



# The Lana'i Connection

## The First Dole Scholar

by Jane Nakamura (Sakamura)

In the summer of 1951, a momentous public announcement marked the beginning of many life changing events for this shy, quiet, timid and naive Lanai High School graduate. I was selected as the very first recipient of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company's four-year college scholarship. All scholarship candidates were the children of Hapco employees working at the Dole Pineapple Cannery, the Wahiawa pineapple plantation, and the Lanai pineapple plantation. A special scholarship committee screened, interviewed, and finally selected the winner from amongst the many applicants on the basis of scholastic achievement, character and promise, good citizenship, leadership qualities, and financial need.

I never expected to win, but I had been encouraged to apply for the scholarship anyway. "Nothing ventured, nothing gained" was what my parents taught me as well as "when opportunity knocks, open the door." Many years earlier, our family had moved to Lanai from the Big Island, and my father became a carpenter for Dole who helped build many of the Lanai plantation homes. My mother



worked as a salesclerk for Yet Lung Store until the store closed. After that, she worked at Richard's Shopping Center first as a salesclerk and then as their bookkeeper. My parents worked diligently to support our family of eight. Funds were tight, and without the Dole Scholarship, affording college would have been impossible. My heart is filled with gratitude towards the Scholarship Committee, the Dole Company and especially God for the honor that was bestowed upon me.

The Dole Scholarship paid for two years at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, my Junior year at a mainland college of my

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**Interested in Membership?**  
Life Membership to LACA is only \$10! Cost to replace membership card is \$5.00.

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**2010 NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINES**

July 15 for August 2010

**THE FIRST DOLE SCHOLAR***(CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)*

choice, and my senior year back at the UH Manoa followed by graduation with a degree. They also decided to pay for my 5th year to obtain my professional teaching certificate. In addition, this remarkable, first-of-its-kind scholarship paid for all my travel expenses to and from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. Attending Bucknell University was an unforgettable experience. I was the only girl from Hawaii during a period in history (1953-54) when many of our fellow-Americans thought Hawaii was a foreign land of grass shacks inhabited by native Hawaiians in hula skirts. Hawaii was not yet a State but just a Territory of the United States of America. Many of the people at Bucknell were amazed at my grasp of the English language--Some even thought I had a Bostonian accent.

Mr. Forrest Brown, director of the University YMCA which welcomed Bucknell's "foreign" students, arranged weekly meetings where I was the guest speaker enlightening the audiences (church groups, business people, various clubs and organizations, etc.) about Hawaii. I answered questions, played the ukulele, danced the hula, and spread aloha. I was an unofficial Hawaiian ambassador. Following my UH counselor's advice and preceding my transfer to Bucknell, I had

enrolled in the Honolulu YWCA's Beginner Hula Class which taught me "The Hukilau Song" among others which I performed at these meetings. My initial nervousness was gone as I sensed God's presence. The scripture which sustained me was "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." from Proverbs 3:5-6. I encountered no antagonism, prejudice or racism. The people in the audience were genuinely cordial and interested in Hawaii as evidenced by their questions and comments. While only a few had visited Hawaii, many planned future visits. These weekly speaking engagements gave me self-confidence and courage.

I spent 33 years as a public school teacher. I also worked part-time in Teacher Development for the Central District for a year. After retiring from the Department of Education, I spent a number of years pursuing a part-time career in Financial Services by becoming a licensed financial advisor. Because of the Dole Scholarship, I came out of my timid shell, gained a college education, had a wonderful career teaching a generation of Hawaii's youth, and inspired all of my four children to attend college.

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**Honoring Others**

Monetary gifts of aloha have been made in memory of deceased members or in celebration of milestones and special remembrances.



**Kerry Honda** in memory of his dad, **Isamu Honda**

**Jacob and Rosita Hueu** in memory of a good friend, **Ricarte Dadez**.

**Nona Armstrong Minami** in memory of her husband, **Kiyoshi Mana Minami**

\***Encarnacion C. Adiarte**: "Enclosed is my contribution in memory of **Grace Kuwada Novitski**, class of '47. I am a retired teacher of the San Francisco Unified School District. I was teaching at Paul Revere School when Mrs. Novitski was the school principal there. She was a wonderful administrator."

