

HBA Soaring Eagle

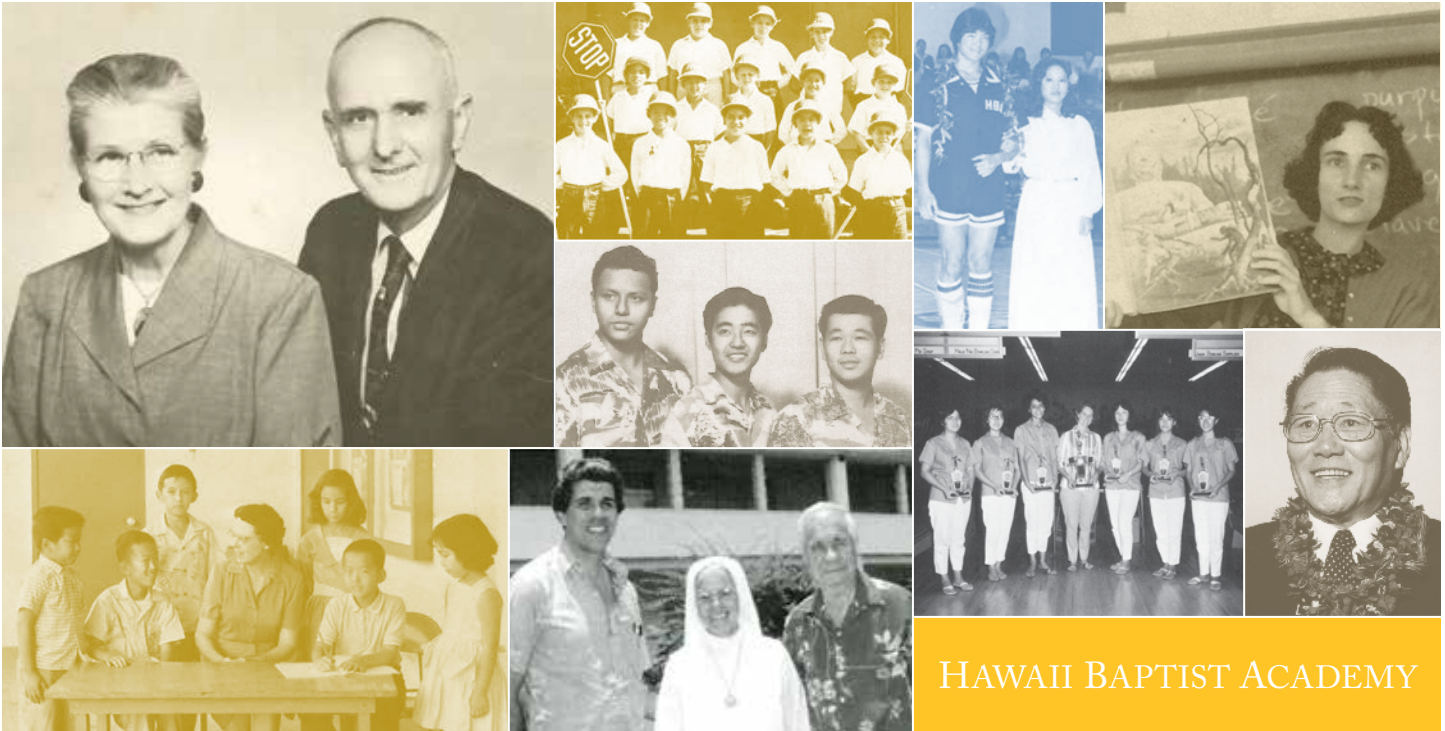
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Spring 2014



Hawaii Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.

News from Hawaii Baptist Academy



HAWAII BAPTIST ACADEMY

Celebrating

65

YEARS

INSIDE:

*Remembering Colonel Sagert • HBA History •
Alumni Profiles • Cindy Gaskins: Year in Review*

1949 - 2014

Hawaii Baptist Academy

Located in Nuuanu Valley on the island of Oahu, Hawaii Baptist Academy (HBA) is a Christ-centered, co-educational, college preparatory school for kindergarten through grade 12. Established in 1949 by missionaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, the school is affiliated with the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

HBA is a member of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Association of Christian Schools International. HBA is licensed by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools.

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Mission Statement

Hawaii Baptist Academy is a Christian college preparatory school that equips students spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally, so that they bring honor to God.

ON THE FRONT/BACK COVERS:

Mahalo to our Development staff for providing these historical photos.

President's Message

Dear HBA Ohana,



It is such a blessing to celebrate our school's 65th anniversary! As I look back on my time at HBA, I am astounded and grateful for all that God has done for our school, including the people that He brought to Hawaii to ensure our school's success. One such person is Colonel Stanley A. Sagert.

I am overjoyed to know that our dear friend and president emeritus is now walking in heaven with our Lord. In honor of his legacy, we dedicate this edition of *Soaring Eagle* to Col. Sagert and his family.

My friendship with Col. Sagert goes back to when we were members of Makakilo Mission. He had an impressive administrative background when I first met him. In 1983, I was privileged to work under his leadership as vice president for development. Let me summarize who Col. Sagert is for me: a man with a humble heart with so much love, warm and caring, sensitive to needs, consummately patient and kind, and lastly, a man with the keenest mind. I have learned a lot from him as my mentor and will miss him.

God has also blessed us with hundreds of wonderful students who have become successful men and women. In this edition of *Soaring Eagle*, we are privileged to share the story of six different alums, one from each decade of HBA's history, and learn how their experiences at HBA shaped their lives forever. Stories like these are excellent reminders of our mission, which is to reach each student and their family with the gospel of Jesus Christ. I am thankful that God has allowed me to be part of this mission because there is no greater joy than seeing lives changed for eternity.

