

I Remember When

by Albert Johansen '58

When I first attended Kamehameha Schools in 1953, I wasn't sure if it was the place for me.

As an eighth grade boarding student from Lahaina, Maui, I was homesick my first few weeks and actually ran away from campus to my aunt's house "down the hill" on Konia Street.

My parents, though, brought me back "up the hill" to campus and eventually, Kamehameha became my second home.

During my high school years, (we were still separated from the girls in those days), there were two tracks for students. "T1" was for those planning on going to college, while "T2" was for those planning vocational careers. I was in the "T2" class.

I had chosen to learn the techniques of welding. Our classroom was located where the motor pool used to be, the area which is now part of the new athletic stadium, Kūnuiākea. In the mornings, we would attend welding or shop classes, and in the afternoon we'd run up what seemed like a 1,000 stairs to attend academic classes on the girls' upper campus – there were no buses between classes at that time.

My welding instructor at that time was a Mr. Hoffman, and he taught us well. Our senior class would take on small welding assignments on campus, and we even had our own welding truck and machinery. Every year at Easter, we took pride in erecting a large white cross at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

During my junior year, we built the first jungle gym at 'Aiea Elementary School. I took my assignments seriously. Little did I know that the welding skills I learned at Kamehameha Schools would lead me to a lifelong career in the construction industry – a career which finds me once again at a Kamehameha Schools Campus.



Albert Johansen '58

My first job as a welder and iron worker came soon after graduation.

Along with classmates **John Hanoa**, **Harry Hueu**, the late **George Puou** we started our vocational careers working at Mutual Welding Company on Āhua Street in the Māpunapuna industrial area on O'ahu.

What we had learned at Kamehameha in welding shop helped us tremendously in our work. I often wonder what life path I would have taken had it not been for my education at Kamehameha Schools, and, in particular, my vocational class in welding.



Today, I'm a project manager helping to oversee the building construction at Kamehameha's Hawai'i Campus in Kea'au.

"As an alumnus of Kamehameha, I'm honored to be a part of Pauahi's Legacy. Helping in the building of a new campus is but a small way of my giving back for all that Pauahi has given me."

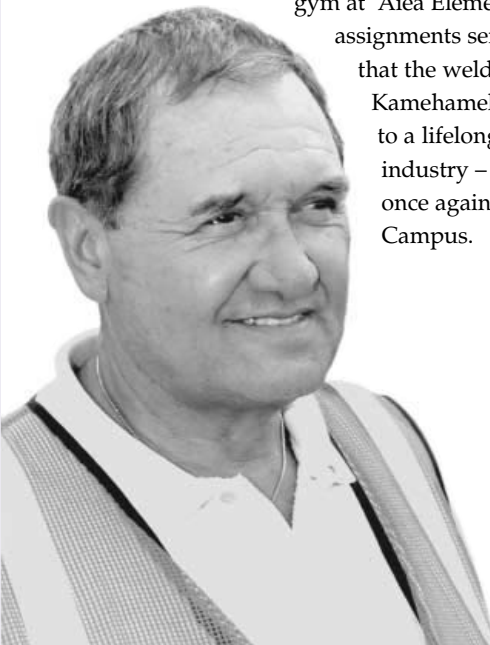
Forty-five years later, Albert Johansen is still employed at Mutual Welding Company – the last of a group of young Hawaiian men originally hired in 1958.



Top: Kamehameha's Hawai'i Campus in Kea'au. **Above:** Kamehameha students **Francis Clarke '58** and **John Hanoa '58** practice their welding skills in this photo from the 1957-58 school year.

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Albert Johansen today





KE ALI'I PAUAHI FOUNDATION

Pennies for Pauahi Program Expanding to Maui Campus

Kahiau captures the essence of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop. Committed to educating her people, Pauahi left her estate of more than 378,500 acres for the establishment of Kamehameha Schools.

"Pennies for Pauahi," a special pilot project that was launched last fall at Kamehameha's Hawai'i Campus, demonstrated that the circle of education includes the acquisition of knowledge coupled with a sense of gratitude and sharing with others.

In the spirit of *kahiau*, Hawai'i Campus students collected pennies, clothes, books, supplies and held fundraisers with all proceeds going to community agencies, families in need and other local area schools.

This year, Ke Ali'i Pauahi Foundation invites you to join with us as we continue our circle with students from Kamehameha's Maui Campus. Pennies for Pauahi allows our students to be a part of Pauahi's legacy of *kahiau*. As she has shared, we will share.

For more information, please contact **Kawehi Bright Yim '79**, alumni development & annual giving manager, at (808) 534-3945 or kawehi@pauahi.org.



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COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

567 S. KING STREET, SUITE 301, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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