



# Upon Kalaepohaku



Monday, July 20, 2009

(The Saint Louis Class of 1962)  
[www.saintlouis62.org](http://www.saintlouis62.org)

Volume II—Issue III

## AS WE SPEAK

...Have you heard about CLAT? A Charitable Lead Annuity Trust will allow Saint Louis Alumni Association (SLAA) to divert a predictable pre-tax income stream to Saint Louis School. Such within-organization contributions encourage substantial gifting by philanthropists-at-large. We congratulate the SLAA for its unequivocal declaration of support for our Alma Mater.

...You can find **Dave and Darleen Freitas' Home in Sandy, Utah** in "Classmate Memoirs" on the Class Website. **Hugh Lee** is finalizing two (2) narratives this month.

...During recent visits to Hawaii, **Joe Durocher, Randy Chun, & Hugh Lee** were greeted by classmates, **Tom Miyashiro, Ken Kunichika, Jeff Tom, Larry Woode, & Bryan Man.**

...Our Las Vegas family, **Dave Young, Leo Torda, Jake Vasconcellos, pj (Pat) Silva, & Kawika (Dave) Freitas** welcomed **Dennis Mock, Jon Miki, John Navares, & George Sheridan.**

...Remember Frs. James Mifsud & Joseph Priestley; Bros. Stanley Murakami & Joseph Nuuanu; Messrs. Ray Wong, Al Wills, Don Yee, Libert O'Sullivan, & Ed Medeiros; Mesdames Eleanor Tyau & Janet Sugimoto. All of them receive our Newsletter. However, we're still looking for: Bros. Charles Fahey & Roger Richter; & Mr. Herman Lujan.

## OVER THE PALI

From Coconut Grove in Kailua,



**Mitchell Silva** attended St. Anthony & graduated from Saint Louis. Then, following a year in Westchester, New York, he

returned to attend University of Hawaii-Manoa, majoring in English & Hawaiian Language. Mitch says, "Everything in life is connected by language."

Supported by his night job at Primo Brewery, Mitch graduated, and began a combined 38-year Quality Control management career at the Brewery & Pepsi Cola.

After retirement in 2006, Mitch sold the Kailua property & moved to the Kapiolani area where he cares for his 93-year old mother.

Mitch enjoys working out daily, studying French at University of Hawaii-Manoa, watching baseball at Ala Wai Field, & travelling to Europe. Yes, Mitch is one happy guy, & is best friends with Dennis Peru, another Saint Louis classmate & world traveler.

## CRUSADERS ON THE MAINLAND

"There is not much to tell" when asked to talk about his life after Kalaepohaku. Au contraire **Chris Williams!!**



Chris did his college studies at Gonzaga University, before beginning a 37 year teaching career at John F. Kennedy High School in Sacramento

California. While teaching music and English courses, he used his Hawaiian culture and music experience to develop a succession of Polynesian performance troupes which toured around the California areas, as well as nationally and internationally.

Chris decided to keep himself busy, after retiring, by taking an on-call position with an emergency response company owned by a long-time friend. They follow the first responders onto the scene of disaster events. Things stay busy during wild fire season.

## 50th ANNIVERSARY REUNION UPDATE

**Las Vegas 2009.** Aloha all. We're only 2 months away from our long-awaited reunion in Las Vegas!

If you haven't sent in your registration, we encourage you to get it in the



mail today. We're going to have a great time! And please keep in mind that it's never too late to sign up. If your plans change after the August 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline and you find that you can join us, please contact **Warren Chee**. There's always room on the SLS Class of '62 reunion train!

**Class Gift.** "Each step upward makes me feel stronger and fit for the next step". (Gandhi) Three additional classmates have submitted pledges and, as of June 10<sup>th</sup>, we have 33 pledges totaling \$31,576. Mahalo to all!

## OUT WEST

**Leo Rodrigues** is the humble, "Salt of the Earth" kind of guy you'd be proud to call friend. After an Army tour in Vietnam, Leo sought a glimpse of work-life,



playing music in Japan for two years and deep sea fishing on the "Diamond 5" in Hawaii. Soon, he discovered his career with the Board of Water Supply. He retired in 2000.

Leo & his wife, Eileen are proud of their family: children, Mariya, Marris, James, & Marik; 12 grandchildren; & 5 great grandchildren. They reside in Waipahu.

Leo's favorite pastimes: hanging out with his great grandchildren; playing music; & using his metal detector to locate beach treasure.

## CLASSMATE PROFILES- STEVE WILLIAMS

**Steve Williams** may be our only classmate with a six-year-old daughter. "Raising Maena is like having your grandchildren move in with you," Steve says. He has four grandsons (ages 7 to 14).

