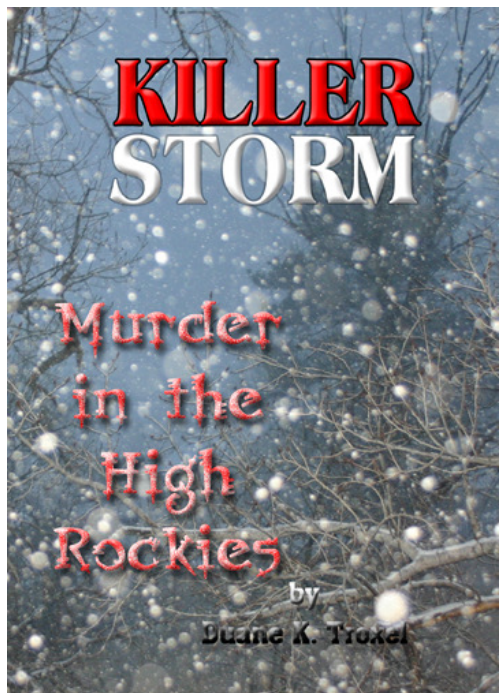




MMMMmmmmm. I love the smell of nut-balm in the morning!





**EWA**

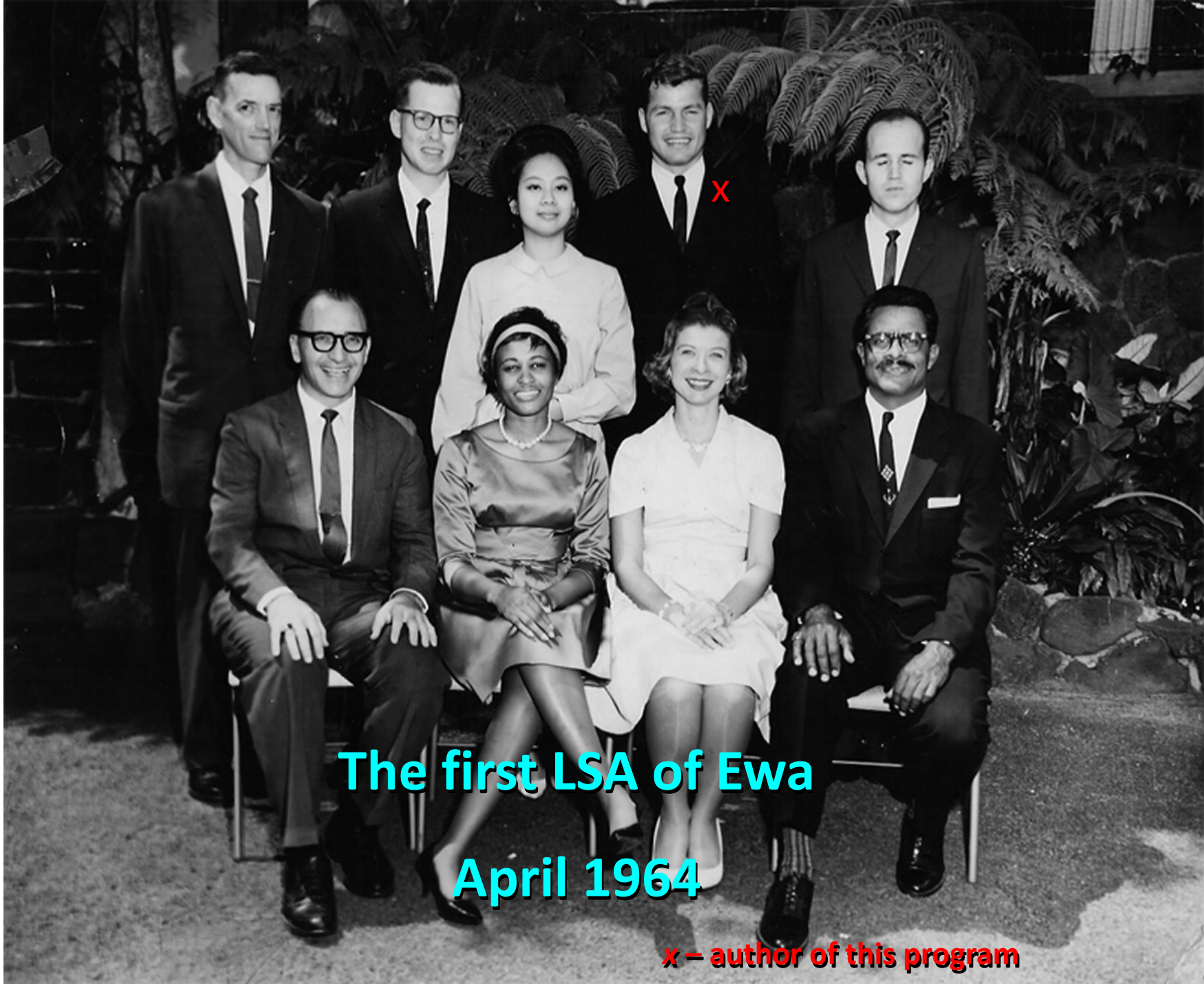
**Pearl Harbor**



**Some  
Recollections of  
Ewa and the  
Members of the  
Ewa Bahá'í  
Community in  
the 1960s**

by Duane Troxel





The first LSA of Ewa

April 1964

x - author of this program

