COLONEL YOUNG OAK KIM MEMORIAL SERVICE

at

NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC (PUNCHBOWL)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2006

2:00 PM

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER

AT THE

100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUBHOUSE

(Additional parking at Ala Wai and Iolani Schools)

rsvp or sign-up for reception at clubhouse

Contact person: Amanda Stevens - phone 946-0272

(See other articles on Col. Young Oak Kim in this issue)

FAREWELL REPORT

From Past President Denis Teraoka

As my term of office comes to a close, I thank the Board of Directors for their friendly cooperation and support which made my task easier.

My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all my fellow members for the warm friendship you have extended to me.

I enjoyed this period of service as I tried to discharge my duties to the best of my ability, and to add to the effectiveness of our organization. Many of you have accepted difficult committee assignments, for which I am grateful.

I am greatly indebted to Amanda and her staff for their attentiveness at the office. I shall not forget a more loyal and hardworking staff. Her public relations expertise has brought our organization great rewards from our community.

My term of office was memorable and happy. My heartfelt thanks to all of you.

I pledge my fullest cooperation to our new president and his administration. I am mindful of the task ahead, and I feel confident under Robert Arakaki’s leadership, our organization will go forward to greater achievements.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

by Robert Arakaki

Happy New Year! Welcome to year 2006 - the Year of the Dog.

“Dog People” are frank but pessimistic; they are faithful and ready to serve others; that is why they are
able to gain. Let us all be like the “Dog People” and work together for our future generations.

The Board members thank our past president, Denis Teraoka, for the two years well served. Board members and members of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans appreciate all the good things that happened during his term of service and for the legacy he has left us.

LOOKING BACK . . . .

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

The year 2005 passed by so quickly, one wonders if time is moving faster these days. As we age and move more slowly, things just seem to whiz by us. Amazingly, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization managed to move right along and accomplish some mighty tasks.

Looking back on the activities that took place under the leadership of past president, Denis Teraoka, we want to thank him for a job well done. With the Board of Directors, its various committees, the outstanding PR groundwork done by Amanda Stevens, the indispensable help of Evelyn Tsuda, Tyler Chun, a host of volunteers, and the mighty power of the press expressed by reporters James Gonser, Mike Markrich, Bruce Asato and Gregg Kakesako, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization accomplished many worthy goals and projects.

To mention a few of them:

(1) Wives and widows became eligible for membership (dues waived);
(2) Successfully recruited and increased membership of descendents in mother club;
(3) Building Repair and Maintenance Fund was established with many unsolicited donations pouring in at an astonishing rate of support from the community;
(4) Book and Baked Goods Sale and Christmas Wreath Sale raised money for the Building Repair Fund; besides members, wives and widows, Iolani students and staff volunteered their help with these sales;
(5) 100th Infantry Battalion bronze/stone plaque designed and donated by Donald Jones was dedicated and placed on the National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) Memorial Walkway;
(6) The 63rd Anniversary Banquet and the September 25, 2005, 60th Annual Memorial Service left a lasting impression, thanks to their hard working committees;
(7) Introduction of “Cinema Night” brought an enthusiastic audience to the clubhouse. The Hawaii State AFL/CIO sponsored and paid for the food and cost of “Cinema Night,” which was well attended by our members and their families;
(8) Through the 100th/442nd Family Readiness Group, ties of support were established between our 100th Infantry veterans and today’s young men of the 100th Bn/442nd Infantry who have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Care packages and books were sent to the young men. Drusilla Tanaka organized a group of women to make orange “i1ima” yam leis in preparation of welcoming the soldiers home from their deployment scheduled in January 2006;
(9) Several outside organizations expressed their gratitude to the veterans by undertaking their own projects to help us - the Miramar Hotel and Hawaii Housekeeping Association not only refurbished our lounge with new cushion covers but they have scheduled twice a year cleaning of our clubhouse;
(10) Iolani School uses the clubhouse for their wrestling and judo classes;
(11) The Scholarship Committee awarded two scholarships to essay contest winners, Megan Muramatsu and David Okubo;
(12) Plans were set for a Joint Memorial Service with the 100th Inf., the 442nd, the 1399 and the MIS for the last Sunday in September 2006.

Other activities that brought life to our clubhouse were the Family Support Group’s lecture series, line dance, exercise, ukulele and arts and crafts classes, green thumbs, and special occasions like Graham Salisbury’s book signing event and its many chapter Christmas parties. On a daily basis it still serves as a quiet recreation center where the veterans play cards or talk story while eating delicious kau kau.

Even though the year seemed to whiz by, looking back upon it, surely we can say that the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization has continued to serve both its members and its community. It is still a vital and vibrant place which we must cherish with tender loving care.
To the 2005 Board of Directors, we end the year with gratitude for their leadership.

To our new president, Bob Arakaki, we extend our congratulations, best wishes and support for a successful year ahead.

I know it, too, will zip by, so hold on as Bob leads us forward!

100TH INFANTRY BATTALION MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATION AT PUNCHBOWL

On November 29, 2005, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans proudly dedicated the beautiful bronze and stone plaque designed and donated by master stone carver Donald Jones. It was placed on the Memorial Walkway of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) at the entrance to the lookout next to that of the 442nd RCT.

Following the Reverend Sidney Sumida’s invocation and words from Stanley Akita and Denis Teraoka, Gene Castagnetti, director of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific delivered his welcoming speech, which is printed below. (Unfortunately, we were not able to secure Dr. James Hastings, Director, VA Pacific Islands Health Care System and UH School of Medicine, keynote speaker’s address, therefore we could not print it for our PPParade readers.)

DEDICATION CEREMONY - 10:00 A.M., NOVEMBER 29, 2005 - Speech delivered by Col. Gene Castagnetti

ALOHA, ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, THE HONORABLE R. JAMES NICHOLSON, WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC.

IT WAS AT THIS LOCATION, THAT THE ANCIENT HAWAIIANS CONDUCTED HUMAN SACRIFICES OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THEIR SOCIETY WHO VIOLATED THE TABOOS, OR KAPUS, OF ANCIENT HAWAIIAN SOCIETY.

THE HAWAIIANS NAMED THIS SITE - - - PUOWAINA, ROUGHLY TRANSLATED, “HILL OF SACRIFICE” -- AS WE DEDICATE THIS MEMORIAL PLAQUE WE ARE REMINDED OF THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION (SEPARATE), 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, WHO, BY SERVING THEIR NATION ON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF EUROPE, FOUGHT THE NAZI AND DISCRIMINATION AT HOME, AND WERE SUCCESSFUL IN BOTH BATTLES.