Many other exciting things are happening at our school. This month, we are dedicating our new Science, Arts and Technology Building and renovated Learning Resource Center with our MAC friends at our annual Mainland Advisory Council meeting. Two years ago, we embarked on a \$17 million capital campaign to update and expand our high school facilities. As of this month, we have raised 80 percent of our goal from gifts, pledges and designated funds. Much of this was given by our MAC friends, who have faithfully supported our school since 1977. It is because of their love and care for our students that we are able to be the leading Christian academic institution in Hawaii. While we are pleased with the amount that we have raised, we are still in need of \$3.5 million. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to our campaign. For more information, visit www.hba.net/giving to submit your gift.

Please join me in celebrating our 65th anniversary and accepting your role in furthering HBA's mission. That includes keeping us in prayer and being a living testimony of Jesus Christ to the people in your life. No matter how large or small you may see your role, we all play a part in upholding HBA's legacy for future generations.

In Christ,

Richard T. Bento
President



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Remembering Colonel Sagert

President Emeritus Credited with Saving School from Closure



HBA President Emeritus Colonel Stanley A. Sagert, who is credited with saving HBA from closure in 1970, died January 25, 2014, at the age of 93 in Denton, Texas

"We are deeply sorry for the loss of Col. Sagert, but we are also rejoicing because he is now in heaven with our Lord," HBA president Dick Bento said. "Because of his leadership we are here today."

Sagert was born on March 27, 1920, in Missoula, Montana, and grew up in Southern California. He graduated from Bell High School in Bell,

California, in 1937. While he was attending Oklahoma Baptist University, World War II began. Sagert, who was an instructor pilot, entered the Army Air Corps immediately. During the war, Sagert flew 50 missions out of North Africa to Italy. One night, his plane was shot down over Yugoslavia while returning from a raid in Romania. He was rescued by a group of guerrillas and spent some time in Yugoslavia before returning to Italy.

Sagert received his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota while serving in the U.S. Air Force. He then completed a master's degree from the University of Southern California. His last military assignment was on the personal staff of Admiral John McCain (father of Senator John McCain), Commander in Chief of the Pacific, where Sagert served in Vietnam.

In 1970, Sagert retired early from the military to become the president of HBA.

"The only thing I really wanted to do after retiring from the Air Force was work for the Academy," Sagert said in HBA's history book, *The Power of Your Love*.

Sagert's enthusiasm for HBA helped him to build a donor base on the mainland with the late Dan Kong, past HBA president and vice president of development, which led to the formation of the Mainland Advisory Council (MAC).

Even with all of the pressures of keeping the school open, Sagert got involved with the spiritual growth of the school's students by hosting a weekly Bible study in his office.

In 1987, Col. Sagert wrote the following about Christian education: "I believe that it is axiomatic that a school that is unequivocally committed to Christian values and academic excellence is bound to be a success. ...Add to this the Christian concern and love of evangelism. The combination is unstoppable. The result is success."

Sagert served the school as president for a total of 17 years. Upon his retirement in 1987, the intermediate-high school campus was named the Stan Sagert Campus by the school board which also conferred on him the title of president emeritus.

Sagert is survived by his son, Stanley "Buddy" ('71); three daughters, Penny Wagner, Marlee Armstrong ('68), and Kristin Obermeyer ('78); six grandchildren; and six great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Marjorie in 2007.

Condolences may be sent to Col. Sagert's son, Stanley Sagert, at 909 Witherby Lane, Lewisville, Texas 75067. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Stan and Marj Sagert Scholarship Endowment Fund at Hawaii Baptist Academy, 420 Wyllie Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817.

A Vision 65 Years in the Making

1949 - 2014

65

1940

World War II forces Southern Baptist missionaries out of China and Japan. Several are relocated to the Territory of Hawaii to start mission work.

1946

Missionary Dr. Victor Koon heads a committee to promote the founding of a Baptist school.

1947

The Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia pledges \$125,000 over 5 years to fund property and facilities.

The SBC Foreign Mission Board (FMB) sends Hugh and Mary McCormick from Nigeria to start a school.



Mary and Hugh McCormick.

1949

Hawaii Baptist Academy opens with 36 students in grades 7 and 8.

Mr. McCormick serves as principal. Mrs. McCormick is school nurse and librarian.



Buildings are refurbished Army barracks.

1950

Grades 1, 2 and 3 from Olivet are transferred to HBA. Grade 4 is added.

1952

The first level of the elementary building is constructed.

1953

School is complete with grades 1-12.

1954

First graduating class has 3 graduates.



The first graduates of HBA (from left): Phillip Perreira, Jr., Kiyo Itokazu and Harry Uyeunten.

1955

The second floor of the elementary building is completed.

1959

Hawaii becomes a state. Phaseout of support by FMB begins.



1960

Operation of the school is transferred to the Hawaii Baptist Convention.

McCormicks and other missionary teachers retire/move back to mainland.

1963

Kindergarten is added.

1965

Upper school receives accreditation.

1969

Construction begins on joint-use building with Central Baptist Church.

1970

The HBC Executive Board rejects a proposal to close the Academy.

The Board elects Col. Stanley Sagert, who was retiring



Col. Stanley A. Sagert, President 1970-1987.

from the U.S. Air Force, to head HBA and authorizes him to raise funds to support the school.

1971



The joint use building is completed.

Part of the original school property is leased to a developer to help finance a new campus on less expensive land.

1972

April 21: A 13.6 acre estate in Nuuanu is acquired through an auction.

Dan Kong, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church and president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention, pronounces the successful bid of \$553,000.



Photo courtesy of R.M. Tivoli Corporation

The building at 2429 Pali Highway was the home of territorial judge Alexander Robertson.

HBA enters its first major fund drive.

Fall: Grades 7-12 meet in Theo H. Davies building in Mapunapuna.

1973

Construction starts on a 4-level classroom building on the Pali property.

Dan Kong is asked to join HBA as vice president for development to help raise funds on the mainland.



