



Upon Kalaepohaku



Monday, April 20, 2009

(The Saint Louis Class of 1962)
www.saintlouis62.org

Volume II—Issue II

AS WE SPEAK

“Was sup?” PLENTY!

...Launching a “Classmate Memoirs” section on the Class Website, with three (3) nostalgic stories: **Larry Lau’s** “Saint Louis High School, Full Circle”, **Danny Hinton’s** “Languages and Me”, and **Jake Vasconcellos’** “Where Am I?”.

...Adding **Steve Kuna’s** “A Visit with **Mike Chow**, SLC ‘62” to the new “Ah Ha!” Experience” section of the Class Website.

...Attaching the second issue of “Pulse of ‘62” containing “I Have a Dream” articles by **Joe Durocher** (Life on a Ranch), **Jake Vasconcellos** (The World is a Stage), and **Alvin Chong** (Life on Alaska’s Kenai Peninsula). Not enough? Here’s more.

Friends gathered to welcome classmates, **Alfred Silva**, **James Copelan**, and teacher, **Bro. Joseph Nuuanu**; photos on the Class Website, “Crusaders Gathering” section.

For all of these/other Class Website stories & photos, go to the Home Page, click on “Classmates Reconnecting” & then on each above-referenced heading FYI, our Website has averaged 1,021 Total Requests and 157 Page Requests per week since September, 2008. Join us; we’re open 24/7.

OVER THE PALI

Raised in Kamehameha Heights, **Richard Mendonca** attended St. Theresa, Saint Louis, and UH. In 1964, he enlisted in the Air National Guard.

Answering the call to a professional plumbing career, Richard worked 13 years for Botelho Plumbing, prior to joining the Pearl Harbor Public Works Center (PWC) as a journeyman and apprentice program instructor. He



served as a maintenance supervisor for 25 years until his recent retirement.

Richard married fellow Healanai Canoe Club paddler, Iona Wright in 1969, and together, they proudly raised three children, Richard, Dana, and Kaysie.

Richard loves masonry work, and spending time with his dogs. Now that he has finally found some time to relax, Richard plans a return to competitive archery.

CRUSADERS ON THE MAINLAND

Among our far-flung assemblage of classmates, **David (Kawika) Freitas** is now retired and living in Sandy, Utah.

Kawika is enjoying a busy, but happy calendar of projects at home, while mixing in a nice balance of travel, golf, fishing, and church and



community projects. He is taking part in most of our class activities.

If you follow the I-15 highway south into California, when you get to Riverside, California, you could bump into another classmate.



Jeff Ignacio has entered into “a kind of retirement”, after many years as a tennis instructor and pro shop operator.

He also ran a Polynesian catering and entertainment business in the Southwest area. He still spends a good amount of time visiting family and friends in Hawaii.

50th ANNIVERSARY REUNION UPDATE

Las Vegas 2009. Aloha all. We have finalized our reunion agenda, and we will be mailing out specific details and a registration form around the 1st week in June. We will also start posting informa-

tion about our planned activities on our class website @ www.saintlouis62.org. Additionally, **pj Silva’s** website will host information about all the other activities that can be scheduled on an individual basis. A link to his website can be found on our class website. The major activities on our reunion agenda include:

- Sept 21 - Reunion hospitality suite (Main St. Hotel) open from 3 to 8pm. Please check-in and pickup your reunion packet.
- Sept 22 - Sunbelt Classic Car Tour - Social Mixer hosted by Jake and Priscilla Vasconcellos
- Sept 23 - Golf Outing (Silverstone Golf Club) - Banquet (Main St.)
- Sept 24 - Breakfast (Main St) -Open
- Sept 25 - Departure

Class Gift. We’re getting there! Four additional classmates have submitted pledges and, as of March 20th, we have 30 pledges totaling \$30,620.

OUT WEST

After SLC, **James Copelan** attended UH for 2 years, and decided that higher

education was not his cup of tea. In 1965, he enlisted in the Hawaii Air Guard, qualifying for retirement in 1985. Jimmy’s



primary career was with the US Postal Service. He started as a Mail Handler. Promotions resulted in his retirement as a Supervisor-Customer Service with 34 years.

Jimmy has been married to the love of his life, Carolyn, for 43 years. Two of their sons graduated from SLHS, and a daughter from SHA. They have seven grand children. Jimmy’s favorite hobby is building and flying Radio-Controlled

Model Airplanes. He also loves target shooting. Jimmy and Carolyn travel to Las Vegas and Arizona 2-3 times a year. They look forward to participating in future SLC '62 events.