I WANT TO COMMEND DR. DENIS TERAOKA, CLUB PRESIDENT, AND MR. STANLEY M. AKITA, CHAIRMAN OF THE MONUMENT PROJECT, FOR THE DETERMINATION TO SEE THIS PROJECT TO COMPLETION.

I WANT TO ALSO, AS AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CLUB 100, THANK MR. DONALD JONES FOR HIS GENEROUS DONATION ON BEHALF OF THESE WORLD WAR II VETERANS.

THIS MEMORIAL PLAQUE, WHICH IS PLACED JUST FORWARD OF THE 442ND PLAQUE BECAUSE THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION WAS SEPARATE AND CONSTITUENT BEFORE THE 442ND TAKES ITS PLACE ALONG WITH 61 OTHER MEMORIALS WHICH VALIDATE THE SERVICE OF OUR NATIONS VETERANS.


THESE NISEI WERE MEN, SMALL IN STATURE, BUT GIANTS OF ENORMOUS SPIRIT, COHESIVENESS, PRINCIPLE AND CHARACTER. BY THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS A TEAM, THEIR RECKLESS ABANDON IN COMBAT, THEIR UNIT EARNED THE NICKNAME “GO FOR BROKE”.

IN ITALY, AT SALERNO AND ANZIO, THE NAME “PURPLE HEART BATTALION” WAS THEIR BLESSED/RESPECTFUL TITLE.

THIS MEMORIAL PLAQUE SALUTES AND VALIDATES THE 400 PLUS MEMBERS OF THE NISEI COMBAT DEATHS INTERRED IN THIS NATIONAL SHRINE.

AS MORE MEMBERS JOIN THE RANKS OF THE HEAVENLY COMMAND, THIS MEMORIAL WILL CONTINUE TO REINFORCE THE LEGACY OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION, 442 REGIMENT FOR A HUNDRED YEARS. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU MEMBERS AND GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.
Colonel Young Oak Kim (Ret.), a highly decorated U.S. Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War and humanitarian who dedicated his life to helping others and supporting and founding many Asian American civic organizations, passed away from cancer on December 29, 2005 at Cedars-Sinai Hospital. He was 86.

Colonel Kim was born in Los Angeles and raised in the Bunker Hill area, the second child of Korean immigrants Soon Kwon and Nora Koh Kim. Understanding the importance of serving his country, Kim enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 1941 and was later selected to the Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, the only Asian American in his class. In February 1943, as a 2nd Lieutenant, Kim was assigned to the 100th Infantry Battalion, a segregated unit of Japanese Americans from Hawaii.

When asked by his commanding officer if he would like a transfer, knowing the historical conflicts between Koreans and Japanese, Kim stated that they were all Americans and were going to fight the war together. And they did just that. Kim as a member of the 100/442nd Regimental Combat Team fought valiantly in Italy and France to become the most decorated in U.S. military history for its size and length of service.

In Italy Kim received his first Silver Star and Purple Heart for actions near Santa Maria Olivetto. But it was after the battle of Cassino and his promotion to 1st Lieutenant that Kim is best known. At the battle of Anzio, during broad daylight he volunteered to capture German soldiers for intelligence information. He and another soldier crawled more than 600 yards located directly under German observation posts with no cover. They captured two prisoners and obtained information that significantly contributed to the fall of Rome. For his actions, Kim received the Distinguished Service Cross from the U.S. and the Military Valor Cross, the highest military decoration in Italy. Later promoted to Captain, Kim and the 100/442 fought in the battles that liberated towns of Bruyeres and Biffontaine. Kim was wounded in Biffontaine and awarded his second Purple Heart as well as the Croix de la Guerre (upgraded to the French Legion of Valor in February 2005, France’s highest military honor) from France. In addition, the people of Biffontaine dedicated a plaque on the wall of their village church in commemoration of Captain Kim’s outstanding heroism and appreciation to all the soldiers who helped to liberate their town.

After WWII, Kim returned to Los Angeles and started a successful business. But because of the Korean War, he reenlisted in the Army in 1950. In 1951 he arrived in Korea and commanded the “Benedae” South Korean guerrilla unit. Kim took part in the U.N. Forces’ last drive into the north and awarded his second Silver Star and Bronze Star. Upon his promotion to Major, he became the first Asian American to command a regular U.S. combat battalion in a war, the 1st Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th U.S. Army Division. He was able to convince this battalion to adopt an orphanage in Seoul, where more than 500 war orphans received supplies and monetary support to ensure their survival. It was the only U.N. military unit on the frontlines to adopt an orphanage during the war. For his actions in the Korean War, in late 2005, Colonel Kim received the Taeguk Order of Military Merit.

Upon return, Kim served in the Army in various assignments and locations in Germany and the states. From 1963-1965 Kim served again in Korea as a military advisor to the Republic of Korea Army. During his work there, he assisted in the revision of the Defense Plan of Korea. The plan was established in the event of another Korean war and became the backbone of today’s Defense Plan of Korea. In 2000, Colonel Kim was appointed by the Secretary of the Army to serve on the Outside Experts Committee investigating the U.S. Army’s involvement with the No Gun Ri massacre of Korean refugees during the Korean War.

He was promoted to Colonel in 1965, serving in various capacities until his retirement from the Army in 1972. After graduating from California State University, Dominguez Hills with a bachelor’s degree in history, Colonel Kim became the CEO of Fine Particle Technology in San Diego and volunteered his time to many different organizations, including serving as a Board of Trustees member of the Los Angeles chapter, United Way. His work with United Way led to his involvement with several nonprofit organizations in the Asian American community. He was the founding chairman of Family & Friends of Keiro Homes; founding co-chairman and current honorary chair of Korean Health, Education, Information and Research Center; former chairman of Center for Pacific Asian Families; founding member, former chairman and board of trustees member of the Korean American Museum; founding vice chairman and board of governors member of the Japanese American National Museum; and founding member and honorary member board of trustees of the Korean American Coalition.
Colonel Kim was most proud and fond of his service with the Japanese American World War II veterans and knew that it was imperative that their American story - that of sacrifice, honor, and duty - to ensure civil liberties for all be preserved. Until the day he passed, Colonel Kim passionately served as chairman emeritus of the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, an organization he co-founded in 1989. It was under his direction that he led WWII veterans to build the Go For Broke Monument dedicated in 1999 in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo district. He also envisioned this story introduced in classrooms, and today through the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, the story of the 100/442nd Regimental Combat Team is being taught to teachers in California and Hawaii.

