



100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB

PUKA-PUK

MONTHLY NEWS

PARADE

FEBRUARY 2004

ISSUE #04/2

THANKS TO PPPARADE DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Our sincere thanks to the many "angels" who have shown their support of our *Puka Puka Parade* newsletter with generous, unsolicited donations. Even though the money goes into the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans' general fund as the Puka Puka Parade has no account of its own, these donations help pay for the supplies and postage required in bringing the news to you.

Recently, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nishimura of Seattle, Washington. After reading in our newsletter on how much it would cost to print the PPParade each month if we relied on outsourcing the job (between \$847 to over \$1000 an issue), the Nishimura's sent us this note: "The enclosed is to help with the Puka Puka expenses. Good heavens, who knew it cost that much? Now we all know and will appreciate your efforts that much more. Thank you all." With their note, they attached a \$1000 check! Thank you very much.

Our PPParade collating volunteers turned out in force last November to help with the mailing of our last issue of 2003. Thanks to Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru Inouye, Sally Inouye, Arthur Komiyama, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Aki and Ray Nosaka, Kay Oshiro, Susumu Ota, Nancy Sakaki, "Moro" Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Skip Tomiyama, Ricky and Evelyn Tsuda, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozumi, and Marie Yoneshige.

Our next collating date is Friday, February 27, 2004, with Headquarters/Medics and Dog chapters responsible for manpower and refreshments.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (JANUARY 9, 2004)

by Stanley Akita

The meeting opened at 10 a.m. sharp. After a moment of silence, the December 2003 Board meeting minutes were approved with a minor addition. The Club Secretary's Report was approved unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was tabled until the March meeting when Bert Turner, who is away on an extended trip, returns. The Apartment Committee reported that the \$9,125 bill for 25% of the work [for the gas-line project] was paid. The work was delayed due to the holidays and is scheduled to be completed by the middle of February.

As for the clubhouse, the committee reported a leak in the roof over the vicinity of the lounge which was caused by heavy rainfall this past December. The committee will get three bids and report back to the Board.

There was no new or old business. The meeting was adjourned after a few announcements.

Incidentally, due to old age and the aches and pains that come with it, the Punchbowl Cemetery Volunteer Group was cancelled as of Jan. 1, 2004. Gene Castagnetti was verbally and officially informed by letter in December 2003. Anyone interested in starting up a new group is very welcome to do so.

(Note: Bernard Akamine is organizing a new group of volunteers. If interested, call him at 734-8738.)

IN PRAISE OF PRESIDENT STANLEY AKITA'S 3-YEAR ADMINISTRATION

At the January 2004 Board of Directors' meeting, Dr. Denis Teraoka made the following statement addressed to President Stanley Akita:

"I wish to make a statement and direct my remarks to our president who has served us these past three years. You have embraced the challenge and have discharged your duties with courage and integrity. Your faithful and valuable service rendered, and your tireless efforts manning the office of the 100th Infantry are expressions of your commitment and dedication in serving this organization. Your solid leadership in promoting our scholarship fund program has gained the support of the membership and the community. Your inspiration, enthusiasm and vision to go forward and not remain complacent and rest on the laurels of the past, and your deep interest in the welfare of our organization are the crowning glory of your administration. You have served us well."



442ND RCT FOUNDATION FUND RAISING DRIVE

Ten years ago the 442nd RCT Foundation was formed with the "purpose of preserving the legacy of the 442nd RCT, ensuring that individuals and groups will not be denied their constitutional rights and liberties as a result of their race, ancestry, or national origin; and generating an appreciation of all veterans of the United States Armed Forces who have served during any war or conflict." Also, the Foundation has helped to fund the establishment of the 442nd Archives which is part of the University of Hawaii Library collection. It also provides the financial support for conducting oral histories, establishing a learning center, producing entertainment focusing on the AJA wartime experiences and other projects that ensure the continuation of the 442nd legacy.

To continue these worthy projects, the Foundation is asking for contributions from the community. Please send your donations to the 442nd RCT Foundation, 933 Wiliwili Street, Honolulu, HI 96826. For further information or questions, please call (808) 949-7997 or Fax: (808) 949-1539.

Announcement

**100th Infantry Battalion Veterans
62nd Annual Banquet
will be held June 26, 2004, 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
at the Ala Moana Hotel**



**Dr. Terry Shintani, M.D., JD, MPH
will speak Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004
at the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. Clubhouse
from 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.
on Nutrition and Diet for the Elderly
(Important: RSVP to 100th Office by
February 12, 2004, to attend)**



Dr. Terry Shintani is the Director of Preventive and Integrative Medicine at the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and a clinical faculty member of the University of Hawaii School of Medicine. The eminent physician not only has a medical degree from the University of Hawaii, but also a master's degree in nutrition from Harvard University, a law degree from the University of Hawaii, and a business degree from the University of Illinois. In recent years he has earned national fame for his innovative and nutritious diet programs that have resulted in better health for many of his patients and followers. As a community service, Dr. Shintani will to speak to the 100th Inf. Bn. veterans, their wives,

widows, families and friends to present his nutritional expertise in helping them to maintain a healthy and active life style.

Dr. Shintani feels a special debt of gratitude to the 100th Infantry Battalion, particularly to those who sacrificed their lives on the battlefields of WW II. He will give, free of charge, a book and videotape to all veterans, and to the following people who attend this presentation on February 19, 2004.

1. Wife or widow of any member of the 100th Infantry Battalion who fought during WWII
2. If there is no wife or widow: one representative from the family of a 100th Infantry Battalion soldier who fought during World War II

(Therefore, whether it's a member of the 100th Infantry Battalion who did not return from WWII or if a veteran and widow have passed away, a book and videotape will be given to one representative from the family)

Reminder: PLEASE REGISTER WITH THE 100TH OFFICE NO LATER THAN FEB. 12, 2004. TO RECEIVE THE BOOK AND VIDEOTAPE. YOU NEED TO BE PRESENT ON FEBRUARY 19.

If you have any questions, please call Diane at 526-9355 (Dr. Shintani's office).



THE FIASCO AND TRAGEDY OF WWII'S BATTLE IN ITALY

Bob Jones sent the following comments that have come to light in a book by Robert Katz called *The Battle for Rome*:

"Perhaps the PPP editor would consider alerting The Boys that historian Robert Katz has just published a new book, *The Battle for Rome*, which documents the flawed allied strategy that led to the costly, unnecessary battles at Cassino, the Rapido River and Anzio. He makes a case that it was all about a symbolic entrance into Rome (which the Nazis had occupied in Sept. 1943 in defiance of the "open city" status of the post-Mussolini government). So instead of leaving the Germans cut off from homeland supplies south of Rome and attacking German armies in North Italy, the decision was made to fight them at Cassino, the Rapido and Anzio. Bad decision and it meant nothing to the war. Just left a lot of dead soldiers. And we got our parade through Rome in June of 1944. The book is from Simon & Schuster."

(JTeraoka, Editor's note): Surely, after so many of the 100th/442nd RCT lost lives and suffered enormous casualties in these battles, it is tragic to think it was an Allied strategy fiasco. The only consolation, if it can be thought of as such, is that our AJA boys unhesitatingly fought these battles to prove to America their own loyalty, and they did so with unquestionable bravery and honor despite the prejudice they faced at home. And for their valor and sacrifices, they eventually made things better for the rest of us of Japanese ancestry. How the elements of racial prejudice and the ugliness of war caused such great injustices and suffering is cause for reflection and tears - not only for us AJA but for all mankind.