\***Mary Elizabeth Beaver Jones**: From the Novitski Family in memory of **Grace Kuwada Novitsiki** who passed away on October 24

**Janet Mizomi Miyashiro** in memory of **Grace Kuwada Novitski**

\***Claire and Don Shaffer** in memory of **Grace Kuwada Novitski** who was a loving, kind teacher and a friend to many.

**Chiyoshi Oshiro** in memory of his wife, **Shirley Honda Oshiro**

\* *Denotes non-member*



## Our Latest PSHF and LACA Contributors

as of January 10, 2010

*Mahalo nui loa for your generous support which is utilized to fund worthwhile projects and defrays the association's operational expenditures.*

\*Adiarde, Encarnacion C  
 Agaran, Juanita  
 Asuncion, Irene Bersamin  
 Damian, Suzanne Pascua  
 Goshi, Rita Nagamine and class vendors  
 Hashimoto, Setsuko Kurashige  
 Hokama, Harold  
 Holsomback, Charlotte Richardson  
 Honda, Kerry  
 Hueu, Jacob and Rosita  
 \*Jones, Mary Elizabeth Beaver.  
 \*Kaneshige, Beverly  
 Kwan, Charlie  
 Lantz, Nancy Belez  
 Loo, Sakae Nakama  
 Lopez, Sr., Alfred & Alfonsa Arao  
 Minami, Nona Armstrong  
 Miyamura, Haruo and Alice Eligado  
 Miyashiro, Janet Mizomi

Nakasone, Ruth Fukushima  
 \*Oasay, Angel  
 Obado, Lui  
 Oshiro, Chiyoshi  
 Outhouse, Cynthia  
 Reyes, Gloria Obado  
 Rowray, Eleanor Ballesteros  
 \*Shaffer, Claire and Don  
 \*Tokushige, Norma  
 Viduya, Jr., Libby & Loretta Canida  
 Woo, Natsuko Higa  
 Lana'i Invitational Golf Association  
 \* Denotes non-member



### In Loving Memory

*Our heartfelt condolences to those of you who lost a loved one or a dear friend.*

2009: August	Catherine Gentile
October	Kazumi Masada
	Donald Yoshikawa, class of 1949
	Connie Tadios Matsumura, class of 1952
November	Grace Kuwada Novitski, class of 1947
December	Ricarte Dadez, class of 1952
2010 January	Takeo Anbe

### Recent Contributory Club Memberships

Your continued support has made it possible for LACA to carry out its goals and objectives. Our heartfelt mahalo nui loa for your generosity!

#### Contributor Pineapple Club ~ up to \$99

Encarnacion C. Adiarde  
 Irene Bersamin Asuncion  
 Charlotte Richardson Holsomback  
 Angel Oasay  
 Lui Obado  
 Norma Tokushige

#### Century Pineapple Club ~ \$100 up

Charlie Kwan  
 Alfred & Alfonsa Arao Lopez, Sr.

#### Golden Pineapple Club ~ \$500 up

Sakae Nakama Loo  
 Chiyoshi Oshiro



## Membership Purposes

Your involvement is vital in sustaining LACA's membership purposes. The beginning of this new decade, 2010, is a good time to make a positive difference and be of service to our alma mater, Lana'i High and Elementary School and our hometown, Lana'i City. Due to the economic slump, scholarships, awards and grants for the school year 2009 -2010 have been reduced. Hopefully, the original funding can be reinstated next year pending our financial support. May we count on your involvement in carrying out the following purposes?

### **To promote fellowship among the alumni and the community members.**

- Attend the Annual Membership Social, April 10, 2010, Pearl Country Club on Oahu.
- Sign up for the LACA Las Vegas Connection for October 9, 2010, at the Cal.
- Reconnect throughout the year at class reunions, ohana and community events.
- Participate in the annual Lana'i Invitational Golf Tournament at Olomana in August.

### **To provide college scholarships to deserving graduates of Lana'i High and Elem. School.**

Your generosity will be appreciated. Tax deductible donations made payable to the Public Schools of Hawaii (PSHF) with the footnote in the left hand corner of the check: for LACA Damian Vocational Scholarship will also be awarded. Not available for 2009 – 2010 is the \$1,000 LACA Vocational Scholarship.

