai. Besides Jill and me, **Robin Kimura**, Leslie Kurisaki, and Christine Watanabe were there to get the ball rolling. We also had major support from Jim Chilen, Sheri Lee, and Benson Lau. Though they couldn't meet with us regularly they contributed in many important ways.



The Committee hard at work planning your reunion!

Since that first lunch meeting, we have had a wonderful opportunity working, eating, laughing, and getting to know each other better. As Robin wrote in an e-mail to the committee, "It was great working with all of you and most of all rekindling and forging new friendships. It may have taken 30 years but it was well worth it!"

What I've enjoyed about our reunions—and we've been really lucky to have had 4— a 5th, 10th, 20th, and 30th—is having the opportunity to get to know our classmates all over again ... people we hung out with, people whom we remember seeing on campus, and people we didn't even know before. We've matured well and can now call each other friends.

A lot has happened in thirty years. Many of us have endured or are facing difficult challenges now, some have accomplished marvelous things, others live quiet simple lives. But life is a wonderful thing. Our past is gone and cannot be changed but I try to embrace it and learn from it. There's so much more to do, to look forward to.

Now 2005 is coming to a close. Has it already been a month since our reunion? Perhaps I'll see you in 2007 in Vegas? Maybe sooner? Have a wonderful life! Aloha!

-Claire (Nakayama) Dodson

(You can contact me at ctnd75@yahoo.com or (808)486-2407 and let me know what you're thinking or if you have something to share.

Thanks!)

Class of 1975

And They Came From Afar

We had 95 class mates attend our reunion. Most came from all parts of Oahu but nineteen had to take a plane and we're glad they came ... even if was just for a couple of days:

From the outer islands ... Big Island ... Kari Krewson-Evans (Holualoa) ... Hilo, Kevin Kurata, Terri Lum, Jan Tanimoto Ching, and Gary Tom ... Mike McBride from Kapaa, Kauai ... Maui ... Roy Villanova

(Pukalani), Eric Wong (Kihei), and Jeff Sutter.

From California ... Dan Hofstedt (Santa Clarita), John Ikeda (Roseville), Grace Ishimoto Peterson (Anaheim).

Elrae Titcomb came from Las Vegas, Nevada but husband Garrett Ouchi couldn't join us this time ... maybe in 2007?

From Beavercreek, Oregon ... Wendy Kuba.

Gail Ow came halfway across the great continent from Austin, Texas.

Jana Farren Johnson and husband Brad came from Salt Lake City, Utah via the Big Island where they attended a KFC convention.

Wesley Goo and Kathy Kahn who we learned are now Mr. and Mrs. flew in from Redmond. Washington.

And flying all the way from Kinston, North Carolina, Mark Oakes, who said it was time for a vacation!

Many years ago I received a book from

Cheryl Park Cheng

(married to **Michael**

Cheng) titled, *Is There* Life After High School? In the inscription on the inside cover she wrote, "I hope so."

Now we can definitely say, Yes, there is much going on after high school and we're celebrating!

Thank You Again and Again

To **Jill Becker** ... for being our commander-in-chief and taking the initiative to get a committee together to get the reunion planned. (Jill works for the American Red Cross so with Hurricanes Katrina and Camille and a move downtown, she was extremely busy).

To Robin Kimura ... for being our MC and doing a great, great job, and for your terrific band-RKS Band (as in Royal Kunia Street Band, not Robin Kimura's Soul Men) and for bringing back Greenwood. The highlight of a great night! Thanks Greenwood ... Robin, Bradley Choi, Warren Cone, Alan Nakamoto, Jarry Gomes, and newbie, Brian Yanagi! (Thanks to **Dan Hofstedt** for bringing your guitar and sharing your beautiful music with us.)

To Leslie Kurisaki for working with Sheri Lee (in Washington state) and getting an email address setup and helping with communication. (We're

sorry Sheri couldn't make it at the last minute due to a schedule change.) We've lost so many classmates, EVERYTHING and ANYTHING helps.

To Chris Watanabe for hustling us along and taking care of loose ends, and being in charge of the decorations (with your wonderful gang).

To Benson Lau for helping us when you could ... the food was fabulous!

To **Jim Chilen** for letting us use your P.O. box once again. We're sorry you couldn't make the reunion either because of your job training in Oklahoma and really, really appreciate your generous cash donation.

To Candice Au of the Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki for ALL your help with the arrangements and facilities ... and also your staff, the workers who provided a beautiful room and bar, delicious buffet and help everywhere. I didn't get the hotel certificate but we thank

you for that most generous gift.

