

Q. Where were you in the family?

A. I'm number seven.

Q. Henry was the oldest, then Evelyn, then Lim Tim, then Yuk Lan, then Ah Sam, then Helen--the one that owns Sun Sun Lau--then me, then Robert, then Everest.

Q. How come some of you have Chinese names, and some have English names?

A. I don't know. But they all have Chinese names, too. Like Evelyn, we always called her Evelyn.

Q. I wanted to ask you about the school down at Kalapana. Was it one big room for all of the classes?

A. Yes.

Q. So many classes did you have?

A. Three classes. And one teacher teaches three classes.

Q. That was from what grade to what grade?

A. One teacher taught first grade through 3 grade, and another 4th grade through 6th grade.

Q. Did all the students continue school like you did?

A. No. Most of them dropped out.

Q. And the ones that did finish school with you, do you still see them nowadays?

Q. Yes. Herman Ah Yo. My sister in law, Virginia Enos. She's from Kalapana. She works for St. Joseph School, and I think she went to Kamehameha for one year. She works at the St. Joseph School cafeteria. That's about all. The rest all didn't go to school.

Q. They just stayed down and started working.

A. Yes. Some of them did well, too.

Q. What kinds of jobs did they do?

A. Well, like Edmond and Willie, they worked for a construction company. They drive cranes and stuff like that. I don't know how they learned, but they do.

Q. Edmond who?

A. Edmond Kawaloa and Willie Kawaloa. I think Willie worked for Oda, I don't know. And Edmond, I don't know, some kind of construction.

Q. And these were classmates of yours?

A. Yes. That Willie Kawaloa is the one whose wife teaches Hawaiiana. She's very good at it. Minnie Kawaloa. She works for the National Park Service. She was chosen to go to Washington, D.C.

Q. Yes, I remember reading about it in the paper.

A. But I heard that she will not give out information like this. She don't want any interviews. She doesn't want anybody to know, because they might steal her job or something like that.

Q. That's too bad.

A. Yes. She's very good at Hawaiiana. She was tutoring my daughter, too. But she's from a different place, not from Kalapana. Willie is from Kalapana. I think she's from Opihikao side, but I think she's an Elder girl. I think she's in charge of everything. My daughter says if I want to go work I can weave fans and stuff. At home she has a contract from somebody that she has to make so many like that. So I said, oh I'm out of practice I don't know if I could. You see, I used to weave place mats and all that kind of stuff for commercial. That was what I used to do when I was home.

Q. You taught your daughters?

Q. No, my daughter doesn't know, but my granddaughter does. She learned in school. And they teach it real good; they use clothes pins and pin 'em so that they don't dangle here and there like now

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we did. And I could make mats and stuff, so they keep telling me make mat make mat. My old house I did, I made the hallway and then I made a mat, too.

Q. That must take a long time.

A. Yes, but my husband used to help me. He would gather the lauhalau and clean them. But you have to pound them. That's why, and strip it. And he used to make the needle for me and the strips. Now that I have to do it myself it's harder. (more on lauhala, omitted)

Q. What kind of toys did you play with when you were a little girl?

A. Gee, we didn't have toys. We made our own dolls. We'd get some kind of head, a stick with a head on it, and wrap it around with cloth.

Q. What kinds of games did you play?

A. Oh we played hopscotch a lot. We used a stone to, you know, draw. And we played jacks. We always had jacks. We didn't play puzzles or stuff like that. And we used kakalioa, to play like marbles. We had marbles, too, but we played kakalioa, too. That's about it.

Q. When you were going to St. Joseph School did you board?

A. Yes, I stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Beck. Later on, then, we stayed with Mrs. Kainoa.

Q. Just during the week?

A. No all the time.

Q. So when did you go home?

A. Only on vacations.

Q. Did you like St. Joseph's.

A. Yes.

Q. Were you active in church?

A. Yes. And the family we lived with, we had to go to church every Sunday, every holiday or vacation, and we lived far, you know, three or four miles, and we had to walk to church. We walked home. Wainaku side, way down there.

