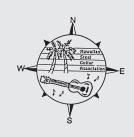
HSGA QUARTERLY

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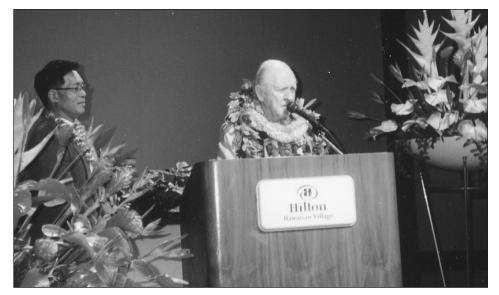
Volume 19, Issue 71

Summer 2003



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Jerry Byrd shares memories with an appreciative audience at the 2003 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Lifetime Achievement Award luncheon while Alan Akaka looks on.

Jerry Byrd Receives HARA Award

By Betty and Bo' Bahret

On March 29 we had the unique experience of attending the 2003 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony at the Hilton Tapa Ballroom. Five people were honored this year: Linda Dela Cruz, Raymond Kane, Buddy Fo, Lydia Ludin, and HSGA's, the one and only, **Jerry Byrd**.

The program began with a half-hour registration and talk-story time followed by a delicious and elegant luncheon served by the hotel staff. Each inductee was introduced by a close associate during which time photo highlights of the inductee's life were flashed on a large screen. Each was followed with musical selections.

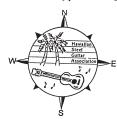
Alan Akaka did the introduction for Jerry while his life accomplishments were sequenced on the screen. Jerry felt at home at the podium as he recalled both his earlier days and then those of here in Hawai'i Nei where he played, taught, and created the sweet sounds of the steel guitar that earned him this deserved honor.

Three of Jerry's graduates, now "stars" from Jerry's crown, **Greg Sardinha**, **Casey Olsen**, and **Alan Akaka**, provided the music on spanish guitar, steel, and electric bass, respectively.

It was such a privilege to be at this ceremony, to give Jerry my Aloha kiss and add my lei to those already piled high upon this shoulders. A big *mahalo nui* should go to **Alan Yoshida**, who is on the Achievements Board of Directors, for for his excellent job of program coordination and production.

HSGA QUARTERLY

Volume 19, Issue 71



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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Hawaiian Steel Guitar Association is a tax-exempt, nonprofit educational corporation in the State of Hawai'i under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our primary purpose is to develop a global network of players and lovers of traditional Hawaiian music and to encourage the study, teaching, and performance of the Hawaiian steel guitar. Our primary financial goal is to provide scholarship assistance through donations to steel guitar students who demonstrate the ability and intent to become accomplished performers.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all steel guitar players and non-players around the world who support the perpetuation of the Hawaiian steel guitar. Annual dues are US\$30. The membership year begins July 1. Members receive the HSGA Quarterly and other group benefits. The Quarterly is mailed four times a year First Class to addresses in the United States and by Air Mail to foreign addresses. Members can obtain an Associate Membership for a spouse or family member at a cost of \$10, added to the annual dues; an Associate Member is entitled to discounts at certain HSGA functions and can vote in HSGA Board elections.

SUBMIT LETTERS & EDITORIALS TO:

HSGA Quarterly, 45-600 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744 USA. Tel: (808) 235-4742, Fax: (808) 235-9591, Email: ksga@lava.net, Website: http://www.hsga.org. Photos are welcome and will be returned on request. Quality original prints or high resolution digital camera output, please. *Mahalo!*

"Papa" Tau Moe Graces HSGA Stage

By President Kamaka Tom

HSGA Hosts "Tau Moe Day in Hawai'i" Declaration Ceremony

The final day of HSGA's 2003 Biennial Hawai'i Convention was highlighted by the presentation to Hawai'i's own legendary **Tau Moe** of Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle's Declaration of Wednesday, May 7, 2003 as "Tau Moe Day in Hawai'i."

Nattily dressed in aloha wear and bedecked in fragrant floral leis, Tau Moe had arrived approximately an hour prior in anticipation of the ceremony. Last year, he had already been proclaimed by the Hawai'i State Legislature as "Hawai'i's Ambassador of Hawaiian Music to the World." Shortly, the still strong ninety-four year old world-traveled entertainer, musician, and steel guitar master was escorted to the Queen Kapi'olani's Ākala Ballroom stage by Tau's daughter Dorian Moe Vineula, along with local historian Dr. Ishmael W. Stagner, HSGA President G. Kamaka Tom, and friends and members in attendance.

While HSGA musicians led by Hawaiian steel guitar virtuoso Duke "Kaleolani" Ching provided soothing Hawaiian steel guitar musical accompaniment, Governor Lingle's official declaration was read aloud and then formally presented to Tau by Hawai'i State Representative Colleen Meyer and Legislative Aide Jason Barrett, to hearty audience applause.

Dr. Stagner graciously shared entertaining stories of Tau's world travels to an enraptured interna-



Tau Moe "rides again" on the HSGA stage. No dry eyes in this house...

tional audience. Testimony was also provided by Mr. Barrett. Following the award presentation, Tau proceeded to "Steel the Show" playing a few bars of steel guitar in his unique, personal tuning to the great delight of all.

Immediately following the ceremony, a delicious Hawaiian buffet luncheon was served. It was a wonderful time of re-acquaintance and fellowship, a true sharing of aloha that spanned generations of experiences. "Papa Tau" continued to entertain us throughout the afternoon with many stories of his pioneering world travels. What a day to remember!