### **To honor the students of LHES for outstanding school or community services.**

When donations rebound, the \$300 Kiyoshi Minami Student Award for School or Community Service will be available.

### **To keep in touch with former schoolmates and friends in the community.**

Members can get an update on Lanaians through:

- The Lana'i Connection newsletter
- E-Newsletter at [www.lanaiconnection.com/blog](http://www.lanaiconnection.com/blog).
- Archives and Photo Gallery at 1064 Sand Island Parkway.

- LACA life time membership.
- Volunteer to be on the Board of Directors and represent the general membership.

### **To promote and participate in the civic, industrial, recreational, educational, social, and cultural activities of the community.**

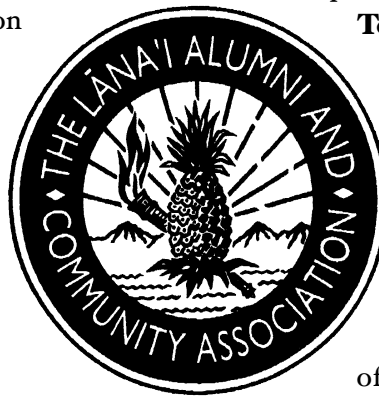
- Feb. 10 – Mar. 23: Participate in Foodland Shop for Higher Education and help earn a \$2,000 scholarship for a LHS senior. Remember to designate Lana'i High and Elementary School as the recipient of your shopping points.
- May 21: Lana'i High School Awards Assembly.
- May 22: Lana'i High School Commencement, 2:00 p.m., gym.
- On Lana'i, stop by and visit the Lana'i Culture and Heritage Center.

### **To support specially deserving student activities and class projects and deserving faculty activities.**

In addition to contributions made to PSHF, non-deductible contributions made out to LACA will pay for the association's operational expenses and surplus money would be available as discretionary fund for LHES. Pending submittal of required documentation from Lana'i High School, \$1,500 has been budgeted for the Kiyoshi Minami Student Activity/Class Project Grant.

### **To honor the members of the Association for outstanding services to the school or the community.**

An inscribed LACA Distinguished Member Award plaque is presented to the recipient at the Annual Membership Social of which he/she is a special guest at the function.







## 2009 LACA Las Vegas Connection

*by Suzanne Pascua Damian*



Sixty eight attendees on September 5th, enjoyed impromptu hulas and the Ninth Isle Serenaders. Music rendered by the Kamehameha Schools graduates and retired United Airlines employees, **Lance Babo, Flash Jensen, Roy Rabanal and Kim Owen Wong** was captivating and delightful! Great rapport with the audience kept everyone in the banquet room until the end of the event. The small group thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie, ono, savory, buffet and the abundance of "good kine" door prizes.

**Natsuko Woo**, won the grand prize of a complimentary weekend at the Cal. She commented that she had never won anything in her life. Hopefully, she'll use the prize for the October 9, 2010 LACA Las Vegas reunion. Special recognition was given to the Sanchez Ohana for not missing any LACA/Vegas reunion since 1996! **Susana Kincaid** accepted the gift of aloha for her ohana.

Thanks to all who helped and provided assistance to co-chairs for the event **Monica Cockett and Suzanne Damian: Joy Enfield, Jeri Iba, Carol Fujimoto, Randy Piena, Ruth Nakasone, Donna Ching, Rosita Hueu, Joana Hanawahine**. A special mahalo to the California

Hotel's catering staff, **Kathy Nemoto, David Lebbey and John Reppeti**. Photographer was **Jeff Whaley**.

The night before on September 4, a gathering in the LACA Hospitality Suite at the Cal brought together newcomers: **Victorino/Debbie Sabino, Norante/Marilyn Fernandez** from Ewa Beach, **Cynthia Outhouse** from Arizona, and **Nita Agaran** from California and old timers **Linda/Ted Perez, Randy Piena, Karol Sweet, Trudy Duggan, Ruth Nakasone**, and others (sorry names are unavailable). Party-goers enjoyed pupus, beverages, and shared their hidden talents as karaoke singers.

Mark your calendar and save October 9, 2010 for the upcoming LACA Las Vegas Connection. Don't wait until the last minute to mail in your sign up form/payment.