*Dr. Dan Kong,
President
1988-1993*

1973

Grades 7-12 meet in interim location at Makiki Christian Church's educational building 1973-75.

1975



The Bessie Fleming Classroom Building on the Pali Campus is completed.

Grades 7-12 move to new Pali campus.

Leeward elementary annex is started at First Baptist Church Nanakuli.

1977

The Mainland Advisory Council (MAC) holds its first meeting in Honolulu.

1982

A new Alma Mater is adopted with words of Isaiah 40:31.

1983



The Shiraki Building building is completed

1986

The Stanford Building on the Leeward Campus at Puu Kahea is completed.



1987



HBA purchases the Sacred Hearts Convent School in 1987.

HBA acquires the Sacred Hearts Convent School as the new location for the elementary grades. Appraised at more than \$18 million, the Sisters sell it to HBA for \$14 million, interest-free.

Col. Stan Sagert retires after 17 years as HBA president.

Dr. Ron Boggs is named president; resigns in 1988.

1988

Dr. Dan Kong becomes president.

1990

The Aloha Council is organized.

1992

HBA is incorporated as a subsidiary of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

1994

Richard Bento is named president.



*Richard T. Bento,
President
1993 - Present.*

1997

HBA becomes the first K-12 school in Hawaii to implement the Modified School Calendar.

1998

HBA closes Leeward Campus due to declining enrollment.

1999

HBA celebrates its 50th anniversary, marked by student involvement in 50 community service projects.

2002

Elementary school receives accreditation.

2006

The middle school campus is completed and named after former school president Dr. Dan Kong, who died in 2005.



HBA takes the ILH Division II first place Kaimana Award for overall school excellence and is recognized every year since in the program.

2007

A standard school attire is adopted for all students.

2011

The Waterhouse property on Wyllie Street is purchased for administrative offices.

2013

The new Science, Arts and Technology building is completed.

The library is renovated as the Learning Resource Center in the Fleming Building.

iPads are distributed as part of the curriculum.



The renovated Learning Resource Center opens in October 2013.

Jason Mori – Class of 1959

Defying Traditions

By Christina Yasutomi



Jason Mori, right, with his wife Malinda, left, visit Honolulu in 2013 for MAC Week. Photo courtesy of Jason Mori.

Jason Mori, sitting in the back row fourth from the right, in his fourth grade class at Olivet Baptist School during the 1947-48 school year. Photo courtesy of Jason Mori.



Jason Mori ('59) has always had big dreams for himself. Those dreams, which sometimes defied tradition, started before he was born with his grandparents who broke tradition and married each other for love. To start fresh, they moved from Japan to America and made their first home in Oregon. But the weather didn't suit them so they relocated to Honolulu.

Fast forward two generations and Jason Mori was born on July 1, 1941. His dad was a bill collector and the family lived in a humble duplex in the McCully district of Honolulu adjacent to Washington Intermediate (Middle) School. Mori's Buddhist parents strongly valued education and sent their son to Olivet Baptist School in 1945 at age four to begin kindergarten. Because of his young age, he attended kindergarten for two years. In 1951, he moved to Hawaii Baptist Academy to attend fifth grade along with Olivet's first, second, third and fourth graders. Through the mentorship and love of his teachers, Mori accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior at the age of 11. That was his first major decision that would defy his family's traditions. When he turned 17, Mori was baptized, but he didn't tell his parents that he had made such a bold profession of faith. To his surprise, the church mailed a certificate of baptism to his home, and that's how his parents learned that he had chosen to be a Christian.

"Because religion was personal to my mother, the fact that it was personal to me made all of the difference in the world, and they knew that I didn't do it to spite them. So it was eventual acceptance, but it took a while," said Mori.

During his time at HBA, Mori was the yearbook photographer, a member of the debate team and president of his senior class. He says some of his best memories include the time he spent in math class with teacher Frances Weeks. Classes were so small that he and his classmates would sit right around her desk.



Frances Weeks, former HBA math teacher, grades papers at her desk. Jason Mori ('59) says some of his best memories about HBA were in Weeks' class. Photo by Jason Mori.

"It was almost like being tutored, which was kind of neat."

He also credits Weeks with helping him meet his wife. Weeks encouraged Mori to work at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly in North Carolina to help adjust to living on the mainland. Three days after his graduation in 1959, he was on a plane headed for the South.

At Ridgecrest, Mori met Malinda Duncan, a fellow staffer. Their relationship began as a friendship, with a little bit of a romantic interest on Mori's side, but it wasn't a topic of discussion yet.

Following that summer, Mori began college at the University of Richmond. A year later, he transferred to Baylor University in Texas. Then one summer, while Mori was at home attending summer classes at the University of Hawaii, Malinda came to spend the summer in the home of Hubert and Margaret Tatum and also attend U of H.

“We saw each other on a daily basis, did things socially, and then after that, Malinda’s family invited me to spend Christmases in their home. So we saw each other once a year.”

Mori described their relationship as “up and down,” but they married in 1965, two years after Mori graduated with a bachelor’s degree in foreign service. Mori says his marriage to a “haole,” or Caucasian, was the second time in his life that he seriously defied his family’s expectations.

“They had the same reaction as they did with my decision to follow Jesus Christ. It took about a year for them to accept it, but they did.”

Not only was his marriage unconventional for his family, it was also a heated issue in North Carolina. Before they were able to say “I do,” a legal investigation was conducted to determine if they could wed due to interracial marriage laws. Thankfully, those laws did not include Japanese in North Carolina.

After his graduation from Baylor in 1963, and on a whim, Mori moved to Washington, D.C., and took a job as an elevator operator in the U.S. Capitol under then newly-elected Senator Daniel Inouye. While in Washington, Mori witnessed the passage of the nuclear test ban treaty. One month later, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. As reported in a previous edition of the *Soaring Eagle*, Mori recalled a reporter running into his elevator, frantically shouting that the President and Vice President had been shot. (That information about the Vice President was false.) Mori then went into the gallery where he watched Sen. Ted Kennedy receive a note. The senator didn’t say anything, just rose from his seat and left the room. Mori was there for the President’s funeral procession and remembers watching Mrs. Kennedy as she readied to say farewell to her husband. He also watched the Senate debate the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the US involvement in the war in Vietnam.