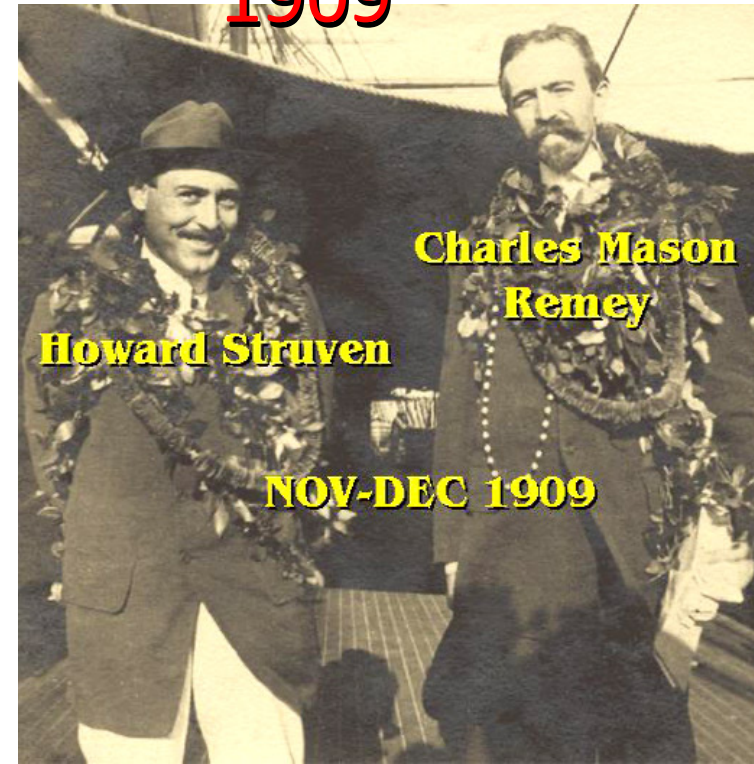


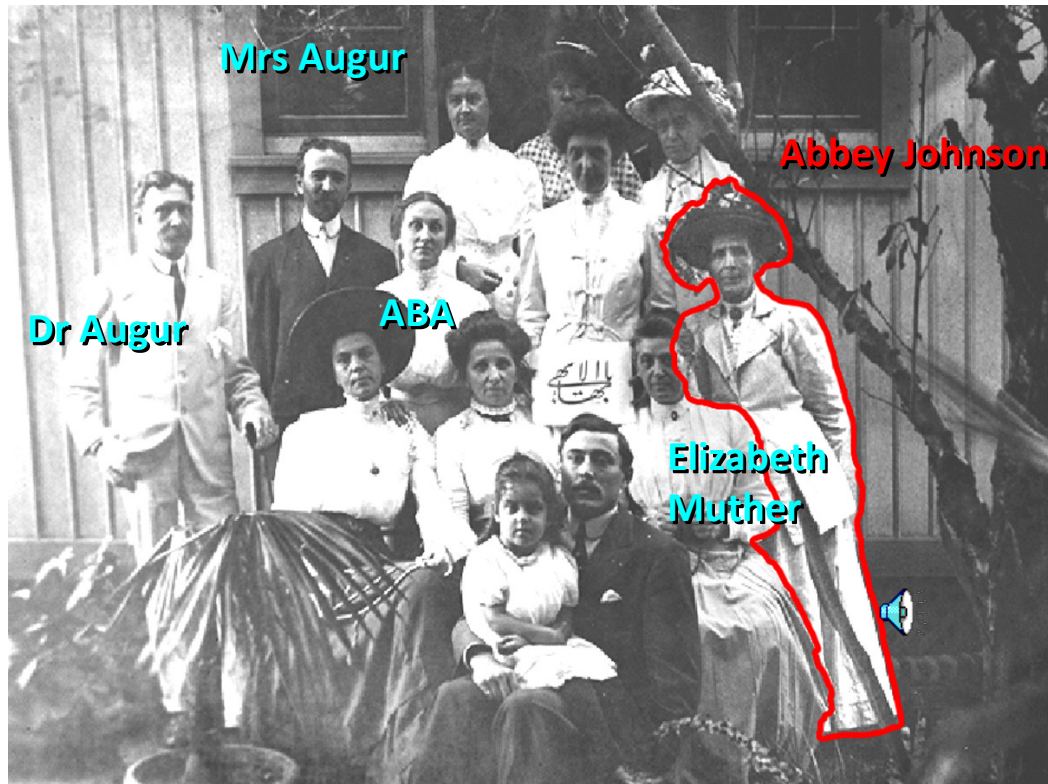
**Bahá'ís of Hawaii meet on ship deck in Honolulu Harbor with Charles Mason Remey and Howard Struven in late 1909. Remey & Struven were on a teaching trip around the globe at the request of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.**



