Aloha WHS Alumni and Friends,

On behalf of the WAFF Board of Directors, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your unwavering support. No matter how big or small that support has been, we appreciate all that you continue to do. Whether it’s volunteering for our WAFF activities, supporting our fundraisers, attending our activities and dinners, or responding with your monetary donations, the cumulative effect is one that supports Waimea High School and the students. We can’t say it enough…thank you very much!

As written in previous newsletters, The Foundation has established a permanent Trust Fund to fund school grants and scholarships. Our target goal was $300,000 by December of 2020. In the past two years, we have received donations from alumni all over the United States. I’m happy to report that we met our goal of $300,000 in January of 2020; however, we will continue to hold our fund raisers and encourage donations to the WAFF Trust Fund. Thank you for your support and helping us reach this goal!

We held our 2nd Annual WAFF Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 8th, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Waimea High School cafeteria. Those who attended had the option of eating in or taking out their breakfast. This year, a Silent Auction was also held in tandem with the breakfast. We were well supported from the community and alumni from near and far. There were alumni from Oahu and the mainland that helped us cook and serve during the event. It was truly a morning of “connecting and “talking story”. Thank you for making this event successful! Please mark your calendars and plan to join us next year for our Pancake Breakfast/Silent Auction on Saturday, February 13, 2021.

Congratulations to the following thirteen Waimea High School seniors who were recipients of the 2020 WAFF Scholarships: Fred Adella, Cori Burton, Kalee Games, Kaitlyn Garcia, Naomi Nakaahiki, Ky Niccore, Wade Pimsaguan, Vanessa Rowland, Tevin Shigematsu, Tehani Togioka, Kaela Tsuchiya, Leslie Uri, and Ethan Yamamoto.

Additional information regarding these students can be found in this newsletter. Mahalo to the parents, family, teachers, coaches, friends, and community members who also served as mentors and examples to these students.

I always end my message by asking you to consider becoming a Lifetime WAFF member or an annual member. Please join our team and be a part of our foundation! Given the COVID-19 uncertainties and changing landscape, we unfortunately cancelled our 2020 September 14th Luau/Membership meeting. We will keep you posted regarding the 2021 Spirit Luau/Membership meeting. Our WAFF meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Waimea Neighborhood Center starting at 6:30 pm.

‘A ‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia
(No task is too big when done together by all)
Mary Kawena Pukui

Russ Hasegawa, President

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WAFF TREASURER’S REPORT

May 31, 2020
Checking Acct Book Balance........................$86,129.48
May 31, 2020
GWN Securities Inc.....................................$301,607.07
Total Assets................................................$387,729.55

Alvin Kyono
Treasurer
Crystal Valenciano Rowe

A graduate of Eleele Elementary and Waimea High School in 1973, Crystal went to the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, where she earned a BA in Special Education. In 2013 she completed a Masters of Education in Curriculum Studies at UH Manoa. Crystal began her teaching career at Kalaheo Elementary then transferred to Kapaa High and Middle School. Presently, she is the SPED Transition Teacher/Work Study Supervisor at Kapaa High School. She provides lifeskills and employment opportunities for her students while transitioning them to adult life. She’s a member of Alpha Delta Kappa and HSTA. She participates with Kauai Special Olympics, CJ’s Angels Cancer Relay Team for Life and is the Lifetime President for her Class of 1973, keeping them connected with various events and activities. Crystal continues to be the “rock” for the Class of ’73 and gives her heart and soul to her classmates as well as her students at Kapaa High School.