From your HSGA staff, a big Mahalo Nui Loa to all for participating in this opportunity to honor Tau Moe and his family, for they are members of Hawai'i's finest. Special thanks to Governor Linda Lingle, Representative Colleen Meyer, and their offices for making this occasion a most memorable one.

Steel Guitar Ho'olaule'a 2003

By Wayne Shishido

On April 27, the Twenty-Second Annual Hawaiian Steel Guitar Ho'olaule'a was held at the Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse in Honolulu. The afternoon event hosted by HSGA drew an estimated crowd of 250 eager steel guitar fans.

This year's concert featured performances by Wayne Shishido, G. Kamaka Tom, Bobby Ingano (with Jeff Au Hoy and Derrick Mau), Hale Seabury-Akaka, Duke Ching, Owana Salazar, "Lion" Kobayashi, L.T. Zinn, Greg Sardinha, Yoshinori Nihachi, and Isaac Akuna. Providing the backup for our musicians this year were Hiram Olsen, Dennis Keohokalole, and Gary Aiko.

The Ho'olaule'a began with warm up music provided by the Bernard Kalua Trio. Bernard Kalua, Clyde Lono, and Aunty Pudgy sang sweetly as DeLys Recca danced hula for the appreciative crowd.

The Hoʻolauleʻa was originally started by Jerry Byrd as a showcase for Hawaiian Steel Guitar. In the early days, it sometimes took some arm twisting to get the old Hawaiian entertainers such as David Keliʻi to take the stage, but come they did to place steel guitar in the spotlight for one day a year. More recently, HSGA has presented this event annually as part of its mission to perpetuate the Hawaiian Steel Guitar and its traditional Hawaiian music.

The moment everyone waited for had arrived... the performers were ready... the Hawaiian Steel Guitar Ho'olaule'a was underway!

This year's lineup included Owana Salazar, a former student of Jerry Byrd, who recently released a CD enti-

Steel Guitar Hoʻolauleʻa "first-timer" Yoshinori Nihachi from Tokyo plays a nice set on his Excel pedal steel guitar.





Bobby Ingano (left) and students Jeff Au Hoy and Derrick Mau show their stuff and have fun with the Ho'olaule'a audience.

tled "Wahine Slack 'n Steel" for which she earned a Nā Hōkū Hanohano award (Hawai'i's version of the Grammys) for Island Contemporary Album of the Year. Owana is an accomplished slack key guitarist as well as one of the few female Hawaiian steel guitarists.

Another highlight of this year's Ho'olaule'a were appearances by Derrick Mau and new HSGA member Jeff Au Hoy with Bobby Ingano. Derrick used Lorene Ruymar's steel guitar instructional book and video to get his start on the instrument. His devotion to the instrument is clear to all who were in attendance. The big "discovery" was Jeff Au Hoy. This University of Redlands graduate is a serious player. He hasn't been playing for long, but shows that he's "got that touch" that players strive for. We're looking forward to hearing more, Jeff.

Making their first appearances at Hoʻolauleʻa were Wayne Shishido and Yoshinori Nihachi. Returning to the show were "Lion" Kobayashi, Bobby Ingano, L.T. "Pilikia" Zinn, Greg Sardinha, Isaac Akuna and this year's Joliet guest artist, Hale Seabury-Akaka.

The Mahalo Nui Award was presented to Tom Ikehata Tohma for his tireless efforts in recruiting new HSGA members. He is a shining example of impeccable musicianship, devotion to the steel guitar, and one of the nicest folks you'll ever meet. A worthy recipient indeed.

Isaac Akuna produced the Ho'olaule'a again this year and did a great job in getting the performers lined up and making site arrangements with the City and County of Honolulu for the venue. The event drew compliments from many, and a directive from Jerry Byrd, "Keep it goin'." Even at his age, Jerry does some mean arm twisting! Just jokin' Jerry...

"It Was a Trip ~ On Wings of Music"

By Lorene Ruymar and Jack Byrd

Jerry Byrd's Autobiography Has Arrived!

Yes!! The book we've been waiting for is here. You have been fans of the Great One through most of your life so you know his story already. Maybe...

In his book, Jerry talks just like he plays: *personally*, to just one reader – you. He talks "from the heart," tells how he felt, even about his spirituality. He takes you to meet the great ones he played with: Red Foley, Ernest Tubb, Hank Williams, Jimmy Wakely, George Morgan, Homer and Jethro, Marty Robbins, Mitch Miller, Chet Atkins, Roy Orbison, Burl Ives, Grandpa Jones, Dolly Parton, and on and on. What an experience!!

As he speaks of each recording, each hit song, he makes you remember what you were doing at that time of your life. Just as you expected, there's plenty of salt in that stew. He can assess a person or sum up a situation in three or four words that make you think, "Yeah!

You said it, Jerry!" Those Jerry-Byrd-isms are not without humor. Wait till you get to the Grandpa Jones section.