Colonel Kim is survived by his sister Willa of New York; brothers Jack (Kyoung Ha) and Henry (Cookie); nieces Dyanne McMath, Celeste Rosas, Christine Kim, and Nancy Riolo; nephews Walter McMath, Jack Kim, Jr., Gary Kim, and Henry Kim, Jr.; and stepsons Jerry Surh, Tom Surh, and Corey Covert.

Funeral services were held on Monday, January 9 at the Santa Monica United Methodist Church, 1008 11th Street, Santa Monica, California. Burial services will be held on February 3, 2006, at National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, HI. In lieu of flowers, please send donations made payable to the Go For Broke Educational Foundation. Donations will be made to both the Go For Broke Educational Foundation and the Center for Pacific Asian Families.

A KOREAN WAR VETERAN REMEMBERS

by Colonel Young Oak Kim

(JT Editor's note: On November 6, 2001, Col. Young Oak Kim was asked to speak at Washington Place in Honolulu to honor the Korean War Veterans and also to participate in launching a two-year celebration commemorating the arrival of the first Korean immigrants to the United States. The following is a reprint of his speech. It is of great interest to us because Kim shares his memories of those days of training at Shelby, of fighting in actual combat with the 100th Infantry Battalion, and of applying that valuable experience to fighting and leading troops in Korea. This speech was printed in a previous issue of the Puka Puka Parade. We feel compelled to print it again as a wonderful remembrance of this outstanding warrior, patriot and humanitarian.)

Lt. Governor Hirono, distinguished guests, fellow veterans and friends:

I have been asked today to help honor veterans of the Korean War and by doing so to assist in launching a two-year national celebration commemorating the arrival of the first Korean immigrants to the United States on January 13, 1903. This should be a joyful day. But today we in America are again at WAR. This is a new type of war where the enemy are terrorists who are hard to identify and not easy to find. By their very nature, they remain hidden all over the globe and may even exist within our midst. This will be a long war. Thus we must resolve to stand together until the war is won. This will not be an easy task, because we Americans tend to want quick solutions.

Life takes strange twists. I know of no more patriotic state than Hawaii. Yet the events in New York and Washington, DC, have hurt the economy of Hawaii most severely because people of all nations now fear to fly. Perhaps Hawaii was chosen in this way to once again show the rest of America the way to deal with war.

In 1943, Hawaii forced the United States Army to form the first segregated all-Japanese American combat infantry battalion - the 100th Infantry Battalion. Later, when the Army decided to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and requested volunteers from Hawaii, over 10,000 volunteered when only 2,500 soldiers were needed. Nowhere else in America was this degree of patriotism shown during WWII.

I know these facts because I was lucky to have served initially in the 100th and then later as part of the 442nd when we fought together in Italy and France.

When I reported for duty in early February 1943 to Colonel Turner, he immediately stated he would arrange for my transfer, explaining I was probably ignorant of the fact that the men were Japanese and I was a Korean and historically the two did not always get along. Having just come from Jerome, Arkansas, after visiting interned Japanese American friends from Los Angeles, I was stunned. I responded, "Sir, the soldiers are American and I am American. We are going to fight for America." This shocked Colonel Turner, who said, "But others that have preceded you have all desired a transfer so the procedure has already been established." "No sir! I want to stay," I said. Colonel Turner
agreed.

The other side of the coin is that I have been asked, "But did the men resent you because you were Korean?" The men did initially resent me, but not because I was Korean. They resented the fact that I was too "GI," too demanding in their training, and the first Kotonk "90-day wonder" to join the 100th. After the war, I learned my nickname was "GI Kim," a name bestowed on me because:

1. I wanted them to get haircuts, put their shirttails inside their trousers, lace up their shoes, etc. The Army believes a well-dressed and well-groomed soldier is a good combat soldier. The combat deeds of the 100th clearly refute these ideas. I never succeeded in having my way with the 100th soldiers and never convinced the Army that these were false indicators of combat capabilities. In sustained combat, everyone soon looks like burns.

2. I convinced Clarence Johnson, the Company Commander, that we should conduct special advanced small unit training. Thus, the B Company men ran over seven hours per day in the high humid summer heat of Mississippi. They also learned the jobs of their leaders two levels above their own. They did not like this one single bit.

All of this was quickly forgotten when we were in combat. In combat, I expected to be obeyed, but was willing to listen to all ideas. Intellectually and personally I treated all my soldiers as my equal. I welcomed their ideas and comments regardless of their rank. Many of the innovative methods I used and was given credit for were my soldiers’ ideas.

My success in Korea was due to a great degree to my having been a member of the 100th in WWII. Arriving in Japan in early February 1951, I was greeted by Colonel Gordon Singles, who had been the 100th battalion commander and now was the Commander of Camp Drake in Japan. He pulled strings to get me to the front lines. Without his assistance, I would have been a poor interpreter or translator somewhere in Japan or Korea. Upon reaching the 7th Infantry Division, I was requested by General William McCaffrey, who was then a colonel commanding the 31st Infantry Regiment. Without knowing me personally, he wanted me solely on the basis of my having been the Plans and Operations Officer of the 100th during WWII. He had been the Chief of Staff for the 92nd Division in Italy with whom the 100th/442nd fought their final battles.

I fought just as we, the 100th, learned to do in Italy. We officers had been taught to fight on rolling terrain like the French battlefields of WWII. We learned the hard way how to fight in the mountains of Italy. By using the same tactics learned in Italy, the 1st Battalion of the 31st had great success. We always quickly took our mountain peak before noon and suffered the least number of casualties of all the surrounding battalions. This amazed the high brass. The 1st Battalion, 31st Infantry veterans have every reason to be proud of their Korean War record. We led the final Eighth Army advance across the 38th Parallel. I was wounded at the time we reached the current DMZ. Our battalion was five miles ahead of either adjacent American battalion and had just captured the 7th Division objective two days ahead of schedule. Thus, we appeared as a very prominent target openly moving around on top of this mountain. US Corps artillery fired on us, violating their own regulations.

