

# SILVERSWORD

Friends of Old Maui High School

Winter 2007

“MARVELOUS”... “GREAT FOOD”...  
“RENEWED MEMORIES”... “AWESOME”...  
“KUDOS TO THE VOLUNTEERS”...



The 2007 Maui High Reunion was a great success, according to the letters and calls coming in from alumni who were fortunate to attend the once-in-a-lifetime event. The campus “buzzed with revived school spirit”, said the MAUI NEWS, reporting on the festive weekend that brought together more than 1,500 alumni and their families.

There was much laughter, and also tears as special moments and friendships were renewed. “The MHS Band had me in tears, playing the Alma Mater,” said Barbara Hew Tanner, MHS ‘56. And 1960 grad Muriel Ogata Aizawa wrote “the wonderful memories we had of our high school days were even more nostalgic being on campus and seeing where it all happened.”

*Continued on pg. 2*







Continued from pg. 1

The entire event went off without a hitch, with even the weather cooperating on Saturday with overcast skies and breezy trade winds cooling the crowds as they waited in a very long (but fast-moving) line for the fabulous Luau Lunch.

Alumni provided the entertainment, on a stage in front of the majestic administration building, with a Pep Rally and Talent Show that brought out the best of performers, cheerleaders and musicians who gallantly recaptured the spirit and abilities of their high school days.



Sunday's Memorial Service brought alumni together to honor their departed classmates, and at the final closing ceremony, there were many teary-eyed alums reluctant to leave the school where so many memories and friendships were formed. The Reunion Committee did an outstanding job, led by co-chairs Rodney Inciong and Richard ("Elvis") Higashi, and Stan and Barbara Chong-Kee, whose experience and expertise kept finances and registration on track.

Many of you who wanted to attend the Reunion were unable to make the journey. To have your own Reunion experience, you can visit Friends' web site -- [www.oldmauihigh.org](http://www.oldmauihigh.org) -- and click on "Reunion", to see more than 100 photographs of the three-day event. The campus and classrooms are there, as are the display of 50s and 60s cars, the crowds of alumni and the big white tents sheltering luau tables. There's also a professionally-photographed Reunion Video (about 2 hours long) by Akamai Movies in DVD format. Order it by phoning Akamai at 808-575-7474 or at [wolfeman@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:wolfeman@hawaii.rr.com).



The Reunion Committee is compiling a complete record of the event, and invites you to send them your photos and comments. Please mail to: Reunion Committee, C/O Barbara Chong-Kee, 230 Kualani Drive, Pukalani, HI 96768. Or email them to: [oldmhsreunion@gmail.com](mailto:oldmhsreunion@gmail.com).



If you ordered and paid for a reunion tee-shirt but were unable to pick it up, please contact Barbara Chong-Kee at the above address and arrange to have the tee-shirt mailed to you. No new orders, they sold out!

*We thought it was worth the splurge to print this special issue of SILVERWORD in color. Don't you agree?*



## BLUE & WHITE – AND GREEN!

### Maui High's Future Incorporates Innovative Environmental Concepts

*“The Master Plan is designed to respect its past while providing a dynamic, sustainable future”*



Photo: Bill Mitchell, CH & P landscape architect/planner, shows MHS site plan at community meeting.

Plans for the future of Maui High School will move into high gear with completion of the Master Plan Report by land use consultants Chris Hart & Partners, in November. With funding through a Maui County grant, Friends began in 2006 to work toward compiling a conceptual plan for the future uses of the historic 23-acre MHS campus and establishment of the Patsy Takemoto Mink Center. A carefully-selected MHS Focus Group met to define a Vision Statement, Guiding Principles and land use policies for the site, designed to retain the rural sense of place, historic buildings and atmosphere of inspiration so important to generations of graduates.

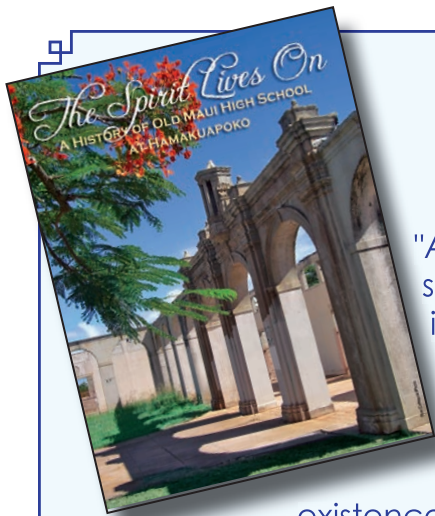
Meanwhile, a team of specialists assessed existing infrastructure (or lack thereof), site conditions including significant trees, and potential re-use of classrooms. Architects, engineers, landscape designers and planners reviewed conclusions with Focus Group and Friends, and then held an informational meeting for the community, at the school cafeteria, in September. The conceptual Master Plan proposes a site plan and programs which will be a public resource, including both education and agriculture. It will continue Patsy Mink's legacy, fostering economic opportunity through job and life skills training.