OK, to the point. You can order directly from the publisher at:

Centerstream Publishing P. O. Box 17878 Anaheim Hills, CA 92807

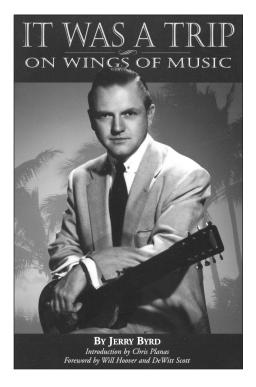
Title: "It Was a Trip ~ On Wings of Music" Size: 6" x 9", 144 pages ISBN: 1-57424-131-1 Price: \$24.95 USA Shipping: \$4 Priority Mail, \$2 Surface Overseas Shipping: \$8 Air Mail (no surface shipping overseas—it takes too long).

Centerstream's distributor in the islands is Booklines Hawai'i and they will also carry and sell the book. Their address is:

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Scholarship student, Glenn Oyama with "Sensei" Jerry and Bernie Endaya on backup.





The book will also be sold by various others such as Scotty's Music and Mele.com. Contact them for details. You can also get a copy from your local bookstore such as Borders or Barnes and Noble. Use the title, ISBN number and publisher when contacting them. They most likely will not carry it in stock but can special order it for you.

Jerry is not selling this book so do not contact him or send him money to buy the book.

We have also received questions concerning how you can obtain Jerry's autograph on the book. This is the procedure Jerry would like for you to follow: After you obtain the book, you can send the book to him and include a padded envelope preaddressed and pre-stamped with the correct return postage. He will personalize the book and return it to you using your enclosed envelope. Again, don't forget to include the return postage. His address is:

Jerry Byrd P. O. Box 15026 Honolulu, HI 96830

Hawaiian Steel at Scotty's!

By Gerald Ross

Scotty's steel guitar convention in St. Louis has featured some of the world's finest steel guitarists during its thirty-two year history. Many Hawaiian steel guitarists have graced the stage and have been honored at this yearly gathering of close to five thousand musicians and fans. However, in recent years, the pedal steel guitar has been the primary focus of this convention, with traditional non-pedal steel guitar taking a bit of a back seat.

This year on Saturday, August 30 Hawaiian steel guitar will once again be in the spotlight. For those of you longing for the lush, tropical sound of the original steel guitar, we have created a new venue. Dewitt Scott (Scotty) and the Peavey Company have graciously provided a meeting room at the convention's Millennium Hotel complete with stage and PA system. Our plan is to showcase the subtle but complex beauty of steel guitar without pedals. We want to feature the beautiful sounds that can be achieved simply with a steel bar, a few strings, expressive hands, and a lot of heart!



Perennial "fave" L.T. Zinn steps out at this year's Ho'olaule'a.

L.T. Zinn, Doug Smith, Gerald Ross, and Floyd Alexander are planning to perform and provide back-up. John Ely might show up, if he hasn't fled the country again. How about you? Let us know if you'd like to play a few numbers or join in the festivities. For details, contact Doug Smith (steelgtr@erinet.com) at (937) 849-6819, or Gerald Ross (gbross@umich.edu) at (734) 994-0535.



Joliet 2003 Notes

From Joliet Chairman, Don Weber

It's that time again! More guaranteed fun and "no sleep." This year's Honored Guest is Hale Seabury-Akaka. Fill out the forms included with your *Quarterly* as soon as possible. Don't miss out!

Convention Registration

The Joliet Convention Fee is \$20 per person. Please mail by September 1 to Alma Pfeifer, 1110 Sheila Drive, Joliet, IL 60435.

Hotel Reservation

Your reservation must be *received* by the Holiday Inn Express before September 1. After that date the rooms being held for HSGA will be released to the general public and are no longer guaranteed to be available. Send in your reservation form enclosed with your newsletter or from the HSGA website. You may also call the hotel directly at (815) 729-2000. Make sure to tell them you are with HSGA to get the

Hale Seabury-Akaka, this year's Joliet Honored Guest, playing at the steel guitar Ho'olaule'a this past May.



special room rate. A free, daily buffet breakfast is included with your room cost.

Lunch and Dinner

All lunches and dinners are *on your own*. They are NOT included in your registration fee. We are not planning any group dinners at any time during the convention including Wednesday evening.

Member Playing Time Slots

Your playing time is no longer than 30 minutes including set-up time. Whether you are a first-time or a longtime attendee/performer, we need your registration. We cannot make up a program list if we don't know who is coming and who wants to perform. No matter who you are, if Alma Pfeifer doesn't get your registration, you will not have a spot on the program. The sooner you register the better. You will be awarded a playing slot in the order your registration is received. When all the slots are filled, we will put you on a standby list. Last minute registrations are not guaranteed a playing time.

Limousine Service

Reserve your limo from the airport in advance. You can also schedule your return trip at that time. Call Cox Livery Service at (815) 741-0583 or Plainfield Limousine at (815) 436-1713. Give them your airline, flight number, arrival time, and arrival airport (Midway or O'Hare). When you arrive get your luggage *first*, then call the toll-free number provided by the limo service for further instructions.

Vendors and Seminars

We do not have specific information on vendors or workshops at this time. We do have some experienced professionals attending and we may be able to draft someone on an impromptu basis to conduct a "question and answer" session. We have experts in many areas, which could evolve into a variety of workshops or group activities. Some possibilities might include steel for beginners, Hawaiian language, hula, an instrument builders forum, slack key guitar, rhythm guitar, leimaking, or the Alkire E-Harp to name a very few! Keep in mind that these kinds of activities are usually unplanned and just happen.

Jam Sessions

We plan to hold the jam sessions this year in the old restaurant area where the vendors are set up during the day. It will be a chance to get out of the big room to a more intimate and relaxed setting.