Eric Nordmeier

Raised on the Westside in Hanapepe Heights, Eric attended Eleele School and involved himself in the Civil Air Patrol, JPO and Jr. HI-Y. After graduating Waimea High School in 1969, Eric went on to Air Force Community College, attained a BS from Park University in Montana, a Masters in Public administration from Troy State University in Alabama, all while on active duty in the Air Force. Eric has been active with the West Kauai Lions Club from 1999 to present, as a club officer, committee chair, and the International District Governor for the State of Hawaii in 2011-2012. Eric is busy with numerous Lion’s service projects. In 2009, Eric became a member of the West Kauai Business and Professional Association and is currently their President. The WKBPA hosts a number of projects that benefit the Westside, such as the Waimea Town Celebration, The Christmas Tree Lighting and the Christmas Light Parade. Eric also volunteers with the County Elections, Kauai Chamber of Commerce, Senior Medicare Patrol Team, Grove Farm Museum Docent, Kauai Planning and Action Alliance Board, Kauai Historical Society and the Kauai Veterans Museum. Eric continues to give back to his community and is a dedicated volunteer.

Esther Visitacion Estes

Esther attended Eleele Elementary and graduated from Waimea High School in 1973. Esther received a Secretarial Science Degree from Canon Business College On Oahu and worked for 35 years in the Federal Civil Service that included secretarial, paralegal and telecommunication work. An active member of the West Kauai Business and Professional Association, Esther continues to serve as secretary. Esther is the current chair and coordinates the West Kauai Christmas Lighting and Christmas Light Parade. Aside from volunteering and participating in PMRF community activities, she also volunteers with WHS Project Grad, chairing this committee from 2010-2016. As a board member of WAFF, Waimea Alumni and Friends Foundation, Esther has participated in our Annual Pancake Breakfast and first Reality Fair at WHS in 2019. Dubbed the “Energizer Bunny Rabbit”, Esther’s high energy and commitment to any task exemplifies the spirit of a WHS alumnus.

Leina’ala Pavao Jardin

A 1991 graduate of WHS and a 1995 graduate of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Jonelle Leina’ala Pavao Jardin is Kumu Hula of Ka Lei Mokihana o Leina’ala in Kalaheo. Established in 1996, her halau has grown to nearly 200 students of Kauai, along with a beautiful hula ‘ohana in Japan and Mexico. Her mission is to instill in her students the many facets of hula that will allow them to perpetuate this most sacred art at a high level of excellence. Kumu Leina’ala began her journey at three with Kumu Hula Ku’ulei Punua. She continued her hula training with Aunty Lovey Apana and her sister Aunty Beverly Muraoka. While at Hilo, she began her advanced hula training with Kumu Hula Rae Fonseca. Her halau participates annually in the Queen Lili’uokalani Keiki Hula competition as well as the prestigious Merrie Monarch Festival on the Big Island. Kumu Leina’ala currently serves on the Kauai Police Commission. In 2014 the YWCA honored Leina’ala with the Kauai Woman of the Year Award.

2019-2020 WAFF Donations

65  Merle Yasunaka Asato
58  Thomas Chinen
63  Marieann Ono Ferreira
59  Nancy Yamase Honda
Kauai Picnic Funds
79  Shawn Hosaka
66  Janice Ishibashi
75  Trish Oshiro Kann
55  Esther Masuba Kodani
72  MerrifEllen Shimono Lee
64  Vivian Iwamoto Lee
59  Ellen Yasunaka McDermott
55  George Miyashiro
79  Cheri Carson Morrill
63  James Nakaya
In Memory of Barbara Jean Rita Starnes
In Memory of Eileen Fujimoto Powell
55  Richard Ogata
59  Gerald Saiki
81  Doris Shimono Saki
57  Stanley Sasaki
65  Alvin Seto
58  Edwin & Hazel Mitobe Shintani
70  Chad Taniguchi
58  Michael Vidinha
65  Lynne Ouchi Hiratsuka
Mahalo for your generous support!