CLASSMATE PROFILES- DAVID JINBO

David Jinbo says Saint Louis helped him get a quick start in life.

At 18, he joined Hawaiian Electric where he worked 37 years as an instrument technician.

At 56 he took another job as an electrician. "Electricity is a challenging and ever-changing field," he says. "I learned a lot, but I have other things to do now: projects around the house, volunteer work with my wife's hula halau, and my hobbies."



In retirement, David will soon have more time for surfing long boards. "It's a form of relaxation I took up at 47," he explains. "I also enjoy making and selling koa boxes out of my wood-working shop."

David married his high school sweetheart, Yvonne. They have two sons, a daughter, and a grand-daughter.

REGINALD LEE

Reggie Lee had fun in his 35-year engineering career.

After serving two years in Germany where he commanded an Army guided missile detachment (with targets in Russia), Reggie went to work as a junior engineer at Hawaiian Dredging & Construction. He rose to Vice President of two operating divisions.



The Airport Reef Runway was one of his several high-profile projects. "Tremendous job," he says. "Most of the stones of the breakwater edge were brought from Mokolai. It took 18 months to complete the transport process, with barges traveling seven days a week."

Reggie is having fun in retirement, too. "No stress; and no decisions—

beyond what I'll eat for dinner," he says, smiling.

Reggie and Kathleen (retired school teacher) have two sons (both Honolulu physical therapists).

NEWS AND STORIES FROM SLS

The Marianists celebrated 125 years in Hawaii with a Mass in Mamiya Theatre, followed by dinner and entertainment in Keoho Plaza next to Newell (Science)



Hall. Bishop Larry Silva praised Blessed Chaminade's order of brothers, priests,

sisters and lay people.

The lay Marianists build faith communities, grow in prayer, and support the Marianist family with their time, talent and resources. A total of fifty-seven lay men and women either made or renewed their one-year commitments. (Anyone interested in forming a Class of '62 community?) **Brother Joseph Nuuanu** came in from Cupertino, CA, near San Jose. He is healthy and hard-working as ever.

REMEMBER WHEN

Lippy Espinda standardized the Shaka Sign & Pidgin English...**Blitz Harry & Bra Lee** would.

The Ron Jacobs-Tom Moffat feud on K-POI captivated Teenage Hawaii...

Harry Chang, Danny Chong, & John Karasaki would.

Lucky Luck would bite into a Leonard's malassada with irresistible urgency ...**George Simao & Russ Silva** would.

Bob Krauss & Sammy Crowningburg Amalu made the news they wrote about...**Larry Lau & Danny Hinton** would.

J. Akuhead Pupule ruled the radio airwaves...**Steve Williams** would.

Frank Valenti was the authoritative voice of sports in Hawaii...**Mike Chow & Steve Kuna** would.

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 during a USAF Europe football game. While passing through Yokota AB, Japan in 1990, Jerry crossed paths with **Carlton Luka**. A chance encounter, Carlton was then the local comms operations commander at Yokota, and had been meeting new in-

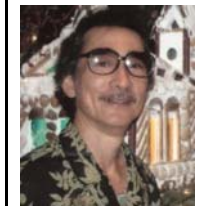


coming personnel at the Yokota passenger terminal. A career communications officer, Carlton retired shortly thereafter with 20 plus years of

USAF service. He returned to Hawaii, and currently serves with the City Botanical Gardens, working to preserve the flora of the Hawaiian isles-- his "dream" retirement job.

SALTY CLUB

From Kalaepohaku to Omaha, Nebraska (Creighton University) to Manoa, **Tommy Loo's** educational ad-



ventures brought him full circle back to Honolulu and a career in teaching. Along the way, he remembers taking the military draft physical with

classmate **David Harris**, and failing it because of a hearing problem.

After 30 years of teaching at Kalihi Waena Elementary and Salt Lake Elementary, Tommy now enjoys retirement with his wife of 38 years, Janet. Tommy remains active by volunteering with the Meals on Wheels program. He has been delivering meals to seniors, one day a week, in the Kaimuki area for the past 5 years. He enjoys meeting and reminiscing with these elderly about the good old days. Touting his fitness, Tommy says, "I still surf!"

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 and Mike Chow**.