Joliet Schedule

Wednesday, October 1

Check in. Talk story. Go to dinner.

Thursday, October 2

9:00 to 9:30 – Opening Ceremonies 9:30 to Noon – Music Sessions Noon to 1:30 – Lunch (on your own)

1:30 to 6:00 – Music Sessions 8:00 to ???? – Music Sessions (if needed) and Jam session

Friday, October 3

9:00 to 10:00 – Annual Meeting 10:00 to Noon – Music Sessions Noon to 1:30 – Lunch (on your own)

1:30 to 6:00 – Music Sessions 8:00 to ???? – Steel Guitar Seminar followed by Jam Session.

Saturday, October 4

9:00 to Noon – Music Sessions Noon to 1:30 – Lunch (on your own)

1:30 to 3:00 – Music Sessions 5:30 to 7:00 – Cash Bar, More

5:30 to 7:00 – Cash Bar, Merchants Row Room.

7:00 to 8:00 – Saturday Lū'au 8:00 to ???? - Lū'au Show and time for aloha

Up and Coming...

By Lorene Ruymar

The first graduate student of my steel guitar course went on stage at the Honolulu convention and showed us what he can do. He is **Derrick Mau**. After he finished my course, Derrick went to Bobby Ingano for professional-level coaching and is now playing an original frypan in C6th. I was very proud to present him with a graduation certificate that stated: "This is to certify that Derrick Mau has successfully completed the Hawaiian Steel Guitar course and henceforth shall be known to all and sundry as Great Prestidigitator of the Picks, Prognosticator of Peripatetic Steel Bar Moves, Prevaricator of Lyrics, and Kamehameha of the Kīkā Kila."

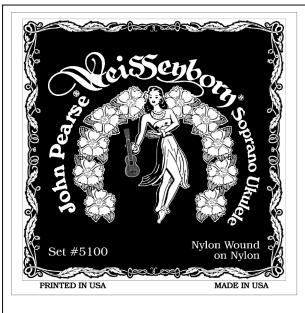
Vivian Bangs is the one who discovered Derrick and suggested that I might provide him with a course. The rest is history. Derrick has the "touch" and the enthusiasm. He's definitely on the way.

There was another new young one who plays extremely well – **Jeff Au Hoy**. Also, two students of



A nice shot of Vivian Bangs (left), steel guitar course graduate Derrick Mau, and course creator Lorene Ruymar.

Jerry's went on stage and showed their stuff. They are our scholarship students, **Glenn Oyama** and **William Weichert**, and Jerry backed them on rhythm guitar at the Honolulu Convention playing sessions.



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MEMBERS' CORNER

Bruce and Lynn Murray, New Zealand

Each year our local Council has a Festival of Lights, which runs for twelve weeks (during our summer months, December through February) at Pukekura Park, a well-known New Zealand icon. Our group played three shows including a special afternoon performance attended by over 200 residents of local rest homes. They were all clapping hands and tapping feet. I think we took them back in time.

Our group, The Sounds of Aloha, includes Bruce Murray, Jim Hassall, and Lou Piriahu all on steel guitar, Nola Batchelor on rhythm guitar, Pete Faamai on bass, and Bill Turner on 'ukulele. We were lucky to have Pete's four daughters to provide the vocals—the family is from Samoa and gives the island flavor to our group.

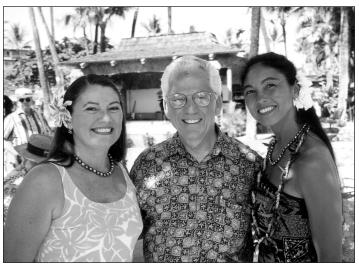
The park is lit with colored lights throughout and has a large lake surrounded by trees. Our music drifted through the trees and over the lake and was enjoyed by many. Many hundreds of people walk this park every night because it is free.

Our music was a variety of Hawaiian, Samoan, and Maori. On our last performance filmed by our local TV station, people just stopped and blocked the path staring at the steel guitar. We hope to do this next summer as steel guitar and Hawaiian music are not often heard in this part of the world.

Warren Slavin, Southampton, PA

I enjoyed the trip to Maui. I have been there several times but always have a new experience when I'm there. The hospitality at the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel

Enjoying the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel on the Maui trip: (left to right) Owana Salazar, Warren Slavin, and hula dancer Wainani.





Member Bruce Murray from New Plymouth, New Zealand playing a Frypan at the Honolulu Convention playing sessions.

was great and I think all had a good time. We enjoyed performing and the luncheon was great. The Lū'au at the Kreider's "up country" home was very entertaining and enjoyable. Also getting to see the Hale Makua home and talk to some of the residents and give them some music was a nice gesture on part of HSGA. A big *Mahalo Nui Loa* to all who contributed to the success of the Maui excursion.

Bernie Magness, Grass Valley, CA

Aloha! It really touched my heart to see the bit about the Grass Valley 'haole boy' in the last newsletter. It really made me feel like a part of [the club]. I am writing about some thoughts I had and if they sound a little far-fetched I will understand.

I was thinking about a junior ho'olaule'a so the young students could have a day to perform, not on the grand scale of a hotel show but a scaled-down one at a park perhaps with volunteers, lū'au food, and a chance for everyone to play. It would only take a donation of \$10 or \$20 from each HSGA member to make it happen—not a big financial burden for anyone.

