President’s Message  
by Lloyd Kitaoka

Last month, my dad Judge Takashi Kitaoka (Company B) and I attended a ceremony in which he was chosen to receive a “Hero of the Heart Award” from the students of the Navy Hale Keiki School’s Patriots Club. This is a private grade school located nearby to Radford High School and made up of students in pre-school through the 4th grade. Ninety percent of the students are from Navy families where either or both parents are serving in the U.S. Navy (and many are deployed overseas).

I came away very impressed at the lengths these teachers and students went through to present a meaningful ceremony. One of the administrators had contacted our office and asked us to nominate a veteran that the students could do research on the Internet to get information on the nominee. Since they needed a quick response I made an executive decision to recommend my dad since (1) I knew there was quite a bit of information online and (2) it would be great for the children to meet and shake the hand of a centenarian. There were other candidates that were also nominated so I didn’t think dad would be selected, and I did not think anything more about it until one day, the school called the office and said that he had been selected! To make a long story short, the ceremony was outstanding, from the red carpet lined with students saluting and two young boys escorting my dad to his seat, to the playing of the National Anthem by members of the Pacific Fleet Band, and the fantastic ceremony itself which the students produced, spoke and sang “Glad to Be an American.” I had no idea that these youngsters were interested in a war fought long ago but the administrator said there were even three students that were World War II buffs. I was told that the students were very serious about the award and dad was chosen over an admiral and a Viet Nam veteran. The students and many parents gathered around my dad to ask questions, thank him for his service and shake his hand. Good stuff, huh? After the ceremony, I had a chance to invite the children to visit our Education Center and to my surprise, they accepted. We are presently planning this visit and hope they’ll be visiting the clubhouse soon.

I have been focusing our educational outreach efforts on middle and high school students but this caught me by surprise. The old adage applies here, “Don’t assume” and “Expect the unexpected!” The bottom line is that the students learned about the 100th and most of all, dad was thrilled and very honored. They made an old soldier very happy and that’s what it is all about. Thank you Patriot’s Club of the Navy Hale Keiki School!

Aloha…

Lloyd and dad, Judge Takashi Kitaoka
In Memoriam

Giyozo Uyehara (A)
Passed away on March 12, 2014

Richard Tsutomu Ishimoto (A)
Passed away on April 6, 2014

Stanley Izumigawa (A)
Passed away on April 23, 2014

Our deepest sympathy to their families.

News from Jan Sakoda in Europe

On May 8, 2014, Ed and Jan Sakoda (daughter of Gary Uchida, HQ), Wayne and Carol Matsunaga (daughter of Arthur Komiyama, HQ), and Alvin and Ellie Shimogaki (son of Calvin Shimogaki, HQ) joined David and Judy Fukuda (son of Mits Fukuda, A) on a 90-minute ride from Santa Margharita to Aulla. Almost to the day 69 years ago, the 100th/442nd entered Aulla on its last combat mission.

During World War II, Aulla was an important town as it was part of the supply road that led to Austria. The Allied commanders felt that if they could take this town, it would be a huge blow to the Nazis.

The 100th/442nd was assigned this task. They were fighting in France when, in March 1945, they were secretly ordered back to Italy to help break through the Gothic line. After breaking through the Gothic Line, Task Force Fukuda was formed in April 1945 to capture Aulla. Some of the names Capt. Fukuda remembered as part of this task force are: Capt. Sadami Katahara (B), Moichi ‘Monzuk’ Okazaki (HQ) and Marshall Higa (HQ).

Entering Aulla, our group had noted the imposing fortress, La Fortezza Della Brunella, which overlooked the town and was where the Nazis had been billeted during the war. The rest of the town, which was totally leveled by Allied bombers during the war, was nondescript with no memorials or monuments to commemorate the 100th/442nd's entrance into the city.

Our first stop was at Abbazia Di San Caprasio, which was left largely unscathed, including its tower. A 500-pound British bomb had been dropped onto the apse (altar area) but did not explode. Ten years ago, while excavating, they discovered the bomb in addition to the tomb of St. Caprasio. People attributed the powers of St. Caprasio for protecting them. (We also learned this was the 30th stop of the pilgrimage from London to Rome, then on to Jerusalem.) One of the workers at the Abbey was excited to learn why we were visiting and showed us a replica of the huge unexploded bomb, where it landed, and even some of the bones of the Saint.

