



100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB

MONTHLY NEWS

PUKA-PUKA **PARADE**

SEPTEMBER 2003

ISSUE #03-8



ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

By Stu Tsubota

The 58th Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, September 28, 2003, beginning at 9:00 AM at the National Memorial Cemetery at Punchbowl. Maj. Gen. Robert G. F. Lee will be the keynote speaker. Gen. Lee is the Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii Defense Department. He previously commanded the 100th/442nd Inf. (USAR).

In lieu of the customary 21-rifle salute, we have arranged for a 21-gun cannon salute provided by the 25th Infantry Division; and we are awaiting approval from higher headquarters for a helicopter flyover by the Hawaii Air National Guard.

As in the past, the Boy Scouts will decorate the graves with American flags and we are requesting the veterans and as many sons and daughters and grandchildren to turn out to decorate the graves and niches with flowers on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 9:00 AM. Report to the usual refreshment area and bring gloves, weeders, watering cans and shears. Since there are more than 500 graves/niches to decorate, we can use all the help we can get from the youngsters.

We are encouraging as many surviving veterans and families to attend the service, even if you are wheelchair bound, since we all have an obligation to honor and respect those who paid the supreme sacrifice for our country.

CLUBHOUSE SPARKLING CLEAN AFTER ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY

by Bud Turner

It was a busy day on Saturday, August 2, when over 100 gathered at the clubhouse.

Everything was dusted, windows and louvers were washed, the kitchen was scoured, trophies and awards were polished and a ton of trash was thrown out. Our clubhouse took on a spotless look once again.

Thanks to the veterans, their families, including many Sons and Daughters, for this tremendous effort. And, in return, the delicious bentos and goodies, prepared by many, were enjoyed by all. It was a major effort. Mahalo to all.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Stanley Akita

Meeting opened with an observance of a moment of silence for those who preceded us.

Mr. John Uemura president of KMJ Realty who manages our apartment building was asked to attend and explain about the gas leakage within our apartment building. Due to the age of the present gas line, it was suggested by the gas people who repaired the leak to replace the present gas line. An estimate was submitted by them with an amount of \$36,000 to replace the present system with a new one. KMJ will get another bid for comparison purposes.

It was noted that our Charter and Bylaws are very antiquated and need to be reviewed and revised. A committee consisting of Toshimi Sodetani, Denis Teraoka, Tokuji Ono, and Susumu Ota has reviewed the bylaws and has made tentative revisions which are not complete as of this date. Plans to meet to revise the charter and to "double check" the revisions to the bylaws was scheduled for the 13th of August.

Due to the hot condition of our Board Room, I have arranged to install a 29,500 BTU air con. The Board Room became unbearable especially during printing of the PPP.

Three bids were solicited but we only received two within the allotted time. One bid was for \$3,195 for a 24,000 BTU unit. The 2nd was for \$2,899.98 for a 29,500 BTU unit submitted by Mr. Neil Wiedemann of The Aire Conditioner Shoppe. Mr. Wiedemann also agreed to relocate the existing unit to our Machine Room adjacent to our office for a total amount of \$3,000 to keep within our budgeted amount. We will be getting a 29,500 BTU for less than the cost of a 24,000 BTU unit.

Shinko Nohara who was one of the prime movers for Hibari Misora show many years ago, recently gave a copy of our *Ambassador in Arms* to Hibari's relatives. They found the book very interesting and they may want to make a Japanese version of the book. Nohara will try to get them to donate a percentage of the profit to our Scholarship Fund.

By the time you read this, 46 of our members and spouses will have gone on an excursion to Coconut Island in Kaneohe Bay. This excursion was made possible by a Dr. Tim Tricas, father of Nikki Tricas our summer hire. Nikki is the granddaughter of member George Izuta (HQ) formerly of Mountain View, Hawaii, and the niece of Sue Kondo.

Meeting was adjourned and the Board members as usual enjoyed a bento type lunch.

61st ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION A BIG SUCCESS

By Stu Tsubota

One of our special attractions was the showing of a 15-minute video of the Medal of Honor ceremony at the White House in Washington, D.C., in June 2000. It included our seven Medal of Honor recipients – 5 deceased (Kaoru Moto, Shinyei Nakamine, Mikiyo Hasemoto, Masato Nakae, and Allan Ohata) and 2 living (Shizuya Hayashi and Yeiki Kobashigawa). Pres. Clinton presented the medals to both Hayashi and Kobashigawa and to the family members of the deceased. Col. (ret.) Bert Turner, our 1st Vice Pres. who attended the ceremony, stated that “Pres. Clinton spoke eloquently of the men and their travails to prove they were good Americans. . . . To say the least, it was a tear jerker. These fine, proud men with their very proud families or the wives, brothers or children who were receiving the award for a deceased awardee all stood tall and I was so proud to know that my father had something to do with this moment in time.” Hayashi, who was present at the banquet, was recognized. Kobashigawa was not able to attend because of health reasons.

Special recognition should go to Aki Nosaka, our committee secretary who diligently kept the minutes of the meetings and submitted articles to the Puka Puka Parade which kept the club members and families informed of the event. No doubt, her efforts contributed significantly to the large attendance. At our first meeting in February, we projected an attendance of 300. Well, on banquet day, June 29, 2003, we were pleasantly surprised to count over 500.

Again, MAHALO to all the veterans, their families and friends and the Sons and Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion for their contributions toward the success of our 61st anniversary banquet.

THANKS TO PPP VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Again, my sincere thanks to all who volunteer their services on our collating day. Although each task may seem simple enough, each and everyone who helps is valuable and necessary in getting our newsletter mailed out. Those who volunteered were: Bernard Akamine, Yukie Akita, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Richard Hosaka, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru Inouye, Susumu Kunishige, Arthur Komiyama, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Saburo Nishime, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Takeichi Onishi, Kay Oshiro, Susumu Ota, Leo Sato, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Ricky and Evelyn Tsuda, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozumi, and Marie Yoneshige. Thanks to anyone I have inadvertently left out. Also “gracie” to Philip Matsuyama for bringing us soft drinks.

Since the old Risograph printer balked and scrunched up our copies, thanks to our president, Stanley Akita, we now have a brand new Risograph. It operates much the same way as the old one so we should not have too much trouble using it. Now, without a hitch, your monthly newsletter is being printed (I hope!).

Next PPPParade collating will be on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26. Our VOLUNTEERS “THANK



URGENT PLEA FOR BLOOD/STEM CELL DONOR from Wilma Miyamoto Bockhaus

The following message was received from Wilma Miyamoto Bockhaus, the daughter of a 100th Inf. Bn. veteran:

I am writing to ask for assistance from your organization to find a blood donor of Japanese-Italian ethnicity for my brother Stewart Miyamoto.

My father Kaoru Robert Miyamoto was a member of the 100th/442nd RCT, D Company. He met my mother Christina in Northern Italy during the war, married her, and sent her to Hawaii. Christina was the first war bride in Hawaii, arriving in June of 1944. Robert and Christina had three children - Stanford (US Army retired), Wilma, and Stewart. Unfortunately, my mother Christina died in 1964 from cancer at the young age of 39. I am contacting you because my father is unable to communicate due to complications from terminal stomach cancer.