In Memoriam

Takeichi "Chicken" Miyashiro	Chapter C	Passed away November 20, 2003
Miroku "Moku" Dochin	Medics	Passed away November 21, 2003
Kazumi Toso Takahashi	Company B	Passed away November 21, 2003
Masao "Stu" Yoshioka	Company B	Passed away December 12, 2003
Clarence G. Yamamoto	Company C	Passed away January 6, 2004
Hajime Yamane	Company B	Passed away January 12, 2004
Makoto "Mako" Takiguchi	Company D/Kauai	Passed away January 12, 2004

Our deepest sympathies to their families

In past issues of the *Puka Puka Parade* we have had some fine articles written about 100th Infantry Battalion members. During my more recent interviews oftentimes I heard the repeated comment from other veterans that one soldier who also deserved the Medal of Honor was Masao Awakuni, the "tank buster." His feats and heroism unanimously won praise from his fellow comrades. One of our staff members, Evelyn Tsuda, found this article written by 100th Infantry Battalion historian, Ben Tamashiro, for the *Puka Puka Parade*. With Tamashiro's permission we are reprinting the article on Awakuni in two segments.

AWAKUNI, THE TANK BUSTER

By Ben Tamashiro for *Puka Puka Parade*
October 10 & December 9, 1978

The battle of Cassino began on the night of January 17, 1944; and if ever the Allied Forces had misery for company, this place was it: mountains capped with snow, weather cold and wet, violent rains, heavy snowstorms, mud, flooded rivers, wet foxholes, rocky hillsides, freezing nights, and trench feet. And on the battlefield itself, so determined were the Germans to make a stand at Cassino (after having been driven all the way back from Salerno and having had to evacuate Naples) that despite the massive infantry and artillery assaults by the American Fifth and British Eighth Armies, and despite the bombing of the monastery by the U.S. Army Air Force to deny its use as a super observation post, they continued to fight on for the next four months, and did not give up Cassino till May 18.

In one of the excellent books written of that battle, Fred Majdalany writes that "the performance of the 34th Division at Cassino must rank with the finest feats of arms carried out by any soldiers during the war." And in the official U.S. Army history of the war in Italy, the publication speaks of the horrifying casualties suffered by the 3rd Battalion, 133rd Infantry of the 34th Division in the opening three weeks of the battle for Cassino. Then, this: "The 100th Battalion, 133rd Infantry, was in even worse condition. By the night of February 7, the total strength of the three rifle companies numbered 7 officers and 78 men." (Note: The 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry, had been assigned to guard Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters in Algiers. The 100th took its place but retained its own numerical designation.)

This is the backdrop against which Masao Awakuni, 3rd Platoon, Company C, 100th Inf. Bn., recalls for us that incident on February 8, 1944, when he beat a German tank with his bazooka and left it in smoking ruins on one of the saddles leading up to Castle Hill.

Castle Hill is a 300-foot knoll at the northeastern edge of the town of Cassino. Sitting on the hill is a small castle from which the hill derives the name. The Castle seems to be almost an exact miniature of the more-famed Abbey of Monte Cassino. Rising behind Castle Hill is the 1700-foot high mountain mass called Monte Cassino from which the town gets its name. Sitting at the very top is the famed Benedictine Abbey, more commonly referred to as the Monastery, a massive 4-storied building built in the form of a trapezium whose longest side is more than 200 yards long, twice the length of Buckingham Palace. Built like a fortress with thick battlemented base, it has long even rows of small cell windows which could serve as observation posts or firing portholes. The battle for Cassino was a fight for this mountaintop, for whoever controlled it was lord over the southern approaches to the city of Rome lying 75 miles to the north.

Although all the infantry units were down to their bare bones in manpower, the fight did not let up. So the morning of February 8 found C Company of the 100th pinned down on Hill 165 by enemy machine gun and mortar fire pouring down on them from the heights of Monastery Hill to its right and Castle Hill on the left. What happened next is described by Thomas D. Murphy in his book, "Ambassadors in Arms":

"A German assault gun appeared from some buildings behind the Castle and began to pump shells down at the men on Hill 165. Rifle grenades couldn't reach it, so the same bazooka man who had ruined a German tank at Alife was called forward from a support platoon. He snaked across rocky terrain to a point within 30 yards of the gun and fired. His first shot hit one of the treads, and as bullets rattled around him he aimed again, and this time his rocket pierced the tank's armor and exploded inside. Tank-buster Masao Awakuni then crawled behind a boulder and sweated it out under sniper fire. In the dark, ten hours later, he returned to his outfit, a self-applied bandage around a wounded arm. He later received a DSC."

Warren Iwai, who was a member of the 3rd Platoon, Charlie Co., and the writer conducted an oral interview with Masao Awakuni. That interview follows. (MA stands for Masao Awakuni and Q represents the questions and comments by the two interviewers.) The interview is revealing in that it not

only sheds more light on the incident but tells us something of Masao himself.

MA: They called for a bazooka man so naturally, I have to go. I assumed I saw two tanks. Then I dropped down because I saw one of the tanks, the gun was coming up. So I hid behind the rocks. Then no sooner I done that, I saw one tank on my left side of the Castle Hill. He was going to the Castle and was ready to turn. His rear was facing towards me so I took the bazooka and aimed at the rear, and I shot at the rear section. So, accidentally, it burst into flames. So I figured that was it already.

But in the meantime, I seen that Major James Lovell was wounded on the fourth terrace below me but nobody could give him aid at the time; firing was so intense. You stick your head out and zing! that's all you could hear. In the excitement, that's all I can think about it. Until that very night I got wounded and came down. And that's all.

Q: You fired just one shot? (Murphy mentions two.)

MA: Yes, only one shot. The tank stopped and burst into flames. And I saw the Germans come out of the tank and there was some shots firing, but you cannot see because we're all under cover with the terrace. We cannot stick our heads out.

Q: What time of the day was that?

MA: I assume it was close to about 10 or 11 o'clock.

Q: What happened to you after that?

MA: We couldn't do anything. We just were pinned down. In other words, no move, no nothing.

Q: And that's the way you stayed for the rest of the day?

MA: Yes, till nightfall. At nightfall, when I tried to stretch myself, because lying down all day I was so tired, I lift up myself, facing the front, then I get injured on my left arm, right by the elbow.

Q: Bullet?

MA: Bullet.

Q: So then – you evacuated yourself?

MA: Yes, came down from the terrace, slowly that night. See, I was injured about 8 o'clock that night.

Q: Who took care of your injury?

MA: Nobody. Because we couldn't yell for medics at that time. And I don't think they had any medics there, that's what I assumed. Because we were quite way up in the front of the line.

Q: Which brings up the question of ammunition. Before you fired at the tank, how many rounds did you have?

MA: I had two rounds.

Q: So when you left the position, what happened to the other round?

MA: I left it there.

Compared to the rifleman who is always a part of the action, the bazooka man is one who just follows the platoon wherever it goes, waiting for a call which comes infrequently, if ever. What is it like being a bazooka man and the waiting game which goes along with it....in the meantime, trying to keep alive? Masao was asked his feelings about this.

