

## SLC '55 60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION LUAU

Well, we made it! It has been 60 years since our graduation in 1955. 60 good years, 60 hard years, 60 painful years, 60 joyful years.

We went out and attained higher educations. We joined the military. We got jobs and started families. Many, many times we were filled with the joys of living; then too, there were many, many times we were overcome with hurt and grief. But we pressed on - - - and here we are in our late 70s and early 80s; still plugging along, still trying to find ways to live and laugh and love; and perhaps solemnly and earnestly preparing to meet our Maker.

So.....we planned celebrations, we planned get-togethers, we planned golfing; but most of all, we planned the "togetherness" of Classmates and wives and families and guests. And one of those celebrations was a Luau. This is the report on our Luau of Saturday, May 2, 2015.

### Luau attendees:

Louis & Barbara PARESA

Cenric & Linda HO

Lionel & Elizabeth CAMARA

Johnson & Elaine YEE

Stanley & Susan VICTOR

Wallace & Ann CHING

Bernard & Deborah FREITAS

Stanley & Doris OSADA

Frederick & Fran HACKBARTH

Bertrand & Katherine AI CHANG

Damien FARIAS & Nancy YOSHIOKA

Harold & Gladys CHUN & guest Marjorie YOUNG (widow of Donald)

Raybern FREITAS & guest Edwina SAUNDERS

Denis CHING

Walter FURUYAMA

Albert LAM

Francis PANG

Charles ARAKAKI

Stanley YASUMOTO

Alfred YOUNG

George MAULIOLA

Claude HOTTENDORF

Earl & Arlene AH MOO

George & Kathleen REGO

Bruce & Phyllis MANN

George & Dori CORENEVSKY

James & Emme BURNS

Norman & Marie CRUZ

Allen & Betty PERKINS

Michael & Ellie LYONS

Melvin & Marie PANG

Robert & (Dau) Barbara BONIFACIO

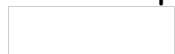
Gordon SAM & guest Winnie KAM

There was a very nice six foot Reunion Anniversary Banner which was hung at "the right height" so that Classmates could sign the Banner (for posterity - or ???). You can see the Banner when you view **YEE's** pictures. *Elaine* **YEE** provided each female

attendee with a handmade Red n Blue bracelet in honor of the celebration.

A lot of "schmoozing" and reminiscing went on; and there was the inevitable awkward question, "who is that guy over there?", as several Classmates were not immediately recognizable. There were no name tags, so it was the "Hi, I'm XXXXX. Who might you be?" scenarios.

Johnson **YEE**, along with his very able and professional assistant *Elaine* (his wife), scurried about trying to get everyone to take a picture. Most picture setups were at the Banner. He got lots during the Luau, and he also got in a very good group picture. See the pix at: [Play slideshow](#)



A group of local musicians, led by one Joe Chang, played Hawaiian and contemporary music for the group. Soothing and party kine music; leading to lots and lots of relaxed "talk story".

Bernard **FREITAS** was called up by M. C. Mickey **LYONS**, and Barney sang his Pule Blessing. **LYONS** told several "jokes" which were referred to as "all true stories".

Then, all of the 87 names of our deceased Classmates were read out loud, while Johnson **YEE**, with his magical ability to capture all the moments and people in his tiny camera - - flashed onto a large TV, the pictures from the yearbook of the individual Classmates that had passed away. Then a "moment of silence and prayer" for the deceased; and also for George **JOY** who was in the hospital getting a stent inserted into his heart.

As we waited for the food to be set up, **YEE** played an impressive 18 minute photo and video montage of many of the Classmates and of a bunch of different times and places. It was a "super" presentation. Many of the wives and guests were pleasantly surprised to see (via the presentation) the progression of time and of the changes in Classmate appearances. Mickey **LYONS** continued with his repertoire of jokes.

The M.C. **LYONS**, acknowledged those that traveled from the mainland; Bruce & Phyllis **MANN**, Stanley & Susan **VICTOR** (on their way back to the mainland after a long Hawaii visit), Bertrand & Katherine **AI CHANG**, Charles **ARAKAKI**, Denis **CHING**, Stanley **YASUMOTO**.

The caterer for the Luau was "Kanak Attack Two"; and they provided us with great Hawaiian food. But no Opihi, or Raw Crab or Poke, darn! There was even enough food, that left overs, after everyone had their fill of food, were quickly packaged up "to take home".

We got our plates full of food, and sat down with each other to enjoy a warm feeling of ohana and nostalgia as we happily engaged in more "remember when" discussions.

Our Chairman, Damien **FARIAS** was called up to the podium, and he related his happiness to see everyone, and that he was hopeful for even greater turnouts for future events. He also told the group that, because the published room rates on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas, were already the "most inexpensive" rates, that it was not necessary to "reserve" a group of rooms for us. Rather, after we further develop specific dates and times and places for the functions that will happen, we will notify all, and you can determine your particular room reservation requirements and accomplish those reservations on you own, for our October celebrations in Las Vegas. So, if you might want to be a part of the October 2015 Las Vegas Celebration Venue, you will have to book your room(s) by yourselves. Keep watching and reading our e-mails for further info.

In the end, we all got up and sang the St. Louis Alma Mater. **LYONS** called up Fred **HACKBARTH**, who also called up Barney **FREITAS**, and they said the ending prayer.

**GOD** has always been with us, and we shared our good fortunes with **HIM** and with each other. We, all,.....trust in **GOD** to let us be healthy enough to celebrate the next SLC '55 occasion.

**BE SAFE!**