I know I would have enjoyed something like that when I was young and learning. I believe it would keep a lot of them sticking to their ambition and help showcase new students. I believe it would also help if the young ones were invited to play a couple of numbers at clubs where the professionals play. Again I hope it doesn't sound too far-fetched. People who have "made it" should always remember their own beginnings of struggle, frustration, and dreams. If this idea sounds viable, I will donate to help. Much aloha to all.

Chris Kennison, Fort Collins, CO

Thanks for organizing the convention in Honolulu! We had a wonderful time. I appreciated the chance to play and learn from all the others there. Stuart Yoshida ('ukulele) and I had a blast. Check out our band web site (www.book-em-danno.com) for some recent news items. We're getting the Hawaiian steel guitar out there in front of people in Colorado as well as sharing Hawaiian music.

Tom Hurley, Francestown, NH

[ED: Tom is a new HSGA member. Welcome aboard!] I've been to Hawai'i eight times, the latest in February of this year. I lived in Maui the winter of 1980. A lifelong lover of the Hawaiian steel sound, I've recently started to learn. I have a 1952 Fender Dual Professional 8-string—killer tone! I'm a rank beginner but I'm in love with the voice of the instrument. I also play electric, lead, rhythm, and bass guitar. I've got a '63 Strat.

I'm looking forward to info [from the newsletter and members]. I had the great fortune of taking a couple of lessons from the great Henry Allen on Maui. What a great guy and player! *Mahalo* and hang loose.

Continued on Page 12



Fort Collins member Chris Kennison playing steel with Colorado cohort Stuart Yoshida on 'ukulele.

Did You Pay Your 2003-2004 Annual Dues?

This is your FINAL issue if your mailing label still shows "X 6/03" under your address. Dues are \$30, which includes First Class delivery (Air Mail overseas). Renew today! Don't miss out on the latest info on Hawaiian Steel Guitar, including news, instruction, and lots of photos.



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Dale Nightwine, Kansas City, KS

Aloha from East Kansas. On Saturday, February 22, our jam session group played at a supermarket anniversary celebration. Their theme was "Hawai'i and the Caribbean" and they were giving away a free vacation trip.

We played Hawaiian with a mix of old standards, western swing, and country. We set up the equipment in the store's restaurant and it worked very well. Mary Bichelmeyer set up the sound system for our performance. Our group of five includes: Dick Land who plays steel and dobro; Frankie Kay who plays steel, guitar, dobro, and sings; Bill Clark on bass guitar and harmonica; George Davis on guitar and vocals; and myself playing steel and dobro. Mary played bass while Bill played harmonica.

We observed some ladies dancing around the salad bar and produce bins. There were not any grass skirts or bare feet—the outside temperature was around 18 degrees Fahrenheit!

We all had a good time. We had some laughs, saw some smiley faces, and heard some kind remarks. We may get to perform again at next year's event. Thanks to all the above named musicians and singers.

Bill Rhyne, Richmond, CA

While I was at the Honolulu Convention, I talked to Kamaka Tom about the various conventions in Joliet and in Indiana. Several years ago Jimmy Hawton hosted one in Napa that I attended, but it was never repeated that I know of.

Kamaka said that there probably would be interest in having one in California so I told Saichi Kawahara yesterday about the idea as we were playing a gig at the Holiday Inn in Chinatown (San Francisco). This hotel has hosted many Hawaiian-themed shows such as the Cazimero Brothers and Frank De Lima, so they cater to the Hawai'i fans. It is located in the center of San Francisco in Chinatown next to the Financial District and North Beach. Our band, The Kapalakiko Hawaiian Band, plays locally in 4 different Hawaiian-themed restaurant/bars in San Francisco so there is a growing Hawaiian music fanbase of transplanted Hawaiians and local Californians.

HSGA enthusiasts going to such a convention could take a taxi or shuttle to the hotel, so they would not need to drive or park. It might also bring out the newer California-based Hawaiian steel guitarists that may be lurking around or trying to figure out how to play the instrument. Saichi knows the people at the Holiday Inn and the local halaus so he is a good source of informa-



Dale Nightwine and group jam at a local supermarket! (left to right) Frankie Kay, Dale, Bill Clark, George Davis, and Mary Bichelmeyer. Not pictured is steelman Dick Land. Fun!

tion and help. He said to contact him if we want to try this. [ED: You can reach Saichi at (415) 468-7125; Email: <halemele@aol.com>.]

Yesterday, one of the staff commented on how slow business is at the hotel (as it is elsewhere in San Francisco) so there may be the opportunity to negotiate good rates for the event if someone moves on the idea. They have a large hall, restaurant, and lounge similar to the Queen Kapi'olani.

That is my two cents! If I can help, let me know.

Buck Giles, Hollywood, CA

I'm enjoying a job opportunity in Laughlin, Nevada and am saddened to say I am unable to attend this year's Honolulu Convention. I am certain this year's will as fun-filled and entertaining as so many before. I will be relocating from Los Angeles to Hawai'i the end of May and releasing my debut album called "The Essential Resophonics." On my return I hope to reconnect with the Association to give any support I may offer. Until then I will be playing my steel guitar and 'ukulele on the sandy banks of the Colorado River. *Mahalo nui* and see you soon.

Corrections: We goofed on some spellings in Harold Sampson's member letter in the last issue. His instructor's name is Leticia Kandle, and the conductor of the Chicago Plectro-Phonics Orchestra was Jack Lundin, Sr. Thanks, Harold.

