

"I REMEMBER SEABROOK"

The Colleens

I remember when we were in our early teens and were members of a girls club called the Colleens. The members that I can remember included Eiko Hada, Nancy Morinaka, Irene Aoki, Marjorie Mitsui, Nakako Matsui, Akiko Motoike, Reiko Hashimoto, Haruko Kono, Shiz Okamoto, Norma Izawa, most of whom were classmates. Our club advisor was Tomi Nishiura, sister of Michi Weglyn. Many of the other clubs had satin jackets with their club name stitched on the back. Our club had a heavy-weight, jacket type sweater with a large "C" stitched onto the pocket. Our colors were purple and gold. The sweater was off-white and the "C" was purple with gold trim.

One of the club's activities included sponsoring dances at the Community House. We made up "tickets" or had them professionally printed of the event, hired a local five-piece band, made food, and decorated the large room. This room was also used for the non-denominational Sunday school and church, basketball games, seasonal programs by various groups, etc. One of the affairs we sponsored that I still have a ticket to was "White Christmas" featuring the Musical Knights on December 25, 1952 from 9:00 to 1:00 at a cost of \$2.00. We were assisted on many occasions by the boys club called the Hornets who were of our age group. The members of that club that I can remember were Richard Nagahiro, Robert Mukoda, Sam Ohara, Ben Mizusaki, Bunji Ikeda, Albert Yano, Jun Nakao, and Douglas Nakamura. They helped put up decorations (the ceiling was very high) and did much of the heavy work such as putting up the chairs and setting up tables.

Our club also baby sat for many of the families who worked for Seabrook Farms Co. Ten cents of every dollar that we earned would go into the club treasury. I remember that Irene and Marjorie always baby sat for Frank Hemenway. Eiko and I usually baby sat for Jack and Lyda Keefe and Fenwick and Roba McLeod. Both families had two sons each--Jay and Glenn Keefe and Fenwick, Jr. and Ken McLeod. Jack Keefe's house was located near Seeley Lake. We would each take one child. I remember one night the child I had at Keefe's did not want to go to sleep--finally after a long period of time he finally fell asleep. I tiptoed out of the bedroom (in my stocking feet--we wore wool socks in those days) and started down the steps. The steps were sort of worn down in the middle and my foot slid out from under me. I went bumping down the steps from the very top all the way to the bottom on my rump. Eiko came running wondering what happened because it made such a racket and I was more concerned about waking up the child. We also did the dishes, cleaned up the kitchen and straightened up the living room at the Keefe's. Mrs. Keefe always appreciated that. We usually baby sat for the McLeod's on New Year's Eve or whenever Charles Seabrook had a party. Charles Seabrook's parties went on through the night and into the early morning hours. Therefore, we would stay overnight and sleep in the parent's bed. They had a beautiful home set in the woods off of Love Lane. Mrs. McLeod would always remind us not to use a particular switch because it would set off the burglar alarm. I remember the boys having a huge train set which was located in their attic.

Laye Nagahiro

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