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CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERAL JASON KAMIYA

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Our hearty congratulations to 100th Infantry Battalion member Jason Kamiya, son of Larry and Regina Kamiya (Company C), for his nomination for promotion to the rank of Major General by President George Bush on February 17, 2004. During the President's recent visit to Fort Polk, Lousiana, he conferred this honor upon the commanding general, which was televised on CNN for national audiences. The general even had the privilege of riding in the President's luxurious limousine.

During our January 30 PPParade collation we were delighted and honored to have both Jason and his brother Clayton accompany their mother Regina to the clubhouse to collate the PPP. They lined up with the other volunteers, and with efficiency and precision joined in, collating our newsletter. The vets enjoyed talking with fellow members Jason and his brother, Clayton (who has been very active as a member of both the 100th's organization and the Sons and Daughters of the 100th Inf. Bn.).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Stanley Akita

The meeting opened with a moment of silence for those who departed before us.

The Secretary's report and the Secretary-Treasurer's report were approved as circulated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Apartment: Robert Arakaki and Ukichi Wozumi are doing a bang-up job chipping the rust off the railings and then applying a rust inhibiting paint onto all the railings and gratings.

House: We are soliciting at least two bids to repair a leak over the lounge area.

Nomination: It was decided that Akita will remain as a pro-tem president until about June of this year when Dr. Denis Teraoka will take over as the president.

Bylaws: The Bylaws Committee led by Denis Teraoka and Toshimi Sodetani are revising the bylaws into simple language so, hopefully, anyone reading the bylaws will understand. The goal to revise the bylaws is to eliminate the "lawyers' language" to simple everyday language. After the committee reviews the revisions, a general membership meeting will be held for approval of the document by the members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. Dr. Terry Shintani gave a presentation to the 100th Infantry Battalion members and their families about good health and nutrition on the February 19 at the clubhouse. Over 80 people attended.
- 2. After I watched the PBS program on *The Forgotten, a Portrait of Alzheimers* the club ordered a video of the program to be shown to the members and families at the clubhouse. An announcement will be made as soon as we receive the video.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Just a comment of mine. After a comment by a board member about the 100th Infantry Battalion

Scholarship Fund Drive at the board meeting, I'd like to point out at this time that the fund drive was successful to the point where we are back to the amount we had just before that infamous 9/11 date.

My final comment is if all the members were as enthusiastic towards the fund drive as Kazuo Senda of Kauai and Sam Fujikawa of LA were, we would have gone over our goal by leaps and bounds.

Hardly anything was received from Maui. I don't blame them for they do have a big fund drive going on themselves. Hawaii was almost as bad. I have to take my hat off to Kazuo of Kauai and Sam of LA.

My biggest disappointment was Oahu, with all the members here on Oahu, I was looking forward to a huge success.

Finally, my gratitude goes to Evelyn Tsuda who was solely responsible for sending the "thank you" letters to each and every donor to the Scholarship Drive.

Remember, after 9/11, we lost about 50% of our Scholarship account. I wish I had more help from the board members and the rest of the members on Oahu.

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FAITHFUL PPPARADE VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

As I have mentioned time and again, without our faithful, conscientious volunteers who report to the clubhouse each month to collate and mail out the Puka Puka Parade, our vets would probably lose touch with many of their fellow members and would be uninformed of club activities. In that way, the PPParade is a vital link that keeps members and their friends connected. I have received several letters and calls of appreciation for our newsletter. So, to all of you who volunteer your services, a big mahalo. Additional thanks to my small but hardworking staff for helping me put the PPP together—Robert Arakaki, Mary Hamasaki, Hiromi Suehiro, and Evelyn Tsuda. Also I'm grateful to Kuni Fujimoto who oversees bagging the bundles according to the post office's strict rules, to Tommy Nishioka and Evelyn Tsuda for weighing and stamping overseas mail, and to Moro Sato and Amanda Stevens for taking the mail to the postoffice.

Among last issue's volunteers we were happy to have General Jason Kamiya and brother Clayton join in the collation with their mother Regina. Other regular volunteers were: Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ted Hamasu, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru and Fumi Inouye, Arthur Komiyama, Philip Matsuyama who always contributes soft drinks, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Mitsuo Nagaki, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Charlie Nishimura, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Kay Oshiro, Susumu Ota, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozum

Besides the delicious refreshments from Rural and Baker Chapters, Jason brought hot doughnuts and Bernard treated the group to what was called "S&S" (unprintable in a family paper) but known to many GIs. It is bits of meat in a cream sauce served on a triangle piece of toast-got it? Thanks to all.



KYLEIGH ARAKAKI WINNER OF USAA NATIONAL MATHEMATICS AWARD

Congratulations to Kyleigh Arakaki, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Arakaki (B Chapter) for being honored nationally by her math teacher, Ms. Ellen Cordeiro of Waimea Middle School, in Kamuela, Hawaii. Kyleigh has been officially nominated as an USAA National Mathematics Award winner. This prestigious award pays tribute to her commitment to academic excellence. Kyleigh's biography will be published in this year's USNMA's yearbook. Only a select number of students across America have their names and achievements featured in this highly respected publication. These students also become eligible for this organization's two scholarship programs: 1. USAA Scholarship Cash Grants Program (grades 6-12) and 2. USAA College Scholarship Recruitment Program (UCSRP).

Kyleigh has a bright future ahead of her. May she continue her high standards of scholarship and achievement. We wish her the best.

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

LOOKING BACK

The following report is a continuation of our February issue's article on Masao Awakuni. Thanks to Evelyn Tsuda for typing the article for us.

AWAKUNI, THE TANK BUSTER

By Ben Tamashiro – from the 12/9/78 issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*

Combat tanks as we know them today initially appeared in the First World War and men could do nothing then but run and hide. But as with any game where the introduction of a new offensive play sooner or later produces a checkmate, the Goliath of steel begat, in time, a slew of counter weapons. One of these was the bazooka, a man-carried weapon; in that light, a weapon somewhat analogous to David's slingshot.