Q. How about in Kalapana?

A. There it wasn't so far, just to the end of the road.

Q. Did the church have lots of activities?

A. No.

Q. You only went to church on Sundays.

A. Yes, and at Christmas time.

Q. What did your father do?

A. He raised cows and had a meat market and stuff like that.

Q. He had a meat market in Kalapana?

A. Yes. Once a week, I think, he slaughtered a cow.

Q. That was his business, a meat market?

A. Yes.

Q. And you folks raised cows in Kalapana?

A. And he buyed from people. I think it was only \$20 a cow.

Q. Did your mom have to go up there and help him?

A. No, my mother never went into the fields. She only cooked.

Q. Baked. Dried fish.

A. And watched the store.

Q. Did your mom sell any of the vegetables that she grew in her garden?

A. No. See my mother never planted vegetables. My auntie planted.

Q. So her vegetables were only for the family?

A. Yes.

Q. You said that the Hawaiians brewed their own drinks. Was this beer or hard liquor?

A. Beer. And then they made their own soda, too, root beer. My

cousin made that. And my mother made it, too, I think. It was good root beer. I remember. We stored it in a cool place for several days. It came in good sized bottles.

Q. Who else besides your family had high respect for the ^{lei} Kahikis?

A. Lots of people around there, because they made the herbs and stuff.

Q. Who else do you remember who went to them?

A. The Hauanios, the Kamelamelas.

Q. They were respected by a lot of people, then.

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember what kind of herbs he had?

A. I know his famous one was the kowali root. And the jo kawi. Pound the leaves. Those days they never did boil them. They pound, they squeeze. And they use the moni. ← noni?

Q. What did they use that for?

A. They squeezed the juice and you drink it. It was good for asthma and stuff like that. It was hard to drink you know. And for coughs they made one real famous. The husband made it. ihi, popolo, sugar cane, I think that's all. And you pound them together and squeeze them. My husband always talked about that one. And you drink them for several days. And the longer you keep them in the ice box the harder it was to drink.

Q. Do you remember if they used the guava shoot?

A. Yes, they used the guava shoot, too. Some they boiled them, some they pounded.

Q. Do you remember any others?

A. The olena.

Q. You said they never accepted money, but you folks used to give them gifts. Like what kind of gifts?

A. Mostly it was food. Whatever food we had.

Q. You didn't have to take anything special, then? Do you know if there are any Kahikis still living? A. Well, the three daughters are dead. They died pretty old, too. And one of the sons is dead, too. They have a lot of grandchildren.

Q. Do you know the grandchildren?

A. There's Nona. She's married, I don't know her last name. And there's one up here--Mrs. Martin. She lives up here. That's his great grand daughter.

Q. What's her first name?

A. Nona. ~~Lee~~ Kaipō. The granddaughter. Mrs. Hauanio. I don't remember Mrs. Martin's first name.

Q. How about sons or grandsons?

A. I don't remember the boys names? But there's Anna Cordeiro. She was Anna Lee. This was my niece. And Lee Lam Kamakua. And Lee Kaopuiki. These are all great grandchildren of the Kahikis. And Mrs. Pakele. Eunice I think. She lives up in Waimea, now. Grand daughter. That's about all.

Q. They all live in Hilo?

A. Yes, and there's Peter Lee. He lives in Waimea. A grandson. They just had a reunion, the Kahiki family. I think last month, about a month. It's good to know when they have a reunion, they find out who's related to who. When my husband's family had a reunion, we found out that he's related to the Akamu family in Ka'au.