Fighting in Korea was a strange personal experience. True, I was in command of an American battalion and fighting Chinese and North Korean Communists soldiers, but the North Koreans were still Koreans. Just as in WWII not all German soldiers were loyal followers of Hitler, these Korean soldiers may not have been loyal Communists, but they were fighting for Communism, whereas I truly believed in democracy and America and felt Communism was wrong. I and many other American officers admired their fierce fighting ability despite being poorly equipped and led. I just had to overcome my distaste for killing Koreans. But then, I personally dislike wars and killing even though I excelled at this task.

Last year, I was one of eight outside experts appointed by Defense Secretary William Cohen to help guide the United States’ investigation of the No Gun Ri incident. President Clinton directed that this investigation be undertaken in response to the request of President Kim of South Korea.

I will touch briefly on some of the highlights. We were continuously briefed on the investigation and gave our own insights and opinions. We, the outside experts, were encouraged to reach our own conclusions. The Army IG conducted the formal investigation but seriously considered all of our suggestions, including adjusting the investigation or probing new areas. The investigation took much longer than anyone anticipated because facts did not confirm the Associated Press' findings. Everything became much more difficult when the key US witness for the AP was found not to have
been a member of the unit at No Gun Ri. The second key witness, according to available records, had actually been wounded the day before the incident. He refused to speak to us. Finally, AP’s last US soldier witness also refused to talk to us.

Several conclusions can be safely stated:

1. These were extremely chaotic and desperate times early in the Korean War, where the very survival of the South Korean Government, the South Korean Army and the US Army was in doubt.

2. The US Army units were poorly trained and greatly under strength. They were also badly led and ill-equipped.

3. This was the first day of combat for the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Calvary.

4. Yes, American soldiers did kill innocent Korean civilians at No Gun Ri - less than 100, however, not the 300 to 500 reported in the AP story. At this late date, no more accurate figure can be determined.

5. No American officer ordered the shooting. Yes, American soldiers believed there were North Korean soldiers among the refugees. No, there were no North Koreans among the refugees.

The Army IG was limited to investigating the incident, but we, the outside experts, were permitted to make recommendations regarding possible compensation. We all made separate reports to the Secretary of Defense. We realized that we disagreed with the AP and the survivors on the numbers killed at No Gun Ri. However, many other refugees were killed by American soldiers in those early hectic weeks of the war. In many other instances, North Korean soldiers were indeed infiltrating US Army positions by mingling with and hiding among refugees.

We outside experts agreed to these recommendations: The American President should express regrets for the casualties at No Gun Ri. The United States should build a monument in the vicinity of No Gun Ri to recognize all Korean civilians killed in this area of Korea. The US Government should establish a scholarship program to fund annually about 35 students to attend a university either in Korea or the United States.

Our investigation was to uncover the truth no matter the outcome. No one wanted a cover up. But the passage of 50 years has clouded the truth of what happened at No Gun Ri. The full truth will never be known.

Finally, back to why we are gathered here. Although I am a Kotonk, I have a very strong affection for Hawaii because of my WWII ties. Most of my many true friends are from this lovely state. Hawaii is truly a beautiful place physically, but I love Hawaii for its wonderful aloha spirit, which brings everyone together into one happy family. Hawaii to me represents how America will look someday if we live up to our Constitution. I am grateful that my life put me in such close contact with Hawaii. Despite the war today, celebrate and welcome the diversity of the many ethnic groups that make Hawaii so unique and wonderful.

Your late Governor Jack Burns made me officially a Calabash Cousin of Hawaii. He stated this was Hawaii’s highest award for a non-Hawaiian. This award was for my contributions toward helping make the 100th famous. Governor Burns believed the 100th was Hawaii’s most effective ambassador for its bid for statehood. During WWII, thousands of US soldiers from the Midwest, fighting in Italy, wrote home to parents and siblings praising the little iron men from Hawaii. After the war, these same veterans spearheaded the drive to convince their Congressmen and Senators in Washington, DC, and their state governments, to support statehood for Hawaii. Thus, Hawaii became the 50th State. And as a member of the 100th, I became a Calabash Cousin and can claim to be one of you.

For inviting me and for listening, Mahalo.

Ideas are a dime a dozen; people who put them into practice are priceless.
ON A NIGHT A FEW DAYS BEFORE BEFORE CHRISTMAS, SANTA AND ELVES DROVE DOWN TO OUR HALL By Kimi Matsuda

Christmas came to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse on December 9 at 6 pm; a first-ever cinema night. It was a heartwarming, relaxing, most enjoyable evening sponsored by the Hawaii State AFL-CIO to honor our 100th Infantry Battalion veterans.

Santa Claus arrived with presents for all the children and for each veteran. Each child had his or her picture taken with Santa and each family was invited to sit with Santa for photos.

Delicious food and drinks were served including chicken katsu, beef teriyaki, potato salad, sushi, yummy desserts, saimin and popcorn.

The movie "Elf" was delightful, warming both the youngest and oldest hearts. We even had lucky numbers with the winners receiving movie tickets.

A big mahalo and kudos to Harold Dias, Jr., Vice President of the Hawaii State AFL-CIO who first thought of the idea and who corralled our Amanda Stevens into cooperating and helping make it happen. Harold was ably assisted by Lynn Ching, Community Service Liaison, Hawaii State AFL-CIO, and Brandy Kahalewai, Office Manager, Hawaii State AFL-CIO and her son Sam who served the drinks and ran the popcorn machine. Mahalo also to Georgette "George" Wagner, longtime admirer of the 100th men, who helped decorate the hall and tables and donated goodies for the children's presents. Thanks also to Takako Umamoto who manned the reception desk and to Jane Hirata Epstein who donated some of the children's goodies.

The fellowship and joyous atmosphere that permeated the hall were noted and appreciated by many. More than eighty people were there. So many of them stated, "We wish this could be an annual happening and we hope even more people can come and enjoy this totally FREE affair."

AN ACCOLADE TO EVELYN TSUDA

The following motion was made by Stanley Akita at the November 10, 2005, 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Board Meeting.