**Abbey Frances Johnson**

**Ewa's First Bahá'í in  
1909**





**More than half of the ladies shown in the photograph became members of the first Bahá'í Assembly of Hawaii in 1910.**

**Photograph taken behind the Augur's home on Beretania St. (not far from Iolani Palace) on December 10, 1909.**

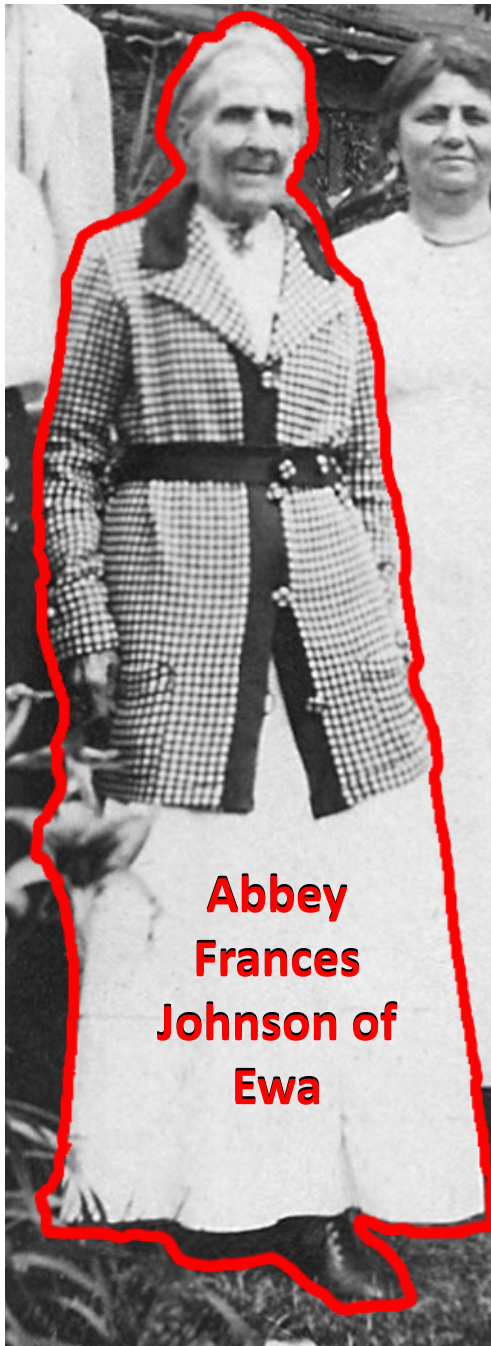


**Ms Johnson was beloved by all. She taught the Pires sisters, Meta Sutherland (buried very near Martha Root) and Adeline White, who met 'Abdu'l-Bahá in California.**

**Abbey Frances received two Tablets from 'Abdu'l-Bahá.**



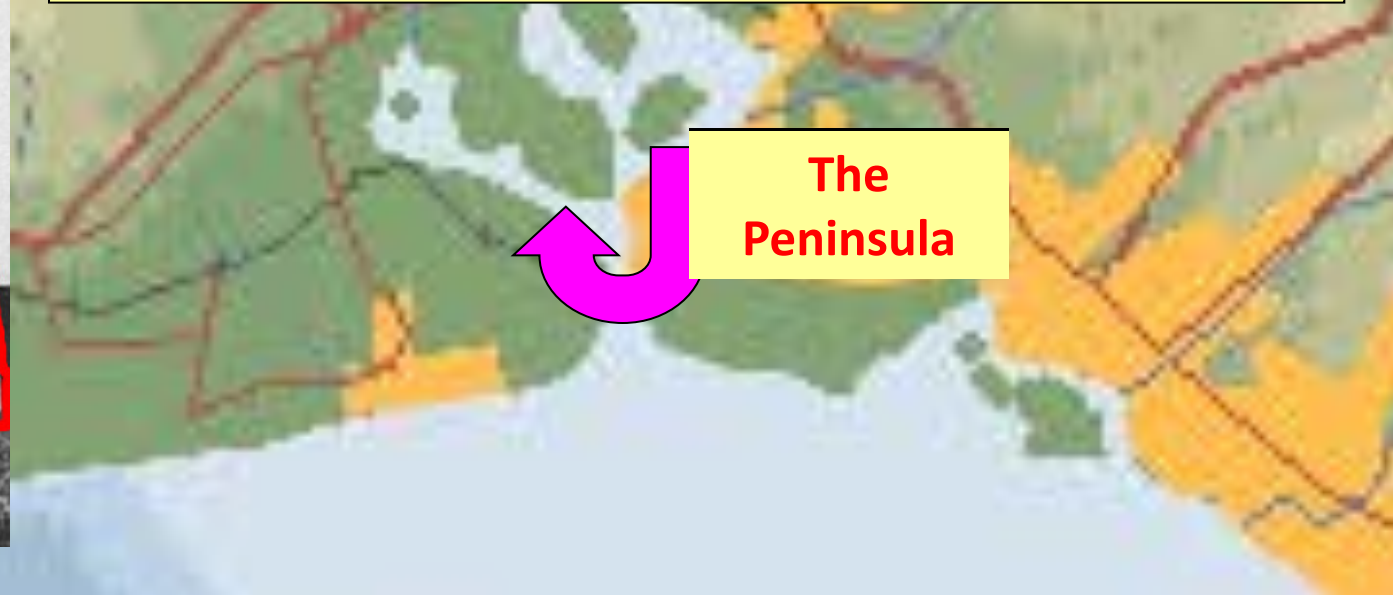
**Photograph taken between 1918 and 1921. The Augurs returned from Japan in Dec. 1917 and Ms Johnson died in 1921.**