Special thanks to Linda Perez for sharing her photos with us.

*More photos of this event are posted on our website at:*

<http://www.lanaiconnection.com/blog!>



## 2009 Block/Camp Holiday Bash

Please visit our website for more photos from this event







## 2009 Block/Camp Holiday Bash Acknowledgments

*by Rosita Viduya Hueu*

Honoring lifetime friendships, Lana'ians got together at 1064 Sand Island Parkway, for a neighborhood reunion on December 5th. It was a day for reconnecting with former neighbors, classmates and friends, who came from the neighbor islands and the mainland. LHES past and present faculty members also joined in the festivity. What a delight it was to mingle with Lana'i's Living Treasures and meet the ohana of businesses and retailers of the plantation period!

A special thank you to:

**Robert Kinoshita**, president/owner of Kula Sand, LLC for the use of his business lot (HCSR: Honolulu Container Storage and Rental), for setting up the area and providing space for the craft/food vendors and neighborhood tents. The donated roast and kalua pig from Robert and his friend, **Mafa**, evoked "before time" memories of luaus on Lana'i.

Heartfelt gratitude to Alexandria and Patrick who pitched in and helped Mafa in carving and packaging the succulent pork.

**Volunteers and participants** who were instrumental in handling the various tasks which resulted in a fun-filled, fellowship event:

- Snack and dessert donors
- Craft and food vendors
- Media Publicity: Alberta deJetley, Joana Varawa
- Invocations: Myrtle Reponte, Kepa Maly
- Traffic control: Joe Jamero, Robin Collado
- Photo Gallery: Sharen Hashimoto
- Sound Systems: Jay Reponte, John Kauwenaole
- Photographers: Jerry Whaley, Delaine Ige
- Map backboard donation: Denton Miyamura
- Lana'i City Map Display: Reynald Butch Gima



**Emcees and Commentators:** Nelson Tamashiro, Nani Watanabe, Kepa Maly, Colbert Matsumoto

• **Lana'i Reflections:** Mary Ellen Nakoa

**Set-Up:** HCSR staff, Kisha Carlos, Kelsea Uyeda, Jacob Hueu, Robert Viduya, Libby Viduya

**Taste of Lana'i:** Donna Ching, Claudia and George Higa, Geraldine Iba, Monica Cockett

**Lucky Numbers:** Kiyomi Kunishige, Ruth Teraoka, Helen Takenouchi, Hattie Higa

**Lucky Number Donors**

Robert Garcia's **Escrime Students**

**Name Tags:** Charlotte Holsomback

**Robert Kinoshita, Lana'i Invitational Golfers and Nona Minami** for the most welcome and generous monetary donations for the LACA Hawaii operational expenses.

**Aloha Liaison:** Gail Tamashiro, Hatsue Higa

**Song Leaders:** Maggie Luczon, Irene Seawright, Monica Cockett, Nani Watanabe

**Comedian:** Mel Cabang

**Musicians:** H3, John Kauwenaole, Bock 35: John Tanodra, Ale Arao, Lui Obado, Val Tanodra, Nani Watanabe, Jay Reponte

**Dances** - Hula, Paranku, Filipino: Rufina Kula, Katy Murayama, Gwen Macion, Lucy

*Continued on next page*

## 2009 BLOCK/CAMP HOLIDAY BASH

(CONTINUED FROM PG. 7)

Lumanlan, Luella Lum, Geri Hatada, Vicki Hanby, Priscilla Ambrosio, Charlie Sakanoi, Arlene Aranita, Teresa Dias

**Gloria Obado**

**Reyes** served as Block 35 coordinator and enthusiastically contacted former residents of Block 35. They wore camp tee shirts, sold merchandise and set up a bulletin board posted with correspondences from former neighbors who couldn't be at the event. Block 35 revelers who set up the tent and assisted in selling kalua pork bentos with the proceeds earmarked for LACA's operational fund included: Douglas/Priscilla Obado, Lui Obado, Donna Ching, Bill/Laraine Avery, Marge Asato, John/Bev Tanodra, and Jim Cummings. The kanikapila portion did not materialize and attendees missed out on the keyboard performance and singing of Henry Dulan.



Our apologies to Henry for the inconvenience he incurred.