Robert's son Stewart is suffering from a rare type of cancer called Mantle Cell Lymphoma. During 2002 he spent 6 months at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas where he received special treatment for his cancer. The treatment was successful at that time and during the latter part of 2002 Stewart's cancer was in remission. Unfortunately earlier this year the cancer returned. The specialists at MD Anderson say the only way for Stewart to beat the cancer now is with a stem cell transplantation. The combination of Japanese and Italian ancestry presents a unique problem as stem cell transplants depend to a large degree on the bloodlines from the parents. My older brother Stanford and I did not match even though we had the same mother and father as Stewart. This created the need to go outside the family to search for a matching donor.

I hope that your organization can assist me in asking 100th/442nd members to appeal to their children and relatives who are of Japanese-Italian ancestry to donate blood in the hope of finding someone who matches Stewart.

I have spoken with the Hawaii Bone Marrow Donor Registry to set up a drive to obtain donors. Mr. Roy Yonashiro from that organization has offered his assistance in organizing and handling the drive. In addition, Tommy Kakesako, whom I have known from my many years in the jewelry business, has kindly offered a facility for the blood drive.

Stewart is currently at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston going through chemotherapy in preparation for the stem cell transplantation when a donor is found. Time is of the essence as the analysis of the blood donation takes approximately two months. I hope that the 100th/442nd organizations will once again be able to come through for someone in need.

I will wait for your response. I can be reached by email or by phone at 808-739-3917 / 957-0126 / 349-7017. e-mail: "Richard Bockhaus" <diamond@lava.net>

(signed: Wilma Bockhaus)

We hope and pray that someone, somewhere will read this plea for a Japanese-Italian donor with the right blood match who would be willing to save the life of this young man.

Sadly, Wilma's father, Robert Kaoru Miyamoto, has not been well either. Our thoughts and prayers go to both Stewart and Kaoru in this time of need.



COCONUT ISLAND EXCURSION A BIG SUCCESS by Joy Teraoka

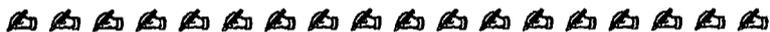
On Tuesday, August 12, under the command of our leader, Stanley Akita, close to fifty of us seniors boarded three school buses for an excursion to Coconut Island in Kaneohe Bay. Taking the H-3 highway, we gawked like tourists at the sights along the way--something you can't do if you are the driver maneuvering your way in and out of traffic.

At the pier in Heeia, we boarded a white landing craft that took us for a glorious ride far beyond the shoreline over aqua blue and green waves that lapped and danced against the bow, spraying us gently with diamond bubbles the leaped out of the water. To view the panorama of Kaneohe's magnificent mountains, creviced and covered in lush greenery, is to see the true and glorious beauty of our Islands. It is awesome.

The boat finally maneuvered its way to Coconut Island. The island was once owned by royalty and then the wealthy. In its glory this jewel in the bay was where millionaire William Pauley invited and entertained royalty, heads of state, the presidents of our country, movie stars, and, of course, Jacqueline Kennedy. Today the dilapidated condition of the buildings give no hint of its former splendor. The State now owns the island which serves as a research center for the University of Hawaii. There is a now a nice new structure that probably serves as a conference building. Several other structures that dot the island house researchers and students or are sheds for laboratory tanks. If you like to look at fish, coral, or shells or touch blobs of sea cucumbers, this is the place for you.

For lunch we gathered in one sheltered spot and enjoyed sandwiches and soft drinks.

At this time we decided having these excursions with little "school buses" providing the transportation was great fun, so we urged President Akita to conduct another trip. All were in favor, so Stanley is looking into it. Right on!



DR. EDWARD BLIGHT, AUTHOR OF A *TIME TO CHOOSE*, VISITS THE 100TH

In October 2001, one of my first assignments as co-editor of the PPPárade was to review the book called *A Time to Choose* by Dr. Edward Blight. This book encompasses in novel form the AJA experience during World War II--the mass evacuation of Japanese from the Western states, the 100th/442nd RCT's heroic achievements in Europe, the Nisei serving in the MIS, war-torn Japan and the Nisei caught there, through the surrender of Japan and signing of the Peace Treaty. Despite the panoramic view of that period and all it covers, the book is well integrated and moving.

On Thursday, our collating day, the author, Dr. Edward Blight, visited the clubhouse. He was delighted to actually meet many of the veterans of the 100th and listen to their stories over coffee after the collation was finished.

During his one-month's stay in Hawaii he has been able to meet with veterans of the 100th, the 442nd, 522nd, and MIS. It has been an extremely gratifying experience for him and his lovely wife, Carolyn.

Dr. Blight lived in Hawaii for several years as a child when his father, a military officer, was stationed here. Blight graduated from the Citadel military academy in West Virginia. His graduate studies were in medicine as a medical doctor.

After meeting Blight, several vets have ordered his book. I highly recommend *A Time to Choose*, as an excellent way to learn what the AJA went through during WW II. This would be of great appeal to young adults who want to know about this episode in history without having to tackle tomes of weighty research books. Senator Dan Inouye has many words of praise for Blight's novel.



MEMORIES: RETURN TO ITALY; ON TO GENOA; HOMEWARD BOUND

By Saburo Nishime

After leaving Menton, France, the 442nd returned to Italy. After being re-equipped, we moved to an assembly area north of Lucca. About this time, many of our NCOs qualified for rotation to stateside, including Doc Hosaka and Cherry Kunieda from our section. Lt. Yamamoto asked me to take charge of a section and promoted me to sergeant, so that put me back with the machine gun section.

For the final offense on the Gothic Line, our Dog Co. machine gun platoon discarded the heavy machine guns and tripods and picked up the light machine guns, which the rifle company was using. This made more sense in view of the type of mountainous terrain the 100th Bn. would be fighting on.

While still at the assembly area, Seie Oshiro came by to pay me a visit. We were old friends since before the war. Seie had been reassigned to a rear support organization. Major Fukuda happened to come by and recognized Seie. At this time I remember Larry Sakoda was still with the 2nd Platoon. While he was cleaning the machine gun equipment, he received third degree burns to his arms and the medic hospitalized him; hence, Larry missed getting directly involved in the last Gothic Line drive.

On this last operation, our machine gun section was attached to Charlie Co. By this time, I hardly recognized anyone in Charlie Co. I remember seeing oldtimers like Lt. Hisanaga and Doc Kometani of the Medics, who greeted me "Hi, oldtimer!"

In the early morning hours, Charlie Co. moved into the attack on Georgia Hill. Our machine gun section initially got stranded as we followed Charlie Co. When we finally caught up with Charlie Co., the riflemen were confronted with several formidable enemy bunkers; and the Germans had buried wooden box mines around the bunkers. These box mines were hard to detect with a mine sweeper. I recall Capt. McKenzie of Hq. Co. was in my slit trench; and as one of his runners came toward us with some information, he stepped on a box mine right in front of us. The resulting explosion nearly tore off his legs and he did not make it to the Aid Station because he had lost so much blood. When the injured runner was lying on the ground in front of us, Sakai Wakakuwa and Takeo Koyanagai from the 1st Platoon came rushing over from nowhere to be of assistance to the runner. Nothing could be done for him – this kind of situation called for the work of the Medics. We still don't know what Wakakuwa and Koyanagai were doing in our area, away from their machine guns.

From our positions, we could see the riflemen just exchanging hand grenades with the Germans all day long. No direct assault was attempted on the bunkers. The 100th Inf. Bn. Command even asked for aircraft support; and a group of fighters came over and made a pass, firing at the bunkers at the top of Georgia Hill. We don't think the aircraft supporting run was very effective. (In 1949, when I was staying in an Air Force BOQ in Japan, one of the officers mentioned that he was one of the fighter pilots who made that strafing run on the bunkers at the top of Georgia Hill.)