**Abbey  
Frances  
Johnson of  
Ewa**

**May I suggest that some member of the Ewa community take on the task of locating the resting place of Abbey Frances Johnson so that the Friends may gather there to offer prayers for the progress of her soul and of the Faith in Ewa and the Hawaiian Islands.**

**-Duane**





**The very first volume of *Star of the West* carried the story of a feast in Pearl City, Ewa.**

**April 1910.**



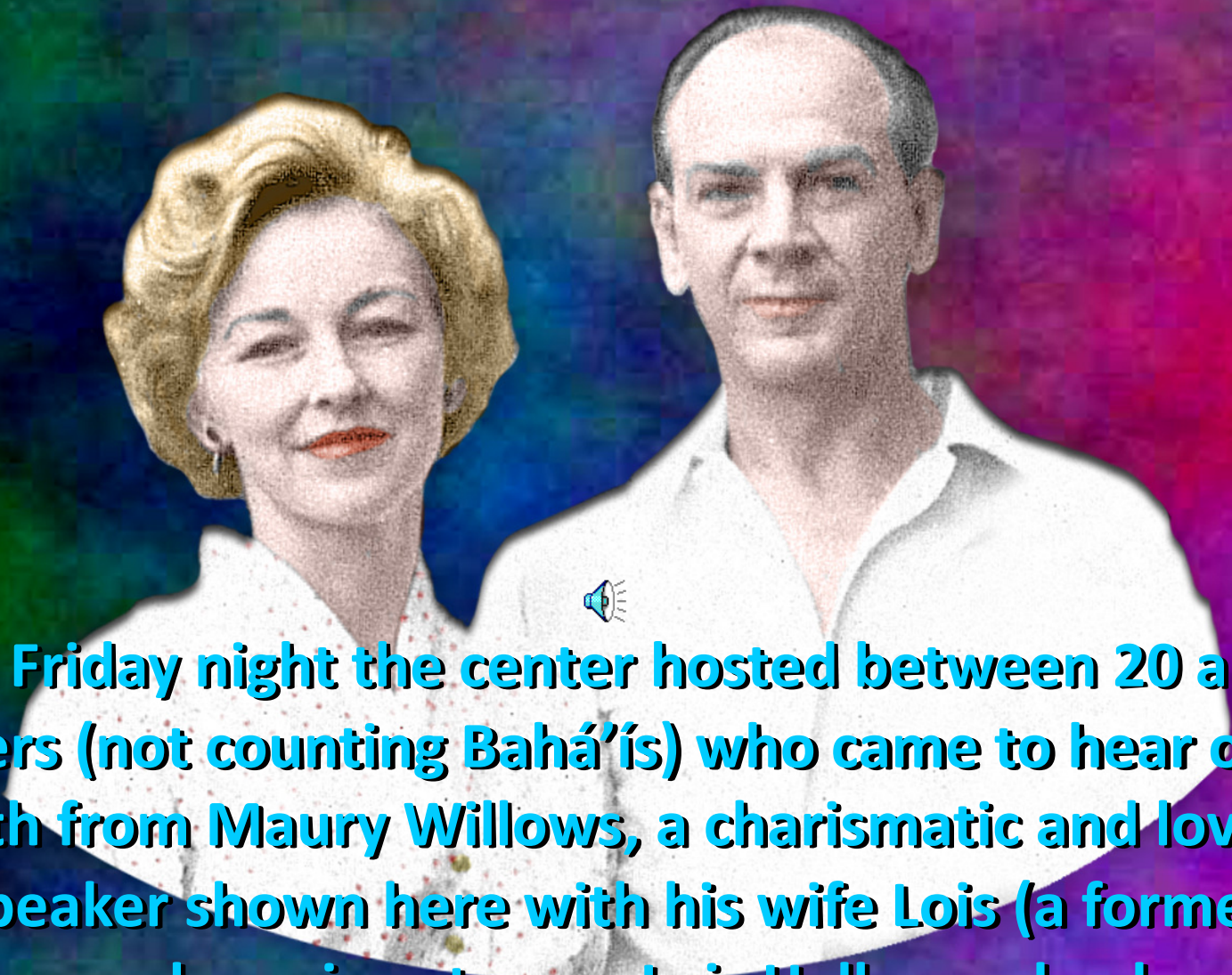


Oahu's locus of Bahá'í activities in the early 1960s was the Mid-Pacific Bahá'í Center at 3264 Allan Place in Nuuanu Valley, Honolulu.

The house was acquired in 1960 after the sale of the Bahá'í Center on the Ala Wai Canal (1941-1960).