In the last issue of the *Parade*, we recounted Masao Awakuni's single-handed destruction of a German tank on Castle Hill in Cassino on February 8, 1944. That was his second tank. In this interview, we take you back to Awakuni's first encounter 3-1/2 months earlier, on October 22, 1943, near Alife. Interviewers are Warren Iwai and the writer, and Q stands for their questions and comments. MA is for Masao Awakuni.

Masao was a member of the 3rd Platoon, Charlie Company. He had started out as a rifleman but became a bazooka man when that weapon was introduced into the 100th sometime during its training period; he does not recall when.

Q: What did you fire at in training?

MA: Shucks! I don't know! I assume it was imaginary things.

Q: But you had adequate practice in handling and firing that thing?

MA: Just to load. I don't think we fired at anything in training.

Q: What did you feel about this new weapon for which you did not even get to fire a real, live round in practice?

MA: It's a strange thing, this thing of machine against man. Could a bazooka knock out a tank that is armored, made of real steel, and everything? I didn't even see a tank before Alife! You get the point? Even in your heart you have a doubt. I'm told that this would knock a tank down. I couldn't believe myself that the rocket could penetrate through the tank, until I fired upon it.

The 100th had fought through towns and mountain villages with place names like Chiusano, Benevento, Bagnoli, and Caserta. And they had just completed their first crossing of the Volturno River. Now, with all its regiments, and the 100th, across the Volturno, the 34th Division prepared for the fight to take the town of Alife. The 100th pushed off along the slopes of the valley through which flowed the Volturno. It was exactly one month to the day since the men of the 100th had climbed down the rope ladders of the S.S. Frederick Funston at Salerno.

Enemy tanks were roaming the area and one had crept up to Charlie Company's left flank, fired some rounds, and caused a number of casualties. Awakuni was to the rear of the company when the call came to set up a tank blockade. He hurried to the front accompanied by an ammunition carrier and some riflemen.

A road ran parallel to Charlie Company's front. It ran along a natural dip, or low part, of the landscape. It was abutted at one point by another road running perpendicular to it. Looking over the lay of the land, Awakuni positioned himself at this juncture, or T, in the road, on the reasoned guess that the tank (which he had not seen as yet) would be coming down the perpendicular to the main. And if it did, he would have a good vantage point. With that, he loaded his bazooka. His ammunition carrier who would do all subsequent loadings in the firing sequence was to the right and rear of him while the riflemen positioned themselves around them. Then he laid down on his belly and waited.

To give <u>you</u>, the reader, a more feeling approximation of what the field of fire looked like to Awakuni from his belly-down position above that T in the road as he faced his moment of truth that October morning in Alife, imagine that you are lying on your belly on the sun deck of your 2-story home. Suddenly, a heavy truck (the tank) comes rumbling into your driveway (the perpendicular road) and stops by the entrance to your garage directly below you. From the sun deck, you look down at the vehicle; the distance is 12-15 feet.

To Awakuni's left was a farmhouse, and trees to the right. Also to his left but not within his view was the spot where the German tank had earlier shot up the C Company men. So he knew that if it came, it would be coming from that direction.

Then he heard the clanking and the growling, and the roar of the engines. He knew by the sound that the tank was headed his way even though he could not see it; the farmhouse blocked his view of the tank's approach.

. How long was it before the tank appeared?

. MA: About five or ten minutes. But I really don't know — we were so scared! You don't think of time; time is not the point. We were so tense and scared. You wonder how big the tank is. You wait, wait . . . then you blink your eyes and all of a sudden, it's right there in front of you. You cannot explain in words . . . there it is! We cannot see the tracks, or nothing of the tank. Only the turret. And the only thing to do is fire upon it! That's all you know, hoping that the first shot is in the right spot. I was lucky it didn't explode, we were so close to the tank.

It is, what it was... I call it fear, anyway. You only can hear the tank noise, and then you wait. The tank sounds come louder and louder. Either you perspiring with fright or what, you cannot recognize until it's all over. Once you see the tank in front of you, then you fire the first round. You hoping and praying that it's the one. Then after that, you get what the infantrymen call "trigger happy". Because the next shot comes automatically because, I guess, all the tension and fright which you had, which I cannot explain, makes a man trigger happy. So I fired my two rounds. And Obara, my ammunition carrier, he carried maybe two or three — I used all his, too.

A. So you fired five shots?

MA: Yes.

Q: And you hit the tank with all five?

MA: Yeah. You can't miss because it's so big, so close. And it comes automatically from all the training.

Q: After you fired your last round, then what?

MA: You're scared, because you don't have anything left. Then I realized what I have done, fired everything. Nothing left. I should have held back a shot, at least one. But it's too late. What if another backup tank follows?

Awakuni's concern, of course, was the matter of resupply of ammunition. He was completely out. His only reassurance was that somewhere back in the company, there were two more bazooka men.

(You may recall that in the Cassino confrontation, Awakuni had two rounds with him; he fired the first and the tank burst into flames. Although he was prepared to fire the second, he was at the same time very conscious of the fact that at Alife, he had run out of spare ammunition because in his "trigger happy" reaction, he had fired all available rounds. Thus it was that at Cassino, he withheld firing the second and as it turned out, the second was not necessary.)

Q: Now, did any of the tank crew pop out of the tank?

MA: No, nobody popped out. But I could hear somebody in the tank saying, "Please help me!" I can swear to it that I heard that.

Q: You mean the cry was in English?

MA: Yeah, in English.

Q: And your reaction to that?

MA: Gosh, I was really scared. I thought I had knocked off our own tank!

Q: You mean, when the tank came down this road at you, you couldn't see any markings to identify it?

MA: You see, the farmhouse blocked the view of the tank and before I knew it, the tank was right in front of me!

Q: So you assumed it was an enemy tank? What happened after that?

MA: We couldn't do nothing. We stayed over there, then some Germans threw some grenades and they exploded in the back of us. After that, everything came quiet. Then they told us to pull back.