From our locations we could see the type of grenades the Germans were tossing at our troops. They were mostly concussion-type grenades which were called "potato mashers". From all indications, they were not too effective in the open area. We saw one explode behind a rifleman's "okole" and it seemed not to have affected the rifleman.

Charlie Co. tried to bypass the strong point by taking a route away and around the bunkers. Soon word came back that a section of Charlie Co. had run into a mine field and gave up trying that route. As mentioned previously, the above type of action continued all day. We settled in for the night.

On this drive, the 442nd Artillery support came from the 92nd Div. The black artillery coordinator for the 92nd, who was in the 100th Bn. area, decided to make it back to the rear area for the night. When he got there, it seemed he was instructed to return to where he was previously located.

Late that night, Capt. McKenzie woke us up and said that "The Germans might be planning a counter attack;" but eventually it did not occur. The following morning, we observed the riflemen really attacking the bunkers. The riflemen were moving slowly forward in a skirmish; then suddenly, the platoon leader moved in rapidly. We could not see exactly what transpired then. In short order, a bunch of German soldiers surrendered with their arms around their necks. From all indications, the riflemen were from Co. A.

It can be presumed that Sadao Munemori of Able Co. earned the Congressional Medal of Honor in this location on Georgia Hill. He was the only recipient of the CMH while the 100th/442nd was still in combat.

We moved up to an area not too far from where our machine gun section had been and when we got there, we ran into a barrage of German mortar shells. A member of Charlie Co. whom we called "Big Boy", Kenji Nobori, called out to me to take care of one of my men who had taken a direct hit from the mortar shell in his slit trench. I checked my crew, and all were accounted for, and no way was I going back to look. "Big Boy" was right next to the KIA member, who was a rifleman of Charlie Co. Later it was confirmed by the KIA rifleman's NCO. It is sad that these young kids just come into the unit and are KIA victims without anybody knowing who they were.

There was an abandoned German bunker nearby, and some of us got into the bunker to get away from the mortar shelling. Lt. Ikeda of Charlie Co., who was openly exposed during all this mortar shelling, could have had thoughts of not coming out of this alive. The lieutenant came by, had us move further into the bunker, and managed to crawl into the bunker with us guys.

Lt. Ikeda's brother Kiyoshi was a member of our Dog Co. 2nd Platoon. Kiyoshi was a very active NCO in the 2nd Platoon at Camp McCoy and also at Camp Shelby. As for Lt. Ikeda, he must have been able to go back to his lovely wife.

There is a display on the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets bulletin board of memories and correspondence provided by a member of the family of Lt. Saburo Maehara of Charlie Co., who was KIA in Italy. Our machine gun section was with Charlie Co. in Italy on the final drive on the Gothic Line. The two officers in Charlie Co. at that time, as I remember, were Lt. Ikeda and Lt. Hisanaga. In talking with Warren Iwai, who was the First Sgt. of Charlie Co., he confirmed that Lt. Maehara was KIA the first day of the Charlie Co. attack on Georgia Hill.

The news reports, and by some members of the 442nd, claim that the attack on the Gothic Line overcame the German defenses in short order and Georgia Hill was secured in a few hours. This report seemed to have come about because the Italian partisans led the 2nd and 3rd Bns. and overcame their objective by surprise and secured it without casualties. It was not so with the 100th Bn. The 100th was given the task of taking on the strongest point on the Gothic Line. Here, the Germans were in well-defended dugout bunkers, and the area was strewn with wooden box mines which were hard to detect, even with our mine sweepers. It took two days before Georgia Hill was won over, with a number of wounded and KIA members. Our 2nd Platoon leader, Lt. "Capone" Satoru Inomoto, was wounded for the first time in combat.

From here on, I do not have an accurate recollection of the battles that followed. I can say it was far easier than the past battles. The Italian partisans served as guides throughout most of the ensuing skirmishes. They would lead and guide us to the location where the Germans were but as soon as the bullets started flying, they would quickly move out of the way of the skirmishes.

Climbing the hills around the town of Carrara, Italy, we saw first hand how the Italians got out the world famous Carrara marble. They cut big oblong blocks of the marble rock off the surrounding mountains and slid the blocks down the hills to where the saws sliced them. When I returned to civilian life and was working, I came across a stone mason who had made trips to Italy to purchase the Carrara marble.

Advancing up the Italian peninsula, there were occasions when we would be in the country village areas. The village people would be out in the streets, bartering eggs and rice for our combat rations. We found out that rice was grown in the Po River Valley. The Italians watched how we cooked our rice and commented, "Poko aqua", meaning not enough water. They cook rice the way the Japanese cook "okai". One of our favorites was hot steaming rice with raw eggs on top.

Getting back to the light skirmishes which seemed to be the mode of the final battles with the Germans, guys were still getting wounded and the really unlucky ones would be KIA. One of the last KIAs in the 100th Bn. was Donald Okamoto of Baker Co. We immediately knew who he was because his brother Itsuto was a Dog Co. member.

I recall an occasion when our Dog Co. machine gun section was moving up a trail with Charlie Co. riflemen. We were told that the enemy was in sight. Then came orders to reverse and back out. Then came an urgent order to double time back down the trail. At the same time, the Germans let loose an artillery barrage that landed away from us, down the trail near a group of Italian farmhouses.

Lt. Hisanaga, bringing up the rear of Charlie Co., was wondering what all this backtracking was about so he went up forward to investigate. After some time, Charlie Co. moved forward following a different route. Eventually we found ourselves at the top of a ridge, with none of the enemy in sight.

Charlie Co. had most of their members back on the road. A section of riflemen and we machine gunners were sent to investigate a recessed area of the terrain to see if it had been cleared of the enemy. Getting over to the opposite side, we met up with the rest of Charlie Co. Lt. Hisanaga was in charge, and he told us to get a good rest and we could forego guard duty for that night.

Since the German opposition was now down to almost zero, Lt. Fukuda volunteered to lead a group of men that would be called "Task Force Fukuda". This task force was comprised of members from the 100th, 2nd and 3rd Bns. At this stage of the campaign, with the Germans on the run, there was no reason to unnecessarily expose the troops.

By now, we were moving freely on wheels up the Italian peninsula. There was one confrontation with the enemy which the task force encountered. They looked like a formidable group of Germans but after a few exchange of talks, the Germans held up a white flag and surrendered.

It was now late April of 1945 and nearing the end of the war. We were near the city of Genoa, Italy. Our machine gun section was still attached to Charlie Co. We just happened to be sitting around taking it easy and relaxing when the pin came off from the grenade of one of the riflemen. He had no chance to get rid of the grenade and it exploded while still on his belt. The shrapnel from the exploding grenade wounded a number of the rifleman's comrades. As far as I can determine, this unfortunate rifleman was the last one in the 100th Bn. to be killed in action.

By May 11, 1945, the war in Europe was officially over. About that time, Lt. Yamamoto came over and informed me that I had been selected to rotate back home to Hawaii. Others from Dog Co. who were due to rotate were: Charles Takashima, Takeo Koyanagi, Sakai Wakakuwa, Kiyoshi Izumi, Michiyuki (Kelly) Fujimoto, Jitsuo Saiki, Masaki Shiraki, and others I do not recall. The senior

ranking NCO of this group was M/Sgt. Warren Iwai, who was from Charlie Co.