**Every Friday night the center hosted between 20 and 40 seekers (not counting Bahá'ís) who came to hear of the Faith from Maury Willows, a charismatic and loving speaker shown here with his wife Lois (a former Hollywood movie actress—Lois Hall— and a devoted Bahá'í).**

**Mike Woodward & Joseph Mendoza often entertained the youth. Joe played flamenco guitar and Mike played bongos.**

**Mike later became a standup comedian and is presently a pioneer in Taiwan where he recently finished a book on the many Hands of the Cause of God he knew.**





In addition to Sunday morning  
“hot dog” deepenings at the  
Nuuanu Center there were  
fascinating deepenings at  
Gertrude Garrida’s (“Gigi”) on  
Beckwith Street in Honolulu.  
Some years later she published  
the notes she used to teach us  
under the title: *Directives of the  
Guardian.*



**Gigi's roommate was Catharine Nourse who met 'Abdu'l-Bahá as a child and who was also in the first group of pilgrims to arrive in Haifa after the passing of the Master.**



**Her stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the Greatest Holy Leaf and the history of the Faith in America brought the past very near to us new Bahá'ís.**







**Hand of the Cause Bill Sears and his wife Marguerite visited Hawaii a number of times during the 1960s. I recall in particular his visit in March, 1964 because I was able to talk with him as were other members of the Ewa community.**



Duane

Stephanie  
Troxel

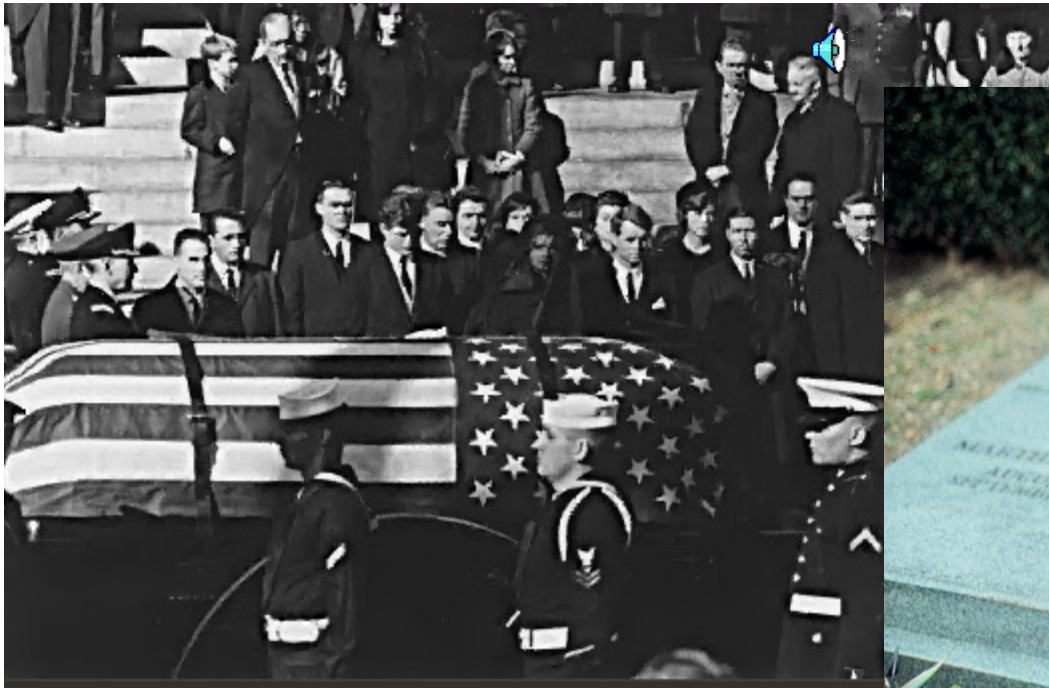
Leanne  
Woodward

Marge  
Brown

The center had Firesides on Friday nights and often had dances on Saturdays. Many young couples got married at that time, including the Woodward and the Troxels.