2019-2020 TRUST FUND DONATIONS

Platinum Partner ($1,000)
  Kiyoto Fujita (64)
  Nancy Yamane Honda (59)
  Gilbert Masaki (52)
  Gary & Liela Nitta (65)
  Trish Oshiro Kanna (75)
  C/O 75 In memory of Stanwood H. Kanna, DDS
  Dave True (72)
  Joe Matsukawa (49)
  Jim & Brenda Yoshimoto Denny (64)
  Kiyoaro Masaki (49)
  Irene Fujita Ikeda (55)
  Henry & John Nakaue (51)

Blue Partner ($500)
  Ron & Gloria Yamamoto Matsuba (62)
  In Memory of Alvin M. Yamamoto C/O 1955
  Howard Matsuda (58)
  Recognizing Kaumakani C/O 1954
  Rebecca Baybrook (69)
  Saeko Yoshitake Yoshida (52)

White Partner ($200)
  Frank DeCosta (71)
  Tsuneo Okada (52)
  Jean V. Nacino (87)
  Ray M. Ishihara (71)
  In Memory of Class of 1971
  Tom & Joy Azeka Canute (71)
     Clyde Tanita (65)
     In memory of Mervyn Kimura & Wallace Uyeda (65)
     Doju Yoshikami (61)
     WHS Class of 1971
     Joyce Nagata (58)

Partner (Any Donation)
  David & Lee Anne Miyashiro (68)
  Susan Shimatsu Ashford (59)
  Doris Shimono Saki (81)
  In memory of Russell Ijima C/O 1981
  Alfonso Espino Maligro (49)
  In Memory of Lee Maligro C/O 1947
  Edna Kawamura Kurihara (55)
  In Memory of Class of 1955
  Island Gym & Fitness Kauai LLC
  Allen Miyakado (58)
  Ken Suga (71)
  Regina Domingo (71)
  Rowena Domingo (72)
  In Memory of Juana Domingo
  Karen Takeuchi Muraoka (77)
  Doreen Lopez Vesper (72)
Congratulations TO OUR 2020 WAFF SCHOLARSHIP

Fred Ryl Adella, son of Wilfredo and Sheryl Adella Jr., received the Kaoru & Kikumi (Nakaue) Fujita Endowed Scholarship. He plans to attend either the University of Portland, in Oregon, or UH Manoa, majoring in Biology to pursue a career in medicine. Coming from the Philippines at age 9, it was a challenging adjustment. During his intermediate years, Fred represented Kauai District for three consecutive years at the Scripps National Spelling Bee at the state level. Fred lettered on the WHS Varsity Tennis Team, was JROTC Bravo Company Commander, and member of JROTC Drill team and NHS. Fred would like to one day be able to provide affordable health care on Kauai.

Kalee Vea Games, daughter of Alicia Vea (94), received the Yuso & Lillian Ishida Health Professions Scholarship. She plans to attend Kauai Community College/ Kapiolani Community College and pursue a career in nursing/ EMT. With her Health Academy peers, she has taught Westside elementary school students CPR, AED, and the Heimlich Maneuver. Kalee demonstrates perseverance, commitment, and positive work ethic to all academics and extra curricular activities. Kalee wants to return to Kauai emulating the inspiring women in her life, her Great Grandmother, her Grandmother and Mom.

Tevin Shigematsu, son of Troy (90) and Maude Nalani Shigematsu (90) of Eleele, received the Daniel Suga Memorial Scholarship. Tevin plans to attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Education, pursuing a career as a secondary HS counselor or teacher. Watching his mother lose her battle to cancer was difficult for Tevin, but his time in WHS was spent in deep reflection and personal growth. Making memories and spending time with her was his priority. Still, he lettered and captained both the football and basketball teams, and was a member of the air riflery team. Demonstrating leadership skills as a team player, he is driven, hardworking, kind and respectful of others. “Anything I do in life that serves others would make her proud, because I will be following in her footsteps.”

Ky Niccore, son of Ward and Jen Niccore of Kalaheo, received the WAFF Scholarship. He plans to attend Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, majoring in engineering or mathematics. Ky lettered in soccer, volleyball, crosscountry, and is active with Young Life Kauai. He excels academically and was on the Principals List during all four years at WHS. Ky not only focuses on academics and athletics, but is a practitioner of kindness and living life to its fullest. “Whether I am an engineer at the base, teach math at Waimea High School, practice sports medicine or become the Young Life Area Director, I hope to make an impact on Kauai.”