MA: Well, the bazooka is almost as tall as I am. In the winter months, it gets so cold even the mittens which we wear cannot hold the pipe. And it's so clumsy. Climbing the hills, still lugging the bazooka around, with nothing to do, nothing to shoot; at night I really wonder, "What I'm carrying this bazooka for, way up in the hills?" It gets in your way, you're bound to hit something and make noise, and bushes get in the way, too. During the winter months, rain, hurry up and wait.

Then the cry came for a bazooka man that day in Cassino. Masao responded to the call, worked himself up the rocky terraces, one by one, then lay belly down on a little "pimple" among the rocks. At first, he could only hear the tank. Then it came into view. The adrenalin began flowing.

MA: I was so excited. Things were hot. But I just had to wait. At the moment, first thing you know is to load and prepare yourself. The rest is a waiting game, until the right time comes around. In the

meantime, I'm wondering what am I doing over there? Why shouldn't some other people have been at my place?

Q: Why do you ask the question? What makes you say that, or think that?

MA: This was my second tank. And you always wonder, "Do I have to be the one to knock the tank?" In my heart, I know there are others who could have done the same thing if they were in the right place at the right time. That's my belief. The others could have done the same thing. In other words, sometimes I wonder why it was me to be the one to meet the tank.

Q: Well, your first encounter with a tank was on the 22nd of October, about 3-1/2 months before Cassino. In between, the 100th had no encounters with a tank? No one had knocked off a tank?

MA: That part I don't know nothing. The first tank I knocked out, it took me about 3 days later, or a week later, that I was wounded and went to the hospital. In the meantime, I don't know what happened. The second tank was the same thing. I got the last one in the morning; during the night I got hurt again.

Q: Getting back to your questions of why they had to call you.....

MA: No, I don't think that they particularly called for me, they didn't mention my name; they only asked for bazooka man, that's all.

Q: And you happened to be there.

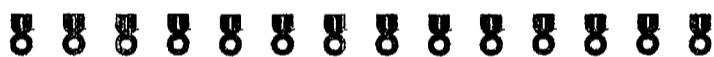
MA: Yeah, I was there, heard the call. So, you know, as a soldier, it automatically comes to mind that it must be you, so you go out.

Q: Well, maybe, in trying to get an answer to your question, it was just one of those things, huh?

MA: That's true.

Between Awakuni and Warren Iwai, they can recall only some of the fellows who were there at that time in their decimated platoon: Lt. Norman Mitchell who was either the platoon leader or acting company commander, platoon sergeant Johnny Miyagawa, Sgt. Jack Gushiken, squad leader Mike Tokunaga, platoon sergeant Masanao Otake, and Kiyoshi Sagawa. Bear in mind that the strength of the 100th Battalion was down to 7 officers and 78 men -- barely half a company.

The picture of a battle, whether it is captured in the immediate aftermath, or a recollection years later, is a mosaic of incomplete, confusing, and often contradictory reactions and impressions. Take Awakuni's DSC citation, for example, reprinted below. It was issued by Hq. 5th Army on 29 May 1944.



"MASAO AWAKUNI, (30102030), Private, Infantry, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in action, on 8 February 1944, near Cassino, Italy.

While advancing in an attack, Private AWAKUNI'S company encountered an enemy tank upon which was mounted a 75mm gun. The enemy tank immediately went into action, supported by intense machine gun and sniper fire, forcing the company to take cover. Rifle grenadiers failed to stop the firing from the tank. Private AWAKUNI was called from the support platoon to attempt to fire at the tank with his rocket launcher. He worked his way across forty yards of open ground and arrived at a point only thirty yards from the hostile armor. Although he had poor protective cover, Private AWAKUNI coolly took aim, and with his first shell hit the tread of the tank. His second shell was a dud. Having disclosed his position from the first two shots, Private AWAKUNI was subjected to heavy enemy fire. Despite the deadly peril facing him, he calmly took aim for a third time and made a direct hit on the tank, causing it to burst into flames. Private AWAKUNI then sought the sparse protection of a nearby rock and was forced to remain in this position until darkness permitted his return to friendly lines. For ten hours he was pinned down by deadly sniper fire, and in his attempt to return to his lines in darkness, he was wounded in the arm by machine gun fire. His courage and tenacity in the face of deadly fire were an inspiration to his fellow soldiers and reflect the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Territory of Hawaii."

(Signature)
Mark. W. Clark,
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

It speaks of Awakuni having fired three shots. But in the current interview, Masao is certain that he fired only one shot. The tank had gone up an incline headed in the direction of the Castle and, by Awakuni's reckoning, was about to make a turning move so it could come about and face its gun downward towards the men of Charlie Company huddled on the lower slopes of Castle Hill. It was at this precise moment, when the tank's rear was exposed to Awakuni, that he saw the opportunity and fired at the undercarriage where the engine and the gas tanks are housed. The tank burst into flames on that first shot.

Having made his way down the hillside that same night, Masao was evacuated to a field hospital (his recollection is that Major Lovell was in the same ambulance) where he had a cast put on, then sent back to a general hospital in Naples.

The Anzio landings were made on 22 January. Suddenly, one day, the doctors removed Masao's cast – the same was happening to others in the hospital, and presumably to others in other hospitals – and the whole group of former patients were shipped to Anzio in response to an emergency call for more men at the beachhead. But in the condition they were, these GIs were useless at the front so they were returned to Naples within two weeks. After recuperation at the replacement depot, Masao was sent back to Anzio but by this time, the Allies had broken out of the beachhead so it was not until Civitavecchia, about 40 miles above Rome, that he caught up with the 100th (this is where the 442nd joined the 100th).

Shortly thereafter, Masao was returned to stateside and was back in Hilo by September where he worked in the army post office, APO 960, until his discharge from the Army in August 1945 at Fort Kam.

Awakuni's story of his encounter with his first tank, near Alife on 22 October 1943, will be told in the next issue of the Parade.

BOOK SALE TO BENEFIT MAUI'S NISEI VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER

Every Grain of Rice by Rita Goldman is a beautiful book of photographs which tells the stories of the many Mauians of Japanese ancestry whose "lives are interwoven with the history" of that island. This 240-page hardcover coffee-table book traces Maui's Japanese population from early immigration through the Democratic revolution of the 1960s.

Proceeds from the sale of *Every Grain of Rice* will benefit the newly proposed Nisei Veterans Memorial Center (NVMC), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which has been established to honor the heroic men of the all-Japanese American 100th/442nd RCT and the Military Intelligence Service. NVMC will incorporate a preschool and an adult day care, with the hope of strengthening the links between generations.

Author Rita Goldman spent five years researching and writing *Every Grain of Rice*. She pored over a century of newspaper microfiche, interviewed Mauians of Japanese ancestry, and collected hundreds of archival and family photos to tell the stories of soldiers and shopkeepers, cowboys and teachers, champion athletes and those who toiled in Maui's cane fields and pineapple canneries. Wherever possible, those stories are told in the words of the people. Some of those who are featured in the book are Ichiro Maehara, well-known baseball player and brother of Lt. Sadao Maehara (100th/C Co., KIA in Italy); Barney Hajiro and Kaoru Moto, Medal of Honor recipients; Congressional Representative Patsy Mink; Akira Ishikawa, horse trainer/jockey, Company F, 100th Inf.; artist Tadashi Sato; and swimming coach Soichi Sakamoto. Many citizens of Hawaii who have gained prominence are originally from Maui.