Our next stop was at Fortezza Della Brunella (Brunella's Fortress), which had been occupied by the German soldiers. This fortress was huge! The walls at the top were about five feet thick. I can understand why this was a desired location. The tower was on a precipice and had...
a commanding view of the city. From this fortress, we were able to see the direction and landscape from which the men entered the city on April 25, 1945. Incidentally April 25 is the date that the Italians consider their liberation day, even though the official end of the war is May 2.

All in all it was a good trip. Stay tuned for more adventures in our travels in the next PPP.

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Spouses of 100th Veterans Honored

The 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Organization’s Rural Chapter celebrated the contribution of widows and wives on Saturday, April 28, 2014 at the Leilehua Golf Club Private Dining Room. Kimi Matsuda of Able Chapter; Mieko Muroshige and Michiko Takashige of Baker Chapter; Doris Aimoto, Patsy Akimoto, Elsie Oshita, Ethel Takahashi and Dot Tamashiro of Headquarters Chapter; and Margaret Ota and Kitty Hamasu of Rural Chapter came out for the festivities held in their honor. The event recognized all 100th Infantry Battalion spouses as the first group to carry on the Battalion’s legacy.

Rural Chapter presented hand-made, orchid corsages to the honored guests, and boutonnieres to veterans Don Matsuda, Masaharu Saito, Ken Higa and Ted Hamasu. A musical slideshow brought back photos of the spouses from the Fifties and Sixties, and more recent years. Thirty-eight guests toasted the spouses with a full-echoed round of, “Banzai! Banzai! Banzai!”

Thomas Omuro, nephew of the late Takeshi Omuro of C Company, accompanied by his wife Yayoi Omuro, delivered an overwhelming musical performance and sing-a-long. Arlene Sato, John Oki, Janet Trubitt, Isami Yoshihara, Gail Hamasu and Bob Weiss kindly drove guests to and from the venue.

Rural Chapter volunteers involved in the celebration included Masaharu Saito, Ted Hamasu, Kay Okimoto, Trisha Okimoto, Carole Ota, Mimi Nakano, Joanne Ing, Jenny Kam, Kirk Nakahira and Tsurumi Hamasu.

★★★

Rural Chapter President’s Speech in Honor of the 100th Battalion Veterans’ Spouses

Saturday, April 26, 2014, Leilehua Golf Club

My name is Tsurumi Hamasu. I am Ted and Kitty Hamasu’s daughter. I joined Club 100 about 18 months ago because I knew it was important to my dad. I have become deeply grateful to be able to participate with him and to do my part to carry on the legacy of the 100th Battalion.

Last year, Rural Chapter realized something was terribly remiss at the Club: Recognition for the spouses of the 100th Battalion veterans was long overdue! It took Congress almost 70 years to recognize the veterans, and it’s taken over 60 for the club to recognize work of the veterans’ spouses! Yes, something had to be done—and here we are today honoring you, the spouses of the 100th Battalion veterans.
Our veterans understood that their contributions to history were more than having served valiantly in the war effort. They created the Club for camaraderie, and also, importantly, to stand for “the faith and belief that regardless of whether mankind is distinguishable by race, color, creed or religion, everyone has a rightful place in the sun*” and has a right be counted. They wondered how to perpetuate these values. (*from the PPP)

We now see that the spouses of 100th Battalion veterans were the first to support the legacy of the Battalion. You enable it to endure. The Club started in the 40’s. You have been living the values of the 100th Battalion for over 60 years. For this, we honor you, spouses of 100th Battalion Veterans.

I’ve only been around for a relatively short time—less than two years in the long history of Club 100. Still, I’ve picked up five lessons that can be learned from you spouses that I want to share today. Five lessons for living:

1. **Seize the Day and Enjoy Life.** We put one line about this morning’s celebration into the Puka Puka Parade, and personally, I worried if anyone would show up! Immediately there were spouses up for a celebration! We have about 35 people here today to honor the Club 100 spouses. You spouses show us how to Seize the Day and Enjoy Life.

