

## SLC CLASS OF 1955 2010 CHRISTMAS PARTY

This was the night! It was Christmas Party time for the guys and gals of the SLC '55 ohana. For some of us “other-side-of-the-mountains” people, getting there was a challenge to our slowly fading mental capacity. Being lost was a common trait. Who da hell made this place so far off the beaten path, that one had to hire a guide and a safari team just to find it; and then – going home “in the dark”, was another adventure. Thanks be to God that some of us used GPS, or we would have had to send out “a posse” to locate some forever wandering classmates.

Yep, Thursday evening, the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2010, we gathered at the Mid Pacific Country Club, in Lanikai (Kailua). The party Chairman, Fred **HACKBARTH**, was at the main entrance to greet all that arrived. The setting was appropriate for the evening and for the number of guests (45), and our assigned room was ample enough for all of us, yet small enough to be “cozy”. These classmates and spouses/partners participated:

Jim & Emme <b>BURNS</b>	Lionel & Elizabeth <b>CAMARA</b>	Mike <b>CATHCART</b>
Denis <b>CHING</b>	Harold & Gladys <b>CHUN</b>	George & Dori <b>CORENEVSKY</b>
Norman & Marie <b>CRUZ</b>	Damien <b>FARIAS</b> & Nancy	Bernard & Deborah <b>FREITAS</b>
Fred & Fran <b>HACKBARTH</b>	Cenric & Linda <b>HO</b>	George & Maggie <b>JOY</b>
Mike & Ellie <b>LYONS</b>	Joe <b>ORNELLAS</b> & Stephanie	Stanley & Doris <b>OSADA</b>
Louis & Barbara <b>PARESA</b>	Allen & Betty <b>PERKINS</b>	George & Kathleen <b>REGO</b>
Gordon & Betty <b>SAM</b>	Stanley & Susan <b>VICTOR</b>	Francis & Barbara <b>WONG</b>
Johnson & Elaine <b>YEE</b>	Richard <b>YOUNG</b>	Don & Marjorie <b>YOUNG</b>

Of note: The **VICTORS** traveled the farthest (from Michigan), and Denis **CHING** came in from Texas. They were given prizes for their long journeys. Mike **CATHCART** was a guest of the **PARESA**s. Newest face in the ohana, belonged to Richard **YOUNG**. It was heartwarming to see *Deborah FREITAS & Dori CORENEVSKY* attend the party, as both of these wonderful women are dealing with severe heart problems. Louie **PARESA** made an announcement about ending the party and then driving through to Hawaii Kai using the Waimanalo route – the road would close at 9:30 P.M.

For the evening, the “Program Director” & “M.C.”, was *Stephanie BELLEFEUILLE*; she of the Joe **ORNELLAS** duo. And what a great evening she produced and directed. It started off by party Chairman Fred **HACKBARTH** verbalizing a welcome prayer (penned by his wife *Fran*), which was very touching and apropos for the times we are in. Then, our apprentice “Kahu”, Bernard **FREITAS** came to the podium and sang a beautiful Hawaiian pule (prayer) for us. Nice, Bernard – very nice. Then it was off to eat time – women first! Wow, the food was arranged well, with the salads, desserts and entree lines separated from each other. Many different salads, four or five different desserts, and three main entrees to chose from, including mouth watering Bar-B-Q ribs, Chicken in a sauce that was sooooo ono, and Mahi. Was really good, and we never ran out of food.

Now, then, festivities were many and diverse. Stephanie told a few jokes (one really, really good one). Gordon **SAM**, Bernard **FREITAS**, and Allen **PERKINS** wore crowns (from Burger King) and sang excerpts from “We Three Kings”. Explaining why “A Christmas tree is better than a man” were: *Barbara PARESA, Fran HACKBARTH, Barbara WONG, Dori CORENEVSKY, Nancy YOSHIOKA (FARIAS duo), Betty PERKINS, Susan VICTOR, Emme BURNS, Kathleen REGO* – and some of the “reasons” were very risqué' with not-so-subtle sexual innuendos. Lots of laughs and several audience comments accompanied the women's presentation; and when you see her, ask *Emme BURNS* about reason #2.