To all of our classmates who generously donated items for our silent auction as well as cash for the Kalani High School Association. I don't have all of your names yet but know that your gift will be put to good use. We hope to make a donation to the school soon. After our 20th reunion we gave Kalani \$1000. We hope to at least double the gift this time and to all of you that came to our reunion ... you're the best!

And a personal note ... I hope I didn't miss anyone ... let me know if I did ... and to my husband Leon who's support enabled me to be a part of the planning committee for the 20th as well. He put up with my messes, piles, and projects, and even came home a day early from a Phoenix business trip to chauffer, transport, carry and lift, and dance with me, too.

Class Reunion Photo Mystery Solved!

Do you have the reunion photo and are still trying to figure out who's who? Here are the names I came up with—I had lots of help from the sign-up list. Please let me know if I gave you a new identity!:

Ist row (bottom, left to right):
Naomi Kau, Jan Tanimoto
Ching, Susan Leu Tyau, Cindy
Lee Au, Sheryl Hee Vuillemot,
Nancy Furumoto, Valerie Fong
Chang, Gail Ow, Kathy Kahn,
Rayma Leong Lee, Jennifer
Lum-Ota, Robyn Dang, Chris
Watanabe, Jill Doughty Becker,
Claire Nakayama Dodson,
Leslie Kurisaki, Charles Clarke.

2nd row: Laura Nagamatsu Smith, Berl(yn) Ono Kaneshiro, Linda Apilado, Jolyn Ono, Jan Shimamura, Terri Lum, Kerwin Au, Janet Powell Feeback, Grace Ishimoto Peterson, Wesley Goo, Eric Motoki, Raymond Chang, Douglas Lee, Diane Masui Arakawa, Michael McBride, Edward Nonaka, Laine Nakabayashi, Clyde Oshiro.

3rd row: Susan Whang-Smith, Caryn Kawachi Tomishima, Wendy Kuba, Jere Okada Nakamura, Corinne Haddon, Kimberley Lovell vonWiegandt, Jana Farren Johnson, Penny Minehira, Eric Wong, Derrick Shiraki, Lori Crawford Roberts, Kari Krewson-Evans, Ann Tongg, Walter Oshiro.

4th row: Melanie Acain Hite, Tommy Yomen, Pam Mitsumura, Lorna Fujinaka Tomatani, Mark Shomura, Thomas Suyeoka, Neal Imada, Jarry Gomes, Wayne Mau, Edgar Palafox, Gareck Peterson, Elrae Titcomb, Guy Hokama, Preston Iha.

5th row: Guy Muraoka, Robin

Kimura, Keith Kuroiwa, Sandy Araki Kinoshita, Margie (Margaret) Yamanaka Tanaka, Karen Yamato Miyahira, Wanda Liu Jong, Scott Lajala, Michael Dau, John Ikeda, Kevin Kurata, Earl Uyehara, Tyler Kinoshita.

6th row (top): Benson Lau, Niles Nakaoka, Andy (Andres) Nelson, Bradley Choi, Dan Hofstedt, Alan Nakamoto, Gary Tom, Brian Yanagi, Dave Evans, Warren Cone, Roy Villanova, Randall Nakamura, Mark Oakes, John Neff, Bill Namba, Keith McMillan, Jeff Sutter.

Missing from the photo: Bill Hoshijo and Mark Inouye.

(Thanks to Clyde of Kenneth's Photography for a terrific class photo. With it's 8x13 format we can actually see faces and recognize people!)

In Memory of ...

Ross Arakaki , '89

Stephen Dung, '77

Robert Encarnation, '99

Scott Kudo, '04

Mark Lee

Lance Look

Jack Miller

Bobbie Murata, '98

Glenn Nagata, '05

Kenneth Nonaka, '91

Ronald Peart, '95

Wallace Sanada

Beverly Suga

Leslie Uyeshiro

Are You a Shutterbug?



Did you take any pictures at the reunion? Thanks to classmate **Guy**

Muraoka we have

a Class of 1975 website at www.byguy.com/kalani.

Send him your photos and if anyone can scan our class reunion photo, please scan yours to him on high resolution so he can format it to an 8x10 printable version. People like me aren't computer literate enough to do fancy things like scanning. Contact Guy at info@byguy.com today! It'll be fun to see some pictures of us having a blast at the reunion and forgetting that we aren't 18 still ... maybe 29 ...

Sharing Time!

Did you wonder what we would do with all that wonderful information you shared on the surveys? I had so much fun reading them I had to share it with all of you ...

John Arruda (Poulsbo, WA) Since High School: In 1998 I received the Department of Defense Heroism Award for rescuing two people during a 140 unit apartment building fire. (John is a Fire Chief with the Federal Government—Navy, region northwest.)