Q: The tank didn't catch fire, or explode?

MA: No, nothing like that.

Q: So you pulled back . . .

MA: That night, the captain . . I forgot who was our captain . . he gave me a glass full of whiskey for a job well done.

Masao was injured several weeks later, about the Thanksgiving period; he stayed in the hospital a long time, then rejoined the 100th in time for the start of the Cassino battle. As a footnote to the paradox of the times, he received a DSC for having knocked off a second tank at Cassino but only a Bronze Star for his initial action at Alife.

I'd like to return for a moment to that quote of Napoleon's printed in last month's story on Awakuni: "The first quality of a soldier is fortitude in enduring fatigue and hardship: bravery but the second. Poverty, hardship, misery are the school of the good soldier."

Q: Do you feel that you were brave or . . .

MA: No, I don't think I'm brave. It's just that the tank came in my way. Anyone else over there could have done the same thing.

Q: At the moment of the happening, none of us think of that kind of thing as bravery. But somehow, in the afterglow, you can't help but think that part of the thing is wrapped up in the element of bravery. It still takes a lot of guts to make men do what they do in battle.

MA: To me, bravery is not the word. It's the training. And especially the duty to perform – that's what comes first. When we were in Tent City, they took everything away from us. More than anything else, the next morning, I found out that our rifles were gone!

Q: You're talking about December '41, right after Pearl Harbor.

MA: Even the army didn't trust us. I was a Boy Scout in my younger days; brought up on duty. Duty — we have to show them that we are American citizens. That comes first. I think majority of the 100th felt that way. The incident of taking away our rifles, our friends being evacuated to concentration or relocation camp — these are the things that bothered me most. One of my best friends, Thomas Sakakihara, got in there, too. I'm a Hilo boy and we used to admire him. Even when I came home, his was the only place I could spend my time — go up to his home, talk story. But he never mentioned his time in the relocation center.

Q: In other words, bravery comes out of the performance of duty.

MA: Yeah.

Q: Well, in that sense, what feelings, if any, did you have for your mother country, Japan?

MA: I tell you the fact. I had no... no feelings at all. I didn't think I had to be any other way to them. To my parents, yes — but not to their country.

Q: I presume you had cut off your dual citizenship?

MA: Yes, I did – at 21. So, in the community, we weren't liked too much.

Q: You mean, from the Issei viewpoint?

MA: Yeah.

Masao joined this past summer's 100/442 European tour at the very last moment, with great expectations of spending some time at Cassino and reliving his part of the battle. To his dismay, he had only a moment there inasmuch as the bus had to keep to its appointed schedule.

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A young man once asked God how long a million years was to Him.

God replied, "A million years to me is just like a single second in your time."

Then the young man asked God what a million dollars was to Him.

God replied, "A million dollars to me is just like a single penny to you."

Then the young man got his courage up and asked: "God, could I have one of your pennies?"

God smiled and replied, "Certainly, just a second."

(from Bit & Pieces, Vol. R/No. 44)

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CLUB SECRETARY'S REPORT (February 2004)

by Amanda Stevens

(listed alphabetically)

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans

Harumi Y. Miyake	In memory of Howard Y. Miyake	\$20
Yukitsugu Nishimura	•	\$100
Hideo Ueno	In memory of Esther Haruyo Ueno	\$500
Myra Yamamoto	In memory of Marian Yamamoto, wife of Masami (Able)	\$100

Puka Puka Parade

Kenneth Higa	In memory of Beatrice Higa	\$100
Tokuji Ono	In memory of Richard "Japan" Nakahara	\$20
Hideo Ueno	In memory of Esther Haruyo Ueno	\$500

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

\$1000 - \$5000

\$500-\$999

Hideo Ueno (Honolulu) In memory of Esther Haruyo Ueno

\$100-\$499

To \$99

Bernard & Jeanette Akamine (Honolulu)

F Company (Oahu)

In memory of Oswald Kawahara
F Company (Statewide)

In memory of Oswald Kuwahara

F Company (Statewide) In memory of Eichi Endo

Steven Nakamura (Kapolei)

Albert & Jane Oki (Honolulu)

Albert & Jane Oki (Honolulu)

In memory of Clarence K. Miyamoto

In memory of Yoshio Ogomori

Miscellaneous:

Special thanks to Don Matsuda, Robert Arakaki, Uki Wozumi, Sus Ota, Goro Sumida, Al Matsumoto, China Yamashina, Mamoru Sato, Tojio Kikuji, and the other men who have been fixing things around the clubhouse and apartment. If I missed your name, please excuse me. You are all truly appreciated. Also, a special thanks, again, to Evelyn Tsuda, for her dedication to the club. I truly appreciate her guidance and the countless hours she has spent assisting me with administrative duties.

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COREY JOHNSON'S ESSAY AWARDEDTHE EIRO YAMADA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This month we are proud to have three winners of prestigious honors won by progeny of the 100th Infantry Battalion veterans. First mentioned was commanding officer at Fort Polk, Louisiana, Jason Kamiya who was nominated for promotion to the rank of Major General by President Bush; next we announced the scholarship achievement of Kyleigh Arakaki for her USAA National Mathematics award. Our third honoree is Corey Johnson of Hilo, Hawaii, and grandson of Masaharu and Carol Saito (Rural Chapter). Recent graduate of Hilo High School, Corey won the Eiro Yamada Memorial Scholarship essay contest in September 2003. The scholarship is open to all descendants of the 100th/442nd RCT. Johnson has chosen to attend the elite Harvard University. His winning essay follows.

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Button up the shirt. Brush teeth. Lightly gel the dark brown hair. I look into the mirror on the way out the door and see my face in the reflection. I go to pick her up. The Father: "Oh, she's not quite ready yet. Why don't you come inside and sit down? Meet my parents--they're over for dinner. This is Michiko and this is Masao. .." Hmm, Masao, my middle name. A slight air of nervousness pervades the room. Is it just the fact that this is the first date, or the fact that I'm not like them, that I don't look like them? I don't know. She's ready, we're out the door, the tension disappears.