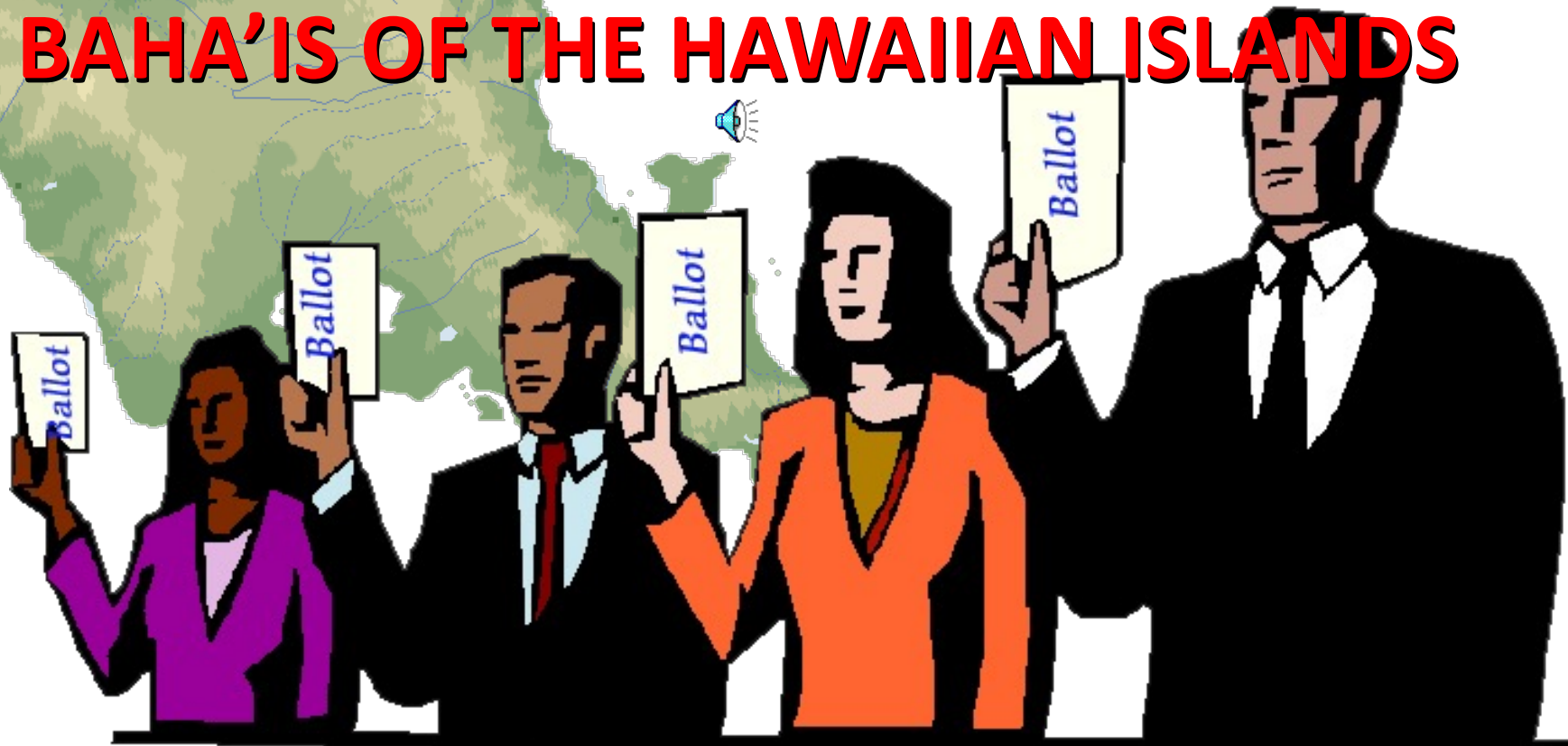


On Friday, November 22, 1963, the President—John F. Kennedy— was assassinated in Dallas, TX. That same weekend many Bahá'ís of O'ahu went to the grave of Martha Root to pray for JFK's soul.



1964

**HAWAII'S BAHÁ'ÍS ELECT THE FIRST  
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS**







**Governor John Burns  
bestows a kiss and a lei  
upon Miss Alexander  
at the Princess Kaiulani  
Hotel on the eve of the  
election**