After working on the Hill, Mori decided that he didn’t want to pursue a career in politics and went to work in 1964 for the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, then part of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, more commonly referred to as “The Bell System” or simply “Ma Bell.” He stayed with that company and its post breakup successors for 37 years and retired in 2001. The final

position he held was operations director at Verizon, where he was responsible for the operations staff of a multi-state organization.

The Moris still keep a full schedule, despite being retired. At First Baptist Church in Alexandria, where they have been members for 48 years, they teach a newlywed class. Mori says their church is “thriving,” with “a new baby being born almost every week!” (Clearly, they must be great mentors to the young couples at their church.) Malinda, who is a retired family counselor, continues to offer workshops. Recently, she held a workshop for grieving families, and she continues to help build up women’s groups.

The Moris continue to support HBA as members of the Mainland Advisory Council (MAC). They first joined MAC in 2000, and Mori served as MAC Chair for three terms from 2006 - 2009. He encourages all HBA alums to give back to their alma mater, even if it’s just saying thank you to past and present teachers and staff.

“Frankly, HBA is a rare exception in the ways that the teachers desire to motivate you both academically and as a human being – and that’s unique. You can go to a monastery to get that humane focus, and you can go to a school that will focus on that academic lifestyle, but to get them both in the same place is pretty rare.”



Jason Mori, in the front row left of the boy with his hand on his head, poses with his kindergarten classmates at Olivet Baptist School during the 1946-47 school year. Photo courtesy of Jason Mori.

Paul Kaneshiro – Class of 1968

Finishing Well

By Christina Yasutomi



1. Paul Kaneshiro ('68), right, and June (Shimogaki) Kaneshiro ('68) in 2007. Photo courtesy of Paul Kaneshiro. **2.** Paul Kaneshiro and June (Shimogaki) Kaneshiro were voted Mr. and Miss HBA in 1968. **3.** Paul Kaneshiro ('68), front row, second from the right, with the football team in 1966.

On a quiet weekday morning, I dial my phone to speak with Paul Kaneshiro ('68). He answers me on his speaker phone, and politely explains that he will be undergoing dialysis treatment at his home while we do our interview. I'm embarrassed and apologize for intruding on something so private, but he insists that this is the perfect time to speak with him. Kaneshiro, who has been the senior pastor at Pukalani Baptist Church for 27 years, and a volunteer chaplain for the Maui Police Department (MPD) for nearly 25 years, doesn't let his ailment keep him from his ministries. According to his wife, June (Shimogaki) ('68), it's quite common for Kaneshiro to do counseling sessions over the phone during his dialysis. Since 2010, June has helped Kaneshiro conduct his dialysis treatment at home five days a week.

"It's because of June's willingness to take care of me that I'm able to carry on my work," said Kaneshiro. "I want to be faithful to the end. When I go to heaven, I look forward to hearing Jesus say, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

Kaneshiro's spiritual journey began at home with his parents. His father was a deacon at Waialae Baptist Church, drove the church van on Sundays and also helped start Palolo Baptist Mission, which was closed while Kaneshiro was in college on the mainland. It was through his father's example, and by his mother's leading, that he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior at age 11.

His parents wanted all of their children to have a Christian education. At that time, his mother, also named June, was a secretary at HBA, and both she and her husband made sure that all of their children were able to attend the school. For young Paul, his experience at HBA began in 7th grade.

"HBA gave me a new start in life. I was one of the kids that no one wanted on their team, and HBA gave me the opportunity to blossom as an athlete, student and leader."

As an athlete, he played basketball, volleyball, flag football and ran track. He was also the student body president during his senior year. His best memory, though, was meeting the love

of his life. During their freshman year Kaneshiro and June Shimogaki were elected prince and princess for the annual Sweetheart Banquet. Kaneshiro decided he should ask June to be his date and she said yes. Sadly, the date didn't go well, but it didn't ruin their future together.

During the summer between their sophomore and junior years of high school, their relationship became official thanks to June's friend who told Kaneshiro about June's feelings for him. At the end of their senior year, they were elected Mr. and Miss HBA by their classmates. They continued their relationship through college, with Kaneshiro attending Ouachita Baptist University (OBU) in Arkansas, and June attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

"I loved Arkansas because it was hunting and fishing. I'd skip class quite a bit to be out in the woods. But that's where God got a hold of me and called me into the ministry."

Kaneshiro had entered the university as a chemistry major and planned to teach high school science and coach sports back at home, thanks to the influence and mentorship he received from Coach Darryl Truitt.

"God began to deal with me very seriously. I almost committed suicide one night because I felt that my life was not worth much. God not only prevented that, but He began giving me a hunger and thirst for scripture that I never had before. And then, a couple of months later, I realized that God was calling me to the ministry, but I didn't want to say yes."

One night, while attending a revival service, Kaneshiro couldn't resist God's call any longer and committed his life to full time ministry.

Kaneshiro graduated from OBU with a degree in philosophy and a minor in religion. Following graduation, he returned home and worked for a year at Pali View Baptist Church as the youth director and preschool teacher. In 1973, he and June married and moved to northern California where he attended Golden Gate Baptist Seminary.

A year later, Kaneshiro began pastoring at Faith Baptist Church in San Jose. It was classified as a Japanese mission, but since he didn't speak Japanese he made it a "Hawaii church," where everyone would be welcome. In 1976, the church merged with another church, moved to Cupertino, and became International Baptist Church. Three years later, God called Kaneshiro to return to Hawaii to be the associate pastor at Waialae Baptist Church, where he served as the minister of education and youth. In 1983, he became the senior pastor and replaced Bill Smith, who had been his mentor. Unfortunately, the church's ministries didn't match Kaneshiro's talents and spiritual gifts and he resigned in 1986.