This happens all the time. Raised by a Japanese mother, her Japanese family, but never exactly feeling in place during large cultural gatherings. The only bon dances that are comfortable are those where I invite friends who are even more multicultural than I am. Being hapa, being part of two worlds, never being fully accepted for who I am and having to live with it. Feeling Japanese but never really looking it. It wasn't always this way: I remember sitting in my grandparents' patio in rural Wahiawa as a child, peeling lichee while listening to my grandfather and his "drinking buddies" sitting around on stools, talking about life during the war, and feeling perfectly at home. You live under this illusiion for a long time, until one day you come to the realization that you look different.

Japanese Eyes, American Heart. I read this book as a prerequisite to a tour of Italy with my grandfather's war buddies during my freshman year of high school. I read about the growth and development of Hawaii's Japanese nisei, who were torn between their ancestral roots in Japan, and an overbearing drive to become "Americanized" during World War II. These words, a compilation of narratives from over a dozen authors, created a single voice so strong that I could barely put the book down long enough to allow me to digest and internalize what I was reading. I was suddenly reading about my grandfather and his peers—what they went through growing up, and how they changed the world. I flashed back to my grandparents' patio, remembering what my grandfather and his friends talked about, finally able to understand what was going on through changed eyes and ears. The words not only allowed me to understand my grandfather, his humility, and his commitment to my family, but taught me to value life and the opportunity to touch the lives of others every day.

At the airport, we met various people we would be traveling with: Stanley Akita, Doc Kawamoto, Mitsuo Honda, my grandfather's friends. The nervousness crept in. How would they accept me; how would they accept my twin brother? We were the only non-fully Japanese people on the tour besides Bob Jones. The nervousness continued. We set out, we saw, we learned, we drank wine with them at night and listened to them talk as their tongues were loosened by the native drink. We had to interview them for history class, learn about who they were, what they did. It was amazing. They weren't there to boast about what they did during the war; they just wanted us to learn, to better understand who they were in an effort to help us better understand ourselves. Facial features began to fall away. They didn't care that we were hapa--it wasn't about race. It was about understanding that we need to work together to get things done, to ensure that the injustices of the past never happen again. The socioeconomic landscape of Hawaii was forever changed by their actions, by their sheer concern for one another, and their willingness to do SOMETHING. They wanted us to remember what I somehow forgot. I returned home in awe of what I just experienced, not able to fully process my experiences. Back in Hilo, I listened to our interview tapes. I continue to listen to my grandfather's stories with a new appreciation for life, and embrace the opportunity I have to change my own world because of them.

DONATION OF HIBARI/KAWADA BOOKS TO CLUB

Shinko Nohara (C Company) is one of the members who helped organize the Misora Hibari/Kawada Haruhisa show sponsored by our veterans "Club 100" in 1950. Nohara has fond memories of the event. As reported in the last issue of the PPParade, a memorable picture book of Hibari's trip to the United States and Hawaii has been printed and is now available. In memory of both Hibari and Kawada, Nohara has donated five books to the club. For the first five people interested in having a copy, it is available in exchange for a donation to the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets. organization. If you are interested, please call our secretary, Amanda Stevens - Phone 946-0272.

DIS AND DAT

By Ray Nosaka

Those of you who have attended one of the mini-reunions will surely remember being entertained by Kaui Masuda and his ukulele.

Kaui and his charming wife, Helga, were in the islands visiting his father and family this past January. We had the chance to "show off" our clubhouse to them and hope they will come back to visit us again.

In October at our next mini-reunion, Kaui will again play and sing for us. We urge you to sign up now, not so much for the gambling, but more for the fellowship and comradeship which you may not be able to enjoy next year. It is sad to look around you at the club gatherings and realize that so many of your

friends are no longer there.

Don't wait---sign up now and join your comrades in the hospitality room at the California Hotel in October.

Ray's Advice: Do you know what we need to see more of in this busy world?

LAUGHTER! Laughter changes our whole disposition, and makes it easier to live with ourselves. Problems can be handled easier because laughter relieves tension. It is less stressful on the heart and blood pressure. If your laughter has been misplaced, find it again. Have laughter in your life often. Do not let anyone take it away from you.

HA! HA! HA! It's free medicine!



FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Matthew Ikeda Psychiatrist at the Veterans Administration

will speak on

Post-traumatic Disorders and Services available for Veterans at the VA

> Sunday, March 28, 2004 11:00 a.m.

Lunch: \$5.00/person

For reservations call:

Robert Arakaki - phone 737-5244 Bernard Akamine - 734-8738 Kimi Matsuda - 988-6562 Marie Yoneshige - 536-9921

Parking at the Ala Wai School



In Allemoriam

Clarence Miyamoto Company A

Passed away February 5, 2004

Isao Isaac Nakashima

Company D

Passed away February 5, 2004

Eichi Endo

Company F/B (Maui)

Passed away February 7, 2004

Yoshio Ogomori

Company HQ

Passed away February 10, 2004

Our deepest sympathies to their families

HEADOUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

By Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

Chapter meeting attendees were treated to a surprise "heavy pupus" feast on Saturday, February 14 at our regular monthly meeting at the clubhouse. Donor and coordinator was Dorothy Tamashiro. The delicious food was so abundant that we invited the "backroom boys" to partake and they enjoyed it too. Even then, there was enough food for the attendees to take home. Thanks again, Dorothy!

Elsie Oshita and assistant Bea Shinoda have been working on our Spring Headquarters and Medic Chapter get together. LATE BREAKING NEWS - just received word that our Spring get-together will be on March 15, Monday, at Hanaki Restaurant, starting at 11:00 a.m. Deadline to rsvp is March 5. Please call Ed Ikuma at 732-6884 or Dorothy Tamashiro at 734-5122. (My computer is on the blink so I don't have other phone numbers.) So if you want to join us on March 15, remember to call by March 5 to save a space for you! It's easier for you to call us rather than us calling all of you!!!