**CONVENTION WAS HELD AT THE  
NATIONAL CENTER  
3264 ALLAN PLACE  
HONOLULU  
APRIL 1964**



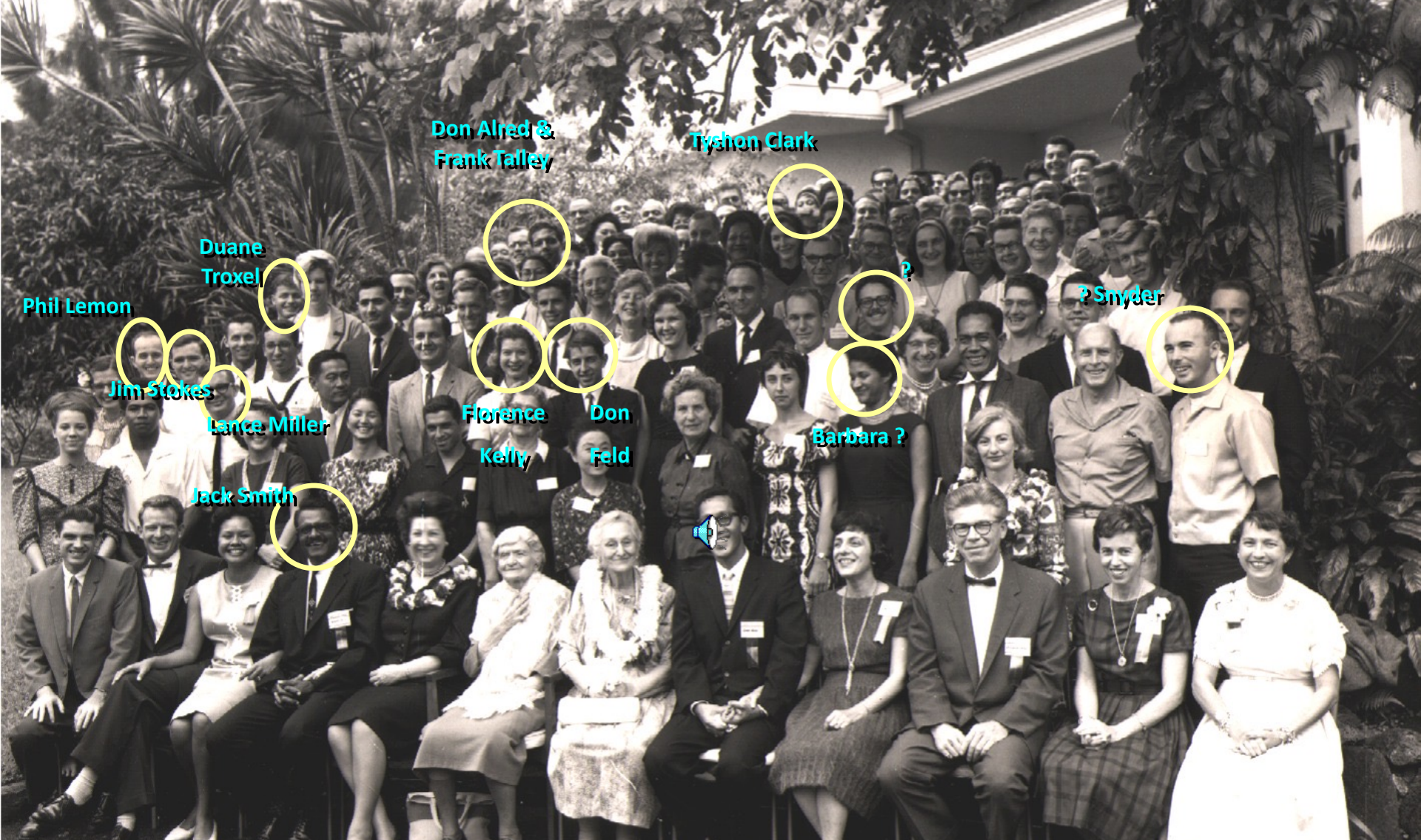


The lady (x)  
sitting next to  
Agnes  
Alexander is  
Henriette From  
who took care  
of Martha Root  
at the time of  
her passing.



Miss Alexander with the members of the newly-elected  
NSA of the Hawaiian Islands





**Some Ewa Bahá'ís who attended the 1964  
National Convention.**



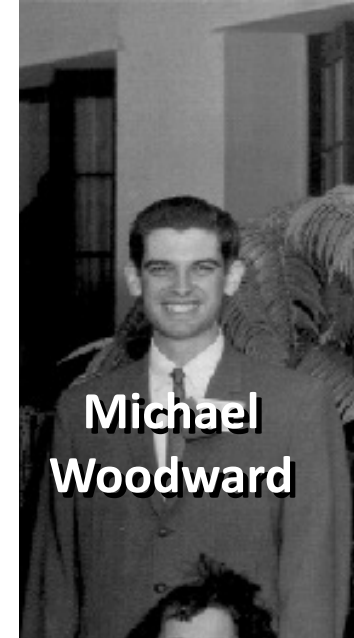


James Wada (Deceased) Claude Caver (Deceased) Hugh Chapman (Deceased) Jack Smith Michael Woodward  
 (Deceased)

Eveyln Musacchia "Miss Mike" Still alive in 2022  
 Velma Sherill USA (Deceased)  
 Hand Agnes Alexander (Deceased)  
 Lei Chapman (Deceased)  
 Elena Marsella (Deceased)  
 Gertrude Garrida (Deceased)

**Members of the first  
 NSA of Hawaii - April 1964**

**Michael Woodward was technically the first Bahá'í youth elected to the NSA. He married and moved out of Ewa scant months before the April 1964 election.**



**Michael  
Woodward**

**To those of us who were youth at that time Mike was our representative on the NSA of Hawaii.**





The first LSA of Ewa

April 1964

Will make a few comments on each of the 9 members of that first LSA.



## **Captain Lawrence Kelly, USN**

**The first meeting of the LSA of Ewa took place in the home of Larry & Florence Kelly on the Pearl Harbor base. Larry was later captain of the real “Love Boat” that sailed between the islands.**






## **Donald Alread**

**All I recall is that Don was in the service. I have heard (not confirmed) that he died some years ago.**



## **Susan DeSena**

**The home of Joe & Sue  was one of the two most active teaching sites in Ewa in the early 1960s. (The other home was Jack & Grace Smith's.) Sue's gracious hospitality and cool, calm demeanor made all feel welcomed and warmed.**





## **Duane Troxel**

**Duane would later serve again on the LSA of Ewa in 1979 and 1980. He & Stephanie were homefront pioneers in Pahala, Ka'u on the Big Island from 1972-1974.**



## **Philip Lemon**

**Phil later pioneered to Australia with his wife Jenny, who became editor of *Herald of the South*. Phil & Jenny have remained in Australia where they raised their two children.**





## **Joe DeSena**

**The home of Joe & Sue was a welcome refuge for many young servicemen & women in the early 60s. Joe was a great father figure and a warm and understanding friend. Agnes Alexander paid a visit to the DeSena home to meet with us youth. Joe passed to the Abhá Kingdom many years ago.**



