

Hawaii Five-O

PATCH ME THROUGH TO...

THE IOLANI PALACE IRREGULARS



The International Appreciation Society for Hawaii Five-O

Issue No. 35

Oct. 1996

1509 Conductor Court Middleburg, FL 32068-3232

Editor: Karen Rhodes

Layout: Mike Nicholson

Convention Update

This is the last newsletter issue before Mahalo Ohana Five-O, the Five-O reunion convention scheduled for October 25-27 in Burbank and October 28-November 3 in Honolulu.

Events in Honolulu include: a bus tour of Five-O locations, spiced by anecdotes of the Hawaiian cast members; a Don Ho show; and a luau hosted by the Hawaiian cast members. There is also scheduled a series of special events at the Aloha Tower Marketplace and possibly a visit to the Ilikai penthouse where the stunning helicopter shot of McGarrett in the opening credits was set.

Plans are also in the works for such

things as a "Captions Outrageous" contest, where entrants will propose hilarious captions for photos. This contest will be judged by the Honolulu cast members. There is also planned a Worst Aloha Shirt or Muumuu contest — so be prepared. Remember also that we will be in Honolulu over Hallowe'en . . . does that give anyone any ideas, like dressing up like your favorite Five-O character? Again, be prepared.

Despite the initial low number of pre-registrants, the hotel in Burbank is already booked; there will be a get-together there. How many guest stars show up depends on how many attendees there are — these registration fees will be paying the guest fees. The more, the more!

Coverage of the convention in L.A. has been sparse; apparently, that community sees any such gathering with a "ho-hum" attitude. However, the picture in Honolulu is vastly different, with the Honolulu newspapers giving tremendous coverage to the upcoming event.

Rita is trying to find as many different

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recording manifestations of the Five-O theme as can possibly be gathered together in one place (does anyone have a copy of Jive Bunny and the Master Mixers' "Come On, Everybody," for instance?) (And how about any other manifestation of Five-O or its characters, such as Radio Birdman's "Aloha, Steve and Danno"?) The weirder, the better.

Items are always needed for the charity auction. There are already some luscious collectibles which will be on the block, including autographed copies of scripts (no information is available as to who has autographed them).

I hope to see you there!

More Convention News On Page 2

Back to Normal Next Time

Some regular features such as the guest cast directory, Ubiquitous Five-O, and others have been missing from the last two issues due to technical difficulties — mainly your editor's longer-than-expected stay in Seattle, 3000 miles from home. Next issue, we hope, will be back to normal.



Convention gets good coverage in Honolulu

The Mahalo Con Five-O reunion convention has been getting great press in Honolulu's newspapers. Tim Ryan, Honolulu Star-Bulletin reporter, has been busy on the story. He's even been clever. Here's how his latest coverage of the upcoming convention opened:

"Danno, I want you to pay a visit to the people running this 'Mahalo Con' Hawaii Five-O convention in Los Angeles and Honolulu and find out exactly, and I mean exactly, what's going on Understand?"

Steve McGarrett, dressed in long sleeve white shirt, dark silk tie, and dark suit, stands in the noontime sun in Waikiki, not a drop of perspiration appears on his stern face, not a hair out of place.

"Steve, it's legit. They're fans. Just hard-core fans. Lots of things planned; film location visits, luaus, panel discussions, Hawaii Five-O costume party, even meetings with some of the guys."

"I see, Danno. Interesting."

[Thanks to Bob and Mary Lou Sandla and Rita Ractliffe]

New Dues Plan Contemplated

I'm thinking of having everyone's dues come due once a year rather than having to keep track of dues expirations monthly. This would save administrative time because all dues notices would go out at once. The planned target date, if this method is implemented, will be April 1 (no fooling). Between now and then, new memberships would be pro-rated.

Renewals between now and then, including past-due renewals which have not received reminder notices because of my absence in Seattle, would also be pro-rated. Having the dues come due in the Spring would also, for a significant number of members, spare them the difficulty of having dues come due during the holiday season, when money is usually in short supply for all of us!

If any member has questions or comments about the proposed plan, please let me know! Write to me at the address on the front of the newsletter (just under the banner). Thanks!



Dead at 69

LEONARD KATZMAN

Producer-director-writer Leonard Katzman, who was line producer for Hawaii Five-O in the second season, died September 5, 1996 at his home in Malibu, California, of an apparent heart attack. He had just turned 69 a few days before.

Born in New York City, Katzman graduated from high school in Los Angeles and went to work for his uncle, B-movie king Sam Katzman, as an assistant director.

His television credits also include Dallas, for which he wrote the first and last episodes, and Route 66, on which Five-O's creator Leonard Freeman also worked. His latest credit is for the currently-running Chuck Norris series Walker, Texas Ranger.

Katzman was known for keeping his family employed. His son Mitchell wrote 19 episodes of Dallas and his daughter Sherril Lynn Rettino played the role of Jackie Dugan in the series. Ms. Rettino died last year. Katzman is survived by his wife, two sons, and six grandchildren.

KONO

a character essay

by Tammy Jordan

Kono remains a bit of a mystery because he didn't get that much air time. You would expect a big burly guy like Kono to be the stereotypical jock — a bit belligerent and strong-armed. However, he was always portrayed as a gentleman, quiet and reserved, with very nice manners, very gentle (the way he treated the young kidnap victim in "The Ransom"), had strong ethical convictions (the way he attacked the skinhead for making a racial slur against a woman in "Skinhead"), and had a sense of humor (the rabies remark in "A Matter of Mutual Concern" — my favorite). But gentle and kind as he was, he was all 'cop' and didn't give a crook a chance (the way he upended the escaping rapist in "Skinhead" and forcibly 'set' him down in a chair and said, "That's not polite"). Kono was a modern but occasionally I saw the ancient Hawaiian ways show through — not always in what he said but more in how he looked as if he knew something that the others could not possibly understand.