2. **Enjoy Simple Things.** Bentos, bingo, hand-made bingo prizes. The world would be a better place if we all enjoyed simple things. You spouses show us how, and we are all better for it.

3. **Get Involved.** You spouses continue to bring life to the Club. You organize events, cook, sew, garden and clean to support the Club. You write and edit articles in the Puka Puka Parade. You sing and entertain. You participate and chair committees. You lead Chapters and participate on the Board. You show us how to get involved.

4. **Stay Involved.** It’s one thing to get involved. It’s another thing to stay involved! The club has been going for over 60 years and you’re still involved! You didn’t burn out or walk away. You’re still here creating a community that we all enjoy! We can learn a lot from you about how to stay involved.

5. **Help Clean Up.** I always see spouses after any event helping to clean up. It’s all well and good to seize the day, get involved and have a good time. It’s another thing to clean up to be ready for the next event. In life, we make messes even when we’re having a good time. It’s important to remember to help clean up.


Thank you, spouses of the 100th Battalion veterans, for these life lessons. We honor you spouses as you continue to be the first group to carry on the legacy of the 100th Battalion veterans. We are very grateful that the Club is full of the life you have brought to it over the decades. Given the significance of your role played over all of these years, this is a very humble show of gratitude. But I will ask everyone charge your tea cups and coffee cups because it’s time for a toast! Here’s to the Club 100 Spouses! BANZAI! BANZAI! BANZAI!

### 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Election of Officers

The election of officers for the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2014, at the clubhouse. Nominations are being sought for all offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Members may nominate candidates by petition for all offices up to September 10, 2014, which is 60 days before the election. Nomination forms must be signed by no less than 15 members. Details on the election will be forthcoming in future issues of the Puka Puka Parade.

### Clubhouse Hosts AJA “Go For Broke” Exhibit

The "Go For Broke: Japanese American Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts" photographic exhibit on the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service will soon be displayed at the 100th Infantry Battalion clubhouse from **June 23 through July 3, 2014**, during normal business hours (Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.). The exhibit was earlier shown at the Hawai`i State Capitol, University of Hawai`i - West Oahu library.
Honolulu Hale and the Maui Nisei Veterans Memorial Center. Here is another opportunity to view these photos from the National Archives with additional materials to be included on the 100th Infantry Battalion. We welcome members and the general public to stop by the clubhouse to view this fine collection (which was organized by Eric Saul, curator), and learn more about the AJA’s WWII stories and sacrifices.

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72nd Anniversary Banquet

When: Sunday, June 22, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Where: Pomaika‘i Ballroom at The Dole Cannery, 735 Iwilei Road
Cost: $40 per person
100th Infantry Battalion Veterans/Wives/Widows are free

Deadline to register is June 1, 2014. The registration form was included in the April Puka Puka Parade. Veterans, please check-in by 10:00 a.m. for the veterans' group photo taking at 10:15 a.m.

The theme of this year’s banquet is "The One Puka Puka Marches On" and our distinguished speakers will be Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr., Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and SGT Chris Arakawa of the 100th/442nd US Army Reserves. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Mini Reunion in Las Vegas - October 19-24, 2014
by Ann Kabasawa

The ANNUAL MINI REUNION IN LAS VEGAS will leave on Sunday, October 19, 2014 and return on Friday, October 24, 2014. We will be staying at the California Hotel. Last year we had a lot of fun with the Friends and Family Nisei Veterans (FFNV) group. Of course we’ll have our own slot tournaments and our own hospitality room and a combined banquet. All are invited. Seats are going fast at the special price. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Ann Kabasawa at 781-8540 or e-mail at diverseinnov@gmail.com. The registration form can be emailed or mailed to you.

There will be a get together on Sunday, August 3rd at 10:30 a.m. at the clubhouse. Hope that all of you can come!

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Congratulations, Garin Fukushima!