Kaitlyn Rose Garcia is the daughter of Bartolome and Cindy Garcia Jr. of Hanapepe. She received the Misae Tokishige Takeshi Memorial Scholarship and the Takeshi Fujita Society Elementary Education Scholarship. She plans to attend Kauai Community College/UH Manoa, pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. Kaitlyn has worked as a junior leader and recreational aid for the county Summer Fun Enrichment program and as an EDGE ministry leader at Holy Cross, for sixth and seventh graders for the last five years. While working with third graders at Eleele School’s A+ program, she assumed leadership roles as Junior class secretary, Homecoming Chairperson and maintains academic excellence as a member of the NHS.

Vanessa Mahealani Rowland, daughter of Heather Rowland of Hanapepe, received the WAFF Scholarship. She plans to attend Kauai Community College majoring in business management, then getting a BA and MBA at NAU, UNV, UNLV or UVU. Vanessa participated in JROTC, volleyball, Student Council, and was the senior class treasurer. She pursued her academic excellence at WHS by enrolling in Honors, AP, and college classes. She consistently demonstrated leadership, time management, and interpersonal communication skills.

Naomi Nakaahiki, daughter of Wayne (74) and Karen Batis of Kekaha, received the WAFF Scholarship. She plans to attend Kauai Community College, majoring in Kinesiology to pursue a career as an Athletic Trainer. She lettered in volleyball, leading WHS to district championships for the last three years. As one of the team captains, she led WHS to a 2nd place finish in HHSAA D2 State Volleyball Championship this school year. While volunteering with food drives, highway cleanups and volleyball tryouts, she maintains academic excellence with AP and Honors classes. Naomi demonstrates excellent time management, determination and team leadership.

Katein Makale’a Togioka, daughter of Mari Lorenzo (2004), was awarded the Eveline Ruth Pascua-Corpuz Scholarship. Her plans are to attend Linfield College, in Oregon, majoring in Nursing. Ultimately, she would like to be a Nurse Anesthetist or NICU nurse. Her passion for kids has been part of the reason she has participated in training/teaching 5th graders basic life support (CPR, AED and the Heimlich Maneuver) in the public schools. She has balanced academics with sports by being part of the WHS volleyball team that took the KIF championship 3 years in a row.
TO OUR 2020 WAFF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

THANK YOU!

On behalf of the organizing committee of the WAFF 6th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament, we would like to thank you for your generous support of our event. This year’s tournament, held September 14, 2019 at the beautiful Hokuala Golf Course, raised over $6000 and will be awarded this spring to deserving seniors from the Waimea High School. Our players encountered some early showers but then tapered off and it turned out to be a great day for golf. Congratulations to the overall winners of this year’s event: 6th low net score of 60.2 went to Joel Bautista and Jason Fujinaka. Overall low net score of 58 went to Kent Tomimoto and Neil Iseri, overall low gross score of 59 went to Aaron Chun and Kila Kaaihue, and Chad and Cherie Yamamoto got a prize for 23rd place. We had prizes for each of the par 3 holes, longest drive for both men and women, and closest to the pin in two shots on the par 4s. What a wonderful and fun day for all! Thank you to all of our sponsors, golfers, volunteers, and generous contributors who made this such a successful event. We couldn’t have done this without you. We thank you for continuing to be a part of this important scholarship fundraiser for Waimea Alumni & Friends Foundation and Waimea High School.

With much aloha…..

Committee Chairperson                  Committee Co-Chairperson
Leo Anguay                                        Mahina Anguay

Leslie Deris Uri, daughter of Rogelio and Cheery Uri, has been awarded the Eveline Ruth Pascua-Corpuz Scholarship. Her future plans are to attend Washington State University, majoring in nursing. Her ultimate goal is to be a nurse practitioner. Leslie’s passion for helping people is evident in the community activities she has volunteered for throughout her high school career. She has been part of Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai’i, Hawai’i Pre-Health Career Corps, and Health Occupations Students of America. She has also volunteered at the Kaua’i Care Home, KVMH elderly outings, and been an integral part of the activities in her Health Academy.