Proposed uses include an educational camp and retreat center for children and adults, combining public/private partnerships to ensure economic viability. Many school buildings in the historic campus will be re-used, including the rehabilitated Administration Building, four 1950s-era classrooms, the Cafeteria and kitchen, and the Boys' Locker Room Quonset (a relic of WW II).

New construction will provide an "overnight camp" to house up to 120 children, teachers and chaperones, plus recreation facilities (softball and volleyball, trails and campfire site), an outdoor amphitheater and pavillion. The retreat center will focus on demonstration sites for renewable energy and building materials, including wastewater treatment and water catchment technologies. Approximately five acres of agricultural fields will demonstrate organic methods for growing food and other crops.

The Master Plan for Maui High School is designed to respect its past while providing a dynamic, sustainable future which will serve the community as a model for individual and environmental education. Friends has been proud to work with the professionals, alumni and community members who have participated in compiling the conceptual Master Plan Report for old Maui

*Continued on pg. 6*



## Share your history with family! Order THE SPIRIT LIVES ON!

"A must-have for history buffs and the children and grandchildren of students who attended the school," wrote the MAUI NEWS in its glowing book review about THE SPIRIT LIVES ON!. More than 500 copies were sold at the Reunion to alumni who eagerly lined up to purchase copies of the beautiful 96 page book.

The history of old Maui High School covers the six decades of its existence at the Hamakuapoko campus, with over 100 photos, and details about school life, clubs and athletics, as well as fascinating looks at life on Maui during those years of growth and change.

THE SPIRIT LIVES ON! will renew memories and recall friendships and times gone by. Share those special days and years with your family, too. Order your copies of the history of Old Maui High School today. We'll include a copy of the 16-page Reunion tabloid section published in the MAUI NEWS while supplies last.

**Fill out the Order Form on page 7 of SILVERSWORD and give yourself and your family a very special gift!**

## SABERS' TROPHIES HOME AT LAST!

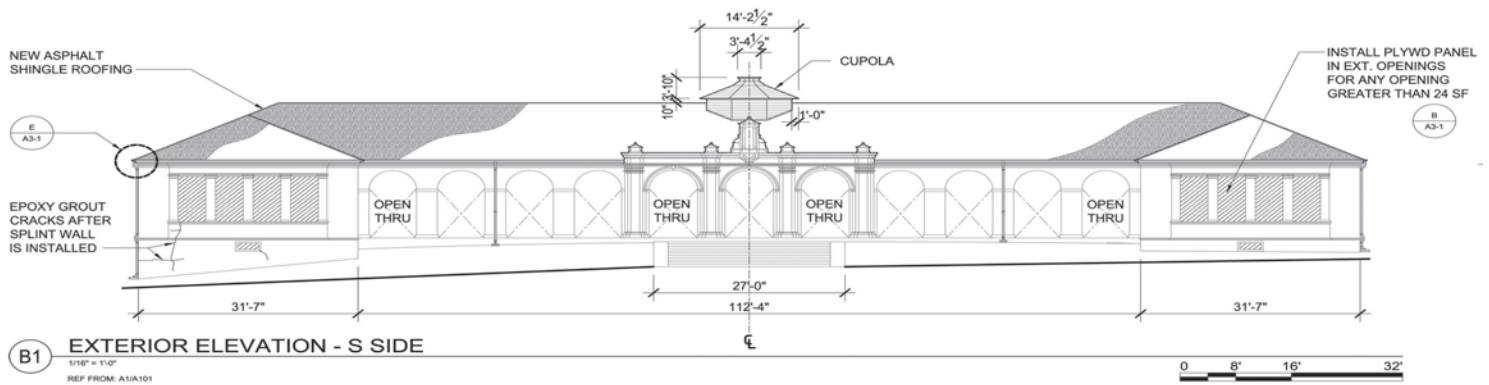
Maui High trophies dating back to 1922 were retrieved from storage, polished and placed on display at the H'poko campus in time for the Reunion, thanks to the determined efforts of members of the Class of 1966.

The trophies now stand proudly in what is to be Friends' expanded office, archive and volunteer space, in the former Business Ed classroom behind the Administration Building. They range in size from tiny silvered loving cups to weighty and dramatic trophies celebrating athletic prizes, as well as student and club awards. Six decades of Sabers' history are represented by this amazing collection. As styles and materials changed they encompass silver, copper, bronze, chrome and plastic, on bakelite, wood or stone bases. The BIG ones are here: the 1955 MIL Football Championship, and MIL Baseball and JV Basketball from the 50s, too. Football game balls are lined up, signed by teams and coaches of bygone days.

When Friends' new office opens in 2008, the trophies will be part of Maui High's historic archive, preserved along with thousands of memories of our dear island school.