Although Rita Goldman is a native Chicagoan, she has lived on Maui since 1978. In her interest of the island people, she has compiled a collection of photos and stories which give the reader a wonderful sense of the Japanese community that enriched that island's history and left a lasting legacy for their progeny. (PPP Editor's note: Although I am not a Mauian, I found the book very interesting.)

The book is available through the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization; phone Amanda Stevens at 946-0272. On Maui, contact Barbara Watanabe, NVMC, P.O. Box 216, Kahului, HI 96733-6716, phone, (808) 244-6862 or Rita Goldman, (808)572-9212.



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.

SMITHSONIAN'S WW II MEMORIAL AT THE NATIONAL MALL, MAY 27-30, 2004

The American Battle Monuments Commission, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage is planning to celebrate the dedication of the WW II Memorial at the National Mall from May 27-30, 2004.

The Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) is planning to have a booth in the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) tent. JAVA hopes to have displays and WW II veterans on site to respond to visitors' questions. Although the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans of Hawaii will not be participating, any of our veterans who may be in the Washington, D.C., area during that time are invited and encouraged to tell their stories at the JAVA booth. Please let the JAVA know as early as possible if you plan a visit to the celebration by calling Vic Mukai, phone (703) 751-1550, or through e-mail <TMukai@scitor.com> or Terry Shima, phone (301) 987-6746, or by e-mail <itshima@worldnet.att.net>. Vic is a retired colonel and Terry, who served in 442nd Public Relations, is from Laupahoehoe (his brother is Buck Shima of Co. C, 100th).

The schedul of events is as folows:

May 27-30. Reunion of WWII veterans, families, guests, and general public at the National Mall, 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

May 29 - 10:00 AM. Interfaith service at the Washington National Cathedral. By invitation only.

May 29 - 2:00 PM. Dedication program. Gates will open at 11:00 AM. Dedication program preceded by big band and swing music.



DIS AND DAT

By Ray Nosaka

Mini-Reunion

We were happy to receive word that the mini-reunion will be held again at the California Hotel on October 17 to October 21, 2004, in Las Vegas.

We are presently inquiring into the benefits and costs of the various tour packages, but so far it seems that the best deal we can offer is the Vacations Hawaii package, the same as last year. In the next PPP, we hope to have the necessary information and a registration form. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if you would please give us a call and let us know whether or not you are interested in going so that we can reserve the airplane seats (premium or regular seats – many of you preferred the premium seats even though the cost is higher).

Please call Ray or Aki Nosaka at 737-4864 as soon as possible so that we can get those aisle seats and the west tower hotel rooms.

KUNG HEE FAT CHOY –Year of the Monkey

According to an ancient Chinese Zodiac, “Monkey people are geniuses—sometimes too clever for their own good You are a charm.” Do you know anyone who fits into the monkey category?

The “Hui Hanele O Aikane” (also known as Baker Chapter Ukulele Club) will resume its practice sessions on January 21. We would like to fulfill the requests we have received to entertain during the next two months. We are also appealing to anyone who likes to sing, play the ukulele, or dance the hula to join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. You don't necessarily have to be a member .

Just a thought: Just for today, I will try to be happy realizing that my happiness does not depend on what others do or say, or what happens around me. Happiness is a result of being at peace with myself.



MISORA HIBARI'S 1950 AMERICAN CONCERT PHOTO BOOK PUBLISHED

In 1950 Misora Hibari and Kawada Haruhisa made their first concert tour in America. En route they stopped in Hawaii and gave a concert sponsored by the 100th Infantry Battalion veterans' organization,

then called Club 100. Hundreds of photos were taken during the tour of these two famous entertainers. These photos are now compiled in a book, with Hibari's daily activities written in diary form. Osamu Hashimoto's commentary gives the reader a glimpse of the Japanese popular music scene in the 50's and Kazue Okamura (Kawada's daughter) writes about Kawada and Hibari's professional relationship. Although the book is in Japanese, an unedited English translation is available.

For Hibari fans, the book is filled with memorable photos of the star. For information on how to obtain the book, please call Amanda at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans office, phone 946-0272.

(Our sincere apologies to the Mainland Chapter for not being able to print the following news in our last issue of the PPParade. For some unknown reason, we did not receive it via e-mail even though several attempts were made to send it to us.)

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS

by Sam Fujikawa

Many activities kept the 100th members extra busy this month. Our Annual Mini-reunion in Las Vegas was held from October 19 to 23 at the California Hotel and Casino. One hundred eighty-four veterans and their families gathered for a truly heartwarming four days of visiting, eating, touring, and, of course, gaming in the casinos. Thanks to the special advantageous reservation arrangements made by Al Morita, we had two Hospitality Rooms this year. The one with a variety of delicious food from members far and near was buzzing with activity and the other one with some wonderful on-going crafts sessions that were taught by Chiz Ohira and Skip Tomiyama. Many enthusiastic participants learned how to make intricate origami boxes, colorful zipper pulls, beautiful Hawaiian Holiday angels, shell angel ornaments and beaded angels. The food in the Hospitality Room was overflowing with delicious treats to delight everyone. Roasted almonds from the Fukawas, matsutake from the Tsudas in Wyoming, homemade green chili from the Miyamuras, gourmet cheese from the Katayamas, Maui Manju from the Nakashimas, Taro Mochi from the Matsudas, homemade olives, dried kaki, and pickles from Mary Catherine Doi, smoked salmon, pistachios and nuts from the Itos, nuts and candy from Evelyn and Riki Tsuda, Trailmix from the Ogawas, a huge tray of cakes and cookies from the Matsudas, Maui potato chips from the Nosakas, many kinds of carefully dried meats and fruits from the Terasakis, Hayashis, Goro Sumida and where did all the delicious pineapple come from? - all added to our main menu. Chefs, Ben and Jean Tagami, who always plan the purchase of the sashimi, fresh crates of fruits, mochigashi, fish cakes and sunomono to go with the maze-gohan, maki sushi from the Yoshihashis, kinpira gobo from the Fujikawas, tsukemono from Chuckie Seki and Chiz Ohira, 5 lbs of charshu from Al Takahashi, and even some fresh flowers from Hank and Elsie Hayashi's garden. Generous monetary gifts from Seichi Ohashi, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Hiromi Suehiro, Riki and Evekyn Tsuda, Michael and Gene Doi, Jim and Mary Katayama, Ted Sato, Douglas Tanaka, Hershey and Terry Miyamura, Bill and Margaret Omoto, Jerry Okazaki, Mitzi Okazaki, Yone Shimizu, Yeiki Matsui, Ed and Helen Nakashima and Shizuya Hayashi were received and duly recorded into our treasury. If we have missed anyone's name, please let us know.

Monday and Tuesday mornings brought out all the eager beavers to be in the slot tournaments. On Monday, first prize winner, Mitsi Fuchigami, won a California Casino jacket and \$40; 2nd prize winner, Kunio Fujimoto won a California Casino T-shirt and \$30; and Wayne Fujita, the 3rd prize winner, won a California Casino T-shirt and \$25. On Tuesday, winner of first prize, the California Casino jacket and \$50, was Pauline Yoshihashi, who turned around and donated the money to the 100th Club; second prize winner of a California T-shirt and \$40 was Harry Fukasawa; and 3rd prize winner of a California T-shirt and \$35 was Dorothy Kikuchi. Running the exciting tournaments were Elma and Mas Takahashi and Toe Yoshino.