Q. Mrs. Akamu? The school teacher?

A. The Old lady.

Q. Rebecca? She's still alive?

A. Yes, she's a very old lady now.

- Q. In Kalapana when you were growing up if they had anybody who was kind of charge, you know, of meetings of the Kalapana people?
- A. Yes, Gabriel Pe'a. He went to Hilo every Saturday. His job was to gather ophihi. He always went on horseback. They called it apua, between Kalapana and Volcano. He was the only one who used to go, and he took bags of ophihi.
- Q. So he was the one who ran all the meetings?
- A. Yes. He told the people all what to do and what not to do.
- Q. Kind of like politics today.
- A. Yes. He was a nice man.
- Q. He was the only one?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What kind of meetings did they have?
- A. Mostly church meetings. They didn't have community meetings. Now they have community meetings, and my daughter is secretary. To fix the parks up, that kind of thing.
- Q. Was everybody in Kalapana about the same in status? Or did you folks have different groups you know, like people who were a little more important because they had their own businesses?
- A. Yes. Like the Pe'as.
- Q. The Pe'as were well to do, then? They had a lot of land?
- A. Yes. And then you know my father, folks, too, were pretty good?
- Q. They had the store and land?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Well, let's see.
- A. The Pe'a father was always in charge, you see they used to drive hundreds and hundreds of goats. From the National Park. And they made a fence and kept all the goats over there. (Wild goats). The meat was free to just take. And my brothers used to go and cut all the tongues, because the Hawaiians didn't eat the tongues, and my father used to help them skin them, and then they would dry the meat to make jerky. For a couple of weeks they would go like that every day.

A. After they drove goats they drove wild horses. And they used to come to our house and put in our back yard, because we had a corral and all that kind. And people would come and buy. My brother used to take care of that. \$20 for one horse. And he managed to sell them all. I never knew there were such things as wild horses. I don't know where they came from, maybe Ka'u side, I don't know. And there were donkeys, too. They used to go and catch, the Hawaiians used to go and catch. And they made jerky. My cousin never brought it home, because didn't allow it. My mother was very particular, she didn't care for those things, so he never brought it home.

Q. She never ate the donkey meat, but did she eat the goat.?

A. Yes, she ate the goat.

Q. How about the horses, did they make jerky from the horses?

A. No, they sold the horses for \$20. And my brother bought a white one, and every time the horse would buck he would fall down. He fell down so many times from that horse.

Q. So, Gabriel Pe'a was the one who got people to do this?

A. Yes.

Q. And then what did they do? They sold all horses and goats and then they divided the money among themselves?

A. Gee, I don't know where the money went to. I think to the National Park. Because they wanted to get rid of the goats. But they wanted the skin or something. But I think Pe'a sold them and then paid the workers--so much a day or so much a goat, I don't know.

Q. Was the Pe'a family a big family?

A. Yes. Their mom was part white. She had beautiful blue eyes. And the father, too, had haole blood. So the children were real fair.

Q. I just remembered, I met one of the Pe'a girls that they had a the gathering they had down at the church.

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Q. You don't think anybody else in Kalapana was as well to do as the Pe'as?

A. Oh yes, the Lee Hongs--Helen Pe'as father in law. They sold salt lemons and mangos.

Q. Who else can you think of?

A. The Ah Hees. They planted taro. Their son is still living--he's 95 I think. They planted taro and taro, they always had taro. You know the big house near the school, made out of tile, that's his.

Q. So not everybody planted taro?

A. Before, they did. But not nowadays.

Q. When you were little?

A. They did, all the Hawaiians had a patch. Everybody in the mountains when they go to Royal Gardens, they call it poepoe, or something. They had beautiful places, and this man used to bring big bananas, so healthy, and taro, by the bags. They'd bring to the house and give us. They give you, you know. Akuna, was his name. He was retired; he couldn't work, so he planted up in Royal Gardens--Popo they call that place. I heard that place isn't sold.

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Q. Were the wealthy people much different from the rest of them?