The Lana'i spirit of aloha prevailed from tent to tent. There were hugs and kisses galore and an abundance of flashbacks to the past. Two catalysts present whose goals are to perpetuate the

legacies of our ancestors through oral history interviews were **Kepa Maly**, Executive Director of the Lana'i Culture and Heritage Center and **Colbert Matsumoto**, CEO of Island Insurance Company and an attorney.

To each of you, thanks for the Kodak moments and in making more memories. An attendee's departing comment was: "*If you gonna do this again next year, I coming back. Wuz good fun!*"

## "Stable Camp" Honda

*by Bessie Honda Kiyota, class of 1951*

There were three Honda families in Lana'i City, all unrelated. Our family was known as the "Stable Camp" Honda with seven boys and three girls. Two boys were nicknamed Rusty and the other two were nicknamed Rocky.

My father, **Ishimatsu Honda**, arrived in Hawaii from Hiroshima, Japan in December, 1906. He settled in Kukuihaele, a small town on the Big Island. He got married and ten years later with mom and five children they moved to Honolulu. After living six years on Oahu and with an additional child, the family left for Lana'i in 1927. My other three siblings and I were born on Lana'i.

We lived in Block 19 better known as Stable Camp. I remember, so well, the families I grew up with: the Sorida's, who were our neighbors for so many years; the Caluya clan which included the Viduya's, Garalde's, and Dalde's, also the Osako, Kaya, Akahoshi, Sakamura, Hayashida and Hashimoto families.

Having come from humble beginnings, we, the younger Honda siblings, are grateful to our older brothers and sisters who worked so hard to help us pursue our career goals. They motivated and inspired us to value education and trust "where there is a will there is a way."

*Continued on next page*



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*"Stable Camp" Honda, continued*

Five of us had the opportunity to go to college. Nobuo, Earl and I became teachers. Yukio was a lawyer in Los Angeles, and Long Beach in California. Fred worked as a recreation director in Los Angeles.

Today there are only four of us left. My sister, **Alice Nobui** who is 92 years old, still has her home on Lana'i. Yukio is retired and lives in California. Earl (Rocky) and I are now retired and reside in Pearl City.

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## **Lana'i Culture and Heritage Center celebrates grand opening**

Festivities were held on January 16, 2010 to mark the grand opening of the Lana'i Culture and Heritage Center. A wonderful article was published in the Maui News and can be found online:

<http://www.mauinews.com/page/content.detail/id/527676.html?nav=10>.

The center is in the old Dole Administration Building on Lanai Avenue in Lanai City.

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## **Happy Memories of Lana'i**

*by Chongie Kim Carmack, class of 1950*

Our home in Lana'i City during the 1940's and 1950's was on an unpaved dirt road. At one end of the road was Rabbon Store and next to it was the popular Endo Fountain. Across was Dole Park with the tall pine tress. As you walked further up the paved main street there were the theater and the post office. Behind these buildings was the only bank and further up, was our clean, painted white hospital with the shiny floors.

I remember the hospital where my tonsils were removed. There were haole nurses and one Japanese nurse's aide named "Miki." She was also the baby sitter for Dr. Wilkinson's five young children of four boys and a daughter named Vicky.

About four streets from where I lived was the Korean Church and Korean families of the Lee's, Park's and Choi's. My mom did the laundry for several Korean bachelors who worked in the pineapple fields. My older sister, Jackie, and I would push a small wagon, deliver the clean clothes and pick up dirty clothes from the bachelors. My mom was also a tailor and sewed men's khaki trousers and shirts. She learned the tailoring trade when we lived in Hilo, where I was born.

Annually, in celebration of the the New Year, we did mochi pounding at our home. The stand used to pound mochi was a huge blue rock. The mochi pounding mallets were made from guava trees. Besides the mochi, another Korean dish for New Year's was called Mook. It was mungo beans that had been crushed using two big, flat, porous rocks. Water was added to the beans in the pot, cooked and then cooled. As it cooled, the consistency jelled. Next it was sliced into pieces and served with a hot sauce of shoyu, vinegar and hot peppers.

My father was employed at the Hawaiian Pine piggery (aka the pig farm) for many years. Whenever I told him I would be hiking down to see him at his work place, he would have a small crate of guinea hen eggs gathered ready for me to take home. I was the youngest in the family and grew up with four brothers and three sisters.