Attention, Members with Email!

Please check our email directory and let us know if your email is NOT correct. Go to: <www.hsga.org/online/directory.html>. Email corrections to hsga@lava.net AND gbross@umich.edu.



At our May Honolulu Convention, we had a spectacular turnout of members from Japan, the United Kingdom, Northern Europe, and the South Seas. Just a few of our attendees from Japan: (left to right) Yoshinori Nihachi (steel), Isao Etoh (bass), Sam Shinagawa (guitar), T. Okamura (guitar), Reiko Sakamoto (vocal), Mark Onodera (uke), Koji Furutachi (falsetto vocal), Yasu Kuramata (uke), Sadao Satoh (bass). All except Nihachi and guest, T. Okamura, are new members. Wow!

COCO WIRE

Keith Haugen won a Hawai'i Music Award for Best Patriotic Album of the Year for his CD "Lest We Forget." Member **Gordon Freitas** wrote two songs on the CD and co-wrote a third. Keith and member **Carmen Haugen** got another award for Single of the Year, which featured "'O Ka Lei La'i/Pua Karauna" and "Ke Ali'i Wahine Aloha."

From Lorene: "As many of you now know, a special presentation was made to **Tau Moe** on our HSGA convention stage at the Queen Kapi'olani. And *then*, believe it or not, Tau played Duke's steel guitar for us. He was a bit unsteady at first but grew in confidence and strength as he proceeded. His timing and pitch were perfect as always and the melody quite clear. Yes, it was chicken skin and wet-eyes time in the audience that day! Tau told me he hopes to live to be a hundred years old and I'm a-thinkin' he'll do it."

Rumor has it that **Greg Sardinha** is hard at work on the third volume of his Hawaiian Steel Guitar series... something about a "Byrd's Nest." Hmm. We'll try to catch him for details at his next "board" meeting.



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Shostakovich Suite "Lionized"

Isn't it strange how random events seem to happen all at once? In the last issue, we included what we thought was an interesting but obscure item on a classical steel guitar work written by the great Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich. Now, a couple of months later, our own "Lion" Kobayashi gets the call to perform this piece with the Tokyo Orchestra! Here's Lion to tell you all about it:

The telephone rang on the night of May 6 when I returned from the HSGA Honolulu Convention. It was the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra asking me if I would like to play the Hawaiian Guitar part of the Shostakovich Suite No. 1. It was very short notice; I would join the rehearsal the next day, and on the day after that do the run-throughs with the concert that same night. What I would play was a part of the third movement entitled "Jazz" (the first movement is entitled "Waltz" and the second movement, "Polka" where even a banjo joins in!)

Unfortunately my calendar was blank for both days and I could come up with no sensible reason to decline the offer. In fact, throughout my career of 40 odd years as a studio musician I had never played classical music in the classical fashion, although over the last several years I have had a couple of offers to play with a classical orchestra but did not take them due to schedule conflicts.

Boy, it was an eye-popping experience! At the rehearsal I found that the right timing to start picking a note was when the conductor moved the baton up after it was once brought down. You know how we start playing Jazz or Pop—with the "downbeat," right? So I was lost keeping up with the melody: I used to sing ('Lion howls'??) the score in Do, Re, Mi while I play. This time I failed to sing because the melody of my part started in the key of Ab and stayed in Ab, but halfway through it sounded like it modulated to a different key. To solve this problem I had to memorize every bar position as a novice player would do rather than reading the score and "howling."

At certain places in the score, I was directed to pick a note and down-gliss by five frets *without* picking the last note. I had to be very precise on the pitch of the last note. It was as if you skated backward on ice and had to stop at the exact spot without looking at it.

As such, you can easily imagine that the rehearsal was a disaster. But "Lion" didn't sleep either night and fully memorized each and every note of the twenty-one



Kiyoshi "Lion" Kobayashi and student Ayako Matsufuji playing a duet together on our Honolulu Convention stage.

measures, including phrasing details. It was not only a technical challenge but I had to go through three sessions while the jet lag was still bugging me.

How was the concert? Well, I only felt the tuxedo was a little too tight when I sat before the Excel pedal steel guitar...

By the way, on May 23 at Kamakura Japan there was a Hawaiian Hula Music Show where Melveen Leed headlined. Other performers from the Islands were Melveen's daughter, the Brandon Hirata Trio, and *Hema Pa'a* featuring Chris Kamaka and Baba Alimoot. I played steel and piano for Melveen and steel for the trio and duo. As for Ms. Leed's Show, you know how tough it is to play along with pre-recorded backup tracks! *Mahalo Nui*, Kiyoshi.

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Closing Notes

We are sorry to learn about the passing of member Art Parelius on May 14, 2003. Art played steel for the Royal Hawaiian Band for many years and also worked Germaine's Lū'au out in Campbell Industrial Park. Vic Rittenband and Nancy Gustafsson report that Art played on their "Ukulele Tree" LP in 1976 along with other recordings they have made. Art was featured on "Memories of Waikīkī's Bandstands" CD, a fundraiser for the Royal Hawaiian Band, which was reviewed in the last issue of the Quarterly.

We are also saddened by the passing of member **Rinus van den Berge** from Rotterdam in the Netherlands. We received a nice notice of thanks for the support and comfort given to his wife Els and the rest of the family.