After the slot tournament on Monday, James Wilson, our faithful bus driver, took a group of shoppers to the Outlet Mall with Chuckie Seki watching over them. Tuesday night being the big banquet, there was no tour scheduled but the Hospitality Room was filled to capacity under the good care of the volunteers from Hawaii taking over to let the mainlanders take a rest. It was the day Jean Tagami cooked the matsutake that the Tsudas brought from Wyoming so the ladies had extra serving up to do. They all did such a good job that everything got done like "magic." Their hard work was certainly appreciated. In the evening, we had a most enjoyable time listening to wonderful music by Kauai Masuda, the Hui Hanele O Aikanes, lovely Doris Kimura singing and graceful Skip Tomiyama dancing, hilarious jokes by Stanley Akita that everyone always looks forward to, a surprise appearance by Pat Morita of "Karate Kid" fame, who spoke so eloquently of his admiration of the WWII veterans and entertained us with his trademark comedic humor and jokes. Led by MC Yeiki Matsui, pledge leader, Don Miyada and invocation by Henry Hayashi, dinner greetings by Presidents Stanley Akita and Sam Fujikawa, a few words by Col. Young O. Kim regarding the importance of the 100th/442nd/MIS Foundation, a delectable dinner of butterfish or

steak and trimmings was served up to be topped off by the ever-welcome karaoke session led by talented Toe Yoshino and Ted Ohira, also featuring this year, Bob Aoki and Charles Nishimura on their harmonicas. Many of our local volunteers were fortunate recipients of the beautiful corsages and leis made by Bob Aoki and our Hawaii friends.

A tour bus load went for a visit to the Fire Valley Canyon on Wednesday and enjoyed the beautiful view of the colorful scenery and fresh air walks through some of the trails. Mel Ozeki, Editor of the *Ohana* magazine brought copies of the issue featuring Chief of Staff, Eric Shinseki for everyone to read. We hope those who wanted one found them in the Hospitality Room. Also the lovely little jewelry puffs that Margaret Omoto made were there for the lucky ladies who visited the Hospitality Room Wednesday.

Thursday was a poignant "farewell, until we meet again" day. We hope all reached home safely and we look forward to seeing everyone next year. Our club held its monthly meeting Nov. 15, and voted to have another mini-reunion next year. Admittedly, it was a group effort to make it as enjoyable as Ben and Jean always do, and we all tried our best to please them. This year we had all the additional help and support from the Hawaii group for which we are very grateful. The 2004 mini-reunion will be held from Oct. 17 thru the 21 at the California Casino and Hotel again. Al Morita assures us the reservations are in already. Mark your calendars!

January 17, Saturday, was the 44th Annual 100th/442nd Association Installation Luncheon. It was held at Steven's Steak and Seafood House in the City of Commerce. Many veterans and their family members turned out to support the incoming elected officers for 2004: Steve Tagami (100th) - President; John Wakamatsu (F Co.) - 1st Vice President; Harrison Hamasaki (H Co.) - 2nd Vice President; Ken Shigematsu (H Co.) - Treasurer; Marie Demonteverde-Yee (H Co.) - Secretary; and Trustees - Kiyoyama (E Co.), Russell Nakaishi (L Co.), Wayne Fujita (100th), Ken Shigemitsu (H Co.). Master of Ceremonies, Richard Hawkins, (son-in-law of Tets Osato (G Co.) led the audience through a lively packed program of music and entertainment led by Ted Ohira and the Al's Garage Group; Recognition and Awards announced by Steve Tagami; Installation of 2004 Officers administered by Col. Young O. Kim (retired); followed by a delicious luncheon. Spotted among the attendees were 100th members Kaz Yoshitake, Toke Yoshitake, Chuckie Seki, Bill Seki, Fumi Sakato, Harry Fukasawa, Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Hank Hayashi, Ken and Hisa Miya, Col. Young O. Kim, Steve and Jodel Tagami, Harry and Harumi Sasaki, Shig Marumoto, Sam and Teri Fujikawa.

Our next event will be the Annual 100th Valentine/Installation Luncheon on February 14 at the Pacific Coast Highway Seafood Restaurant in Torrance.

We are saddened to hear about Leighton Goro Sumida's wife, Gladys, and our club members extend their sincere condolences to Leighton and his family.

ABLE COMPANY NEWS

by Tom Nishioka

Able Company annual Christmas party on December 12 was a tremendous success. Competition with City's Christmas Lights and other events contributed to the low attendance at our annual gathering. Nevertheless the celebration was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The highlight of our party was the Kunio Fujimoto Production of the Christmas of the Past. It was wonderful to see all those youngsters who are now adults. And we were all so young and handsome 20 years ago. Now we're agelessly gracious and full of wisdom. Thank you Kuni for the show and a copy of the video that was a door prize for the Don Matsuda family.

Company A would like thank Sheila (Matsumoto) Wakai, Sharon (Matsumoto) Tanaka, Barbara Nishioka, and the Morikawa family for their hard work in making the party a success. Without the help of these people and the generous donations from our members, wives, and widows, I would be in jeopardy.

I would like to give special thanks to Mrs. Irene Morikawa who for numerous years has helped me with her incredible handling of the children's games, as well as buying of the prizes. Without her help, together with that of her nieces and daughters, I don't think our children would have had as much fun. The children always look forward to coming to the Christmas party to participate in their games. "Thank you Irene, mata onegai shimasu!"

Able Company would like to thank the following for their cash donations that enabled us to have a

wonderful party: Kiyoshi Kami (\$25), Tetsuo Tateishi (\$20), Thomas Ibaraki (\$100), Don Matsuda (\$100), Chieko Moriguchi (\$100), May Miyashiro (\$30), Gladys Kawakami (\$50), Kunio Fujimoto (\$20), and Maui's Edwin Nakashima (\$30).

Also generously donated by Alison and Mark Tiwanak were two \$10 gift certificates; Gordon Tanaka four \$25 gift certificates and a plate of sashimi; Akira Akimoto, a half case beer; Mrs. Morikawa, jello dessert; Jane Hirokawa, grab bag prizes; Robert Sato, mochi dessert; Tadayoshi Sato, door prizes; and Barbara Nishoka, desserts. There were many other faces without names that contributed door prizes or dessert and if we inadvertently forgot to mention you, MAHALO! Our Christmas party could not have been a success without EVERYONE'S random acts of kindness.

Come to the upcoming Company A meeting, February 28, at the clubhouse at 8 a.m. for ono kine breakfast and clean-up of the Clubhouse grounds.

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

by Evelyn Tsuda

Baker Chapter's past president, Robert Arakaki, extends the following message to fellow members:

Happy New Year of the Monkey. How time passes by so swiftly--more than three weeks have already gone by.

Many thanks for the generous support you gave me in the year 2003. Your continued support is needed in 2004 for President Joe Muramatsu, Secretary Robert Aoki, and Treasurer Rikio Tsuda. Much more support is needed from our sons and daughters because the health of our veterans is deteriorating.

I wish you all good health throughout the year. Please join us for coming events.