"It was a horrible feeling that I wasn't capable. But it was one of the most humbling things that ever happened in my life. It was all a part of God's plan, out of His love for me, to make me much more dependent upon Him."

Shortly after his resignation, he was contacted by Pukalani Baptist Church to be their senior pastor. At first, he was surprised that a church was still willing to have him lead their congregation, but the Kaneshiros took a leap of faith and moved to Maui. Two years after they

settled in at Pukalani, Kaneshiro became a volunteer chaplain for MPD, and he has continued both ministries to this day.

"It's been a love affair with the people here. They've been so gracious to us."

At MPD, Kaneshiro now serves as the coordinator of chaplains. He says he's been involved in plane and helicopter crashes, traffic fatalities, death notices and as a crisis counselor.

Kaneshiro says his personal struggles with dialysis have forced him to readjust his schedule, cut back on the amount of counseling that he used to do, and allow others in the church to take over responsibilities that he is no longer able to oversee. But the experience has deepened his faith.

"We always preach that 'God is in control,' but we don't know if we believe that until we go through tragedies. For me, my dialysis has shown me how shallow my faith is and how much bigger He is."

Dialysis has also allowed him to reach people who are struggling with their health.

"If I were healthy, they wouldn't listen to me."



Paul Kaneshiro ('68), stands to the right of Darryl Truitt, advisor for the student council.

Kaneshiro is currently listed on the Paired Donations Program at the University of California at San Francisco to receive a kidney donation. Both he and his family are patiently waiting for God to provide the right donor. In the meantime, the Maui Police Department has rallied around him and his family by holding a fundraiser and offering their support.

Additionally, Kaneshiro says he is able to continue because of the examples set by his teachers at HBA.

"They were barely paid minimum wage, but they stayed and invested in us. So I want to finish well like them. That's what makes HBA so important, the building of godly character, and that thrills me."

It's all in the Family: The Kaneshiros at HBA

By Maurine King

It started with four couples of cousins and siblings. Some of the women were Kaneshiros before they married, so "it's complicated," as they say.



June Kaneshiro, secretary, then registrar, in 1966.

Ken and June were the first to send their children to HBA, where June was a secretary, then registrar. They are:

- Susan ('65), followed by daughter Terumi Anderson ('90);
- Paul ('68), who married classmate June Shimogaki ('68);
- Steve ('70), former Christian activities director;
- and Luke ('72).

Next were Richard and Irene, whose children are:

- Tim ('70) was and is HBA's first full time elementary vice principal. He married colleague Darlene Henderson, the aunt of Jana Henderson ('85) and Andrea Henderson ('90). Tim and Darlene's daughters are Alicia ('98), Raena ('02) and Deanna ('04).
- The second son of this family is David ('71), whose daughter, Rachel, teaches at the elementary.

Pat and Kameko sent:

- Mark ('70), retired art teacher, who is the father of John ('06), assistant Christian activities director.

Kenneth and Nobuko, parents of:

- Keith ('91);
- and Caroline ('93).

A Kaneshiro cousin, Lilly Sumida, is the mother of:

- Michael ('96), former HBA math teacher;
- and David ('98).

This comes out to 19 graduates, not counting at least one grandchild who married a graduate, and seven employees, not counting some who subbed or employees who were spouses of graduates. Several other family members also had the opportunity to attend HBA at one time or another.

The late '60s and early '70s saw HBA's first success in basketball, with several Kaneshiro cousins and siblings.

Jonathan Busse – Class of 1975

Painting Water

By Maurine King



Above, from left: 2 Paintings by Jonathan Busse ('75): Sparkle and Haupuu. Far right: Jonathan shares his artwork with high school students.

What's a boy to do when he had rather be surfing and is stuck in class? Why, draw waves, of course!

I remember Jonathan Busse ('75) as a sad boy who did just that in the three semesters he was in my world history class. Apparently, he did this in pretty much every class. Charles Whitten, his Bible teacher, told him, "You'll never get anywhere by drawing waves." He wanted to be an artist, but was also discouraged at home. "You can't make a living at that." This situation was frustrating for Jon, especially when he considered I Timothy 4:14-15 ("Do not neglect your gift").

Nevertheless, at the University of Hawaii Jon met teachers who recognized his talent and did encourage him to pursue an artistic path. His wife-to-be, Raydeen Fujimoto, encouraged him to seek out a counselor, get his degrees and apply for student loans that allowed him to focus on his art. Later, Snowden Hodges, an art professor at Windward Community College, became his mentor and friend and asked him to teach an introductory watercolor course.

And what does a surfer who becomes an artist paint? Why, water, of course!

In 1994 Jon invited me to his one-man show at the Contemporary Museum. The theme was "Between Sea and Stone": moonlight on water, stones under water, waves, the surface of water, wet sand. Paintings in several media were painted exclusively for this show and a few were borrowed from their owners to display.

Subsequently, I have admired Jon's paintings of water at the Ala Moana and Hale Koa hotels, at the Kaiser Pensacola Clinic, decorating a ballroom at the Kahala Mandarin, and at numerous shows and galleries. Besides painting and teaching watercolor at Windward Community College, Jon has occasionally taught HBA's elementary and seventh-grade students, the latter in the cafeteria for lack of a better space. He is presently working

on two ocean-themed paintings, several portraits, and preparing to undertake a commission. His work has been digitally reproduced (giclee prints).

On November 7, Jon returned to speak to three of Juri Yamashita's art classes in their spacious classroom and to tour the newly opened Science, Art and Technology Building. He shared his techniques and experiences, along with advice on choice of paint and paper and the use of photography. Since water doesn't hold still, he must work from photographs which he takes himself.

