

**SLC '55 2013**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Yes, once again, we gathered. This time it was our Christmas Party. On a Thursday at lunchtime it was; and it was good, really good! At the Waialae Country Club for a Buffet Luncheon, 47 of us came together and celebrated the birth of Our Lord and the Holiday Season.

These were the folks that made it to our party:

Stanley & Doris <b>OSADA</b>	Louis & Barbara <b>PARESA</b>	George & Dori <b>CORENEVSKY</b>
Allen & Betty <b>PERKINS</b>	Jim & Emme <b>BURNS</b>	Fred & Fran <b>HACKBARTH</b>
Cenric & Linda <b>HO</b>	George & Maggie <b>JOY</b>	Bob & Mary Gail <b>BONIFACIO</b>
Earl & Arlene <b>AH MOO</b>	Norman & Marie <b>CRUZ</b>	Bernard & Deborah <b>FREITAS</b>
Albert & Alice <b>LAM</b>	Michael & Ellie <b>LYONS</b>	George & Kathleen <b>REGO</b>
Gordon & Betty <b>SAM</b>	Johnson & Elaine <b>YEE</b>	Harold <b>CHUN</b>
Stanley <b>YASUMOTO</b>	Bob <b>STENDER</b>	
Richard <b>TKACHENKO</b> & Cathy <b>Cox</b>		
Damien <b>FARIAS</b> & Nancy <b>YOSHIOKA</b>		
Sylvia <b>NAKAKURA</b> (widow)	Carol <b>PHILLIPS</b> (widow)	
Mike & Evie <b>CHUN</b> (honorary classmate)		
Byron & Dolores <b>HANSEN</b> (guests)		

We started arriving at around 10:30 A.M.; early for lunch, but smart enough to be in the Buffet Line early and get "the good stuff". The whole of the building was very nicely decorated in a Christmas motif, and we were in a private enclosed room. Tables of 10 were set up for the attendees. Little Holiday gift bags (provided by the **CORENEVSKYs**) were picked from a box for each party; Barbara **PARESA's** Famous Bread Puddings, individually and tastefully wrapped, were placed at each table setting. **PARESAs** also provided Name Tags (we had some "Newbies"). Then it was announced that "you can order any alcoholic beverage that you want, and as many times as you want, and you don't have to worry about "the bill"" . Later we learned that our Sponsor/Host Stanley **OSADA** , in the Christmas "spirit", had footed the whole tab.

The M.C. welcomed everyone and pointed out that a long "not seen" classmate, Richard **TKACHENKO** was present along with his partner Cathy **Cox**. Also, a "newbie" for the last time (he is now a "regular") Bob **STENDER** was there, as were Byron & Dolores **HANSEN**

(guests of Bernard & *Deborah* **FREITAS**). Of note was the presence, again, of Stanley **YASUMOTO**, in from San Francisco. The M.C. asked everyone to pray for *Kiyong* **GEHRIG** in her fight with Cancer. Then there was a moment of silence & prayer for our Classmates Lawrence P. **MEDEIROS**, Francis J. K. W. **CHING**, & Rodney S. **TEXEIRA**, who all passed away in 2013.

Our Chairman, Damien **FARIAS** took the podium and said that he was gratified to see so many Classmates present, including the “newbies”, and that he hoped for our continued success in 2014. He thanked everyone for their part in the commitment to “keeping us together” in the future.

It was time for some fun and frivolity. There was a joke about E.D., and the audience laughed a little. Then the M.C. pulled out a brassiere with one side a large size cup and on the other side, a small size cup. He asked the ladies only, to name a 1960/1970 hit T.V. show with two male actors, and that the “bra” was a symbolic reference to the T.V. show. In no time at all, *Kathleen* **REGO** shouted out “The Odd Couple”, which was the correct answer. Lots of laughs, and the laughter increased when the M.C. announced that *Kathleen* had won a great prize, and the “prize” was the “Bra”. After she got the “Bra”, she commenced to throw it away and it ended up going to many of the other tables. If you are inquisitive about the “bra” thing; ask any classmate or their spouse/partner that was at the party, and you will surely be told the “whole story”. If you view Johnson Yee's photo album, you will see scenes of the “Bra”.

Bernard **FREITAS** came up and gave the opening blessing in Hawaiian and in English. Impressive, and greatly appreciated.

Time to eat! All were invited to go to the the Buffet Line. Early attackers of the Prime Rib and Boneless Short Ribs were: *Carol* **PHILLIPS**, *Fran* **HACKBARTH**, & *Sylvia* **NAKAKURA**. In no time at all, everyone was enjoying their lunch, some went up for “seconds”. Then too, there was the Dessert Table - OOOHH da Key Lime Pie, and the Coconut Creme Cake, and the fresh baked Brownies.

Now , then, it was time for BINGO. The whole Bingo game with all of the round ball numbers and the spinning globe, and the Bingo cards, together with all of the prizes (individually wrapped by the **PARESA**s, in Christmas wrapping paper), were purchased & provided by the **OSADA**s (Thank you - much). *Sylvia* **NAKAKURA** was the "General" in charge of the games. She was ably assisted by *Barbara* **PARESA**, *Dori* **CORENEVSKY**, *Cenric* **HO**, and *Fran* **HACKBARTH**. With *Cenric* as the "Caller", there were several Bingo games of "regular bingo", and prizes were awarded to all winners (seemed like everyone got something). Then we got to the Blackout Game. Many yelled "Bingo" as they got "regular bingo" and were advised that; this was a "BLACKOUT GAME". The two Grand Prize(s) winners were: *Nancy* **YOSIHOKA** and *Linda* **HO**.