Steve and his second wife Laura run his deceased father's commercial calendar business. It's a two-person operation, which keeps them busy, but not so busy that Steve can't quit work by noon to devote time to Maena.



"I don't need to work," he says, "but I'll probably keep on working. Before Maena, Laura and I were in relax-mode. We did our bucket-list of travels. "But now when Maena says, 'Dad, I'm bored; let's go swimming or ride bikes,' I go."

The former fireman lives on Oahu near his boyhood home in Kahala.--B.C.

**KENNETH KUNICHIKA**

**Ken Kunichika** retired from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in 2002.

He briefly summarizes his experience with: "The work was very challenging, the people were great, and I never had a boring day."



He'd rather talk about his (recent) 41<sup>st</sup> wedding

anniversary, his two sons living in Manhattan, and the Internet pod-casts he listens to while he cares for his 95 year-old father.

Ken likes to travel (Janice and he recently returned from Paris, France). His other interests include gardening, fishing, photography, and Japanese history. "Too many interests," he says (implying not enough time).

"I use my computer to convert my old record albums to digital format. Once I've gotten rid of surface noise—such as scratches—my friends and I can really enjoy the music."--B.C.

**REMEMBER WHEN**

Loosening one's tie, rolling-up one's sleeves was what one did after school at Cap's, Kaimuki Luncheonette, the closest bus stop...**Doug Mattos, Conrad Lopes, Ron K. Lee & John Spencer** would.

Slang thrived... "cool" is now "bad", but "da kine" & "kinda" survive to this day.

The ritual at football games was to walk around Honolulu Stadium @ half-time.

A roundtrip to Saint Louis from Nanakuli (by carpool, obviously) took nearly 4 hours...**George Soon & Larry Woode** would.

**NEWS AND STORIES FROM SLS**

On March 20, 2009, Mr. Libert O'Sullivan and Mr. Donald Yee presented "Going to College" at the annual Saint Louis School Career Day. Here's what they had to share: 1) Go to a Mainland college, even if you can't afford it. The experience of working & living away from home, even for a year, is tremendous. The personal & intellectual growth is worth the sacrifice.; & 2) Join the Military. That's better, because it will pay you to "See the World".



If you are interested in participating in Career Day, to speak about your job or profession, call **Tom Miyashiro**.

**SALTY CLUB**

After high school, **Danny Chong** went to Germany, courtesy of the U.S. Army. After his tour of duty, he, like **pj Silva**, enrolled in the Travel Industry Management program at University of Hawaii-Manoa. Putting his degree to good use, Danny worked for Northwest Airlines for 37 years, before retiring last November.



But working in the travel industry was not his only passion. For 40 years and still going, he and his musical group, Na Kalakoa, have performed at graduation and birthday parties. The group, army buddy, Augie Range, brother John ('64) and classmate, Joe Chang ('64) have also found time to volunteer at Christmas time to perform at various nursing homes and elderly facilities throughout these 4 decades. Danny calls these occasions, "memorable and enjoyable experiences." (ed.note; Na Kalakoa entertains at most

Class of 1962 social gatherings, courtesy of Danny Chong.)

**OUR MILITARY MEN**

It's a small world. Four SLHS '62 grads completed the UHM AFROTC program and gained commissions in 1966. Our last column saw **Jerry Languit** crossing paths



with **Roy Tamashiro** in Torrejon AB Spain and **Carlton Luka** at Yokota AB, Japan.

In 1992, Jerry's last assignment was with the newly formed Joint Intelligence Center Pacific (JICPAC) at Pearl Harbor. As it turns out **Alan "Ish" Ishimitsu** was an established DoD computer analyst there. "Ish" had served eleven years of USAF active duty; first as a Personnel Officer at Scott AFB, Illinois, then in the computer career field at Nellis AFB, Nevada and Hickam. He finally settled down in Hawaii and is presently working on nearly 30 years of DoD civil service as an intelligence computer analyst.

**RECOMMENDED "READS"**

Business: "Built to Last" by Jim Collins  
 Self Help: "A New Earth" by Eckhart Tolle  
 History: "The March" by E.L. Doctorow  
 Favorites: "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini

**WE REMEMBER** our deceased classmates for the brotherly love they shared with us.



"Happy are those who have died in the Lord! Happy indeed the Spirit says. Now they can rest forever after their work, since their good deeds go with them." Revelation 14:13



**OUR PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Please let us know about classmates who need our prayers. "Upon Kalaepohaku" invites our graduate community to collectively focus its healing intentions on these individuals: **Cyril Akashi, Al Dias, and Walter Oszczakiewicz**