When I graduated from Lana'i High School in 1950, our family moved to Honolulu. Years later I found out my parents had sold our four bedroom home for \$1,800. The last time I visited Lana'i, our previous home had been painted a light blue and is now the residence of a Baptist Minister.

## Down Memory Lane



Picture was taken about 11 years ago at Pedro Dela Cruz Gym. Maui Connection organization asked Jaime and Lu (Pagampao) Dugay to represent Maui to participate in the LHES 60th Anniversary May Day Celebration. We were retired so we were happy to participate.

### How to Contribute

For a tax deductible donation, please make your check payable to: PSHF (Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation) and write *For LACA* in the bottom left-hand corner. Your contribution will be utilized for scholarships, awards, grants and financial support to LHES. If you're not concerned about a tax deduction, please make check payable to: LACA. Your contribution will be used to pay for operational expenses, the maintenance of our website, and the publication of *The Lana'i Connection*.

**Please mail check(s) to:**  
**LACA**  
**P.O. Box 515**  
**Pearl City, HI 96782**



**Visit any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms and designate our school beginning February 10, 2010.**

Each time you shop with your Maika'i Card, you'll earn Maika'i Points for you and our school. The more points we earn, the more scholarships we will receive! Thank you for helping our students achieve their dreams!

*Alumni News***CLASS of '52 MEETING****December 2009***by Richard Kawakami*

The Class of '52 met at the Marukai Food Court on December 16th at 11:00 am. Present were: Eddie, Mitsue, Marcellino, David, Edith, Mildred, Nita, Susan and Richard. Jane and Irene had minor aches while Stanley had prior business to do.

Classmates shared the following goodies over talk story -- Mitsue brought Mrs. Mays Snack packs, David brought Saison de boan hand made cakes, Mildred brought assorted See's Candies, Nita brought assorted Sushi and Richard baked Haupia & Chocolate Cup Cakes.

The following news was discussed:

- Happy birthday to Hawaii classmates Rosendo, Helen and Ruth N.
- Eddie and Mitsue just returned from Las Vegas on 12/11. They had a scary flight to Vegas due to fog, rain and snow conditions. Even the machines were COLD, however, Mitsue will make up for all the misery by shopping today till she drops!
- Richard & Barbara will stay overnight at Pala Casino tomorrow for the final time in 2009.
- Marcellino was late today to get his H1N1 flu shot. David also received his free shot last week despite the weak dosages which are still acceptable for those who already had gone to be immunized.
- David mentioned he missed the last meeting due to his car problems in Palm Springs.
- Richard discussed watching the movie "The Ugly Truth" last night and was surprised how much is permitted with an "R" rating. It was difficult to explain to the classmates about vibrators and similar items, however, both Eddie and Mildred took it all in stride. We all noted that some of the e-mails we receive are also getting risqué.

Talk story was short as we spent the rest of the time exchanging Christmas gifts and singing some classic Christmas songs under the guidance of Nita Vegara. We accompanied her ukulele with tambourines and our melodious voices singing "Jingle Bell Rock," "Mele Kalikimaka," "Winter Wonderland," "Silver Bells," "Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer," and "Jingle Bells". We sounded pretty good!

Our next Class of '52 meeting will be on January 20th at the Marukai Food Court.

**Class of 1953**

Happy days are here again! Mark your calendar and let's get together for our 57th reunion and celebrate collectively our 75th birthday!

**Date: March 24, 2010****Time: 10:30 a.m****Place: Jean Piena's home at 1449 Bernice St.****For more details call Rosita at 455-7605 or Jean at 845-8651**

Come and join life of the party Nita and Pete Vergara, songbird Eleanor Ozoa, karaoke vocalist Hundro Eligado, musician Val Tanodra, and the rest of the zany classmates. Due to memory lapses, now is a good time to reflect on our bygone years 1950 - 1953 and share flashbacks at the reunion of advisors: Mr. Arnold, Miss Kugiya, Miss Kikuchi, Mr. Nakamura, Mrs. Dunn, principals Mr. Murray Heminger, Mr. Riley Ewing as well as Lana'i anecdotes.

LANA'I ALUMNI &  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Pearl City, HI, 96782



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