Many of you must've wondered who was responsible for the elegant decorations for the Christmas parties at the Clubhouse, complete with an animated reindeer. Baker Chapter, being the first to hold its gathering, was assisted by Amanda and a few other elves; but it was designed by Karen Tanigawa, (a display designer by profession). Karen and her husband Denis (Sakae and Stella's son) were the general chairmen for Baker's party which was held on Dec. 6; and they did a splendid job. The food, Xmas craft table, and games were excellent and there were enough door prizes for everyone.

118 attended the party and it was nice to see Mrs. Yukie Iwaishi and her family. Cash donations were received from Sonsei Nakamura, Tokuji Ono, Jessie Nakayama, Robert Arakaki, Mark Arakaki, and Masami Hamakado; and donations of food and door prizes were received from Rikio Tsuda, Sakae Tanigawa, Lefty Tanigawa, Tokuji Ono, Peter Ono, Denis Tanigawa, Stu Yoshioka, Ray Nosaka, Jessie Nakayama, Robert Arakaki, Tom Tsubota, Jan Nadamoto, Humi Iha, Bernard Akamine, Hiroshi Shimazu, Marie Yoneshige, Drusilla Tanaka, Kay Katahara, and Sharon Albus. Hank Hayashi (Pasadena) sent pistachio nuts and dried kaki as he's been doing for years but unfortunately, they arrived too late for the party. (However, the members who attended the Jan. 17 meeting enjoyed munching on them during the meeting.) The Xmas Committee thanks you all for the generous donations which added to the success of the event.

I will be remiss if I fail to acknowledge the generous donations received from the following persons during the month: Betty Shimizu (Colorado), Yukie Iwaishi and Amy Iwaishi-Inouye in memory of Melvin Iwaishi, Kay Katahara, and Carole Anamizu in memory of her father Poka. Mrs. Hiroko Kubota, of Chiba-ken, formerly known as Hiroko Kikuchi, an honorary member of our chapter, recently sent us a donation of 10,000 yen. It's very gratifying to know that the "boys of Co. B" are still remembered after all these years. Thank you, Hiroko-san.

Recent Bereavements:

Everyone was shocked to hear that Masao Stu Yoshioka passed away on Dec. 12, 2003, since he looked so well at our Xmas party on Dec. 6. Stu was quite active with the karaoke group and we will miss his presence at the various chapter functions. Private services were held. Our condolences to Grace and her family.

Hajime Yamane passed away exactly a month later, on Jan. 12. He was such an active member of the

chapter and we relied on his sage advice. We will miss his cheerful presence and leadership. Private graveside services were held on Jan. 21 at the Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe. Our deepest sympathy to Edna and her family.

Attention, Sons & Daughters!

At their monthly meeting on January 17, the members expressed their wishes that the sons and daughters would become active members of the chapter since the number of veterans is slowly declining. The veterans will certainly welcome you with open arms, so please consider joining the chapter by calling the president (Joe Muramatsu) at 734-0002 or the vice-president (Ann Kabasawa) at 734-0841 or by attending the monthly meetings on the third Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

Our January 17 meeting was well attended with eight members present--Saburo Nishime, "Jits" Yoshida, "Doc" Hosaka, Ken Mitsunaga, Martin Tohara, Denis Teraoka, Moriso Teraoka and "Stu" Tsubota. Your officers for 2004 are President-Secretary Saburo Nishime, Vice-President Richard Hosaka, and Treasurer Jitsuri Yoshida. Please support your officers. Chapter dues are now payable.

Dog Chapter Christmas party was held on December 21, at the clubhouse. We had 116 members, wives, widows, children, grandchildren and friends. The party began with sign-in fellowship at 1:00 p.m. and a welcome speech by President Nishime. Mary Tsukayama helped with the Christmas craft making. The wonderful Christmas entertainment was provided by Sandy and Friends. We took time out to enjoy the delicious catered food from Leeward Drive Inn. After giving the little keiki's tummies a rest, it was time for the children's games with Annette Harada and her helpers. After the games, Santa paid a visit from the North Pole with presents for the keiki. The finale was the lucky number door prizes.

Our thanks and appreciation to general chairman Saburo Nishime; Joy Teraoka, program chairman; "Jits" Yoshida for taking care of the finances; "Doc" Hosaka and Moriso Teraoka for door prizes; Annette, Kay, Michael (Santa) Harada for children's program; Mary Tsukayama for crafts; Sandy Kinoshita, Clinton Sukekane, Owen Tamanaha, and Shannon, entertainers; hula dancers from New Hope Church; Cline Ardo, invocation; Harry and Arthur Nakayama,, refreshments; Helen Nikaido, catering; Leeward Drive Inn for the delicious buffet luncheon and assorted tsukemono.

Many thanks to the following for door prizes: Nakayama brothers, the Harada, Hosaka, Kuwazaki families, Yoshidas, Tsubotas, Hamasaki, Mitsunaga, Nishime and Nikaido.

Desserts, pupus, oama, etc: Mildred Yoshida, Mildred Hosaka, Kiharas, Ishidas, Tsubotas, Eva Ardo, Rhoda Kawamata, Yoshi Tsukayama, Edna Kuwazaki, Helen Nikaido. Our apologies if we missed anyone. To all of you for helping with the cleanup, thank you very much.

ONE PUKA PUKA 2004 JAPAN TOUR - EASTERN HOKKAIDO will be in October - "Opu" Hiranaka is now working on the itinerary. Departure and return dates will be published in the next issue of the PPP.

Our deepest sympathy to Lillian Takiguchi, son Wayne, daughters Nadine Oshima and Verna Yamase, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on the passing of their beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather on January 12, 2004. "Mako" was an active Dog Chapter member on Kauai.

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata

Maui Chapter held its annual Christmas party and installation of officers luncheon at the Waikapu Maui Tropical Plantation on Tuesday, December 16, 11 a.m. Chapter president, Stanley Izumigawa, called on Wataru Kaneshina to bless the food and also announced that since the same officers had agreed to serve again in 2004, they would dispense with the formal swearing-in ceremony. Besides President Izumigawa, the following men will serve as officers: vice-president, Satoji Arisumi; secretary, Edward Nishihara; treasurer, Tom Nagata; auditor, Goichi Shimanuki; director, Willie Goo.

Party chairman, Satoji Arisumi, did a great job in arranging this party. He called on Mrs. Lillian Maeda to lead the singing of Christmas carols after lunch and members, wives and widows lingered long after the

party to talk story. The Toshio Miyamoto's and Mrs. Irene Nakagawa came all the way from Lahaina for the lunch. Thank you, Mrs. Nakagawa, for your generous donation. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The social program for Maui Chapter for the New Year will be about the same as last year. Chapter officers will meet in the near future to set the dates and the schedule will be mailed to you. Please keep the schedule for future reference.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

We held our last meeting at the Flamingo Restaurant in Pearl City. The accommodation was ample since they had a spare room. The meeting was held on 21 Nov 03 from 11 AM. We had our lunch orders served without any delay.

The attending members were Bull Saito, Susumu Ota, Yukio Tanji, Hiroshi Matsuura, Mitsuo Nagaki and Ted Hamasu. Mrs. Shimizu and Mrs. Shikamura were also present.