## **Tyshon (Clark) Davis**

**Tysh was in the USN when she was elected to Ewa's LSA. She later pioneered to the Philippines. After returning to Hawaii she became estranged from the Faith. It is believed she still lives on O'ahu.**



## **Florence (Ioas) Kelly**

**Florence is from one of the most distinguished Bahá'í families in America— the Ioas family.**

**Florence is one of Hawai'i's four living Knights of Bahá'u'lláh for her pioneering to Monaco during the 10 Year World Crusade.**

**She & her husband Larry have remained in Hawai'i since 1964.**



**For many years Florence has represented the Bahá'í Faith in InterFaith activities and other capacities that I cannot now recall.**

## Jack Smith

The second Ewa home that was a hotbed of Bahá'í youth activities in the early 1960s was that of Jack & Grace Smith. As in the DeSena home, it sometimes seemed there were more youth than room to hold them!

Jack, like Joe DeSena was a superb father figure whose sage advice resolved a number of crises in the community. *Jack was the first member of the Ewa community to be elected to the NSA of Hawai'i.*



Jack was present at the *Fire in the Pacific* conference in December 2001.





**Vic Tift  
(Deceased)**

**Jack Spock now  
lives with his family  
at Haiku, Maui**

**Regretfully, I can  
recall no  
information about  
this man.**

**William Smits,  
formerly a pioneer  
to Korea.**

**Ms. Smits**

**Regretfully, I can  
recall no  
information about  
this lady.**

**Dr. Larry Beers came out to  
Hawaii in 1947. His & Dolly's  
home in Kailua was a center of  
Bahá'í hospitality.**

**He died in 2000.**

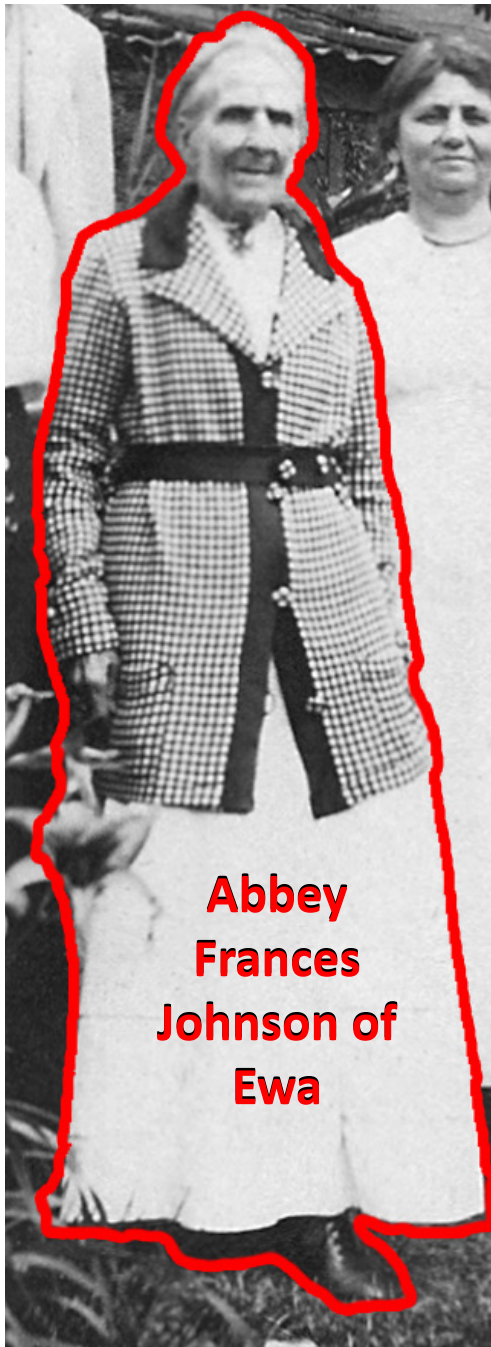
# **First LSA of Wahiawa- 1964**

**Many of the young men & women in the military in the early 1960s were stationed at the base in Wahiawa. The three men standing were all in the army.**

# **EWA FIRSTS**







**Abbey  
Frances  
Johnson of  
Ewa**

## **First Bahá'í of Ewa**

**Abbey Frances Johnson of Ewa was not only the first Bahá'í of Ewa, she was the first and only Bahá'í of Ewa to receive a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Bahá and she was the first from Ewa to serve on a Bahá'í Assembly & host a feast in Ewa.**

## **First NSA Member**

**Jack Smith was the first resident of Ewa to be elected to the NSA of Hawaii.**





# First Continental Board of Counsellors Member

Ben Ayala of Ewa was Continental Board of Counsellors  
Member from 1980 to 2000.



August 1968

Duane Troxel



Stephanie  
Fielding

**In 1968 The Universal House of Justice wrote to National Assemblies around the world asking that we remember Ms Alexander on her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday (07-21-1875). Stephie & I presented her with a cane and handwoven silk from our pioneering post in Nigeria.**





**Thank you for  
letting me  
share some  
memories.**



With “Miss Mike” at “Fire in the Pacific” at Ala Moana Park, Dec. 2001



**“Ain’t it funny how time slips  
away?”**