At left: 1968 publicity photo of Jack Lord in a Japanese garden on Oahu. © CBS. Used by permission.
Front photo: Steve in action against a deadly foe.

Here we go again . . . ?

We've been through this before, so, world, pardon our skepticism. A few years ago, producer Steve Tisch, who numbered among his accomplishments the multi-Oscar-winning *Forrest Gump*, had in the works — at least to the script-writing stage — a theatrical film production of *Hawaii Five-O*. That got sent to the dumpster when Disney Studios, parent company of Hollywood Pictures, which had the project under its umbrella, got a new head who took his broom and swept the *Five-O* movie right out the door. Oh, well.

Now, producer-packager George Litto has taken up the torch, apparently with the blessing of Leonard Freeman's widow Rose, who still maintains a financial interest in the property. Litto, who used to work with *Five-O*'s creator Leonard Freeman, even poked his head into the Usenet newsgroup alt.fan.hawaii-five-o, to test the fandom waters. He found us to be skeptical. Once bitten, twice shy. He stated that he was sincere about the project and vowed to see it through to completion; we are watching and waiting.

But waiting is not all we're doing. Speculation is rife about casting. The press has touted Harrison Ford or Mel Gibson (an Aussie McGarrett?) as candidates for the lead role. Fans have discussed Michael Douglas, Willem DaFoe, and Alec Baldwin as possibilities for the part of the *Five-O* chief.

Some suggestions for casting appear to have been tongue-in-cheek — for example, as Chin Ho Kelly, the *New York Post* suggests Jackie Chan. . . on sedatives. (But the sense of humor is there.)

And Pat Morita as Wo Fat?

Honolulu Advertiser readers voted in a reader poll, coming up with: McGarrett — Harrison Ford; Danno — Brad Pitt; Chin — Jason Scott Lee; Kono — Ray Bumatai (a local actor who, if we're not mistaken, was in one *Five-O* episode.).

The idea of a *Five-O* movie is tantalizing, but don't hold your breath. At least, not until the ads appear in the papers and the title on the movie-theater marquees.

[Thanks to Paul Coyle, Ursula Harris, Mark Cimbal, Jerry Mezerow, Rita Ractliffe]



Ain't No Big Thing

Ever wondered what were the lyrics to the song "Ain't No Big Thing," sung more enthusiastically than tunefully by Big Chicken in "The Box" as well as (and more harmoniously) by the Stirling Mossman Band in the pilot movie? Here they are. The song was written by Hawaiian singer-composer Kui Lee.

If your pretty little girl leaves you hung up
 Standing on the corner of 5th and Main
 Left you standing there with a pair of movie tickets
 Tear up the tickets brother and don't complain
 Cause it ain't...no it ain't...it ain't no big thing.
 If you wake up early one Sunday morning
 Find your bag and luggage in the rain
 Your chick just left town with your best friend and all your money
 Tear up the number my brother and don't complain
 Cause it ain't...not it ain't...it ain't no big thing
 It ain't no big thing brother when things ain't looking up
 It ain't no big thing when there ain't no coffee to fill the cup
 The good times comin'...let 'em roll...let 'em roll
 If your ma in law starts getting huffy
 Walking around your pad with with a long face
 Just go out and buy her a oneway passage...tell her
 Go join the astronauts in outer space
 Cause it ain't...not it ain't...it ain't no big thing
 It ain't no big ting brother when things ain't looking up
 It ain't no big thing when there ain't no coffee to fill the cup
 The good times comin'...let 'em roll...let 'em roll.

[thanks to Mike Quigley]

Quenching thirst for Hawaii Five-O

Somewhere in syndicated TV-land there's an army of flower-shirted *Hawaii Five-O* fans getting plastered on every Jack Lordism. The Official *Hawaii Five-O* Drinking Game was sent to us by one diehard watcher, who recommended it be played with fruity drinks like planter's punch, ideally served in a coconut with a little paper parasol. To play, simply study the 50 rules and drink when appropriate. For example, if *Five-O* conducts an illegal search or detains anyone illegally — sip. If fearless leader Steve McGarrett tells anyone that he's "just a cop, not the judge and jury," — chug. Among the other sip triggers: whenever the number of cops standing around and listening in McGarrett's office exceeds three; anyone asks to be "patched through" to anyone else; McGarrett arrives at the scene of the crime and asks Danny or Chin Ho, "What have you got?"; McGarrett mocks a feminist (a chug is required when McGarrett mocks a feminist and later tries to score with her); and anyone dies by falling or being thrown off a cliff into the ocean. Among the rules requiring a chug: whenever someone from *Five-O* keeps a suspect under surveillance, unnoticed, by sitting 10 feet away reading a newspaper; the sound of squealing tires is dubbed in for a car driving on the beach; McGarrett says, "I don't make deals;" McGarrett barks "book 'em" and specifies the charges (no charges just rates a sip); or, of course, when he calls Danny Williams "Danno." Somehow makes the "Hi, Bob" cue to sip beer from the Bob Newhart Drinking Game" suddenly seem so boring.