Special for all Headquarters Chapter Members! Vice President Seisaburo Taba will be giving a demonstration on making t-shirts and bag painting by computer during our next meeting on March 13 so it should be quite an interesting morning.

Sick Call:

Pat Akimoto had cataract surgery and couldn't attend our "feast" meeting but is well on her way to recovery. She now hopes her bowling average will be much better.

Wally Teruya is under therapy after a mild stroke but doing very well under Ethel's loving care.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Deanna Ogomori, wife of Yoshio Ogomori, and to the entire Ogomori family of Mountain View, Hawaii. Yoshio passed away on February 10, 2004. He was 86 and an original member of Message Center, Hq. Co.

Special thanks go to Joy Teraoka and her group for putting together this newsletter each month and to the people who come to collate the PPP. All your work is <u>very much appreciated</u>, especially by those who are housebound. We missed receiving the PPP in January and realized how dependent we are on the news you provide.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

MEETING: The following were present at our February 16 meeting: Saburo Ishitani, Lawrence Kamiya, Philip Matsuyama, Oscar Miyashiro, Rusty Nakagawa, Shinko Nohara, Takeichi Onishi, Kazuto Shimizu, Toshimi Sodetani, Hiromi Suehiro, Robert Takato, Papoose and Skip Tomiyama, and Warren Iwai. Count them, there are 14 plus Regina Kamiya.

Congratulations to Jason Kamiya, member, who recently was nominated for promotion to the rank of a 2-star major general by President Bush. He commands the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, LA. But Major General Jason Kamiya still salutes Pfc. Larry Kamiya, his father.

Saburo and Fukuko Ishitani have extended their invitation to all Charlie Chapter members, wives and widows for lunch at their home on March 1st at 12:00 noon. I'm sure there will be a great gathering there. Fukuko is a connoisseur of Japanese cuisine so we will have a great treat.

The members want another tea house party again at Nuuanu Onsen. It is tentatively planned for September, but in the meantime you guys should go into training by sitting samurai style at home.

Toshio and Mitsue Miyamoto of Lahaina, Maui appeared as donors to our scholarship fund in the February issue. I hope Toshio is the same guy who was in the 3rd squad, 3rd platoon under Teruto Tanimoto as squad leader. It's good to hear or see the names of the guys who were in the same squad back in the Camp McCoy days. Aloha, Toshio.

Our next meeting is on Monday, March 15, 10:00AM. Lunch will be served. See you there.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

"OPU" HIRANAKA'S ONE PUKA PUKA 2004 JAPAN AUTUMN TOUR OF EASTERN HOKKAIDO -- DEPART 10/08/04 -- RETURN 10/22/04

Honolulu-Tokyo-Edo Museum-Kushiro Marshland-Crane Park-Ainu Village-Lake Akan-Marimo Island-Lake Mashuko-Sulphur Mountain-Lake Kussharo-Shari City-Oshin Koshin Waterfalls-Shiretoko Five Lakes-Boatride along Shiretoko Coastline-Nemuro-Crane Observatory Center-Cape Nosappu-Peace Tower-Cape Kiridafu-Biwase Marshland-Akkeshi City-Kushiro-Fisherman's Wharf-Yonemachi-Tokyo-Koma Gekijo-Honolulu

TOUR MEETING AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON 3/26/04 (FRIDAY) AT 10:30 A.M.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

Rural Chapter held its Installation and New Year's Banquet at Dot's of Wahiawa on 18 January 2004 from 10:00 AM with about 80 members, wives, widows, sons, daughters and guests present.

It started off in a crisis mode, for yours truly forgot to borrow the bingo set for our bingo game. Here we have all the prizes bought and no bingo set. Since it was about 10:00AM, Bull Saito and I decided to drive to the clubhouse to pickup the set. We might have broken a few speed limits on the way and back but we made it in time to start the program at 11:00 AM

Our MC Charles Nishimura did an outstanding job of guiding the program after the officers for the coming year were installed and everybody had a full stomach after enjoying the spread that Dot's prepared and the desserts that our chapter ladies made. We were ready for the lucky number and bingo games to start. There were so many donations that most of the players had more than one prizes to take home.

The newly installed officers of the Chapter are:

President Ted Hamasu VP Vacant

Sec. Masaharu Saito Trea. Susumu Ota

-Auditors Mitsuo Nagaki & Kiyomi Kaneshige

The donations of goodies and \$\$\$\$ overwhelmed the committees who were in charge of this portion of the program. They were, M/M Furuya, pack soda and packaged goodies; M/M Hamasu, cs beer; M/Hayashi, 2 bgs of boiled peanuts and soda; M/Higa, \$20; Ms Ikei, 6 lg gift baskets; M/M Kaneshige, 2 ea. 6 pks soda; M/M Masatsugu \$150; M/M Nagaki, 4 cs pineapples and some tangerines; M/M Nishimura, 5 door prize envelopes; M/M Ota, \$50; M/M Saito, \$50; manju & soda; M/M Takeshita, boxed cookies, 2 jars candies & desserts; M/Tanji, cs beer & cs soda; M/Tokairin, \$20 and candies; Ms Shintaku, \$25; Ms Yamaki, \$50 & tsukemono; Ms Kanno, \$10; Ms Kihara, \$10; Ms Shimizu, \$25, somen soba and 10 children's gifts; Ms Taoka, \$100, 4 trays desserts; Ms Hayashi, \$20, \$25 PPP; Ms Furuta, \$25.