Mrs. Yamashita writes: "Jonathan was gracious enough to speak to my Basic Art classes right after they had finished their pastel landscapes, many of which featured his favorite subject, the ocean. His life as an HBA student more interested in art than in academics resonates with some of my students and feels close to my own experience as a student with a wandering mind. His discussion about quality materials and techniques reinforced what I had been teaching my own students. It was nice for them to hear a practicing artist share the same tried and true knowledge. The resulting artwork was captivating, vibrant, and stylish. Having a working artist share the business aspect of his profession was also an eye-opener for some students, who learned that artists must have business savvy, math skills, and common sense to pair with their passion in order to succeed."

Jon admitted that marrying a doctor has given him more financial security than some artists have. Incidentally, quite a few HBA students and alumni were brought into the world with the assistance of Dr. Raydeen Busse, who previously practiced obstetrics. Some alumni will remember their son Josh, who attended HBA in the elementary grades and is now almost through med school.

Are parents right that "you can't make a living at that"? Jon encouraged students who have a passion for art to trust God and follow their dreams.



Maurine King, left, with Jonathan Busse ('75).

Dr. Lara (Iwamoto) Narita - Class of 1986

Missionary to Cambodia

By Maurine King



The Narita Family. From left to right: Jonathan, Benjamin, David, Lara and Kailee. Photo courtesy of Lara Narita.

Dr. Lara (Iwamoto) Narita, missionary to Cambodia, spoke at the preschool Focus in July to the faculty and staff. Her former teachers and some of Lara's '86 classmates who were present remembered her as a fun-loving Scholar Athlete award-winner who played volleyball and basketball and was class salutatorian. They might not have known that even then she felt called to medical missions.

Lara was back visiting her family and speaking in churches, along with her husband Dr. David Narita and children Ben, Jon and Kai. They do this every four years to raise funding for their ministry. Lara's short message left her audience eager to know more. Back in Cambodia, she responded to questions for this article.

What do missionaries do, anyway? To those of us who've never been to a mission field, the concept of missionary may be as simplistic as a small child's idea of being a nurse, farmer, or fireman. But exactly what the Naritas have done in the last ten years has been subject to the changing policies of their mission board, the evolving needs of Cambodia, the comings and goings of themselves and their colleagues, and their own sense of the Spirit's leading. They have worked in and taught at clinics, hospitals, and an orthotics school, started village churches and an international church for Christian expatriots, organized an IFES (the worldwide group known in the US as InterVarsity Christian Fellowship) student group, and tried to keep their colleagues healthy in body and spirit.

Oh, yes, and helped with a project of World Vision, drained an abscess from a pig, did a clean water project, and taught English and guitar. Their organization, OMF (formerly known as the China Inland Mission), works with victims of leprosy and landmines and with other disabled people, does literacy and jobs and skills training, and aids prisoners and women and children at risk of being trafficked or entering the sex trade.

And how does one become a missionary? Lara chose to attend Creighton University because it had a good reputation for getting people from Hawaii into professional schools. She

served two years in Japan as a missionary between college and med school, then specialized in family practice, thinking that had the most usefulness if going overseas to a developing country. She chose a residency program that was known for allowing residents (many of whom became missionaries) to learn a full range of skills. It was there she met David, who was also interested in missions. After marrying, the Naritas practiced medicine in Modesto, California, for five years.

In the meantime, David's uncle heard a missionary from Cambodia speak in his church in Arizona. He appealed for prayers that God would lead more missionaries to that devastated country. Unbeknownst to David and Lara, the uncle began praying that God would call them. Three years later, after they announced their plans to go to Cambodia, he telephoned and told them how he had been praying.

What is the current situation in Cambodia?

The country is recovering from genocide, war, and political instability. Most of the population is young and poor. Freedom of religion is guaranteed in the Constitution, but there are rules governing religious organizations, including the dominant Buddhists. Churches must register with the government and proselytizing is limited.

The Naritas are presently in the city of Siem Reap, whose rapid growth is fueled by tourism. The temples of Angkor Wat are only five miles away and over two million foreign visitors are expected to come this year. Cambodians flood in to staff the hotels and restaurants and foreigners are finding Siem Reap a great place to live.

How do missionaries know they are making a difference? Lara writes: "We see lives changed. One gal that has been especially dear to us is named Lina. We met her though working with university students. She wasn't a Christian, but was acting as a translator for another mission group. At that time she was about 21 and was really into herself. She didn't care about anyone else. She would always take the best seat, be first in line to get food, was very critical and quick to get angry. She started attending a new believers' Bible study and slowly started changing. She noticed that she was changing and she didn't like it. She tried to get away from God. She would tell us not to call her. She was going back to her old lifestyle. After a couple of weeks she would come back and say, 'I tried to live like before, but I just can't. It doesn't bring me joy anymore. I don't want to care about my family, but I do now. I don't want to love other people and put them ahead of me, but I can't help it.' In the past three years we've seen her grow into a loving, caring person. She is maturing in her faith and has a heart to reach her family and other young people. Lina is now on staff with IFES-Cambodia."



Lara (Iwamoto) Narita ('86) at her high school graduation ceremony.

Jennifer Marshall – Class of 1990

World Traveler Brings International Perspective to HBA Staff

By Christina Yasutomi

Jennifer visits the Great Wall of China in 2013.



Jennifer Marshall ('90) explores Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave, Belize in 2011.

HBA has been blessed with hundreds of wonderful employees, many who have been alumni. One of those alums is Jennifer Marshall.

Marshall began attending HBA in eighth grade. Her mother, Pat (Jackson) Marshall, was a 1960 graduate. Marshall's three younger siblings, Jeff ('93), Amy (Marshall) Hankins ('97) and Melissa ('97) also became HBA graduates. While at HBA, Marshall played varsity basketball and soccer, and was a bowler. She participated in Servant

Group and was a member of the President's Aloha Council. She credits Christian activities director Ted Goslen and Bible teacher Joyce Wong as being influential mentors and living examples of what it means to follow Christ.