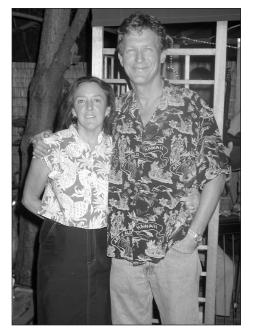
A Maui Mahalo

By Lorene Ruymar

I was afraid this year's convention would be a bust due to SARS and SCARES of all sorts, but our members must have a very good feeling about the club to turn up like they did. I think the number who came from far away places is the best measure of HSGA success and there were plenty who did. We had two from Denmark, 12 from the United Kingdom, one from Singapore, and 30 that we know of from Japan. Unbelievable!

Maui Member Performances

It turned out we had all the music equipment we needed for the Maui gigs and the house sound systems did the job. We did the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel brunch on Sunday



Lū'au hosts Stephen and Gretchen Kreider

morning. Owana Salazar did the emcee and vocalist part and, in general, gave our performances the

Continued on Page 20



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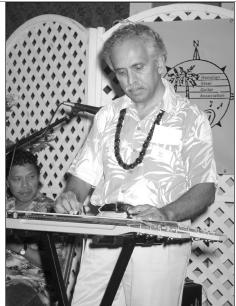


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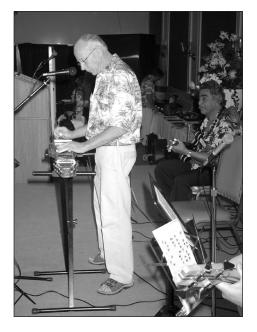
Honolulu Convention Photos

What a turnout from HSGA members across the globe! (Clockwise from upper left) Steel guitar icon, Mitsuo Fujii from Tokyo; Kay Das from the Republic of Singapore; Rolf Hansen all the way from Denmark; From Tokyo, pictured with wife Satsuko, HSGA Vice President Tom Ikehata Tohma, recipient of this year's Mahalo Nui Award; Ron Carter from Whitianga, New Zealand; new member Yoshiko Kawakami from Chiba, Japan dancing during Yoshinori Nihachi's set; and English member Stephen Hancocks.









DISC 'N' DATA



"Wahine Slack 'n Steel" – Owana Salazar

Review by John Ely

It's hard to find the right tone for reviewing a CD that has already made such a splash. Owana's latest release, *Wahine Slack 'n Steel*, got her nominated for four Hōkū awards this year including Female Vocalist of the Year, Album of the Year, and Entertainer of the Year. Owana won the Hōkū for Island Contemporary Album of the Year, but this is not your "garden variety" contemporary Hawaiian recording.

For one thing, there's plenty of steel guitar throughout. And Owana's reverence for Hawaiian music tradition is apparent as she moves effortlessly between steel guitar, slack key, and her role as vocalist—a rare skill these days. In fact over half of the recording is just Owana plus an upright bass player, with Owana playing slack-key solos or accompanying her voice and backing up her own steel guitar solos with slack-key style rhythm.

Owana juggles a wide range of material on *Wahine Slack 'n Steel* with lots of musical surprises. She blends the traditional "Hi'ilawe" with "Waterfall" – yes, the Jimi

Hendrix tune! She includes contemporary material from Dennis Kamakahi ("Kou Aloha Mau A Mau") and Matt Beamer ("Kawela Bay") along with material more familiar to HSGA members such as "Hula Blues" and "Makee 'Ailana" plus an original composition "Kapalua," which has a nice rolling rhythm and some cool bass playing by John Koko.

Owana plays a Jerry Byrd arrangement of "Kohala Moon" (a song written by John Ka'imikaua that has never been recorded, by the way) and ends the recording with a nice version of "How D'ya Do." The overall feel of the CD is open without clutter, which gives Owana the opportunity to milk everything she can out of those melodies (and that JB Frypan). *Nahenahe!*

The CD is wonderfully packaged with extensive liner notes and tasteful artwork complete with music credits and background information on all of the songs. Very nice.

You can order the CD on the internet at Owana's website: www. owanasalazar.com. The price of the CD is \$15.98 plus shipping. I checked the website and domestic shipping is \$3.50; international shipping, \$4.50.

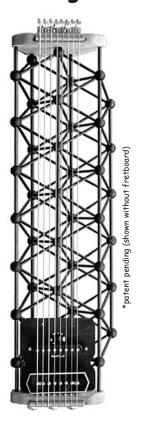
You can also order directly from Owana at the following address (this option is only for folks who cannot order online):

Owana Salazar P. O. Box 11435 Lahaina, Hawaii 96761

Please make your check payable to Owana and allow up to two weeks for delivery. The price including shipping is:

\$20 per CD ordered in the USA \$22 for orders in Canada \$25 for orders in Japan.

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Ho'olaule'a 2003 Photos

(Clockwise from upper left) Greg Sardinha, Isaac "Doc" Akuna, crooner Gary Aiko on uke, Duke Ching, Wayne Shishido, Owana Salazar, and President G. Kamaka Tom. Other Ho'olaule'a steel guitar performers (pictured elsewhere) include Hale Seabury-Akaka, L.T. "Pilikia" Zinn, Bobby Ingano, Derrick Mau, Jeff Au Hoy, Yoshinori Nihachi, plus backup musicians Hiram Olsen, Dennis Keohokalole, warm up entertainers Bernard Kalua, Clyde Lono, Aunty Pudgy, and dancers DeLys Recca and Gloria Murawski.