We returned from Europe on a liberty ship in a convoy with other ships. Several days out of Gibraltar, our ship left the convoy and turned around to go back to Gibraltar to repair a bad boiler. After sailing back a day, our ship turned around again, claiming they got the boiler repaired, so we came across the Atlantic alone, sailing into New York Harbor. Anyone who was on a military cross country train during the summer of 1945 will recall how miserable a trip it was. There was a warm breeze blowing; and even with the coach windows wide open, there was no relief. Smoke and soot from the coal-burning steam engine train added to the misery; and without bath facilities, we all ended up at Camp Beal in California in a horrible stinking mess.

On the train we met a number of ex-POWs returning with us. They described what POW life was like in Germany. Most of the comments came from Nagamine, who was an amateur boxer in Hawaii. I knew one of the ex-POWs, Yoichi Tamura, who came from my hometown on Kauai. Stanley Akita could have been in the same group.

Doc Hosaka and Cherry Kunieda, who had left Italy a month before us, were still at Camp Beal, waiting for transportation to Hawaii. Since we knew our stay would be long at Camp Beal, I had to find something to do. I had \$400 saved and was able to draw it out at Camp Beal. I tried my hand at the crap games and luckily, I came out ahead and had some money when I got discharged.

During my stay at Camp Beal for about a month, many other members from the 100th arrived at the camp. Finally, the group left the camp and headed north to Fort Lawton in Washington State. It was so much cooler at Fort Lawton than at Camp Beal. We left Fort Lawton on a troop transport loaded with predominantly black troops. There was a strict no-gambling policy on this ship. Charles Takashima was bringing home his prized souvenir – a German P-38 pistol. When he checked his barracks bag one day, he was really disappointed to find the revolver missing. There was nothing he could do about the loss.

It took us more than a month to get back to Hawaii. Before being discharged, they let us have a one-month leave, which was a chance to visit home. My destination was Kauai. I was honorably discharged on Sept. 14, 1945, in Honolulu.

TED HIRAYAMA RECALLS 100TH'S ALOHA BASEBALL TEAM

by Joy Teraoka

Recently, in conjunction with the dedication of Fort Shafter's Joe Takata Field, the *Hawaii Herald* featured a special article by Steve Lum paying tribute to the many outstanding baseball players who were members of the 100th's Aloha baseball team, which was started by Captain Katsumi "Doc" Kometani at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. In Hawai'i "Doc" Kometani, a dentist, was the franchise owner of the Asahi team in the Hawai'i Major League.

In Lum's article, Ted Takashi Hirayama (B Company, Third Platoon), Aloha's team manager, recalled incidents that made the 100th's baseball team gain such a winning reputation. In one memorable game played against a major league farm team at Green Bay, Wisconsin, Hirayama reminisced with awe about Joe Takata's play:

An opposing batter hit a towering drive over our rightfielder's head. (At Greenfield, right field was in the bleachers, but it was a 100-foot high wire fence from center field to right field, so a "ball into the wire fence" would be a "ball in play" and not an automatic homerun.) After Kenneth Kaneko retrieved the ball, he threw it to Joe, who was playing center close by. Joe relayed it on a line to our second baseman, Mushie Miyagi, who then turned and threw the ball on one skip to [3rd baseman] Yozo Yamamoto, who tagged the surprised runner out. What the runner thought was going to be an easy, stand-up triple turned out to be just another out. Joe's throw to Miyagi was outstanding. I still remember the announcer saying that it would take a major-league team to make a play like that, and these little guys from Hawai'i just did it. They played like pros.

On another occasion the 100th's Aloha team played at the relocation camp in Jerome, Arkansas, against a team comprised of "kotonks." Hirayama recalled,

On Saturday and Sunday, we played three games against each other. On Sunday afternoon, we had each won a game, so this was the rubber game.

Approximately half of the crowd was from Hawai'i so it was rather disappointing for them

that we lost the third game. However, a highlight of the event took place late in the game. The score was something like 10 to 4, with the 100th losing. Since the other team was already winning, they were not throwing to Joe Takata junk balls. Instead of pitching to Joe for an out, they pitched him fastballs, challenging him. Joe responded by hitting the ball clear out of the park at right field. The announcer claimed that was the longest drive out of that field. And that homerun gave the Hawai'i fans something to cheer about even though they lost the game. Not only the Hawai'i fans, but also the mainland fans were impressed by Joe Takata's ability to hit the ball like a major leaguer.

During the war, when it was announced that Takata was the first one killed in action, all who had witnessed that homerun at Jerome must have recalled and marveled at his skill all over again.

According to Hirayama, many One Puka Puka Infantry members may not be aware that the 100th Aloha team played its last ball game in North Africa.

It was when General Charles Ryder of the 34th Division met with Colonel Farrant Turner and Major James Lovell to request that the 100th Battalion replace some men of the 133rd Regiment Battalion who had been pulled out to serve as guards for General Dwight Eisenhower's headquarters. Just prior to that the 133rd Regiment's baseball team had been scheduled to play against the 168th Regiment ball team--the undefeated champions in Africa. General Ryder asked if the 100th had any baseball players. Colonel Turner and Major Lovell assured Ryder that the 100th had a competitive team at both Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and also at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. With the 100th becoming a part of the 133rd Regiment (one of its three battalions), five good hitters were recruited from the Hawai'i ranks to play against the 168th Regiment.

In that game, with the score tied in the late innings, Hide Yamashita was safely on first base. Then "Turtle" Omiya came up to bat, hitting a timely double, sending Yamashita home to win the ball game for the 133rd over the 168th.

Later, Hide met and befriended some of the other 133rd ballplayers. They told him that there was some really heavy betting riding on that game. Hide informed them that only a few days later, Turtle was the victim of a tripped teller mine in Italy, causing shrapnel to hit his eyes, blinding him permanently. Sadly, not only the 100th and the Hawai'i fans but also the whole 34th Division remembered with deep regret what had happened to "Turtle" Omiya.

The 133rd was curious to know just how good the 100th baseball team was, so they challenged them to a game. The 100th called upon Lieutenant Paul E. Froning who had just joined the 100th, as its pitcher--Froning had been a pro pitcher from Minnesota. Needless to say, the 133rd could not cope with his speed, and so the final score was in favor of the 100th over the 133rd--26 to 0.

The next day the whole 34th Division shipped out to Italy.

Hirayama had inserted the following note into the scorebook: "Please mail this scorebook to me at my Honolulu address." Since the team had no journal, he hoped that the scorebook would be used to recollect all the games in Wisconsin, Mississippi, and Africa. He assumed the 133rd chose to forget the game because that scorebook was never mailed to him.

In Steve Lum's article there are a few discrepancies Hirayama wished to comment on. In the team photo shown on page A-14 of the *Hawaii Herald*, only six members of the Aloha team are still living. They are Akira Akimoto, Roy Honbo, Ted Hirayama, Wataru Kaneshina and also "Lefty" Seiji Tanigawa and "Lefty" Toshio Mizusawa should have been mentioned. Both "Lefty's" belonged to the same Company B, Third Platoon, as Joe Takata. Also, Fumi Shimatsu of Kauai is still living.