Alissa Au Lee (Aiea) *Since*: Traveled to 46 states and 57 countries so far. (Most re-

cently "exploring the 58th country on a cruise from Singapore to Australia...")

Raymond Chang (Mililani) Since: Traveled all over with Hawaii Air National Guard, places like Thailand, Japan, Korea, Germany, Hungary, Croatia, Qatar, Iraq. (cont. p.4)



More Sharing Time!

Bradley Choi (Mililani) Since: Went to Japan on a concert tour, summer of 2003. High School Memory: Don't remember much from those days! © [Bradley was Imua's drummer at my son's recent wedding reception. I didn't recognize him until they were getting ready to go leave!]

Warren Cone

(Kaneohe) Since: Traveled extensively during nearly 15 years of Sea Duty with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard (Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Philippines, Tonga, Samoa, Ponape, Kwajalein, Majuro, Johnson Island, Palmyra, Alaska, Continental U.S., throughout Hawaii and more). Memory: I remember being totally out of my league doing a Biology Team project in Miss Phyllis Wong's class. If I remember right the other team members were David Hung, Ina Isobe, and Bert Nishimura—something to do with burning calories. I'm sure we got an A.

Jana(lyn) Farren Johnson (Salt Lake City, UT) Since: Finalist in Miss CEU Pageant (talent-danced hula medley); worked for Utah congressman in Washington, D.C.; have performed at several luau and Polynesian shows throughout Utah (in my younger days-now there are many Polynesian groups that live here.) Memory: Bad—dragged into B-bathroom to get pounded (haven't thought about that in a long time); good—there were many and they out weigh the bad ones! Biology class, trying out for JV cheerleading-fun, learned a lot even though I didn't make it, shorthand and typing class, helping with the homecoming float and graduation committee.

Valerie Fong Chang

(Honolulu) Since: Hiked to the bottom of Havasu Canyon and back (small canyon off south rim of Grand Canyon) Memory: Loved playing



cards in Miss Wong's classroom.

Wesley Goo (Redmond, WA) Since: Traveled around the world 3 times.

Leila Hee Olsen (Alhambra, CA) *Since*: Had a private practice in occupational therapy; worked 13 years in episodic television and film; starred in a sitcom called "What a Country" as a series regular; adopted a baby girl from China in 2004. [I saw her on What a Country, Quantum Leap, and The *Price is Right!*]

Sheryl Hee Vuillemot (Honolulu) Since: I went on a dogsled ride in Alaska (like Iditerod Race). Memory: We got caught (breaking in to) in the gym playing volleyball at night.

Dan Hofstedt (Santa Clarita, CA) Since: I have worked on 20 animated movies, survived the Northridge quake, went to Dodger Fantasy Camp and played at Dodger Stadium 5 times, had 3 kids, lived in Ireland 4 years, and written over 200 songs. Memory: Sophomore year—3-a-day football practice; junior year—drawing caricatures at the school fair to help raise money; senior year-Mr. Kobayashi's art class, Mrs. Unni's German class and German Club, Miss Iwasaki's select choir ←da best! Performing with the choir in Waikiki, in churches, school assemblies, and then traveling to Nevada, California, and Mexico as a Hawaiian song and dance group was the highlight of my Kalani years. [My 2 children and I visited Dan at work in Burbank when Disney was creating the animated movie Pocahontas. That was an exciting experience. Look for Dan's names in some of their animated movie credits!]

Grace Ishimoto Peterson (Anaheim, CA) Since: Traveled to Japan with my daughter when she sang with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra in 1997.

Kathy Kahn (Redmond, WA) *Since:* Worked in Germany for 5 years.

Naomi Kau (Honolulu) *Since*: I lived in Kona for 5 years working as a therapist with emotionally disturbed children and adolescents and their families. Traveled to

a bunch of different places. *Memory:* How about going to football games and cheering with Jan Weisbrod until we were hoarse?

Carol Kinoshita (Bedford, MA) Since: Played violin in backup orchestra for Sammy Davis, Jr., Johnny Mathis, and Burt Bacharach.

Kari Krewson-Evans (Holualoa, Big Island) Since: "I've gotten older and wider ..."

Memory: I was not so old and wide.

Wendy Kuba (Beavercreek, OR) *Memory:* I remember having to take a typing class and fiddling with those darn correction tape. How life has changed since then!

Leslie Kurisaki (Honolulu) *Since*: My husband Mark Guillermo and I adopted two children from China.