Evelyn Tsuda, wife of Rikio Tsuda, is a person who does not know how to say "NO," especially when it comes to doing work for our Club. Over the past years, the office has been actively fundraising and writing grants. For example, there was an appeal-letter fund drive for the Scholarship Fund and most recently, the Building Maintenance Fundraiser and Evelyn has been there to help every step of the way. Her expertise in doing office work and bookkeeping has been a huge help to our club. She has taken charge of the One Puka Puka Scholarship Fund “thank you” letters and has helped out the Sons & Daughters by writing their “thank you” letters as well. Evelyn has been a tremendous help to Amanda with the Building Maintenance Fund. Her record keeping for incoming donations is immaculately kept. She and Amanda make a great team. Therefore I move that the Board of Directors officially recognize and thank Evelyn Tsuda for all of the hard work she has done for the club. (Note: The Board of Directors unanimously approved this motion.) Thank you Evelyn—

MAHALO TO OUR PPPARADE VOLUNTEERS by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Another month, another year has passed and I realize with a jolt that it has been almost five years since I joined the Puka Puka Parade staff, first as co-editor with Aki and Ray Nosaka, and now as its editor. Time certainly passes by in the wink of an eye. I feel it is a great compliment to hear that many of you look forward to reading our newsletter. It keeps our morale up when things get harried and the pressure is on to meet the deadlines for publication and distribution. Thanks to Mary Hamasaki, Evelyn Tsuda, Robert Arakaki and Hiromi Suehiro for helping me produce these monthly newsletters. Without them where would we be?

Thanks to Amanda and Tyler for printing the address labels. A special thanks to Drusilla Tanaka for helping Kunio Fujimoto cut and sort the address labels and placing them in the proper zip code trays. This takes quite a bit of time and I'm sure Kunio appreciated the help.
We are ever grateful to all those who contribute monetary donations to the Puka Puka Parade. Please see Amanda Stevens' report where these donations are acknowledged. Thank you, thank you.


On January 27 after the collation work was done, to express our appreciation for their help each month, our volunteers enjoyed a bento lunch.

100TH BATTALION/442ND INFANTRY SOLDIERS RETURN HOME FROM IRAQ

On Friday, January 13, 2006, the Honolulu Advertiser reported that one hundred seventy-nine Hawaii National Guard and Reserve soldiers of the 100th Battalion/442nd Infantry returned home from Iraq. Preceding them by a few days have been others of their outfit. After being deployed for over a year, they returned to a joyous, emotion filled welcome home. With the loss of 18 soldiers from their ranks there was also sadness felt for those families' losses.

We of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans also welcome them home. Congratulations to them for a job well done.

THE DSC OF PRIVATE MASATO NAKAE

Submitted by A. Ono

The 100th Bn’s DSC awardee, Pvt Masato Nakae (A), will be honored on June 21, 2006 at Camp Darby, Livorno [or Leghorn], Italy with the dedication of the Masato ‘Curly’ Nakae Freedom Square. There are two things about this ceremony that should be told - one, that Joe Kuroda and the late George Watanabe had energetically worked to bring it into being, and the other, that the Army graciously postponed its date from May 31 to June 21 to accommodate the closing of Hawaii’s public schools on June 15 so as to allow as many of the veterans’ grandchildren to attend the ceremony.

Pvt Nakae’s action occurred not during a major offensive but when the Allied forces had stopped its northward advance to regroup and reorganize. In this respect, the 100th Bn had been temporarily detached from the 442nd. The latter was moved to Florence and the 100th Bn was “moved from Vada August 16 to the Arno River line near Pisa,” to relieve some British and American anti-aircraft units being used as infantry. Maj. Shirey, quoting essentially from the medal “citation” reported, “

On August 19 the enemy, suspecting that the line might be weakly held, launched a probing attack at Company A’s positions, preceded by a mortar and artillery barrage. Private Masato Nakae, holding an outpost position, had his Tommy gun damaged by a shell fragment during the first stages of the attack. He picked up a wounded man’s M-1 rifle and fired rifle grenades at the advancing German infantry. When this failed to stop the attack Nakae threw six hand grenades into the enemy force and drove it back temporarily. In the next barrage Nakae was wounded by a mortar fragment. Despite his injury he continued to fire his rifle at the enemy, now attacking again, and inflicted such severe casualties that the attack was broken up. Private Nakae was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for exceptional heroism.”

In the award process, a recommendation supported by sworn affidavits is submitted by the awardee’s
superior officers to a board of officers for approval. What is interesting is in the subtle but important ways the "citation" differs from the supporting affidavit. The affidavit by Sgt Takeo Takahashi is quoted in full here with Maj. Shirey's account to allow the reader to assess the difference for himself.

"On 19 August 1944 in the vicinity of Pisa, Italy, Pvt Masato Nakae was seriously wounded while defending his platoon outpost position near the Arno River. At about midnight of that date, a German patrol infiltrated the line and seriously wounded two men and killed one, who were all in the same outpost with Pvt Nakae. Pvt Nakae, disregarding his personal safety and thinking only of the safety of his platoon, detected the direction of the enemy patrol and immediately fired upon the enemy with his Tommy gun. He also tossed hand grenades to repulse this attack. This stopped the further advance of the enemy, and helped to avert any further infiltration.

"Then again at 0130 hours, an enemy combat patrol of a platoon strength made another attack directly in front of Pvt Nakae's position. Upon seeing Pvt Nakae in position, the enemy fired rifle grenades followed by machine gun and machine pistol fire. Pvt Nakae promptly returned fire with his tommy gun. After a few minutes, an enemy shell fragment damaged his weapon. Throwing aside his damaged weapon, he picked up his wounded comrade's M-1 rifle and quickly started firing in the general direction of the enemy. Pvt Nakae then threw all six of his hand grenades at the enemy with such effectiveness, that the enemy were compelled to withdraw.

"About half an hour later, the enemy started a mortar barrage on the outpost position. It was then that Pvt Nakae received a severe wound on his back. However, he refused to relinquish his post, and when the enemy started infiltrating again, Pvt Nakae kept up his fire until the enemy withdrew. Convinced that the enemy was done for the night, he then came running up to me where he fell. I could see he was hit badly, but Pvt Nakae would not quit his post until another man took his place.

"Pvt Nakae's bravery and dauntless courage under fire averted further casualties among his platoon, and he was largely responsible for the successful repulsion of the enemy attack. His courageous actions despite the overwhelming odds were truly an inspiration to comrades and gained the respect of the officers and men of his unit."

Although Maj. Shirey's account pretty much echoes the "citation," he did provide a better description of where it took place. Pvt Nakae, on August 19, 1944 was, together with others of his "Company A on the right flank in the vicinity of San Lorenzo." This will direct the Nakae family, who will be attending the ceremony, to San Lorenzo.