Other notes of interest: "Blackie" Ronald Hamamura, who used to alternate as shortstop with Sam Tomai, is still taking care of strawberries in California. Another item is that Edward Mitsukado, also pictured, was the manager of the 298th National Guard baseball team, but upon arrival at Camp McCoy, he was transferred to the MIS. Others who played for the National Guard team were Fred Meyer and Pop Johnson of the All Hawaiians, along with Happy Sasaki, Stanley Funai (KIA) and Harushi Kondo (KIA). Missing from the photo were "Blackie" Harushi Kondo (KIA Aiea) and Fumi Shimatsu (Kauai).

Lum concluded his article with a brief bio of Ted Hirayama. Ted was born in Honoka'a on the Big Island but raised on Oahu. He graduated from Mid-Pacific in 1935. As an avid baseball enthusiast, Ted played in both the junior and senior Windward Oahu AJA leagues. This interest continued as he managed the 100th's Aloha baseball team. At the end of the war Hirayama returned to Hawai'i and was employed at the City and County of Honolulu's Board of Water Supply for 33 years, until his retirement in 1979.

At one time Hirayama served as editor for the 100th Infantry Battalion's newsletter. With his vast knowledge of the Island's AJA baseball teams, he is often sought by researchers for information regarding their past histories. To him those AJA teams of yesteryear are a vibrant memory to be long cherished. These AJA teams played at Atkinson Field in Kakaako. He remembered names like Bozo Wakabayashi and the Kameda brothers from Waialua, which is a long time ago.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR: CORRECTIONS AND ADDED NOTES OF INTEREST

Recently I received an interesting letter from Harrison Hamasaki of Walnut, California, regarding some errors in the names I mentioned in my article about Takeichi "Chicken" Miyashiro. On page 6 of the May issue I wrote that the three C Company soldiers who received field commissions as 2nd lieutenants at Anzio were Chicken Miyashiro, "Kazumi Hisanaga, and Robert Otake." Harrison made the following corrections for me: "Kazumi Hisanaga should read **Kazuma Hisanaga**, and Robert Otake should read **Russel Masanao Otake.**"

Harrison added some other enlightening facts about these soldiers. He stated Hisanaga (deceased) hailed from Hilo and Otake (KIA) was from Lahaina, Maui. Masanao's younger brother, Masayuki, served with H Co., 442nd RCT. Masanao's nickname was "Poty" and Masayuki's was "Big Boy." Both Otake brothers were considered big and tall--around 5'10" or 5'11".

Recently Harrison talked to the famous Wally Yonamine (ex-pro baseball player in Japan) at TnT Restaurant in Torrance. Yonamine recalled when Otake played 1st string while he played on the B team [note: Yonamine was younger than the Otake brothers]. He added that the Otakes were good athletes and both brothers played for Lahainaluna on Maui.

Masanao Otake was killed in action on October 17, 1944, in Bruyeres, France. He received the DSC, the SS and the PH w/clusters. Masayuki was shaken and saddened to learn of his brother's death while on the frontline. Masayuki "Big Boy" was recommended by Col. (ret.) Chris Keegan and awarded the SS.



NOTE FROM EDITOR REGARDING SUBMITTING OTHER PUBLICATION ARTICLES

As much as we sincerely appreciate having news items and articles sent to us to print in the Puka Puka Parade, we ask that you do not submit long articles from other publications because of our limited newsletter space. Also, there is the problem of securing permission to reprint such articles. If it is to be quoted in its entirety, before one sends it to the PPParade, one must seek permission from the source, or name the source, date of publication and author.

We that you write and tell us about the article in your own words. This will help the editorial staff and at the same time, keep the PPParade interesting and newsworthy. Thank you very much.



DIS AND DAT

by Ray Nosaka

The tour to Coconut Island on Tuesday, August 12, was a real treat for most of us members, spouses, widows and friends. Our thanks to President Stanley Akita, who coordinated and made all of the arrangements. I, for one, truly enjoyed the scenic drive on the H-3 which was a first time for me. Also, I must admit that I did not realize that Kaneohe has three shopping malls for the convenience of the residents there.

The boat that was waiting for us took about 45 minutes to get us to Coconut Island. The sea was calm and smooth, water was clear and it was a very relaxing ride; no one got seasick that I know of. We spent about two and a half hours walking and being educated about what is going on there regarding the experimental program with the sharks and other fishes. Before embarking on the buses to return home, we enjoyed having lunch in the comfort of one of the lanais.

There were over 50 people present at the "pre-mini union" luncheon meeting held for the people who will be Vegas bound in October. Ann Kabasawa, travel agent and coordinator, reminded everyone to meet in Lobby 6 (Honolulu Airport) at least two hours or more ahead of the departure time. To add to the excitement of the pre mini-reunion, someone started a "collection" for those hopefuls who wished to make an "investment" with a lucky (we hope) wahine, and another for the men. We will report in the

November issue as to the results - win, lose or draw??

Thought for the month: October is the happy side of summer and the pleasant side of winter.



MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata and Stan Izumigawa

Maui Chapter members held their luncheon meeting at the Asian Cuisine and Sports Bar Restaurant in Kahului on Tuesday, August 5, 2003, at 11 a.m. President Stanley Izumigawa called on Wataru Kaneshina to bless the food. There were 13 members, 8 wives and 5 widows in attendance. Following lunch, Mrs. Lillian Miyagawa passed out delicious home baked cookies to all the diners, and Mrs. Thelma Iwami passed out to the ladies, homemade colorful zippered cloth bags. Mahalo!

The treasurer was authorized to close the checking account if a waiver of monthly maintenance fee cannot be obtained from the American Savings Bank.

The Sons & Daughters of the Maui Nisei Veterans Club will again conduct this year's veterans' Memorial Service on Sunday, September 28 at 2 p.m., at the Maui County Veterans Cemetery in Makawao. Maui Chapter will join the Maui 442nd Veterans Club as a single club for all public occasions such as the May Veterans Memorial Service held at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Edward Nishihara and family for the loss of their son Edward Jr., 56, who died on August 3, 2003. Burial was at the Maui Veterans Cemetery.

Stanley Izumigawa sent the following notice just in case you have not been notified.

Mitsugu Jio, 85, of Maui, who was a member of "A" Company of the 100th, passed away on July 21, 2003. Mits and I were in the same squad in "L" Company of the 442nd and were both in the first replacement group and ended up together in "A" Co. but in different platoons. He was one of those who never joined the vets clubs, 100th or 442nd, for whatever reason.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

By Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

Club Clean Up: Thanks to all Headquarters Chapter members who helped that day. It was a joint effort to clean the kitchen area with Rural Chapter, and both chapters did an outstanding job. A special "E" for effort goes to Mrs. V. Turner, Dot Tamashiro, Otomatsu Aoki, Randy Kamisato and his sister Marlene. Randy and Marlene are the children of the late Mr. and Mrs. Archie Kamisato of Hq.

Thursday, August 28, 2003, was the day selected for a Hq. Chapter luncheon get together. The 20 people who signed up gathered at On On Restaurant on McCully and Young Street. Further news on this event will appear in the next PPP.

Let's remember our fallen comrades and those who have passed on by attending the coming 100th Bn. Memorial Services at Punchbowl on Sunday, September 28. Hq. Chapter needs a few more volunteers to help place flowers in the columbarium area on Saturday morning, September 27. Please call Dorothy Tamashiro on this at 734-5122 for information. A suggested brunch of Hq. Members (on your own?) right after the Sunday Memorial Service is pending and will be confirmed at our next meeting.

Shigeru Inouye of Medics would appreciate some help at his Memorial Service refreshment operation. Please call him at 839-2217 for details and assignment.