## *BLUEPRINT FOR SAVING A BUILDING*

*The historic Administration Building needs a roof! You can help!*

This drawing of the front elevation of the MHS Administration Building is part of construction plans and specifications prepared by preservation architect Glenn Mason, AIA, for restoring the roof and makai wing floor, and "mothballing" the 1921 landmark building.

Until its ultimate uses and configuration are determined, and the Patsy T. Mink Center can be implemented, the historic building must be preserved from wind, rain and other destructive impacts. The photo below, at left, shows what faced Friends' volunteers as we began clean-up work, in 2003. On the right, the now-rescued building shows the strong concrete walls, with their Mediterranean-style architectural embellishments, as designed by Charles W. Dickey but obscured for over 60 years by its covering of "ivy" (actually, creeping fig - the vigorous vine that virtually clothed the "walls of ivy" from the start).

Clean-up funding was made possible through an EPA grant, by Hawaii Senator Daniel K. Inouye, who has pledged his help again, offering to request federal funds for a portion of the \$1.2 Million needed. Maui Mayor Charmaine Tavares (who attended MHS as a Freshman in 1957-58) has also pledged county funding for the project. The State Legislature will be asked for an additional share, and Friends was pleased to host a campus visit by members of the House Finance Committee in June, to impress them with the importance and purpose of the rehabilitated Administration Building and Mink Center.

*Continued on pg. 6*





CLOCKWISE, from right: Reunion Committee leaders: co-chair **Rodney Inciong**, **Barbara & Stanley Chong-Kee**; Co-Chair **Richard Higashi** in "Elvis" mode; **Don Guzman**, Congresswoman Mazie Hirono's Maui Field Rep, with Friends' President **Barbara Long** and Maui Mayor **Charmaine Tavares**; Pep Leader **Janice Tajiri Cretton** and **Sandy Garcia Bird**, MCs; Tabloid Editor and Friends' Board Secretary **Ruth Mukai** with **Barbara Long**; Reunion Entertainment Chair **Bobbie Watanabe Arita**; MHS Bandleader **Kerry Wasano** leads combined student/alumni band.



## BLUEPRINT Cont. from pg. 5

Friends is grateful for the continuing support of these government entities; however, to meet the \$1.2 Million cost, we need YOUR help as well. Alumni donations will be important to making the re-roofing, stabilizing floor and mothballing a reality. Friends hopes to begin the work in 2008, once funding is assured. Mahalo for your support and encouragement!

## FUTURE Cont. from pg. 3

High School. The task is far from complete; the Administration Building needs a roof and stabilization while it waits for infrastructure and land use entitlements to catch up. We will update the process as it progresses, in future SILVERSWORDs. Please let us know how you feel about the Master Plan and what the future of Maui High means to you.

# HELP FRIENDS RAISE THE ROOF!

## Join today!

Friends of Old Maui High School works to preserve and revitalize the site, structures and spirit of the historic school. Your tax-deductible donation is important to accomplishing these goals.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Class of 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print) First Maiden Last

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP

Individual/Family.....\$15 and up .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate/Business .....\$35 and up .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

HERE'S MY RAISE-THE-ROOF DONATION.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### BOOK ORDER

Please send me the Old Maui High School history book, THE SPIRIT LIVES ON!  
\_\_\_\_\_ copies X \$25 (includes postage).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** (Includes: Membership, Raise the Roof Donation, Books) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Friends of Old MHS.

Mail to: P. O. BOX 792165, Paia, HI 96779

Friends of Old Maui High School is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

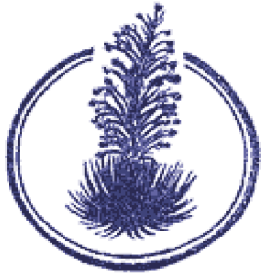
## What! No Member List this issue????

We wanted to bring you all the news about the MHS Reunion, the Master Plan Report for the future of Maui High's campus and buildings, and updates on progress toward rehabilitation of the Administration Building. That meant lots of photos...and no space to print the ever-growing list of members, donors and supporters who have so generously contributed thousands of dollars toward the revitalization and reuse of old Maui High, and toward support of Friends' programs and publications.

Friends values each and every one who has helped over the past four years – from giving dollars, volunteer hours, memorabilia for the MHS Archive, and kokua of any kind to this worthwhile project.

You can find the updated list of Friends' members and donors on the web site, at [www.old-mauihigh.org](http://www.old-mauihigh.org), at "donor list". We apologize to those who were inadvertently omitted from previously-published lists; we have tried to include all who brought errors to our attention. Please write or e-mail to correct any errors in the web list. Mahalo for your generosity and support!





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A shiny new 20' flag pole was installed at the site of the original pole by Community Work Day volunteers, costs donated by MHS Class of 1947.

Here, Boy Scouts from Troop 18 raise the U.S. and Hawaii flags at the Reunion's opening ceremony

Reunion photographs  
and Trophy Polishing  
photo in this  
SILVERWORD by  
JohnHenry Photography