As comparison of the two documents shows, Sgt Takahashi emphasized Pvt Nakae's persistence in staying at and defending his assigned outpost in order to secure the safety of his platoon. Such persistence spanned a period of two hours, from midnight to past two a.m. It involved at one time turning back an entire German platoon, and also withstanding three separate attacks of his outpost.

To this writer, a bit of that "persistence" and certainly, the recitation of the two hours duration of Pvt Nakae's endeavor, have been lost in the process of transposition from the affidavit to the citation. And yet, it is Pvt Masato Nakae's persistent and prolonged dedication to his assigned duty, with the rest of his squad disabled and himself severely wounded, that made his act extraordinary and clearly deserving of the DSC. In that same connection, the 100th /442nd achieved a reputation personalized in men like Pvt Nakae. If the Nisei unit was on another unit's flank, it can be assured that that flank would remain secure and never be abandoned.

SON SEEKS BUDDIES OF HIS FATHER, ALFREDO G. KAMEI (CO. C)

The following letter dated December 1, 2005, was sent to the 100th Inf. Bn. Veterans organization from Luis E. Kamei, son of Alfredo G. Kame (or Kamei):

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Luis E. Kamei and I am one of five children born to Alfredo G. Kame nee Kamei who proudly served with Company C of the 100th Infantry Battalion during World War II.

My family has just learned that my father has terminal cancer and it is uncertain how much longer he will be with us.

He is presently 85 years old and has been physically incapacitated as a result of a severe stroke he suffered on April 18, 2003. Although the prospects appeared very dim after his stroke as my father was in intensive care for over a month, he pulled through and returned home in August 2003 after approximately three months of rehabilitation. My father is not paralyzed, however, he lost a lot of weight and strength, and combined with his age and arthritis, he has not been able to independently care
for himself since.

I am writing to inquire whether it would be possible to distribute this letter to your members to see if anyone that might have served with him and remembers him might be willing to contact him. My family is from Hayden, Arizona and my father and mother, Juanita, still reside there.

My father is of Japanese/Hispanic heritage. My grandfather, Yonegiro Kamei, was born in Japan in 1884. Unfortunately, my family does not know much about his family background. I never met him as I was born in 1953 and he was killed in a car accident in 1942 in Mesa, Arizona while he and my father's only brother, Jacobo, were on their way to the Poston Internment Camp.

It is my understanding that my grandmother destroyed any personal effects my grandfather might have had regarding his relatives in Japan after President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 out of fear for the safety of my father and uncle.

My father re-enlisted in the Army after the end of World War II but returned to Hayden in approximately 1948 and has lived there since. He worked as a mill foreman for a Kennecott Copper Corporation in Hayden and retired in 1983.

My father is and always has been proud of his Japanese heritage and his service to his country. Although he rarely spoke of his World War II experiences when I was growing up, in later years he finally started to share some of his experiences.

It was in the sharing of those experiences that I believe I first started to understand why my father had always been such a "loner." If only psychiatrists or psychologists knew then what they know now about Post Traumatic Stress I believe my father could have been helped in coping with what he had experienced and not had to live it alone.

I had always wanted to visit the Japanese American Museum in Little Tokyo in Los Angeles, and had the good fortune of so doing for the first time several weeks after the “Go For Broke Monument” was dedicated in June 1999. I was thrilled to see my father’s name and took great joy in being able to give him a copy of the tracing I made of his name. I also bought just about every book available regarding the 100th IB and 442nd RCT and when I gave them to my father, I noticed a rarely seen excitement in him as he perused and highlighted the names of individuals and places that he recognized in those books.

My father has never been one to call attention to himself and, certainly, would never even think of writing this letter. I am writing because of the love and respect I have for him and wanted him to perhaps have any opportunity to hear from some of his 100th/442nd friends, some of the most important people in his life, despite the fact that he has not had any contact with them in so many years.

If anyone wishes to contact my father he can be reached as follows:

Alfredo G. Kame, P.O. Box K, Hayden, Arizona 85235-0199; Telephone: 520-356-7184
E-mail: cherol0@theriver.com

My father’s nickname in Hayden is “Chero,” thus, the name on the e-mail address. My brother, Carlos, probably would be responding on my father’s behalf. I provided my father’s home telephone number, however, it would be very difficult for him to speak with anyone. He is very hard of hearing from all the years of working at the mill and when combined with the vestiges of the speech impediment that resulted from his stroke, he rarely speaks on the telephone. I know, however, that he would be thrilled to receive any letters, e-mails, or even calls from any fellow veterans or other well-wishers.

I personally would gladly accept and appreciate any calls, e-mails, letters, or even photographs that anyone would care to share as I want to make certain that my family, especially the grandchildren, know as much about their grandfather’s military service and experiences and are as proud of him as are my brothers and sister and I.

Thank you in advance for your attention and anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely, Luis E. Kamei
4609 South Paseo Don Carlos; Tucson, Arizona 85757-9442; Telephone: 520-883-5430; Cellular: 520-241-8244 E-mail: <lekamei@msn.com>

PS. My father’s surname is correctly noted as “KAMEI” on his birth certificate but somehow got changed and his military records show him as “KAME.” I legally corrected the spelling some years ago.
REQUEST FOR INFO ON DSC Awardees' OR THEIR RELATIVES' WHEREABOUTS

The following important message was sent to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization from Andrew Ono, volunteer for K Co. (442nd RCT) who is trying to contact relatives of the DSC awardees. His message is:

There are three 100th Bn vets who are Distinguished Service Cross awardees from Hawaii, and who thereby qualify to be honored in the Gallery of Heroes at the Military Museum of Fort de Russey, and who are as yet uninducted. To be so honored, among other things we must locate their families or family descendants.

The names of the vets are: (1) Itsumu Sasaoka of A Co., (2) Kiichi Koda of A Co. and (3) Masaru Suehiro of Hq Co.

Persons who are able to provide any lead toward finding the families of these vets, please contact Amanda Stevens at <club100vets@yahoo.com> or direct them with their information to Howard Okada of the Military Museum at ph. 523-9026 or <hsokada@lava.net>. What we need is any kind of lead such as name of brother or sister [married name] and relatives and their telephone numbers or email addresses.

GO FOR BROKE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION SEEKS INFO ON VETERANS

Amanda Stevens, our 100th Inf. Bn. Veterans Office Manager, received the following inquiry from the Go For Broke Educational Foundation in California. It is seeking info on the following veterans. If anyone can provide the requested information, please contact the Resource Center or relay the info to the PPParade and we will forward your message.