Our August chapter meeting saw 13 members present. Treasurer Art Komiyama reported that Hq. is now on firm financial footing with a new bank account recently established. Our next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, September 13, at 10:00 a.m. Please make every effort to attend.

Dissa 'n Datta

Frank Nishimura, A and P section, is doing fine except for the usual old age "over there sore, over here sore" syndrome. Frank says, "Living solo out in Kailua is very inconvenient as I don't drive other than going to the nearby store. Attending Hq. functions has been down to zero as a result." Take care, Frank.

Aki and Pat Akimoto on a travel binge lately, all crammed in the month of August. First stop was in Kona for a 50th anniversary family gathering, then back to Honolulu. Then they were off to Las Vegas to seek their fortune. Now back to reality, but "Vegas wasn't so bad," quipped Aki.

Also on a family vacation to the Big Island was Jan Sakoda, our scribe and daughter of Gary Uchida. Her family spent a week there before her son left for college. "Refreshed and ready to go," says Jan.

If you have any news items of chapter members, please call me (Ed Ikuma) at 732-6884 or Jan Sakoda at 737-7778.

Remember....our next meeting will be held on Saturday, September 13, 10 a.m.. Hope to see you there!!

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

By Joe Muramatsu

There were 14 Bakerites in attendance at our August meeting. There were two visitors who wanted some information about their brother Dan Wada. Sonsei Nakamura must have given a lot of info because he talked to them for a long time. Takeo Azama left our meeting to give them more info about their brother.

During our meeting, it was suggested that renters of our hall bring their own speaker system if they want to use same because they messed up our system. Also, some things are missing from the store room. We are not saying that they took those things but we believe it would be better if they did not enter the storeroom.

The matter of the joint memorial service is still up in the air.

Election of Baker Chapter officers is coming up soon so if you do not want to be railroaded into office, attend our next meeting to defend yourself.

Anyone who has any articles that they want printed in the PPP, send them in to the clubhouse office and address it to the PPP editor. Here's a contribution from Bernard Akamine:

Cecilee and Carolee Tanaka and Lisa Teruya recently returned from a 15-day trip to Okinawa sponsored by the town of Haeburu. The three women were chosen to participate in the first Hawaii to Haeburu exchange program. The exchange dates back to 1993 when Haeburu-cho and its Department of Education's Lifelong Learning Section launched a cultural exchange program with Hawaii's Haeburu Club. Since 1993, about 14 junior and senior high school students from Haeburu have homestayd with local Haeburu Club members.

Last year, Haeburu-cho officials decided to make the program a true exchange by offering to host three college students of Hawaii Haeburu Club members. Selected for the trip were sisters Cecilee and Carolee Tanaka, both of whom were in graduate schools, and Lisa Teruya, who just earned her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Lisa is the daughter of James and Cheryl (Kamisato) Teruya and Cecilee and Carolee are the daughters of Stanley and Drusilla (Akamine) Tanaka.

While in Okinawa, the women were hosted by the Haeburu Bunka Center. They took Japanese language classes, participated in an international "undokai", sang Hawaiian and Okinawan songs and went sightseeing in Okinawa. Lisa said the trip was a good learning experience and fun as well. "I learned more about my culture by meeting students my age and living with my relatives for a few days." She said the staff at the Haeburu Bunka Center taught her a few Okinawan words and took her to historical sites she never visited before. "I enjoyed my time in Okinawa and wish to go back there soon."

"Tanoshikatta" said Cecilee Tanaka, "people were very friendly and helpful just like in Hawaii." Carolee spent time with an Okinawan woman she met in 1993 during the Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange. The Tanaka sisters also visited their family's "ohaka", an experience that Carolee said moved her immensely. They thanked Haeburu-cho and the staff of the Bunka Center for the opportunity to learn more about their ancestral homeland and to further their appreciation of their Okinawan heritage. (Permission received from Karleen Chinen.)

Lisa Teruya is the granddaughter of the late Archie Kamisato (Hq.) Cecilee and Carolee are the granddaughters of Bernard Akamine (Baker).

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

Ten members were present at our meeting of August 18. It was reported that General Shinseki was approved by the board of directors to be one our honorary members.

We had put our lives on the line countless times, took insults and discriminations during the war, but when General Shinseki became the Army Chief of Staff it made me feel as though what we endured was not in vain. I am HAPPY he is one of our honorary members.

Hisako Miyashiro, wife of Oscar Miyashiro, is our newest member. With Cary and Earl we now have the entire family as members of Charlie Chapter.

The clubhouse clean-up brought ten guys out to do their stuff. They were Saburo Ishitani, Oscar Miyashiro, Chick Miyashiro our foreman, Jack Mizushima, Takeichi Onishi, Toshimi Sodegami, Hiromi Suehiro, W. Iwai and Stan Akita. The old bones were creaking but we got our job done. Mrs. Arlene Sato (Niimi) and Warren Yamamoto from the Sons and Daughters gave us a good boost.

Charlie Chapter gathered for their annual "Fun Nite" at the Nuuanu Onsen on August 14. Forty-eight (48) members, wives, widows, and friends gathered and sat on the tatami to enjoy nine courses of delicious food. The hard part is getting up - the old bones just won't move. Among our guests were the Inouye's, Shigeru, Fumi and son, Clinton. Shigeru was a medic attached to Co. C until he was wounded in Cassino. We all had a good time - thanks in part to our generous donors.

Kiyoshi Hasegawa is back on his feet and doing fine after surgery on his spine. He is on the go now - see you at our next meeting, Kiyoshi.

Sick Call: Chester Hada is in the hospital at Tripler Army Medical Center recuperating from a series of pilikia (trouble). He was in ICU, but is out in the ward now. He could use some moral support so visit him if you can or drop him a line.

Toshimi and Lillian Sodegami will be leaving for their new home in Walnut Creek, CA shortly. We wish them well and hope they will visit us often. We also want to thank Toshimi and Lillian for their very generous contribution to our bento fund. Be sure to come back soon - we want to treat you to our bento. Take care - take good care - we will miss you.

NEXT MEETING IS ON SEPTEMBER 15, 10 a.m.. With Toshimi gone and Chester on sick call we need reinforcement so we are calling on our long time absentees Seigi Adaniya, Seiju Ifuku, Sumio Ito, Yoroku Ito, Kenneth Higa, Kiyoshi Hasegawa, Kaoru Matsumura, Norman Oda, Satoru Okamura, and others - you know who. We promise you a good bento!

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

By Helen Nikaido

REMINDER:

DOG CHAPTER LUNCHEON – Friday, Sept. 19, 2003, 11:00 AM, At Pagoda Restaurant

Cost \$13.00 per person ("Jits" Yoshida, our treasurer, requests that you have the exact amount ready. If paying by check, make it payable to "Club 100 Co. D. Chapter." For reservations, please call "Jits" Yoshida at 845-7753; Mary Hamasaki at 983-1308; or Helen Nikaido at 734-5552 by Sept. 10.

Our deepest sympathy to Lyn Yoshioka, Susan Teranishi, Anne Yoshioka and grandchildren whose father and grandfather, Robert Kazuso Yoshioka, passed away on July 24, 2003. He was 87 years old. Saw Mako and Lillian Takiguchi from Kauai and Fred and Helen Yamashige from Maui at the funeral. Despite the aches and pains of old age, they looked good, same smiles and cheerful, like the good old reunion days.