We'll take this means to express our deepest appreciation for all the goodies and \$\$\$ received for our Installation and New Year's Banquet which made it an enjoyable and fun get-together. We also should not forget the many donations of desserts from our ladies of the Chapter. Arigatoo Gozaimashita. Thank you very much. Muchas Gracias. Rainen mo mata yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

The officers of the Mother Chapter for this year are:

Pres. Denis Teraoka
1st VP Robert Arakaki
2nd VP Hiromi Suehiro
Sec/Treas Bert Turner

The State Veterans Service Office is asking for volunteers to clean the Korean and Vietnam Memorials. If you are available, call Mr. Miles Okamura at 233-3630

Our next meeting will be held on 19 March 04 from 11:00 AM at Dot's of Wahiawa. My thanks to Mitsuo Nagaki for hustling to get a meeting place for our chapter. See you all there.

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

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS by Tom Nagata

Maui Chapter's officers met on Monday morning, January 26 with Stanley Izumigawa presiding. It was decided to continue with our last year's schedule of activities. Our first general meeting of the year will be a luncheon meeting on Tuesday, March 9, at the Asian Sports Bar, Kahului, at 11 AM. Members, wives and widows will be assessed \$3.00. Secretary Edward Nishihara has already mailed out the new schedule so keep it to remind you of the coming events.

We extend our get well wishes to Toshio Iwami who injured his back in a fall and is now confined at the Kahului Hale Makua. Also to Mrs. Janet Goo who was hospitalized recently, and to Ann Arisumi who was also in the hospital.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Eichi Endo, 87, who died on February 7, 2004. He was in B Company after F Company was dissolved. He served as Maui Chapter president in 1976 and was an active life member of our club. On June 26, 1944, he was awarded the Silver Star medal for gallantry in action in the vicinity of Belvedere, Italy.

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS

by Sam Fujikawa

Saturday, February 14, our club held its annual Valentine/Installation Party at the PCH Chinese Restaurant in Lomita. Bev Picazo (daughter of the late Allen Dong) made all the arrangements and furnished decorations and favors for the 42 veterans, their family members and friends who attended. A gourmet menu of delicious food was enjoyed by everyone. It was topped off with a dessert of fresh strawberry chiffon cake donated by the Fujikawas and the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Henry Hayashi who was celebrating his 88th birthday. Added favors for the ladies were the jars of homemade kinkan jam from Chisato Yamaguchi, the handy net scrubbers from May Fujita and beautiful camellias from Elsie and Hank Hayashi and May and Wayne Fujita.

Officers for this coming year are: Sam Fujikawa as president, Ben Tagami as vice president, Harry Fukasawa as treasurer, and Amy Nakazawa as secretary were duly sworn in by Jason Young, Counselor and Team Leader from the Department of Veterans Affairs of the LA Veterans Resource Center. He has been a support and guide to many veterans who are now receiving benefits from the government. Attending and enjoying the gathering were Jason Young and his lovely wife, Koki, Hisa and Ken Miya, May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Don and Sets Miyada, Rae and Toke Yoshihashi, Chiz and Ted Ohira, Duke Ogawa, Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Al and Connie Takahashi, Yeiki Matsui, Henry and Elsie Hayashi, Harry and Harumi Sasaki, Kei and Chisato Yamaguchi, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Kaz and Kuni Uyehara, Young O. Kim, Fumi Sakato, Chuckie Seki, Beverly and Carlos Picazo, Douglas Tanaka, George and Shirley Tanaka, Toe Yoshino, Shieko Aiso, Harry Fukasawa, Mitsi Fuchigami, Sam and Teri Fujikawa.

Our next event is a meeting of veterans and their families at the Nakaoka Center in Gardena to hear about other Veteran Benefits that need to be addressed. Notices will be sent out by Jason Young in the very near future. Anyone who is not already registered with the Veterans Resource Center and is interested should get in touch with Jason Young, US Department of Veterans Affairs, 1045 W. Redondo Blvd., Ste 150, Gardena, CA 90247.

CLUB 100 GOLF CLUB POOP SHEET

by Warren Iwai

The annual awards luncheon was held at Pagoda Restaurant on February 11, 2004 with 33 members, wives and guests present. Here are the winners:

PRESIDENT'S TROPHY CLUB 100 G. C.

CENTURY G.C.

First Place, Tied: Edward Ikuma, Masao Kodama Robert Takashige

Second Place: none Fred Kanemura

Third Place, Tied: Richard Hamada, Susumu Kunishige

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

First Place Tied: Richard Hamada, Jack Nakamura Warren Iwai

Second Place: none Richard Hamada

Third Place: Kazuto Shimizu Tied: Edward Ikuma, Susumu Kunishige

Fourth Place: Susumu Kunishige
Fifth Place: Kenneth Muroshige

ACE OF ACES
Winner: Edward Ikuma
CENTURY G.C.
Sonsei Nakamura

Congratulations to the winners. To the non-winners let's do more practice! ha ha

The first Club 100 tournament for 2004 was held on January 21 at Olomana Golf Links. The winners were:

..

1st place: Fred Kanemura net 69
2nd place: Warren Iwai net 70
3rd place: Richard Hamada net 73

TOURNAMENTS IN MARCH:

Olomana Golf Links Wednesday, March 3rd, 9:30AM Olomana Golf Links Wednesday, March 24th, 9:30AM

Call in to Sonsei Nakamura at 737-1027. Pay your dues to Fred Kanemura. See you at Olomana



CALIF. GO FOR BROKE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OPENS RESOURCE CENTER

First of its Kind Focused on the WWII Japanese American Veterans -- Making Accessible Coveted Oral Histories, Rare Photos, Personal Documents, and more!

TORRANCE, Calif.-(February 5, 2004) - The Go For Broke Educational Foundation is excited to announce today the opening of its anticipated Resource Center in Torrance. The Educational Foundation's new Resource Center is the only center dedicated to educate the public - especially teachers and students - about the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, and other Japanese American units of World War II.

The jewel of the Resource Center is its Web-based Oral History Video Archive showcasing 120 interviews of WWII Japanese American veterans from across the nation. The interviews, which were conducted by the Educational Foundation's Hanashi Oral History Program, are keyword searchable and viewed on the Resource Center's computer stations. This is the first time the public has been able to access any of the broadcast-quality Hanashi archive, which currently total more than 400 interviews. These interviews are some of the last primary sources of Japanese American WWII veteran information.