Go For Broke Educational Foundation Resource Center Ph. (310) 222-5703 or <teri@goforbroke.org>

George (Sugihara) Jones – 442nd G Company

Deceased - His niece is looking for anyone who may have known him. Petition for name change from George Sugihara to George Jones (mother’s name) while at Camp Shelby in 1943. Lived in New York

Takeshi Tanaka

(There are four with the same name) May have also gone by “Eugene.” Deceased - His son is looking for information on him; said his father mentioned ending up in Tracy, CA and Angel Island (near San Francisco) at the end of the war.

Roy K. Nishimura (39018313)

A friend wants to know if he is still living. From Los Angeles area, enlisted at Ft. McArthur, San Pedro, CA 2/3/42

Takumi (James) Takemoto – 1399

Deceased – His daughter is looking for any information on him. Originally from Maui

Joe M. Tabata – 442nd 3rd Bn Hq

Platoon Sgt. of Mamoru Kinoshita

Mamoru “Mummy” Kinoshita – 442nd I Company

KIA – April 21, 1945 Originally from Stockton, CA

Ben Kamihira – 442nd K Company

Deceased – Graduate students seeks information for possible exhibition of his work as a realist artist.

Hiromu Morikawa – 100th B Company

KIA October 30, 1944, originally from Kihei, Maui. His nephew, currently stationed in Iraq seeks information on him.

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
SEATTLE'S DENSHO ORGANIZATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO NISEI WWII VETERANS

On November 11, 2005, the Nisei veterans organization, Denso, hosted an event, "Tribute to World War II Nisei Veterans" at Meany Hall on the University of Washington campus. The program honored the Japanese Americans who served in the military during WWII - the 100th/442nd RCT and the MIS. U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, was the keynote speaker.

Spearheading this special tribute were Denso's Executive Director Tom Ikeda and Scott Oki, Chairman of the Denso Japanese American Legacy Project. Neither of these young men are WWII veterans, but they are dedicated to preserving and passing on to future generations, the legacy of Japanese American history. It is the history that includes the struggles of the Japanese in America, of being given the status of "enemy aliens" and herded into concentration camps during WWII; of the 100th/442nd and MIS units fighting prejudice at home and abroad "when given the chance," as Senator Dan Inouye stated, to prove, "with much blood spilled that their courage and patriotism were beyond question." Because of them future generations of AJA have been able to achieve and attain social, economic and political positions never possible before.

To those who are interested, Denso's beautiful commemorative booklet and DVD of photos documenting the 100th/442nd and MIS units' history were sent to the 100th clubhouse and are available for viewing.

JUNE 15 - JULY 5, 2006, BATTLE SITES AND CAMP DARBY TOUR by Andrew Ono

(JT Editor's Note: Andrew Ono, Al Resch and Mary Kosasa (friends of the 100th/442nd) have helped initiate the 100th/442nd Legacy Italian Battlefields Tour of 2006. One of the purposes of this tour is to encourage the sons and daughters of the veterans and other younger people to become familiar with these sites so that in the ensuing years, they will be able to lead these tours thereby perpetuating the legacy of the 100th/442nd RCT.)

Having reached their 80s, the time has come, or it is overdue, for passing on the 100th/442nd's legacy. The purpose of the Italian battlefield tour this year, is just that. For that reason, it will start after the public school lets out in Hawaii. Previous tours were designed to avoid the start of the tourist season to obtain off-season rates. This time, we can't, so the price when it comes out will reflect that fact.

And, hopefully, starting next year, there will be legacy tours led by the younger generation.

The schedule:

June 15: leave Honolulu via direct flight to Newark, New Jersey. Those residing on the Mainland will leave June 16 and meet us there.

Phase I: Venice: June 17 - 19. Sightseeing and shopping, and many of us will visit the late George Watanabe's grave site [he did a lot for past tours in Italy].

Phase II: Motor to Pisa and Florence. June 20 - 24. On June 21 the group will be present for the Camp Darby, Livorno (Leghorn) dedication of Masato "Curly" Nakae Freedom Square, DSC/MOH recipient. Again sightseeing and shopping in Pisa and Florence. We will visit the battle sites of the Gothic Line -- particularly, Mt. Folgorito. We want to repeat two things we did last time -- (1) See Folgorito from across the valley at Azzano, and also from the reverse slope at the Partisans' clubhouse on Mt. Carchio; and (2) for those wanting to, to climb "Florida" at the 100th Bn's site.

Phase III: June 25. Motor from Pisa to Civitavecchia and stop on the way to see a couple of battle sites.

Phase IV: June 26 - 27. Motor down to Terracina. See the battle sites at Anzio, and also the Military Museum. See the ruins at Pompeii.

Phase V: Motor down to Naples, June 28 - 29. Sightseeing and shopping. Also see battle sites at Cassino, the famous Abbey, the Chapel of St. Martin of Tour where there is a stained-glass window donated by the 100th Bn.


Lv for home: July 2. Return to Honolulu, July 3.

For more detailed itinerary, please contact Al Resch: jahn1@worldnet.att.net phone: 947-3302. My email address is onoa003@hawaii.rr.com.
ANNOUNCEMENT!

THERE WILL BE NO CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS OR CLASSES ON

FEBRUARY 6, 7, OR 8, 2006

THE PREMISES WILL BE CLOSED BECAUSE THE INTERIOR OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUBHOUSE WILL BE UNDERGOING PAINTING.

In Memoriam

William Kobashigawa  Company Medics  Passed away December 22, 2005
Saburo Ishitani  Company C  Passed away December 29, 2005
Young Oak Kim  Company Hdq.  Passed away December 29, 2005

Our deepest sympathy to their families.

A GATHERING OF HEROES

By Stanley Akita

We are planning a gathering of all members of the 100th Infantry Battalion sometime in May or June of 2006 (perhaps to coincide with our anniversary activities). There are many of you still around who have not had the time to come to the Clubhouse to mingle and “shoot the bull” with your fellow comrades in years. To those of you who are still kicking, this may be your last chance to talk about old times at Camp McCoy and your visits to the town of Winona. Remember those days? So let’s get together to bring back those days at Camp McCoy, your pass to Naples and Rome, and Southern France. So you use a cane or a walker or maybe a wheelchair – don’t despair. Many of us use them.

We plan to have tables with chairs set up with signs designating the company, so all you have to do is to find a seat at the table designated for your company. That way, you’ll get to meet guys whom you slept next to or together with in the same foxhole or fought alongside you in France or Italy.