After the preliminaries, we discussed our Installation and New Year's banquet, and it was decided to hold the event on 18 Jan 04 from 10:00 AM, at Dot's in Wahiawa. The cost is \$10.00/person, S&D, same and their children no charge. We will have our usual bingo games and door prizes. The widows will be the guests of the chapter and will not be assessed. We are asking our ladies to assist us in the dessert portion of the banquet.

The new officers of the chapter will be the same old officers:

President	Ted Hamasu
VP	Vacant
Sec	Masaharu Saito
Treas	Susumu Ota
Auditors	Mitsuo Nagaki & Kiyomi Kaneshige

"Was-to-be 100th president" Stu Tsubota was advised by his doctor not to accept the position so there will be no president until the nomination chairman comes back from his trip sometime in February.

The book written by a woman in Maui titled *Every Grain of Rice* is on sale at the clubhouse. Proceeds will go to the Maui Nisei Memorial Veterans Center and our mother club will receive a small rebate for each book sold. If interested call the club office.

The house committee needs some help in painting. If you are available call the club office for particulars.

The welcoming of the year 2004 was not as loud as in previous years. Due to the rainy weather and according to the newspapers it said that the sale of licenses to burn firecrackers was more than last year but the stores ran out of fireworks. The firemen were happy that nature helped 'em this year.

The Rural Chapter wishes all the Ohana of the 100th a Happy, Joyous and Healthy 2004. They say that it is the year of the monkey, and so be doubly careful when you climb up high for there is a saying that "monkeys fall from trees"-- especially us *makule* guys should be glued to the ground.

Our former member Oswald Kawahara passed away last year and he was buried at Punchbowl National Cemetery on 15 Jan 04 at 11:30 AM. If you have time please pay your last respects to Comrade Oswald. I think wearing the Club Shirt is appropriate for the occasion.

Our 62nd Anniversary will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel on 26 June 2004. As things transpire it will be written in the PPP for your info.

Dinner for Sen. Dan Inouye will be held on 19 Feb. 04 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village from 6:00 PM. Cost/individual \$150.00. If interested call club office.

Dr. Terry Shintani will give a free talk at the clubhouse on 19 Feb 04. He will also give veterans and wives/widows of veterans who are in attendance, a free copy of his book and video. If interested in attending, notify the club office.

Our next meeting will be on 19 March 04. Location of the meeting will be noted in the PPP later.

F CHAPTER NEWS

by Kenneth Higa

A very happy New Year to all. Hope your holiday season was a joyous one.

Sick Bay: Hayato Tanaka, former F Company Hawaii honcho is a patient at the VA Center for Aging. F Troopers, please make every effort to visit him. His daughter Maile, who is a part-time speech therapist at the Center, told me having visitors would be good morale boosters.

Obit:

Wednesday, 10/29/2003. The Grim Reaper struck. Oswald Hisato Kawahara of Spring Hill, Florida, passed away. He was born in Puunene, Maui. Oswald, affectionately called "Ozzie," was the retired owner and operator of Aloha Typewriters, an office machine maintenance and repair business.

Sunday, 11/02/2003. A prayer service was held at the Pinecrest Funeral Chapel.

Monday, 11/03/2003. A mass for Christian burial was held at the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church.

Saturday, 1/10/2004. Oswald's wish fulfilled. From faraway Spring Hill, Florida, his faithful wife Sylvia, accompanied by daughter Peggy and son-in-law Isaac Von Vliet, brought him home to Hawaii--his final resting place in our world.

Wednesday, 1/14/2004. The storm before the final service. The rains came down by "bucketfuls" and the winds blew at "hurricane speed." A good omen. By day's end, the stormy weather was over.

Thursday, 1/15/2004. Perfect weather conditions. A beautiful morning. At 11:30 AM, friends and relatives gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific-Punchbowl for the inurnment service. It was nice to see a good turnout of the 100th Infantry Battalion veterans, spouses and widows who came to pay their last respects to a dear friend. May he rest in peace.

HEADQUARTERS

by Ed Ikuma and Janice Sakoda

December 14, 2003, marked the date of our annual Headquarters/Medics Christmas party and it turned out to be the typical "Jan Sakoda group" success. Focus on this event was for our keiki and guests. Needless to say, entertainment was plentiful for them. Approximately 120 members, families and guests were in attendance.

After a "moment of silence" for our departed members and/or family members, the party started promptly at 4:00 p.m. with "gingerbread making time" for the little ones.

Introduction of the chapter officers for 2004 was made, followed by a sumptuous dinner; then more games for the keiki, special guest appearance by Santa, gift giving games, then more games for the keiki. Bessie Nakasone of Medics led us in singing Christmas carols. Piano accompaniment was by Janice Trubitt; Janice's daughter accompanied her mom on the violin. More games followed. Door prizes galore were given away all evening.

Our sincere thanks to the following who made generous monetary donations: Doris Aimoto, Beatrice Hosokawa, Bessie Nakasone, Vivian Saruwatari, Beatrice Shinoda and Gary Uchida.

Thanks also to the following people whose donations made the evening a success: Doris Aimoto for the ono tsukemono (just like pickled mango!); Pat Akimoto for the wonderful fruit cake; Midori Hirano for the large platter of Jell-O (mmm...there's always room for Jell-O!); Archie Kamisato's family for the delicious sheet cake; Carol Matsunaga for the popular popcorn; Mac Moriwake for the 2 cases of Hawaiian juice; and Elsie Oshita for the finger lickin' pastries. (If we missed anyone, *gomen nasai!*)

Thanks go to Seisaburo Taba whom we always prevail upon to donate his original works. This year he donated 2 paintings and 2 handmade tote bags. One of his paintings was presented to Dorothy Tamashiro for her many, many years of working behind the scenes toward the welfare of HQ. Dorothy was busy working in the kitchen the afternoon of our Christmas party; however, she had to miss the party as she had to help out at Kahala Mandarin in the evening. Such a busy lady!

This is the third year we have asked Pat Akimoto for greenery for our table centerpieces and she has come through every time. Each year Pat tenderly grows kalanchoe plants in the "Pat Akimoto nursery."

We're praying for sunnier weather next winter so the plants will be in full bloom for our next Christmas party.

Again, our sincere thanks to Jan and to all those who helped in making this evening such a success.

A bit of good news...Florence Miyashiro is up and about now after a recent bad fall at home. Husband Charlie has been helping with some of the chores until Florence is fully recovered.

We're looking forward to our spring luncheon in March. Look for more information in our next PPP.

May this year of the Monkey bring good health to all Headquarters and Medics members and their families.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m. Make every effort to attend as important club and chapter issues will be on the agenda.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

VISITORS: Bob and Lucy Sato of Seattle, WA, were visitors to Hawaii in November, 2003. They came to visit their son, Stan and his family, who live in Hawaii Kai. Saburo and Fukuko Ishitani, Philip and Doris Okada, "Papoose" and Skip Tomiyama and Betty and I enjoyed lunch at the Wasabi Restaurant hosted by Bob and Lucy. Bob was able to reminisce about old times with his mortar squad leader, Papoose; section leader, Philip; and platoon sergeant, Saburo .