A. No. They were about the same, because they all had food. They all raised pigs and chickens, stuff like that. And they all went down to the sea and got what they wanted. Ophihi. And they went

U/ fishing. And some went diving. They always throw net. And they always have poi. Once or twice a week they made poi. And they plant vegetables or whatever. But you know Hawaiians, they don't eat much vegetables. And they had breadfruit, and they made poi from the breadfruit. Lots of breadfruit. Everybody had a tree in their yard. And avocados.

Q. How did it happen that Gabriel Pe'a was more in charge. How did he get that way?

A. Gee, I don't know. I don't know if he was well educated. The sisters all went to college, like Helen and her oldest sister--she almost became a sister, but she got married. But those days after you got married and had babies you didn't go back to college. The three girls went to college, and they had one brother who was adopted, his name was Kini, and he was well to do, too, and he went to Honolulu and I think he went to school and he got a good job down there. And they had one more brother, somewhere, I don't know where he is.

Q. So not all of the families were able to send their children to college.

A. No, but the Pe'as did, because the mother weaved and stuff, and the father always did all kinds of work. And then Gabriel always gathered ophio and made money.

Q. Only the Pe'as sent their children to college?

A. Yes. But my sister went to school; she was a cafeteria manager--Evelyn.

Q. Were there ever any fires in Kalapana while you were there?

A. No, I don't remember any.

Q. Mrs. Pe'a used to teach weaving. She made mats for people. She taught weaving at the school; I remember taking lessons from her.

Q. Was it hard to weave?

A. No.

Q. After the children went to college, did they come home?

A. Every summer.

Q. Did they come home to live after they graduated?

A. No.

Q. They never came back to live? They all moved away?

A. No. My sister was in Honolulu all the time. She was a cafeteria manager. You had to go to school 3 or 4 years to be that. Then they got married in Honolulu and stuff like that. Like the Kekahuna family. They had sons and daughters they all moved to Honolulu, and had families, and they have entertainers, the Kekahunas. They're all my husband's relatives. And the troupe Kalapana, they're all from Kalapana, too. And even Zulu, too. His mother lives in Kalapana. They call her Emma Stone, but her name is Emma Kauhi. She's hapa-haole. Zulu was born in Honolulu, but his mom was born and raised in Kalapana. She went to the mainland and became a nurse, and then after she retired she came home to live, so she built a house in Kalapana. She was a Ligerman (sp.?), but I think her mother married her father, a Stone. Stone was a tax assessor, in Hilo. He had a ranch in Kalapana, and he met this lady, and they had the daughter, Emma. They always called her Emma Stone, but she used to go under Konanui, because she was illegitimate. In the end the real mother died, and he was very sick and he married Emma's mother, and so she became Stone. So the estate is mostly her and the brother. So Zulu has one part haole. He lived

in Kalapana for quite awhile running around. Because he was entertaining in Maui and every weekend he came home to stay with his mother.

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Q. Of all the people you grew up with in Kalapana, are any of them still there?

A. Yes, Emma Stone is one. Mrs. Kelihomalu. She went away when she got married to Honolulu, and then when they got retired she came back. They built a home way up on the hill, a nice house. I think the daughter works at the old folks home, but the mother is still in Kalapana. She was a Kalapana girl, and her husband was a Kalapana boy. And the Hawanios--he married a Kalapana girl, my classmate, Elizabeth Kelihomalu, a cousin to the other one. He was a ranger for many years, now he's retired in Kalapana. My brother, Robert Lee. He went to China for a couple of years, then came back, and went to St. Joseph's and almost graduated from Hilo High School before the war broke out, then he went back to Kalapana and stayed there until today. He's still a bachelor.

Q. Who else in Kalapana do you think would be interested in talking to a student like me?

A. Gee, I don't know. Because according to my daughter, she told Professor Langlas to ask my brother, and she asked him one day if he would be willing to be interviewed, and he said he would. So I don't know. I told you about Minnie Kawanoa, so I told Maile you should ask Minnie if she would be interviewed, but she said no Minnie wouldn't be interviewed because that's her bread and butter.