Patrons to the Resource Center can read its collection of out-of-print and uncommon books and reference materials, archival photos, personal essays and journals, as well as rare books on the Japanese American experience and other segregated units of World War II. Additionally, hard-to-find documentaries, films, and video presentations on the veteran experience and incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII may also be viewed at the center.

To assist patrons, the Resource Center's knowledgeable staff provides research help to Educational Foundation members, students, teachers and the general public (fees may be applicable) on individual veterans, units and battles. Because staff is in contact with many Japanese American veterans of WWII, in some cases information can be provided about other veterans, the units and battles not typically cited or in print.

Other services the Resource Center offers, include: photo replication - Educational Foundation private collection and public domain photos available; speaker's bureau - schools and other nonprofit institutions may request veteran speakers in the Southern California region; Oral History Video Archive - duplication based on usage requirements and policies and other video footage available. Fees and access restrictions may apply.

The Resource Center operates from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with special Wednesday hours from 12 - 8 p.m. Please call 310-328-0907 in advance to confirm hours of operation. Saturdays and extended hours are available by appointment only. Admission is free.

The Resource Center is located at 370 Amapola Avenue, Suite #110, Torrance, California 90501 or email ResourceCenter@goforbroke.org.

For those unable to visit the Resource Center, <u>www.GoForBroke.org</u> has been completely redesigned with original content and interactive programs and has been re-launched today to coincide with the Resource Center opening.

The highlight of the Web site is its Learning Center section with separate teacher and student areas, complete with video presentations, lesson plans, and student activities - everything needed to teach the story in the classroom. Moreover, the Oral History Video Archive will be accessible, as well as a complete

historical section, 40 additional video clips of veteran interviews, photos, special interactive features and virtual veteran experiences.

The Go For Broke Educational Foundation institutes educational programs focused on the heroism and history of the Japanese American soldiers of World War II, as well as the forced evacuation and incarceration of Japanese Americans and civil liberties issues raised by those events.

Currently the Educational Foundation's programs include An American Story Teacher Training Program, Hanashi Oral History Program, <u>www.GoForBroke.org</u> educational Web site, and Resource Center.

In 1989 Japanese American World War II veterans established the 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Foundation to build the Go For Broke Monument, which today is an eternal tribute to the heroics of the segregated Japanese American units. The Monument is located in the Little Tokyo district of downtown Los Angeles at Temple and Alameda Streets.

Diane H. Tanaka, Associate Director, Go For Broke Educational Foundation 310-222-5709 direct; 310-328-0907 main; 310-222-5700 fax; diane@goforbroke.org

LETTER OF THANKS FROM LANE NISHIKAWA



A new film by Lane Bishikava, author and filmmaker of "When We Were Warriors" and "Forgotten Valor"

February 17, 2004

TO: 100th Battalion Nisei Veterans

Lane Nishikawa and everyone at Mission From Buddha Productions want to send a warm thank you out to all who attended last November's film screening of WHEN WE WERE WARRIORS and FORGOTTEN VALOR and all those who sent in donations towards the production of ONLY THE BRAVE. We have received donations from Hawaii that have netted just over \$15,000, which will greatly help the production.

For those who did not attend: Lane Nishikawa is producing a feature length World War II motion picture, ONLY THE BRAVE, which dramatizes the story of the $100^{th}/442^{nd}$ Regimental Combat Team's rescue of the "Lost Battalion", a battalion of the Texas 141^{st} Regiment. Last summer, the National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) launched a fundraising campaign, which has raised an additional \$100,000 to match the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program grant that the film project received. These contributions will be highlighted in a "Valor Roll", a special tribute at the end of the film, dedicated to family members, their veterans and all who donated to the project. The Honorable U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye will open the "Valor Roll" with his personal testimony about this unique period during the war.

With the grant, donations and private sources, they have raised 75% of their production budget but still need more help to reach their goal. All donations are fully tax deductible. If you would like to make a donation, contact the National Japanese American Historical Society, 1684 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94115-3604. For more information call (415) 921-5007.

Again, thank you so much for all your support.

Sincerely,

Lane Nishikawa

DR. TERRY SHINTANI GIVES INFORMATIVE PRESENTATION ON NUTRITION

On Thursday, February 19, 2004, our veterans, their wives and friends were in rapt attention listening to the eminent Dr. Terry Shintani speak on the benefits of a healthy and nutritious diet. Besides being a medical doctor (M.D.) Shintani also has a master's degree in nutrition from Harvard, and also a law degree from the University of Hawaii.

Although most of the audience at the clubhouse would not be considered obese--a national concern and one that affects many Hawaiians--a large number of those present suffer from high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes. Dr. Shintani revealed that his advocated diet allows a person to "eat more but weigh less" by replacing the intake of fatty foods, sugar-loaded items and dairy products with an increase in low-fat, high-fiber foods. He explained how the original Hawaiians were not prone to overweight because their major source of foods was from taro and other fresh plant foods. Unfortunately, today Spam, fast food hamburgers and deep fried chicken have become the more popular choices, thereby causing obesity and many other diseases. Dr. Shintani's patients learn that in Hawaii's multi-ethnic society, there are many choices that can be substituted for taro--brown rice and other whole grains. In addition, fruits, vegetables and dark, leafy greens eaten as the major part of one's diet will give more nutrition, more bulk, and satisfy hunger better than a large hamburger, french fries and a large coke. This is the secret of "eating more but gaining less."

It was also a surprise to learn that milk and dairy products are not all that healthy as they simply add artery-clogging fat to one's system. Milk also leaches calcium from the bones, contrary to what we have been taught. Therefore, for those with osteoporosis, eating dark green vegetables and soy bean products will provide more calcium than dairy products.