HSGA Donations

HSGA members really came through in record fashion this past spring. Thanks to all who "stepped up to the plate!" **John and Millie Tipka, Lindon Stoddart**, and new member **William Weichert** all made generous donations of \$100. **Ruth Martin** donated \$100 towards the Scholarship Fund in celebration of member Mr. and Mrs. Donald Sweatman's fiftieth anniversary. *Mahalo!*

Betty and Bo' Bahret made donations in loving memory of Betty's Aunt Pauline Harrington and their friend Florence Ichinose.

Buck Giles was unable to attend the convention but wanted us to keep the fee as a donation. Sig and Jean Vogel were also unable to attend and donated part of the conventon fee to our General Fund. Doug Smith overpaid for the convention and donated the excess to our General Fund.

A *lot* of members made donations this time! The following members donated at least \$10:

Clifford and Barbara Adams, Huntington Station, NY Eddy and Nora Boon Von Ochssee, Largo, FL Vinton K. Castro, Hana, HI Jerry and Arlene Cotterell, Idaho Falls, Sadaaki Kudoh, Tokyo, Japan Bernie Magness, Grass Valley, CA Ryoji and Setsuko Oguri, Toyohashi, Yoshiaki Otake, Sapporo, Japan Joanne Parker, Lansing, MI Russell and Beth Parks, Tulsa, OK Lawrence Pulaski, Lockport, IL Charles Rambo, Arlington, VA Capt. Ivan and Doris Reddington, Lakeland, FL Bill and Kay Rickles, Poway, CA Greg and Sandra Sardinha, Kailua, HI Robert and Marjorie Schenk, Simi Valley, CA Jim Thomas, Ben Lomond, CA Kilipaki Vaughan, Honolulu, HI Donald and Donna Weber, New Lenox, IL

Don Woods, Grand Rapids, MI

INTERNET NEWS

New Performers Web Page

Are you a Hawaiian Steel Guitarist or a member of a Hawaiian band that performs in your area? Would you like the world to know about you? In an effort to promote live Hawaiian steel guitar performances throughout the world, and to make the HSGA website the "place to go" for organizations seeking Hawaiian steel music, a new web page has been added to the HSGA web (www.hsga.org). This page lists HSGA members who perform for casual functions, parties, clubs, or music festivals.

The page is organized by geographical region and lists a brief description plus contact information. Current membership in the HSGA is required to be listed. Send listings to hsga@lava.net or gbross@umich.edu or by "snail mail" to Gerald Ross, P. O. Box 3245, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

New Forum Location

We solved the forum glitch and have moved our forum back to Lavanet. Point your browser to: www.lava.net/~hsga/forum/forum.html

Member Email Updates

A complete email update will be posted on our website by the time you receive your *Quarterly*. Go to: www.hsga.org/online/directory.html
This is going to be the best way to get the latest email addresses.

Email Gerald or the office (see above) to let us know about changes to your email. Report forum problems directly to John at: johnely@hawaiiansteel.com



MAUI MAHALO Cont. from Page 15

professional touch that was needed. On Monday morning we did the KNUI-AM radio show with Deejay Kopa'a Tita (Liz Morales). I was interviewed to tell the story of Joseph Kekuku and talk about my Hawaiian Steel Guitar book. Then we ran over to the Hale Makua seniors home in Kahului. Mahalos to Theresa from the *Hale Makua Foundation* and her director, Carlayna Nakamura.

Monday Evening Lū'au

We had planned our own private lū'au but hadn't the foggiest idea where we'd hold it. Jerry Byrd student, Stephen Kreider, offered the use of his place. It was a 20-mile drive out into the Kula district to three acres of paradise high on top of a hill where we could see the distant mountains across the valley!

Stephen and Gretchen have landscaped it with beautiful gardens and instead of a house they have satellite units connected by walkways. It was about as natural and beautiful as you can imagine. Right now it belongs in 'Ripley's Believe It Or Not'.

The Kreiders' friends joined with us: singers, dancers, guitarists, and entertainers of all sorts. They had a little stage with guitars and amps for our use, and the music kept flowing. If every talented person there had had a chance on stage it would have lasted a week. Their Kumu Hula, Gordean Bailey, was the featured dancer for Johnny Noble's band in the Monarch Room of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel when she was just 17 years old.

Mahalo plenty to Maui residents Pi'ilani DePorter and Alfed "Alapa'i" Nip for helping to coordinate the Maui events and thanks to KPOA and Liz Morales for all of their *kokua* (help). Kudos go to

E komo mai! Welcome, New Members

Is your address correct? Please notify us!

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TATSUO OMATA, 411 Hobron Lane #2903, Honolulu, HI 96815
KILIPAKI VAUGHAN, 2124 Kaloa Way, Honolulu, HI 96822

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lū'au hosts Stephen Kreider and 'ohana (extended family). That enchanted evening at Pāpipi Place might have been the high point of the entire convention.

HSGA Vice-President Tom Ikehata Tohma writes, "Setsuko and I have visited Maui many times; this trip was the most enjoyable we've ever had. Princess Owana Salazar was so nice, and we all had a wonderful time at the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel where the lunch was extremely good thanks to Manager Tom Fairbanks. Special thanks from the Masami Sato group to Alan Akaka who kindly arranged the Center Stage Ala Moana performance. Our heartfelt "Arigato" from Tokyo to all we met in Maui and all who helped arrange this wonderful occasion."