Kimberly Lovell vonWiegandt (Honolulu) Since: Traveled throughout Europe for 3 summers.

Jennifer Lum-Ota (Honolulu) Since: I completed the series of professional examinations to attain the Fellow of the society of Actuaries (FSA) credential, and I am the only local-born FSA consulting

actuary in Hawaii. *Memory*: Good © After months of practicing marching around Kalani campus in the hot sun, Kalani Marching Band won 1st place in the Aloha Week Parade competition and the hula girls won 1st place in the majorette category. It was a sweet reward for teamwork, discipline, and lots of hard work and sacrifice. [I can still hear it ... ta da da da ... ta da da da ... strains of *Aloha Oe* in the mornings ... Yea band!]

Keith McMillan (Kapolei) Since: Traveled throughout Europe while in the Air Force. Memory: I was privileged to sing "The Hawaiian Wedding Song" at the May Day program. [We'd love to hear you sing again at the 50th birthday party in Vegas or at our 30th!]

Claire Nakayama Dodson (Aiea) Since: Serving as a federal grand juror for a year and as a circuit court juror for a much publicized trial, then being interviewed by

The Sharing Continues!

Daryl Huff on KITV after the verdict was read; and being grandma to two sweet babies, 2 year old Rudy and his sister, I year old Zaya. *Memory:* So, so many ... high school crushes; dancing at school dances in the gym to live rock band music and wearing socks; as a senior volunteering to work in the cafeteria on the line and collecting lunch money so I could have a free lunch and extra servings of food!

John Neff (Honolulu) Memory: Good—Body surfing with Scott Kudo and Lajala @ Sandy's.

Andres (Andy) Nelson (Honolulu)

Since: Served 4-1/2 years on board a U.S.

Nuclear Submarine, completed 2 Honolulu

Marathons, I Bud Light Tin Man Triathlon,

I Waikiki Roughwater 2.2 mile Swim.

Mark Oakes (Kinston, NC) Since: Just working to pay the bills, though did survive Hurricane Floyd in 1999 which flooded this region and we were cut off from the world for about a week.

Berl(yn) Ono Kaneshiro (Ewa Beach)
Since: Got a tattoo at age 45. Memory:
Hanging out at Jolly Rogers and drinking
those yummy strawberry slush floats and
eating Porky Boys and Suzie Qs! © [I can
taste it still ... yum yum]

Janet Powell Feeback (Honolulu) Since: Moving back to Hawaii after 29 years in Colorado and having my son start as a freshman at Kalani. Mr. Doran is still teaching English!! Memory: Eating A-Burgers in the cafeteria during lunch with friends. Yum?

Janet Weisbrod Grabe (Aurora, CO) Since: Sky diving, had motorcycle, top graduate of Bachelor of Science in Nursing from UH with 4.0 GPA, nominated twice for Maternal/Child Nurse of the Year for Hawaii. Memory: Wore Pippi Longstocking pigtails with Pat Wong (female, Class of '74).

Eric Wong (Kihei, Maui) *Since*: Have done a lot of travel in relation to my job with USGS, including a couple of field details to Antarctica.

Brian Yanagi (Honolulu) Since: A retired Navy Commander now working as a

United Nations Tsunami Expert. Recently returned from Sumatra, Indonesia to help build a new Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System to prevent a repeat of the December 26, 2004 South Asia tsunami disaster that killed over 200,000 people from over 15 countries. Also performs on stage, most recently in Rogers and Hammerstein's Flower Drum Song as a wily night club owner with NBC-TV Hawaii new anchor, Jodi Leong, as his on stage girlfriend. Memory: Being KHS sophomore class president; constructing the "Sleep Tight Knights" homecoming float for a football game against the Castle Knights at the old Honolulu Stadium; KKUA radio disc jockeys' exhibition basketball gave vs. Kalani faculty which included UH volleyball coach Dave Shoji; publicly disciplining classmates during senior year commencement singing rehearsals.

Cyd Yoshizawa Swerdlow (New Ca-

naan, CT) Since:
Worked for Robert
DeNiro and earned a
production EMMY
award on As the
World Turns. Memory:

As a cheerleader—went the wrong way on the football field yelling: "Push-em-back!"