In 1990 she graduated from HBA and attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa for two years. She finished her undergraduate studies at Purdue University and received a degree in audiology and speech science in 1994. After college, she worked at a pharmacy for one year, then returned to Purdue and got her master's degree in education with a specialization in school counseling.

Besides a top-notch education, Marshall got her first exposure to international cultures at Purdue. She had a roommate from Panama, a friend from Cyprus and a dorm mate from Guatemala.

From Purdue, Marshall moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, and worked as a high school counselor for eight years. During that time, she traveled to Egypt, Spain, France and Switzerland, which ignited her passion to travel. With a growing interest in international culture, fueled by an adventure-seeking spirit, she decided to work abroad.

In 2005 Marshall received an offer to work at a Christian international school in São Paulo, Brazil.

"I sensed God was leading me to work abroad at a great school that reminded me so much of HBA, but in my heart, I had not yet resolved that I would be a missionary," Marshall said.

As the sole high school counselor for a student body of approximately 125, Marshall worked with children of mission organizations, diplomatic, business and professional families from North America, Brazil, Korea, and other nations. Many of those students were applying to prestigious universities in the United States and around the world, so Marshall had to be knowledgeable about the best schools available.

"Living abroad and working in an international setting changes you. I wish more people would do it, even though it is challenging. Not only was it professionally and personally invigorating, but my view of the world and people is much broader. I hope it's increased my sensitivity to the needs of others."

Marshall continued to explore the world by learning how to be a solo traveler. On her own, she visited Northern Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. For work, in addition to college visits and conferences in the U.S., she visited a university in Germany and attended a conference in Monaco.

After being away from her family for 17 years, Marshall decided it was time to be closer to her loved ones. She got a tip that HBA was looking for a high school counselor, so she sent in her resume. Shortly afterward she received an offer and returned to Hawaii in 2009.



Jennifer Marshall ('90), back row, third from the right, poses with the girls' basketball team after winning ILH Division 2 Girls Basketball Championship in 1990.

At HBA, Marshall encourages students to look beyond the "safe zones" and to explore opportunities in places they may not have considered before. In her office, a small poster hangs on her bookshelf

that says "Got Purpose?" which serves as a reminder that God has intentionally created each of us for a greater purpose.

"So often at HBA we get caught up in getting good grades so we can get into a good college and get a good job. In our department, we want to help students understand their unique gifts, passions and strengths so they can use them to be change agents in their world."

She also inspires students to dream big by sharing personal stories in her monthly blog that is posted on the school's website.

In between her work, Marshall continues to travel around the world. Two years ago she visited Guatemala and Belize. Last year, she went back to Brazil and then to China. This summer, she plans to travel somewhere new, but hasn't decided yet where that will be.

Read Jennifer Marshall's monthly blog at http://www.hba.net/student_life/high_school/guidance_counseling

Beth Fukumoto – Class of 2001

Journey to the Capitol

By Christina Yasutomi



State Rep. Beth Fukumoto sits at her desk on the House floor. Photo courtesy of the Office of State Rep. Beth Fukumoto.

If you ask State Rep. Beth Fukumoto (R, Mililani-Miliani Mauka-Waipio Acres) if she always wanted to be a politician, she'll tell you no. In college, she imagined herself becoming

an English professor, or perhaps a lawyer. But thanks to events beyond her control, Providence would lead her directly to the State Capitol.

Fukumoto ('01) grew up in Mililani and attended Hanalani School. After her junior year of high school, she transferred to Hawaii Baptist Academy so she could celebrate her senior year with her friends at HBA, who also attended her church.

"My parents struggled to put me through Hanalani first, and then HBA, but it was a very valuable experience for me. Having a faith based background was so useful in preparing me for college, and the other challenges that come after high school," said Fukumoto.

During her year at HBA, Fukumoto participated in the school play and also organized a youth prayer night that involved at least ten different youth groups on Oahu.



Beth Fukumoto ('01) at her high school graduation ceremony.

From HBA, Fukumoto attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she received her bachelor's degree in American Studies. She then went on to Georgetown University where she acquired her master's degree in English. Even during her time at Georgetown, Fukumoto said that getting involved in politics never crossed her mind. Her plans changed, however, when the economy crashed in 2008.

"It was hard to get a job. Going into more school didn't seem like a good option, so I decided to come home and regroup."

Upon her return home, she was offered a job as a clerk at the House Republican Research Office. During that time, she learned the process behind Hawaii's government and was disappointed by what she described as a broken system. From being a clerk, Fukumoto quickly moved up through the ranks and became the department's director and also served as the interim chair of the Republican Party of Hawaii. In 2010, she unsuccessfully ran against incumbent Democratic Rep. Ryan Yamane in District 37, but came back to win District 36 in 2012 against incumbent Democratic Rep. Marilyn Lee. During her second campaign, she

also managed to plan a wedding and married David Chang, the current chair of the Republican Party of Hawaii, and chairman and CEO of Chang Holding Company.

Following her election, Fukumoto was quickly thrust into the world of politics and cites her years as a researcher as the perfect preparation. However, she never imagined that during her first year in office she would be involved in making one of the most important decisions for Hawaii's people. In late October, the Legislature was called into Special Session to vote on a bill that would legalize same-sex marriage. Against all odds she voted no, and the bill was signed into law on November 13, 2013. Fukumoto says the process was unfair to voters and more time should have been spent discussing such



State Rep. Beth Fukumoto, center, with campaign supporters: Joel Kurata ('01), left, and Daniel Peters ('02), second from the right.

an important issue. She also says the bill should have provided greater religious protections for those whose religion does not support gay marriage.

When asked if her faith played a role in her vote, Fukumoto says that her values are always with her when she is faced with a decision, but she also remembers that her vote does not represent only her, but rather the people in her district.