Ben Takayesu of Kula, Maui was a visitor here on December 27, 2003. He is the same "Ben" still chugging along and still full of ideas and spirit -- some of which he wants to share with the 100 Inf. vets. Ben, we are still waiting for the new officers of the club for 2004, so hang on.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Hiromi Suehiro

Our Christmas party attracted ninety-eight young and old including fourteen members: Yoroku Ito, Warren Iwai, Kazuto Shimizu, Stan Akita, Stanley Kimura, Manabu Hongo, Yoshio Anzai, Papoose Tomiyama, Skip Tomiyama, Hideshi Niimi, Robert Hashimoto, Oscar Miyashiro, Jack Mizushima and Hiromi Suehiro.

The party started with attractive and charming Irene Anzai saying grace, and she played a key role throughout the night.

Our special thanks should go to chairman Warren Yamamoto who assembled the following to assist him: Irene Anzai, Cynthia Fukuda, Arlene Sato, April Yukitomo, and Gary Mizushima.

I don't know where Gary Mizushima learned to cook but he and Arlene Sato who is also a great cook prepared a spread that would delight the most discriminating chow hounds. Jack Mizushima spent all day making sure Gary didn't goof off so everybody could be fed on time.

Entertainment was provided by super talented organizer and entertainer Skip Tomiyama. Doris Kimura and Norine Hung sang Christmas carols and a Christmas Party is never complete without the audience singing Silent Night Holy Night. The Makiki Christian Church dance group entertained us with their superb dancing and Alan Yukitomo played the guitar like a pro.

Bert and Diane Anzai again played Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and the two have become regular fixtures at our Christmas parties.

Thank you Hiromi, You are right on the ball.

Takeichi "Chicken" Miyashiro died on November 20, 2003. Like a true member he was at the November 15 chapter meeting. Chick was 89 years old. We all know Chicken; he was our hero-- someone we loved and respected as a soldier and a friend. We miss him. Our sincere sympathy to Lorraine and the family. Memorial services were held on November 20, 2003, at the Hosoi Garden Mortuary.

NEXT MEETING: February 16, Presidents' Day, 10 AM. Lunch will be served. See you there.

CLUB 100 GOLF CLUB POOP SHEET

The golf tournament scheduled for January 7 was canceled due to the condition of the golf course after the storm. Instead a joint meeting of the Club 100 Golf Club and Century Golf Club was held at the clubhouse.

Dissolution of the Century Golf Club was proposed and was unanimously approved by the members. The remaining finances will be transferred to the Club 100 Golf Club. The Century Golf Club was started by Stanley "Tak" Takahashi when many of the boys were beginning to retire from their jobs and needed a recreational outlet. For twenty years the club has provided the additional tee times needed, thanks to Tak Tak.

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON:

Date: February 11, 2004 Time: 11:00 AM (Be there about 10:30)

Place: Pagoda Restaurant

Cost: Members--Free; Guests: \$10.00

To sign up call Richard Hamada @ 595-2090.

FEBRUARY TOURNAMENTS:

Olomana Golf Links Wednesday Feb. 4, 9:30 AM

Olomana Golf Links Wednesday Feb. 18, 9:30 AM

Call in to Sonsei Nakamura @ 737-1027.

Your Club 100 Golf Club dues are now due and payable. Pay it to Fred Kanemura.

See you on the course!



Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly



STANLEY'S CORNER

by Stanley Akita

Navajo message to the moon

When NASA was preparing for the Apollo Project, it took the astronauts to a Navajo reservation in Arizona for training. One day, a Navajo elder and his son came across the space crew walking among the rocks. The elder, who spoke only Navajo, asked a question. His son translated for the NASA people: "What are these guys in the big suits doing?"

One of the astronauts said that they were practicing for a trip to the moon. When his son relayed this comment, the Navajo elder got all excited and asked if it would be possible to give to the astronauts a message to deliver to the moon. Recognizing a promotional opportunity when he saw one, a NASA official accompanying the astronauts said, "Why certainly!" and told an underling to get a tape recorder. The Navajo elder's comments into the microphone were brief. The NASA official asked the son if he would translate what his father had said. The son listened to the recording and laughed uproariously. But he refused to translate. So the NASA people took the tape to a nearby Navajo village and played it for other members of the tribe. They too laughed long and loudly but also refused to translate the elder's message to the moon.

Finally, an official government translator was summoned. After he finally stopped laughing the translator relayed the message: "Watch out for these assholes--they have come to steal your land."

The moment people's attention is centered on service to others, they become more dynamic, more forceful, and harder to resist.

CLUB SECRETARY'S REPORT (January 2004)

by Amanda Stevens

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans

Hung, Norine (In memory of Chester Hada)	\$5,000
One Puka Puka Tour	\$50
Onuma, Wallace	\$100
Thursday Karaoke Gang	\$200

Puka Puka Parade

Anonymous	\$25
Furushima, Matsue	\$25
Imamura, Edwin	\$25
Nishimura, Frank and Haru	\$1,000
Onuma, Wallace	\$50
Otani, Akira and May	\$25
Yamate, James and Yuri	\$30

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

\$2000 and above

442nd Veterans Club

\$1000 - \$1999

\$500 - \$999

Fred S. Kurisu (Honolulu)

\$100 - \$499

- Goo, Willie and Janet (Wailuku)
- Hoashi, Seichi (Kalaheo)
- Kagawa, Noboru and Shizue (Gardena, CA)
- Matsui, Barbara (Pearl City)
- Miyamoto, Toshio and Mitsue (Lahaina)
- Sekimura, T. (Honolulu) (In memory of Ko Sekimura)
- Sakaki, Nancy (Honolulu) (In memory of John Sakaki)

To \$99

- Akamine, Bernard & Jeanette (Honolulu) [December]
- Akamine, Bernard & Jeanette (Honolulu) [January]
- Baker Chapter (In memory of Wallace Takemoto)
- Baker Chapter (In memory of Masao "Stu" Yoshioka)
- Fukawa, Hiroshi Jeff (Delano, CA)
- Iha, Humi (Aiea)
- Imamura, Edwin (Wahiawa)
- Kashimoto, David (Aiea)
- Miyagi, Asako Aki (Los Angeles, CA)
- Nakamura, Jack S. and Alice (Aiea)

Special thanks to Kunio Fujimoto for the video footage of Lane Nishikawa's movie event taken on November 21. The video is at the office for your viewing. Also, special thanks to Shizuya Hayashi for his donation of a very beautiful, large framed map of Italy. If you get a chance, you really should come to the clubhouse to see it.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2004

ABLE.....	Saturday, February 28	8:00 am
BAKER.....	Saturday, February 28.....	1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....	Monday, February 16.....	10:00 am
DOG.....	Saturday, February 21.....	9:00 am
HQ.....	Saturday, February 14.....	10:00 am
RURAL.....	No Meeting	
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, February 13.....	10:00 am
GOLF AWARDS LUNCHEON.....	Wednesday, February 11.....Pagoda	10:30 am
GOLF CLUB.....	Wednesday, February 4, 18...Olomana Links.....	9:30 am
GREEN THUMBS.....	Monday, February 2.....Lounge.....	10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, February 4, 11, 18, 25....clubhouse.....	9:00 am
DR. T. SHINTANI TALK.....	Thursday, February 19.....100th clubhouse.....	12 noon

Deadline for articles will be February 17, 2004. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on FRIDAY, February 27, 2004, 8:30 a.m. Headquarters/Medics and D chapters are responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

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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FEBRUARY 2004 ISSUE

Happy Valentine's Day!