Kaela Tsuchiya, daughter of David and Lorna Tsuchiya, of Kekaha, received one of the WAFF scholarships. Her goal is to attend Kauai Community College/UH Hilo, majoring in Biology /Health care. Her career goal is to become a healthcare provider or nurse. Kaela has been a member of the National Honor Society and its president, and the Student Body vice president. Even with a heavy academic load she has found time to volunteer in Big Brothers and Big Sisters and to teach elementary students basic first aid and CPR. She has also worked in the public library. Her hard work has earned her the respect and admiration of teachers and students alike.

Ethan Yamamoto, son of Vance (81) and Anne Yamamoto, has been awarded the K. F. (64) Scholarship for a student pursuing engineering or sciences. Ethan would like to pursue his degree at UNLV. He plans to study computer and/or biomedical engineering. His goal is to work on software development and artificial intelligence in the medical field. Ethan has been a 2-year soccer captain, balancing sports with academics. He spent a summer at General Dynamics learning how collaboration and problem-solving are integral to teamwork in the field of study he is pursuing. His hard work has not only been in school, but at a job in the culinary field and as a HYSA referee.

Principal Mahina Anguay is the Hawaii Association Secondary Schools Principal of the Year for 2020.

She will be traveling to Washington DC in September to be recognized by the National Association of Secondary Schools Principals (NASSP).
The 2nd Annual Pancake Breakfast was held on Saturday, February 8 in the Waimea High School cafeteria was another success. Our Silent Auction, held in conjunction with the breakfast was also a success.

Special thanks to the many generous donors who provided items for the Silent Auction: Banana Patch Studio, Basilio Fuertes, Blue Dolphin Charters, Ltd, Captain Andy’s Sailing Inc, Coco Nail Spa, Costco, Eating House 1849 @ Roy Yamaguchi, Holo Holo Charters, Jana Miyazaki, Menehune Quilters, Kaha Lani – Castle Resorts & Hotels, Kapaia Stitchery, Kauai Beach Resort, Kauai Island Brewing Co, Kauai Sea Tours, Kekaha Credit Union, Kiawe Roots, Koloa Landing Resort Holoholo Grill, Koloa Zip Line, Lawai Beach Resort, Mailelani’s Kauai, MCS Grill, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Muraoka, Nancy Nakama, Ocean Course of Hokuala, Port Allen Sunset Grill & Bar, Japanese Grandma’s Café, Robert’s Jewelry, Salty Wahine Gourmet Hawaiian Sea Salts, Scrunchies by Brandee, Sheraton Kauai Resort Lava’s, Alison Toma, The Cliffs @ Princeville, The Mane Event, Waimea Plantation Cottages, Waimea Theater, Wong’s Chinese Restaurant. Chairperson of the auction was Adela Ochinang, assisted by Anthony Vea and Danette Vea Wise.

Breakfast menu included pancakes, scrambled eggs and pupu sausages. Additional items for those who ate in included fruits, miso soup, fried rice, edamame rice, tsukemono, yatsumizuke, kim chee and coffee provided by Kauai Coffee.


Thanks to all alumni and friends for supporting another WAFF project by purchasing tickets.
2020 WAFF Board Members

L/R sitting: Russ Hasegawa, Blanche Izumi Suga, Katie Okihara Hardwick, Alvin Kyono
Row 2: Janice Nitta, Brenda Yoshimoto Denny, Michal Kanahele Nakashima, Lisa Sueyasu Hiraoka, Naoko Ho, Placido Valenciano, Lynne Hashimoto Tamashiro, Irene Iwai Muraoka, Roy Miyashiro
Row 3: Leo Anguay, Jerry Nishihira, Tommy Muraoka, Alice Hayselden Brown, Pua Mundon Gonsalves, Basilio Fuertes, Jeff Emoto, Clayton Sakahashi

IN THIS ISSUE
• $300,000.00 Goal reached!
• President’s message
• CHEE-HOO! Our awesome Principal Mahina Anguay
• 2019 Spirit Awards
• 2020 WAFF Scholarship Recipients
• Golf Tournament
• Pancake Breakfast a success
• Our Membership

Visit us at our website www.waffkauai.org