In November, 2012, Garin Fukushima, grandson of 100th veteran, Thomas Ibaraki (Company A), organized a landscaping project for the clubhouse as part of his Eagle Scout community service. This included re-designing the two front gardens and the mauka side of the building with various plants, obtaining garden materials, river rocks, and installing a drip irrigation system with volunteer support and generous donations. Many hours went into the planning, coordination, and orchestrating of this project and as a result, Garin earned the highest rank of Eagle Scout and was honored at a recent Aloha Council BSA Eagle Scout Recognition event. Congratulations, Garin! We applaud and salute you for your dedication and service leadership! We wish you much success as you continue your educational goals upon your graduation from Roosevelt High School!

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Green Thumb Club

On Friday, April 25, ten of us visited an herb garden on the Windward side of Oahu. Ingelia White, a Botany professor at the Windward Community College guided us through her garden. She generously gave us many plant cuttings, including the Spanish needle, Indonesian sweet potato roots, and panax plant, and shared recipes with us.

The Spanish needle looks like a common weed but it is eaten as a vegetable in many parts of the world. The leaves can be put in saimin, miso soup, and salads. The Hawaiians used it for treating problems such as skin disorders, gastrointestinal problems, and sore throat. Professor White’s students created organic medicinal products from this plant such as soaps, teas, lozenges, gargle, and tooth brushing powder. We were able to purchase some of these items.

Here is one of the many recipes that she shared with us: Stir fry honohono grass leaves (yes, this is a wild weed) and Indonesian sweet potato leaves with garlic and salt. The Indonesian sweet potato leaves are good for curing and preventing sore throat. The panax plant grows tall and has beautiful leaves shaped like a cup. The leaves can be used as an interesting bowl at the dining table. The Indonesians put the leaves into their curry. We were told it’s delicious in saimin.
This was an interesting excursion and we sure learned a lot. Mahalo nui loa to Professor White for generously taking the time to host our group and share many of the herb plants in her garden.

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Collating News

Mahalo to the following volunteers who helped with collating the Puka Puka Parade on Sunday, April 27: Naomi & Atanacio Agustin, Nancy Arakaki, Bert Hamakado, Jean Imada, Kimi & Don Matsuda, Velma Nakahara, Paul Nishida, John Oki, Nancy Sakaki, Arlene Sato, Ralph & Yasuko Steensen, Michiko Takashige, Wayne Takato, Dot & Glenn Tamashiro, Gloria Tamashiro, Evelyn & Riki Tsuda, and Isami Yoshihara. Mahalo to Naomi Nishida Agustin for donating the chow mein, Jean Imada for making the mochi, and John Oki for picking up the chow fun and manapua. The next collating will be on Saturday, June 28 at 9:00 a.m. Your kokua will be very much appreciated.

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Chapter News

Able Chapter News
by Stacey Hayashi

It was sad news indeed to learn that Stan Izumigawa, Able Chapter replacement from 442 L Company, passed away on April 23. Stan was a retired school principal and was very active with the 100th, always going around to schools and educating children about the 100th and 442nd, and answering questions from many people. He served for many years as an officer of the Maui 442nd Veterans Club and was president of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Maui Chapter at the time of his death. He had a gentle demeanor and was such a sweet, nice man. I always looked forward to seeing Stan at gatherings, especially at the mini reunion in Las Vegas and will miss him greatly. Our sincere condolences to the Izumigawa family and his many friends. A hui hou, Stan.

We have always been fortunate that when CSM Beau Tatsumura asked Goro Sumida (Company A) several years ago what the 100th/442nd U.S. Army Reserves could do to help the 100th, he told them they could help with yard work and cleaning the clubhouse. It was nice to get to know the soldiers, their families, and all their colorful personalities at our Able Chapter breakfast meetings. We really appreciate these strong young guys and all they do to help support our veterans and the club. Not only do they perform funeral honor detail for our veterans upon request, but they volunteer a lot of their time to clean the clubhouse, do yard work, provide transportation and visit/spend time with our veterans. Many thanks to SGT Chris Arakawa, SGT Chris Ryan Makinano, SGT William Lurbe, CPL Jordan Kagehiro, SPC Bryce Kaina, SPC Gabriel Estrada, PVT Brian Kokubun, PFC Kristian Pascua, SPC Samson Anzai, and PFC Matthew Wong who came out to help on Saturday, April 19.