Robin Kimura's Questions 67 & 68:

- 1. Who has the youngest child?
- 2. Who has the oldest child?
- 3. Who has the most children?
- 4. Who has the most grandchildren?
- 5. Who has the most great-grandchildren?
- 6. Who has traveled the farthest to be at this reunion?
- 7. How many people have been married?
 - A. Once B. Twice
 - C. Three times D. Four times
 - E. Too Numerous to Count

- 8. How many people are single?
- 9. Who's been married for 20 years or longer?
- 10. How many of you married a fellow Kalani alumnus?
- 11. How many of you have kids that now attend Kalani?
- 12. How many of you own your own business? Kyle Ushijima quote,"Eh Jill, I one CEO, I neva know what that was ... and I making plenty of money!"
- 13. Who still owns a:
 - A. Angel's Flight leisure suit?
 - B. Who can still fit them?
 - C. Tube top or Otaheite one piece outfit?
 - D. Who can still fit them?
- 14. How many of you still take drugs (Viagra not included)?
- 15. How many of you still think it's 1975 (related question to #14)?
- 16. How many of you were either hijacked, beaten up, or smoked at B-Bathroom?
- 17. How many of you were busted for gambling behind the gym?
- 18. How many of you have had a supernatural experience (not while under the influence) while in E Building?
- 19. How many guys had the "hots" for teacher Jane Abe?
- How many of you girls (back then)
 had the "hots" for a male teacher?
 (ex. Dave Shoji, Michael Doran)
- 21. Who is still active in the military/ armed forces?
- 22. How many of you are still actively playing some sort of organized sport?
- 23. How many of you would be interested in attending a 50thBirthday Reunion in Las Vegas (2007)?
- 24. Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is? Does Anybody Really Care?

Page 5

There's Word Out About a 50th Birthday Party ..

In the Sunday, July 31st edition of The Honolulu Advertiser, there was a story about the Kaimuki Class of 1975 reunion. At the end of the article it said, "Now the class reunion committee is planning something a little more ambitious: a 50th birthday party for 1975 grads—which it is hoped will include those from McKinley and Kaiser—in Vegas two years from now. The planning has already begun. 'The 30th class reunion,' [Ron] Hashiro said, 'was just the warm-up act."

Since there was interest

amongst our classmates for a 50th in Vegas, I contacted Ron Hashiro (the article stated that he was a project manager at HMSA) after our reunion. There had been two deaths in his family since his summer reunion so not much was planned. He hopes to get a committee going with at least two classmates representing each school, Kaimuki, Kaiser, Kalani, McKinley and even Roosevelt. Ron had met Bonnie (Kaiser '75 grad) who works at the Prince Hotel so this is how the party got rolling along.

Hopefully a committee will meet for dinner before

he leaves for Vegas in January to scope out a location. They are looking towards an early October birthday reunion (first or second week) so a golf tournament can be a part of the activities. If you are interested in being part of the planning committee, have some great connections, etc., please let me know. I haven't been to Nevada yet so I'll be saving my pennies. I plan on making my 50th birthday year a BIG one!

Go Falcons!

Kalani High School

Class of 1975

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Honolulu, HI 96825

E-mail:

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.BYGUY.COM/

KALANI/

Did you know? On January 13, 1957 Wham-O Company produces the first Frisbee and on September 4th, the Ford Motor Company produced the Edsel on what the company proclaims as "E Day." Others facing the big 5-0 in 2007 ... Nancy Lopez, Katie Couric, Princess Caroline of Monaco, Payne Stewart, Robert Townsend, LaVar Burton, James Ingram, Vanna White, Spike Lee, Paul Reiser, Daniel Day-Lewis, Sid Vicious, Kirk Gibson, Cameron Crowe, Melanie Griffith, Gloria Estefan, Kevin Eubanks, Caroline Kennedy, Donny Osmond, Ray Romano, and Matt Lauer ...

The Kalani High School Association

We received an interesting e-mail in August from Owen Fukumoto, the Treasurer of the newly formed KHS Association. We heard (and a few of us had some first hand knowledge) that Kalani didn't have a parent or support organization for over a decade. "School pride and morale is sorely lacking," wrote Owen, "the facilities are deteriorating and communication between administration, faculty, students, and parents are at an all time low." This summer a group of concerned parents formed a non-profit co-op to support the school. Using their various talents and knowledge they have been working as con-

cerned parents to help benefit the Kalani family.

Owen attended our reunion with another parent and invited us to "come home" and "be a part of this great movement to restore the spirit and pride of Kalani High School and to make it once more, one of the

New books hadn't been added to the Kalani library since we were there!

best learning institutions in the State of Hawaii!"

"If you would like to get involved in this movement, we encourage all of you to log on to our website at www.kalanihigh.org and register for FREE. By registering as a member, you will be able to receive email updates on activities of interest.

"If you would like more information on the Association, please feel free to contact Roger Izuka, President, at rbazooka01@yahoo.com or Owen Fukumoto, Treasurer at ofukumoto@yahoo.com. Thank you for supporting your School!"