12 classmates were “rounded up”, numbered, crowned (with pictograms related to a specific number), seated, provided with a numbered “paddle”, then requested to sing “The 12 Days of Christmas (Hawaiian style). Singers were: S. **VICTOR**, G. **REGO**, D. **FARIAS**, H. **CHUN**, J. **BURNS**, G. **CORENEVSKY**, A. **PERKINS**, C. **HO**, L. **PARESA**, F. **HACKBARTH**, M. **LYONS**, D. **YOUNG**. They looked like 6 pairs of Laurel & Hardy mixed together with the Keystone Cops. The singers, besides having questionable singing voices, didn't know whether

or not to sit, or stand, or sing, or lift their paddles. They all had problems with the process. It was all very funny, but – after about five sequences of the song, they seemed to get it all together and finished with precision and gusto.

We got into several table games, all related to Christmas. There was determined and deliberate huddling and study by the people at each table, and it was evident that “this was for real – no give um chance” actions were necessary to win. There was a small glitch, and cries of “Fix” were heard. Security (in the form of big Joe **ORNELLAS**) was on the verge of intervening. Printed jumbled words caused “brain freeze” at many tables. Picture cards with symbol messages were gazed at with awe, but without “getting the answer”, especially one where the name of the Christmas song was depicted as a Christmas tree made with letters from the alphabet, but with no “L” so that the correct answer (of the Christmas song) was “NOEL” (get it – No L).

To go home with the beautiful Poinsettia center pieces, we played a game called “The Night Before Christmas”, with a card being passed around and which changed direction with every time the word “right” or “left” was said by the narrator. Not sure just who took home the flowers, but they were provided by Fred & *Fran* **HACKBARTH**, (Thanks, much you good guys). *Stephanie* provided beautiful/professional Song Booklets for all - Thanks much nice lady!

The Class Chairman, D. **FARIAS**, got up to address the group and related that all things were going well, and that he was proud of the classmates and their spouse/partners for continuing to “keep things together”. G. **CORENEVSKY** got up and said a few words about little things that were happening within the organization, and thanked everyone for their part in the evening's festivities. Joe **ORNELLAS** informed everyone present, that the Next Fine Dinner would be on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, at D. K. Steakhouse in the Waikiki Marriott Hotel. More info will follow. Stanley **VICTOR** and Denis **CHING**, those classmates that had come from afar, got to the podium and related that they thought that we should continue our efforts to keep together, and that the dissemination of information being put out to everyone, was important and appreciated, and if any of us were to be in their areas, to please contact them so that a “get together” might be arranged. And, Bernard **FREITAS** sang a solo rendition of the C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S song, honoring his past.

Without fail, just like Santa Claus, *Barbara* **PARESA** cooked up and packaged up her incredibly delicious Bread Pudding for everyone at the party to take home. Please know, that her spouse Louie actually helped with the packaging and wrapping in Christmas themed paper.

Heartfelt “Thank You” to: Fred **HACKBARTH**, the Christmas Party Chairman for his wonderful shepherding of the party; *Fran* **HACKBARTH** for really doing all the work for Fred; *Stephanie* **BELLEFEUILLE** for volunteering to be the Program Chairperson and the M. C. for the evening, and for her fantastic job in doing it all; *Kathleen* **REGO**, *Barbara* **PARESA**, & *Nancy* **YOSHIOKA** for all of their assistance and for being on the “committee” to help *Stephanie*; Johnson **YEE** for being that indispensable person, at every function, who gives of his time, talent, dedication, and caring, in continually taking pictures and videos of everything that goes on and finally sharing the pictorials with everyone; and most importantly, “Thank You **God**. The Party was in **Your** honor”; Happy Birthday **Jesus**!

To cap off the evening, we all stood up and sang the St. Louis College Alma Mater.

Time to “hele on”! On Cenric, on Norman, on Donald & Mike, and all of you other classmates – back to your sleighs (cars). Crank up the old transportation and head off into the night. But be careful, and be safe, we need to see you again next year! It was a good evening, and all ended well. Happy Holidays to everyone, and to all a good night!

To view Johnson Yee's pictures and videos of the Christmas Party, press Ctrl then left click on to:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=jjsyee&target=ALBUM&id=5552197047496871425&authkey=Gv1sRgCPWEq4zRsqTDMg&feat=email>