Journey of Heroes, the 100th/442nd manga/comic book, is part of the “Crossing Cultures: the Art of Manga in Hawai’i” exhibit at the Japanese Cultural Center. It runs until June 7th so hopefully you’ll have a few more days to catch it. One of the pages features Haruo, an Able Chapter replacement from the 442nd. While attending college at UC Berkeley, he was put in an internment camp. He volunteered from behind barbed wire and to his surprise, became a replacement in a squad with a familiar face: leading the squad was his friend from small-kid time, Goro Sumida. Haruo was buried alive by a tank blast and was dug out by two men, one of them was Goro Sumida. Being a low-keyed guy who doesn’t like attention, Haruo’s last name has been omitted, but he is an Able Chapter guy and we're proud of him.

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Charlie Chapter News
by Arlene Sato

Those of you that attended last year’s Charlie Chapter brunch will remember what a good time we had. Another brunch is being planned for Saturday, August 23, 2014. Stay tuned for more information in the next newsletter. We have meetings every other month on the odd months, therefore the next meeting will be on Saturday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. at the clubhouse.

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Dog Chapter News
by Joy Teraoka

Poor Doggy Chapter! Arf! Arf! No news to report. In the month of May we did not hold a meeting. With June's Anniversary Banquet coming along, I am not certain whether we will have one this month either. We hope to see some of our Doggy members at the Banquet.

Arf! Arf! If you have any news to share--vacations taken, anyone ill/hospitalized, graduations, deaths--please call Joy Teraoka, ph. 218-7222. Thank you.

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Rural Chapter News
by Tsurumi Hamasu

Rural Chapter volunteers tidied over two dozen gravesites at the Mililani Memorial Park and Mortuary on Saturday, May 3, 2014. For years, Susumu Ota and Masaharu Saito decorated these graves on the weekend of the annual memorial service in September. In recent years, their families have continued their fathers’ work. This year the Rural Chapter decided to clean the gravesites and four families participated: the Susumu Ota family – Carole & Ron Ota and Lillian Helton; the Masaharu Saito family – Kay & Trisha Okimoto and Stephen Saito; the family of the late Shizuya Hayashi – Mimi, Stephen, and Egan Nakano; and the Mitsuo Hamasu family – Ted, Kitty and Tsurumi Hamasu.

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In Appreciation
Thank you so much for the generous and thoughtful donations that were received between April 16, 2014 and May 15, 2014.

General Account

$100  David Sakai, in memory of Robert Arakaki’s one year anniversary
$100  Edward Mokuua Family, in memory of Priscilla T. Hirose (wife of Yoshio Hirose)
$100  James T. McIlwain (Rehoboth, MA), in memory of Stanley Y. Izumigawa
$100  Nisei Veterans Legacy Center

Book Donation

Mahalo nui loa to the Tendai Educational Foundation, Inc. for donating copies of the just published, “Japanese Eyes, American Heart (Volume III): Learning to Live in Hawaii.” This book features stories by or about 16 prominent Hawaii Nisei, including the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, who share their values and lessons learned while growing up in the islands. The books are now in our Education Center Resource Room and also available for purchase.
June 2014 Calendar of Events

EBOD Meeting
Saturday, June 21, 8:30 a.m.

BOARD Meeting
Saturday, June 21, 9:30 a.m.

ABLE Chapter
Sunday, June 29, 8:30 a.m.

BAKER Chapter
Saturday, June 7, 1:00 p.m.

CHARLIE Chapter
No meeting

DOG Chapter
To be announced

HQ/MEDICS Chapter
To be announced

LONG RANGE PLANNING
Saturday, June 21, 11:30 a.m.

GREEN THUMB
To be announced

LINE DANCING
Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. (no class on June 25)

CRAFTS
No craft sessions - June 3, 10, & 17

PUKA PUJA PARADE
Collating on Saturday, June 28, 9:00 a.m.

Dates and times subject to change. Please contact your Chapter President, Committee Chair, or the Office for more information.