Alright now, we're done eating and it is time for Christmas Carol Singing. Each of the guests at the five tables were told that they had three minutes to select a Christmas song out of the Song Books (provided by the **PARESA**s), and that they would have to do a "group singing".

While those at the tables were "practicing", *Bernard* **FREITAS** got up to sing his signature Christmas song "C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S". Very nice Bernie! Now to "the tables".

Some table groups were a bit coordinated and at times sounded "kine a good", and then there was the table that essentially read (not sang) the words to "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer". Their rendition was extended when *Evie* **Chun** got up and "took over the song" in an effort to salvage the group's image. Nevah work. Eventually, after a lot of laughter and cajoling, two tables were declared the "bestest and the nex bestest" and were awarded prizes.

Then, the M.C. called up 12 people that were randomly selected (earlier, by *Linda* **HO**, and with adult supervision), to line up and sing "The Twelve Days of Christmas - Filipino version". Here are the persons selected and the "Line-up":

#1 day of Christmas = <i>Arlene</i> <b>AH MOO</b>	#2 Day of Christmas = <i>Betty</i> <b>PERKINS</b>
#3 = <i>Fran</i> <b>HACKBARTH</b>	#4 = <i>Maggie</i> <b>JOY</b>
#5 = Al (Sonny) <b>LAM</b>	#6 = <i>Mary Gail</i> <b>BONIFACIO</b>
#7 = <i>Dolores</i> <b>HANSEN</b>	#8 = Gordon <b>SAM</b>
#9 = Stanley <b>OSADA</b>	#10 = <i>Kathleen</i> <b>REGO</b>
#11 = Harold <b>CHUN</b>	#12 = Bob <b>BONIFACIO</b>

These lucky souls had a few moments to read the words/lyrics that were printed on cards in large bold lettering, and try to get their pronunciation and enunciation "down pat"; after all, it would not be "On the first day of Christmas" but "On de purst day ob Chrismas" and like that. It all started off well, with the ladies in positions #1 through #4 singing their individual lyrics in a "passable Filipino dialect", but #5 Sonny **Lam** had difficulty with his lyrics. It was supposed to be "on de piph day ob Christmas, my pahhder gib toe me, **pibe founds bagoong**", and Sonny kept saying "**five pounds bagoong**". Hilarious laughter every time it was #5's (**LAM**) turn, and then the M.C. started "coaching" Sonny, but to no avail. #8 Gordon **Sam** kept slowing down the tempo to sing his lyrics in a very low bass voice. #9 **OSADA** "read" his lyrics as though he were at a business meeting, and with a very low volume delivery. #11 Harold **CHUN** never got the hang of "eleben taksi dance halls". And then, #1 *Arlene* **AH MOO** had to "go pee", and enlisted a substitute to sing for her, all to the surprise of the M.C. who was the "song director". It was all in fun,. And - it was really a **LOT OF FUN**. Many thanks to all the "volunteer" participants! BTW, Bob **STENDER** was one of the names randomly selected, but da buggah wen cut out befoah was time foh sing. Sneaky buggah, Bob!

When the audience was asked if there might be someone that would like to come up to the podium, to "say whatever" they would like; *Carol* **PHILLIPS** came up and thanked the Classmates for including the widows in the events that were planned. She mentioned that by doing that, it "kept alive the spirit of my husband (Gary **PHILLIPS**), and for that I thank you, so very much". Then, guest Byron **HANSEN** took the mike and asked everyone to "Thank George (the M.C.) for everything he did and for a truly great Christmas Party".

The party was nearing its' end. The M.C. on behalf of the Core Group of the SLC '55

Classmates, thanked:

the **OSADAs**, our sponsor/hosts (Stanley was the Chairman of this event), for purchasing and providing all of the Bingo components and prizes; and also for “paying the bill” for all of the alcoholic beverages ordered by the attendees;

Johnson **YEE** for his continuing efforts to provide pictures of any/all SLC '55 events; (to see the pictures of the Christmas Party, go to [www.SLC55.com](http://www.SLC55.com) and click on the ***Past Events*** Tab).

the **PARESAs** for all of their hard work on so many things, but especially the wrapping of every Bingo prize, and for baking and sharing of *Barbara's* Bread Pudding, and for providing the Christmas Song Books.

*Sylvia* **NAKAKURA**, *Fran* **HACKBARTH**, *Dori* **CORENEVSKY**, *Barbara* **PARESA**, and Cenric **HO**, for their hard work to make the Bingo games, a fun happening.

Bernard **FREITAS** for his beautiful Blessings and singing

the **PERKINSs** for their gift contributions

the Waialae Country Club, their Members, Managers, Restaurant staff, Cooks, & Cleanup Crew

**Jesus** for allowing us the honor of being in this world; but more specifically, for **HIM** being the “reason for the season”.

Bernard **FREITAS** was again called up to give the Closing Blessing, which he delivered again in Hawaiian and then in English.

The M.C. then stated: “Life is a special occasion – live it; there are not many tomorrows left”! He also said: “Be safe going home; try to stay as healthy as you can, and, mostly – LOVE AND CARE FOR EACH OTHER”! “Happy Holidays”!

All Pau!