Our get well wishes to Edward Kumao Harada, who had surgery recently. Talked to Kay and she tells me he is coming along fine. Take care, Ed; see you at the luncheon.

One night as I watched Channel 9 news, I saw this familiar face – it was "Jits" Yoshida! He was at the new open market on Fort Street Mall. You're a celebrity, "Jits". May I have your autograph?

F COMPANY NEWS

By Kenneth M. Higa

SURPRISE! Nowadays, the only persons attending F Co. meetings are usually the officers: Charles Nishimura, president; Mataka Takeshita, vice-pres.; Seiso Kamishita, secretary; Kenneth Higa, treasurer; and Ted Hamasu, ex-officio. Ah, but the meeting held on Friday, Aug. 15, smoked out the popular Otis elevator man of the past, Robert Tatsuo Kapuniaia. Although he retired many years ago, Robert is a legend in the elevator world. Ask any ex or present Otis employee about Robert and the

answer will be, I know him personally or know of him. Tatsuo, we were certainly glad you came and happy to see you looking good. See you at the annual luncheon on Sept. 21.

Another surprise! Charles Nishimura informed us that Toshiaki Ito of Honokaa, Hawaii, and his wife Myra are in a care home in Honolulu. About three years ago, they were involved in a traffic accident in Hawaii and have been in Oahu ever since. Myra was seriously injured and is now wheelchair bound. Toshiaki told me he is okay except for "old age aches and pains" like all of us. It certainly was nice to hear his voice as we chatted over the telephone. Call him at 422-6284. I am sure he will be happy to hear from his old friends. By the way, he will try to attend the luncheon.

True-blue. Seitoku and Shizu Akamine are truly staunch F troopers. They are regulars at practically all of our annual functions. On Saturday, Aug. 16, I received a memo from Shizu stating that they are looking forward to meeting the gang on Sept. 21. In addition, enclosed was a check to help defray expenses of the luncheon. Thank you very much, Sei and Shizu, for your most generous monetary contribution.

Following the example of the Akamines in making an early commitment to attend the annual luncheon, neighbor islanders, please contact your respective coordinators as soon as possible. The Oahu members are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the "long-time-no-see troopers" from Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui. The neighbor island coordinators are: Kauai - Choichi Shimabukuro; Maui - Eichi Endo; Hawaii - Seitoku & Shizu Akamine. Seiso Kamishita is the Oahu coordinator as well as coordinator in charge of all islands.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

Ted Hamasu

The Ad Hoc committee for the combined memorial service with the 100/442 headed by Shigeru Tsubota met with 442nd counterparts, Fred Ida, Ron Oba and Ed Ichiyama in the board room on July 29, 2003 from 10:00 AM. The 100th committee members are Shigeru Tsubota, Tomeki Nishioka and Ted Hamasu. Couple of ideas were discussed and the one that most of the committee agreed on was to hold a joint memorial service nearest the date that the 100th/442 was formed back in June 1944.

We agreed to notify our organizations on the outcome of the meeting and if the members agreed to the proposal of joint memorial services, we will then meet again to solidify the agreement.

As a member of the joint committee, I feel strongly that it's time to forget our individual feelings and join forces instead of going our separate ways. After all is said and done, the 442 is our younger brother. I'm sure that some of our members have brothers and relatives in the 442.

The clean-up day has passed and I'd like to thank Susumu Ota, Bull Saito, Mitsuo Nagaki, Mataka Takeshita, Charles Nishimura and Ted Hamasu for using their elbow grease to assist in cleaning up the kitchen, the most used and the hardest area to keep clean. We thank Yukio Tanji for sending his steam cleaner down to be used but the Club had a more powerful one, which came in handy. We were pau by lunch and had bento and all the drinks we needed to quench our thirst. To top it off, Goro Sumida brought out some of his own sashimi and beer and also Suehiro took out his Japanese brew, Asahi "biilu" to accommodate the members who helped to clean up the clubhouse.

Our Mahalo Nui Loa to members, the wives and S&D for their kokua. *Gokuroo sama.*

Mr. Shinko Nohara is spearheading a project to translate the book, *Ambassador In Arms* into the Japanese language.

General Shinseki (Ret.) was unanimously inducted into the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. organization as an honorary member by the BOD.

The nominating committee came up with a slate of names for the officers of the Club for the year 2004. It maybe subject to change:

President	Shigeru Tsubota
1st VP	Robert Arakaki
2nd VP	Bernard Akamine
Secretary	Denis Teraoka
Treasurer	Albert Turner

Our annual memorial service will be held on 28 Sep. 03 from 0900.

After 47 years of faithful service by Shigeru Inouye, his family and helpers, this will be his last for serving refreshments at our service. We thank Shigeru for his long and dedicated service to the 100th Inf.Bn. Veterans. *Gokuroo sama deshita.*

The JCCH Annual Membership and Silent Auction was to be held on Aug. 27, 2003 from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Keynote address by Senator Inouye.

Rural chapter will meet at Zippy's of Wahiawa on Friday, September 19, 2003 from 11:00 AM. See you all there.

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS

by Sam Fujikawa

The regular 100th/442nd Association board meeting was held at the Ted Tanouye Armory in Torrance on August 2nd. T/Sgt. Ted Tanouye was a member of the 442nd, Company K and is honored as the only holder of the Medal of Honor in the City of Torrance. Members of the Reserve Unit had requested a meeting in order to meet veteran members of the famed 100th/442nd. Representing the 100th was Steve Tagami, current President of the Association and Sam Fujikawa. A tour of the Armory with many up-to-date army equipment brought back many memories of the old, antiquated arms and machinery that were used during WWII.

Truly a happy occasion was the beautiful wedding of Steve Tagami and Jodel Hirata on August 10 at the Orange County Buddhist Church with a lovely reception at the Sheraton Cerritos. Best wishes are in order from the 100th/442nd Association but especially from the 100th members and their families and friends.

Col.Young O. Kim (Ret.), reports that on Friday, August 15, the well attended unveiling of "Unexpected Heroes," a project by the Go For Broke Educational Foundation and the Museum of Tolerance was held. Randy Fujimoto was the project manager, which focused on educating the public on the story of the 522 Field Artillery Battalion liberation of Dachau. It is funded in part by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. There is now a website, www.teachers.museumoftolerance.com, which will feature the whole program including interviews of the 522nd FAB veterans and an online teacher's guide with text, photos and interview clips. 100th members spotted in the audience were Mas and Elma Takahashi, Ken and Hisa Miya, and Col.Young O.Kim (Ret.). This October teacher workshops by the Go For Broke Educational Foundation will be held in Hawaii, supported by the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii's Veterans Endowed Forum.

We had a great surprise at our club meeting this past Saturday the 16th, when Ben Tagami attended after a long absence. He is coming along well and we were able to have a lively discussion about the mini-reunion. Ben and Jean Tagami, Toke Yoshihashi, Toe Yoshino, May and Wayne Fujita, Chuckie Seki, Fumi Sakato, Bill Sato, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Hank Hayashi, Yeiki Matsui, Col. Young Oak Kim (Ret.), and Sam and Teri Fujikawa were there to hear what needs to be done to make sure we will have a good time in October. Slot Tournaments will be on Monday and Tuesday mornings, Shopping Tour to the Outlet Mall will be Monday after the Slot Tournament, the Banquet will be Tuesday night. Still in the works are a possible tour of Nellis Air Force Base and a Wednesday night club show. Sign-up sheets with details will be posted in the Hospitality Room Sunday night. The Hospitality Room will be open from 5:30 pm Sunday night for registration and name tags - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday hours will be posted Sunday night. Hospitality Room locations will be posted by the two sets of elevators after we arrive on Sunday. Looking forward to seeing everyone!