"My district, in a lot of ways, represented a lot of the concerns that I had. People contacted me with a lot of concerns about religious liberties and the rushed nature of the special session. Those concerns were similar to my own."

Fukumoto, who is 30 years old, is passionate to reform Hawaii's government. In November, she was announced as one of the co-chairs of the Hawaii Future Caucus, a bipartisan caucus of county and state elected officials under age 40 who will work to improve government transparency and political involvement for young people. The *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* reports that the caucus plans to discuss issues such as broadcasting more public hearings, increasing the 48-hour notice requirement for hearings and improving the voter registration process. She is also planning to run for reelection in 2014.

For HBA students, Fukumoto leaves these words of wisdom:

"You never know what God's going to do with your life, and if you're faithful with the things that He gives you, you never know where it will take you. As a student, a lot of my friends knew what career path they wanted to be on. I did not. While it's scary, it's also freeing. Looking back on it, it left a lot of room for God to do what He needed to do."

Cindy Gaskins: Year In Review

Bringing a Global Mindset to HBA

By Christina Yasutomi



Cindy Gaskins, Christian Ministries Coordinator

At the beginning of the 2012-13 school year, HBA welcomed Cindy Gaskins as the Christian Ministries Coordinator at the elementary school. Prior to her new position, Gaskins taught Bible classes at HBA and worked as a substitute teacher. Originally from Alabama, Gaskins spent her childhood in Zimbabwe. Her parents, Jimmy and Charlotte Walker, were missionaries with the International Mission Board. When she was 13 years old, Gaskins returned to America and attended high school in Alabama. She graduated from Samford University in Birmingham with a bachelor's degree in secondary education and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where she received a master's degree in religious education. While in seminary she met her husband, Emory, who is currently the pastor of University Avenue Baptist Church (UABC) in Honolulu. At UABC, Gaskins teaches a college Bible study group, leads the worship team and teaches conversational English to international students.

The Gaskinses have three children. Their oldest daughter, Bethany, lives in Bend, Oregon, with her husband Miles. Their daughter Hannah ('10) and son Caleb ('11) are both attending North Park University.

Gaskins is pioneering HBA's Christian Ministries Coordinator position. We sat down with Gaskins to review her first year and talk about her goals for the future.

Q: What experiences have you brought to HBA?

A: I grew up in a third world culture so that impacts your view of the world. It teaches you to be grateful and appreciate what you have. I want our students to know about the world. In chapel, I am very intentional about educating them about other countries and cultures. Almost all of our guest speakers have lived somewhere besides the United States, or they've taken a trip somewhere and they've told us about those experiences.

Last year at CEW (Christian Emphasis Week) we focused on Malawi. We also started participating in Operation Christmas Child which provides us with another opportunity to learn about and bless children in other parts of the world. We want our students to know that where they live matters, and what they do matters for people they may never meet.

Q: What new programs have you implemented since you started?

A: During the week I lead Grow Groups, which is discipleship time for new believers. We want our students to know that being a Christian isn't a one-time decision, but a life of learning to follow and be a disciple of Christ.

Parent Café is another new program we've started to serve our families. Once a month, both Principal Amy Vorderbruegge and I meet with parents to discuss a variety of topics to help strengthen their parenting skills. One of my dreams is to see Parent Café offered at all of our campuses.

Hosting tea parties in my room during lunch recess has been a fun experience.

The main goal is to get to know students in a relaxed atmosphere. Another goal is to teach our students the art of conversation and a touch of etiquette.

Because my room isn't a classroom all of the time, it's also become a safe room. Students come for personal conversations, trying to work out a problem, or just reading on the carpet during recess. Recently, two girls came to talk and reconcile with one another over a cyberbullying issue. I'm thankful for a space that's convenient and comfortable for students to come and visit. Parents have stopped by before and during school to share a concern or question. Sometimes, I don't know what the family faith background is, but I will always ask if I can pray with them at the end of the visit.

Q: Where do you see your ministry three years from now?

A: In the next few years, I hope we can include regular opportunities for upperclassmen to come teach, learn and serve with our elementary students during chapel and CEW. I'd love to be working with an elementary student worship team who help plan and take the lead in chapel experiences. I also hope to establish some annual activities that impact others on our island and somewhere in the world.



Cindy Gaskins, Christian Ministries Coordinator, helps students gather food donations for Olivet Baptist Church's Food Pantry Ministry.

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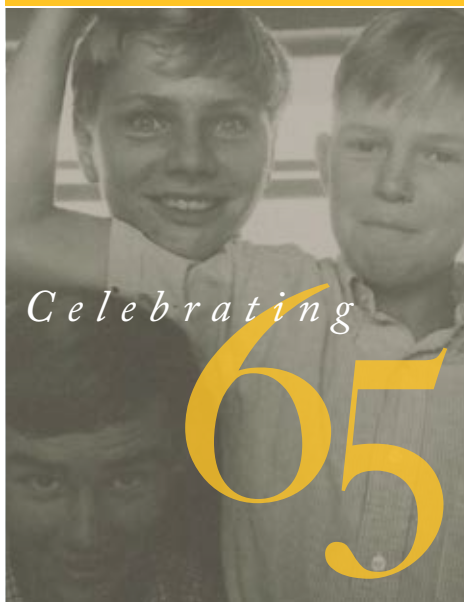
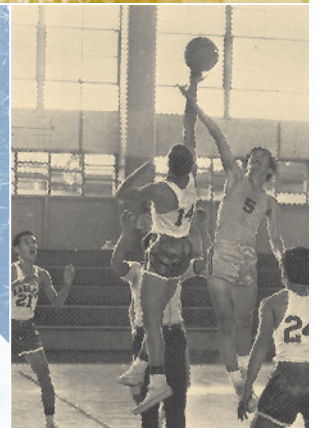
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