Among Dr. Shintani's Hawaiian patients, after following his diet plan, many have alleviated the need for taking blood pressure pills, cholesterol reducing pills and insulin shots for diabetics. This dramatic success in treating patients through a healthy diet has won Dr. Shintani worldwide recognition and respect. Dr. Shintani is the Director of Preventive and Integrative Medicine at the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and is on the faculty of the University of Hawaii School of Medicine. He has written many books and has spoken extensively to community groups about his research. As many know, he also initiated a variety of healthy fast food selections for Zippy's Restaurants--chili, corn chowder, nishime, stew, etc. He brought corn chowder and chili for the audience to taste. All royalties from the sale of his books, videos and foods benefit the Hawaii Health Foundation & Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. He receives no personal financial gain from them.

The congenial doctor expressed his deep gratitude to the veterans of the 100th/442nd RCT and other AJA units for their legacy and sacrifices in making life so much better for the following generations of AJAs. He was so pleased to be able to give his services to the veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion.

We thank Dr. Shintani for his time and expertise, his free books and videos, and congratulate him for being a truly caring doctor who puts patient care before HMO time limits and financial gain.

STANLEY'S CORNER by Stan Akita

Subject: There are some things even a Queen can't control

At Heathrow Airport in England, a 300-foot red carpet was stretched out to Air Force One and President Bush strode to a warm but dignified handshake from Queen Elizabeth II.

They rode in a silver 1934 Bentley to the edge of central London where they boarded an open 17th century coach hitched to six magnificent white horses.

As they rode toward Buckingham Palace, each looking to their side and waving to the thousands of cheering Britons lining the streets, all was going well. This was indeed a glorious display of pageantry and dignity.

Suddenly the scene was shattered when the right rear horse let rip the most horrendous, earth-shattering, eye-smarting blast of flatulence, and the coach immediately filled with noxious fumes.

Uncomfortable, but maintaining control, the two dignitaries did their best to ignore the whole incident, but then the Queen decided that was a ridiculous manner with which to handle a most embarrassing situation

She turned to Mr. Bush and explained, "Mr. President, please accept my regrets... I'm sure you understand that there are some things even a Queen cannot control."

George W., ever the Texas gentleman, replied, "Your Majesty, please don't give the matter another thought. You know, if you hadn't said something I would have assumed it was one of the horses."

100TH INFANTRY BATTALION MINI REUNION

HOSTS: SO. CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

California Hotel & Casino

DATE: OCTOBER 17 TO OCTOBER 21, 2004 (OCT. 22nd FOR HAWAII MEMBERS) Sunday, October 17th Honolulu Las Vegas Omni #101 1:00pm 9:30pm Friday, October 22nd Las Vegas Honolulu Omni #102 8:00am 11:15am The cost of \$481 per person based on double occupancy includes the airfare, hotel (5 nites), transfers, meal coupons and airport taxes. Single person is \$544. A deposit of \$75 is needed by March 6th to hold your reservation (this amount will be deducted from your balance when the final payment is made by August 15th). We strongly recommend that you buy the cancellation insurance at \$25.00 per person since in our "golden years" we are more susceptible to illnesses or accidents. Please note that the cancellation insurance must be paid with your deposit and cannot be added on later. For those who want to sit in the premium class seats, there is an additional cost of \$100 per person and full payment is needed to reserve those premium seats. The registration and banquet fee is yet to be announced. That will be made payable to the So. California Chapter after arriving in Las Vegas. For further information regarding the slot tournaments, bus tours and other activities, watch for announcements in future PPP. The menu will be announced at a later date. Since we have a deadline of March 6th, we are asking that you clip the registration form below and return it immediately with your deposit. This is on a "first come, first served" basis. Any questions, call Ray or Aki Nosaka at 737-4864 or e-mail at diverseinnovations@hawaii.rr.com. We will be having a pre-mini reunion luncheon at the Clubhouse to disburse the luggage tags/itinerary information sometime in the beginning of August.Please clip here and return with your deposit...... 100th INFANTRY BATTALION MINI REUNION REGISTRATION FORM LAS VEGAS OCTOBER 17 - OCTOBER 22, 2004 NAME......COMPANION...... ADDRESS......CELLPHONE.....CELLPHONE..... E-MAIL.... In case of emergency, please notify: Name...... Phone...... Phone..... Relationship..... Boyd Rewards #..... Deposit of \$75.00 per person enclosed Optional insurance of \$25.00 per person TOTAL ENCLOSED Payment must be by cash or check Please make check payable to: SIGNATURE **DIVERSE INNOVATIONS 847 20TH AVENUE** HONOLULU, HI 96816-4528 OR Give to Ray or Aki Nosaka

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MARCH 2004

ABLE	Saturday, March 278:00 am
BAKER	Saturday, March 201:00 pm
CHARLIE	Monday, March 1510:00 am
DOG	Saturday, March 209:00 am
HQ	Saturday, March 1310:00 am
HQ/MED GET-TOGETHER	Monday, March 15Hanaki (Manoa)11:00 am
RURAL	Friday, March 19Dot's (Wahiawa)11:00 am
MAUI CHAPTER	Tuesday, March 9Asian Sports Bar11:00 am
BOARD MEETING	Friday, March 1210:00 am
BYLAWS COMMITTEE	Tuesday, March 2clubhouse9:30 am
GOLF CLUB	Wednesday, March 3, 24Olomana Links9:30 am
GREEN THUMBS	Monday, March 1Lounge10:00 am
LINE DANCING	Wednesday, March 3, 17, 31clubhouse9:00 am
LINE DANCING	Wednesday, March 10Hawaii Kai Sr. Com9:00 am
LINE DANCING	Wednesday, March 24St. Timothy, Aiea9:00 am
FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP	Sunday, March 28clubhouse11:00 am

Deadline for articles will be March 16, 2004. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on <u>FRIDAY, March 26, 2004</u>, 8:30 a.m.. (For those bucking heavy traffic, 9:00 am.) Charlie and Able 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.)

<u>IMPORTANT</u> <u>New e-mail address</u> for club business, questions or correspondence: vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com

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MARCH 2004 ISSUE

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!