THE JOYS AND WOES OF THE HEARING IMPAIRED Joke submitted by Joe Muramatsu

Morris, an 82-year old man went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young lady on his arm. A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to the man and said, "You're really doing great, aren't you?" Morris replied, "Just doing what you told me to, Doctor: "Get a hot mamma and be cheerful." The Doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said you got a heart murmur. Be careful."

The PukaPuka Parade is the monthly newsletter of the World War II 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans association (aka Club 100). Published at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826

HOW TO TELL THE SEX OF A FLY

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting Flies" He responded.

"Oh. Killing any?" She asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."

And you probably thought this would be dirty...shame on YOU!!!

THE DAILY PRAYER OF KINTOKU TANABE

Although Jim Tanabe was with MIS, he recalls fondly this memory of his father, Kintoku Tanabe:

Every morning my father used to go out to the porch of his condo where he could see Punchbowl and *TE WO AWASETE* he would say a prayer of thanks to the soldiers, particularly the 100th and 442nd, for giving their lives that he may enjoy peace. He used to tell me in his rural Hiroshima dialect, "*Ano boysan-ra ga 'ashi to tame ni senso ni itte shindan 'jake no, koshite maiasa arera ni kansha sen nara batchi ga ataru ke no.*"

(Jim's oldest brother was MIS--Feb '44 Lang Sch class--most of his duty was in Occupation with CIC.)



GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK (from the March 2003 issue of Prevention magazine)

Feeling bad about things you've done in the past creates a pretty painful present. So while you're learning how to forgive yourself and move on, give your mind and body a break from all the shame and guilt by replacing them with gratitude, says psychologist Fred Luskin, PHD, author of "Forgive for Good." Here's how he suggests you do it:

- ~~Walk into your nearest supermarket and give thanks for the abundance of food that's available.~~
 - Go to a nursing home or hospital and give thanks for your own good health.
 - When driving, mentally thank each of the drivers who follow the rules of the road.
 - If you have a significant other in your life, thank him or her for caring for you every day.
 - Really notice the salesperson in a store who waits on you. Thank them for helping you.
 - As you wake each morning, give thanks for your breath and the gift of your life.
- (submitted by Helen Nikaido)

In Memoriam

Robert Kazuso Yoshioka	Company D	Passed away July 24, 2003
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 Our deepest sympathy to his family

EH, WHAT D'YA SAY THERE?

"I CAN HEAR JUST FINE!" Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?" "No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday." And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."

(Sounds like some vets 'round here!)

SECRETARY'S MAHALO REPORTby **Amanda Stevens***The following donations are acknowledged with many thanks: * = Corrections/additions to last month's PPP***100th Infantry Battalion Veterans**

Gladys Kawakami		\$100	
Anita K. Korenaga	In memory of Shinyei Nakamine	\$100	Memorial Service
Clara Nakano		\$20	Memorial Service
Lorraine N. M. Young		\$25	Memorial Service

Puka Puka Parade

Frances Hirata	In memory of Kent Y. Nakamura	\$25	
Mieko Muroshige		\$25	

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund:**\$1,000 and above:**

Izumigawa, Stanley (Kula)

\$500 - \$999:

Verizon Hawaii

\$100 - \$499:

* Aimoto, Doris (Honolulu)	In memory of Yoshito Aimoto
Arizumi, Satoji (Wailuku)	
Hamasu, Mitsuo (Pearl City)	In memory of Jerry Yamaki
Hamasu, Edgar A. (Honolulu)	
Hamasu, Mitsuo (Pearl City)	In memory of Rudy Yoshida
Ishitani, Saburo & Felicia (Honolulu)	
Kaneshina, Wataru (Wailuku)	
Kikuchi, Dorothy S. (Waipahu)	
*Matsuda, Kimiko & Don (Honolulu)	
Matsuda, Mari J. (Washington, DC)	
Miyashiro, Florence (Honolulu)	In memory of Howard Miyashiro
* Nishioka, Tommy & Barbara (Honolulu)	In memory of Naoji Yamagata, Tsuneo Morikawa & Walter Moriguchi
* Sugawara, Edwin (Waimea)	In memory of Yoshito "Duke" Sugawara
* Soneda, Shinji (Honolulu)	In memory of Masao Koga
Shimizu, Yoneko (Pearl City)	
Takiguchi, Mako (Kauai)	
Tani, Carolyn (Kaneohe)	In memory of James F. Tani
*Uyeno, Gertrude K. (Honolulu)	In memory of Kiyoshi Uyeno
Yamashige, Fred (Wailuku)	
Yoshimura, Masayuki (Honolulu)	

Up to \$99:

Akita, Burton (Hilo)	
*Baker Chapter (Honolulu)	In memory of Masa Toma
*Company F. (Honolulu)	In memory of Sakae Watanabe
Company F (Honolulu)	In memory of Tetsuo Takeoka
Fujimoto, Jill S. (Hilo)	In memory of Masao Fujimoto
*Hori, Thomas [Trust] (Honolulu)	
*Kasaoka, June (Wahiawa)	In memory of John Y. Kihara
Langhurst, Tracy L. (Cedar Rapids, IA)	
Maki, Shiro (Wahiawa)	
Shimizu, Yoneko (Pearl City)	Omimae for Dr. Kenneth Otagaki
Takara, Ben F. (Kaneohe)	

Mahalo to Goro Sumida for his donation of two coffee machines to the clubhouse. Also, mahalo to Hiro Kakuhari for his comprehensive video footage of the 60th Anniversary Banquet. We know it took a lot of time, effort and funding to complete his project of our monumental event last year.

Contributions to the Sons & Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion will be listed in the next issue of the PPP. For those who have questions regarding the status of your tax deductible contribution to the Sons & Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion (ie: Tax ID number), please call the 100th Inf. Bn. office.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003

ABLE.....	Saturday, September 20	8:00 am
BAKER.....	Saturday, September 20	1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....	Monday, September 15	10:00 am
DOG.....	Saturday, September 20	9:00 am
HQ.....	Saturday, September 13.....	10:00 am
RURAL.....	Friday, September 19	Zippy's in Wahiawa.....11:00 am
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, September 12	10:00 am
100TH MEMORIAL SERVICE.....	Sunday, September 28 ..	Punchbowl Cemetery.....9:00 am
MAUI MEMORIAL SERVICE.....	Sunday, September 28 ..	Vets Cemetery, Makawao.....2:00 pm
GREEN THUMBS.....	Monday, September 1.....	Lounge.....10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24	Clubhouse.....9:00 am

NOTE: The next issue will be for **October 2003**. Deadline for articles will be **Sept. 16, 2003**. *(Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.)*

Puka Puka Parade collating will be on FRIDAY, September 26, 2003, 8:30 am. Baker and Rural are responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua. **OUR VOLUNTEERS LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AROUND 10:30 AM. ALL PPPARADE VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME.**

For PPP chapter news and articles: joykiku@hawaii.rr.com (no attachments to joykiku, please) or vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com (attachments okay.)

IMPORTANT **New e-mail address** for club business, questions or correspondence:
 vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com

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 520 Kamoku Street
 Honolulu, HI 96826-5120

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