Bring along your wife, sons, daughters and grandchildren. The cost will be $6.00 per head for a bento lunch with drinks and beer. Please do not send the money yet – we will let you know when to send it in via the PPP.

This “Gathering of Heroes” is only tentative for now and may have to be cancelled if not enough people respond, so please complete the attached questionnaire and let us know if you are interested in attending. We realize that this is not an easy thing for you outside islanders and mainlanders but we think that if enough intend to come, we will form a committee and help you make hotel reservations and other arrangements. SO LET’S ALL MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND!!!!

"Gathering of Heroes" Questionnaire

Name of Veteran_________________________ Birth date_____________ Company_____

Address:________________________________________ Phone No.___________

Date you left Europe for home:________________________

Were you one of the soldiers who paraded down Pennsylvania Ave. in Washington, D.C.?

Yes_______ No_______

I intend to attend the Gathering:  Yes_______ No_______
A great big MAHALO to Brian Akimoto who chaired this year’s Headquarters/Medic Christmas party! Thanks to the hard work of Brian, his sister Alicia Robello, his brother-in-law Rodney, and all the many, many helpers, everyone had a great time. The evening started out with the keiki making their own gingerbread houses. Needless to say, this is very popular with the youngsters and those with a sweet tooth. And dinner was a real treat with grilled steak (the number one seller!) and tables full of ono ono food. The games for the young ones and then later for the young-at-heart was great, too. Santa did a superb job and had presents for all the little ones. And did you know that every veteran or widow went home with a beautiful handmade, lighted Christmas tree? I understand each tree took hours to make! WOW!!!! There were many, many people who helped make this party such a success - to each one of you, domo arigato.

Every year, we are so blessed to have many donations of cash, door prizes, food, and dessert. This year, we thank Otomatsu Aoki, Vivian Saruwatari, and Ehel Teruya for their cash donations/door prizes, especially since they were not able to attend the party. Thank you also to: Mac Moriwake, Doris Aimoto, Midori Hirano, Bessie Nakasone, and Gary Uchida for their cash donations to the Christmas party. Door prizes are always a hit and we thank Doris Aimoto, Ed Ikuma, and Elsie Oshita for their contributions. Seisaburo Tabu, as he has done for many years, donated two beautiful paintings which we always award as the grand prizes. This year’s winners were Vicki Sakoda and Kathy Uchida. Contributing to the pupu and dessert tables were: Doris Aimoto (tsukemono), Pat Akimoto (fruitcake), Midori Hirano (jello), Fumi Inouye (chips and dip), Arthur Komiyama (an pan), Ben Shinoda (large chocolate cake), Dorothy Yamashiro (pupu), Bert Turner (dessert), Vicki Sakoda (mini cupcakes) and Edna Uchida (pumpkin dessert). If we have omitted anyone, please gomennasai. We “loaned out” the donation list the first time was Ken Akinaka’s aunty, Beatrice Masae Akinaka who is a spry 96 years old! The chapter was simply entertained the children with various types of games. This year the children were very happy because of the warm weather. The games for the young ones and then later for the young-at-heart was great, too. Santa did a superb job and had presents for all the little ones. And did you know that every veteran or widow went home with a beautiful handmade, lighted Christmas tree? I understand each tree took hours to make! WOW!!!! There were many, many people who helped make this party such a success - to each one of you, domo arigato.

Our January Headquarters meeting was held at Uptown Café on River Street where Seisaburo Tabu has several paintings on display. During our meeting, Seisaburo treated us to coffee or tea and lightly salted delicious soy beans. After the meeting, we all ordered lunch, which everyone enjoyed. Joining us for the first time was Ken Akinaka’s aunty, Beatrice Masae Akinaka who is a spry 96 years old! The chapter paid for the lunches for the chapter officers - thank you very much!

Sick Call: Charles Miyashiro had been looking forward to our Christmas party but at the last minute was unable to attend because of a bad back. Take care, Charlie, and hope you’re back on your feet in no time.

There will be a memorial service for Young Oak Kim at Punchbowl, and get together at the clubhouse on February 3, 2006. Call Amanda at the clubhouse for more details and to rsvp.

ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nishioka

Able Chapter Christmas party was a tremendous success in spite of lower attendance, compared to previous years. Presumably, the lower attendance is due to our membership getting much older, many are incapacitated because of illness, and some are in care homes. I for one am not in the best of health, therefore I’m asking some volunteers to take over the 2006 Christmas party.

Fortunately, we were approached by the wonderful daughter-in-law and niece of Alfred Arakaki to chair the 2006 Christmas party. Thank you to these wonderful chairpersons, we can look forward to a great Christmas party.

The children had a wonderful time once again, simply because the Morikawa’s for many years have uns selfishly entertained the children with various types of games. This year the children were very happy building a gingerbread house. We are very grateful to Mrs. Morikawa, her daughter-in-law Mrs. Irene Morikawa and their children who for so many years have helped entertain the children.

To the following families who have so generously donated to the party, thank you very much from Able Chapter: Mr. Don Matsuda, $100; Mrs. Flo Fuchigami, $100; Mr. Tetsuo Tateishi, $20; Mr. Mark Tiwanak, $110 and door prizes; Mr. Tom Ibaraki, $200; Mr. Naoki Takamura, $50; Mrs. May Miyashiro, $20; Miss Jane Hirokawa, $10 and door prizes; Mr. Goro Sumida, pupu and wine; Mr. Milton Tanaka, four $50 gift certificates and two $25 gift certificates; Mrs. Morikawa, desserts and cash donations; Mr. Robert Sato, door prizes; Mrs. Barbara Low, various door prizes as well as a very expensive electronic recorder; Mr. Alfred Arakaki, door prizes. If I have inadvertently missed some of the donors - and I’m sure there are some - my sincere apologies. Able Chapter wishes to thank each and everyone of you who made such generous donations.
Many thanks to the kitchen crew: Mrs. Kunishige, Mr. Kiku Tojio, Mr. Milton Tanaka who helped my wife with the buffet tables; to Mrs. Sheila Wakai and Miss Sophie Hatakenaka who did a tremendous job of handling the lucky numbers.

Please sign up for next year’s Christmas party as soon as the registration form is printed because it will be a fabulous party.

Surprise! This year we had a very professional Santa Claus who did a wonderful job entertaining the children. The children enjoyed him very much. We would like to thank Mrs. Paulette Arakaki who was responsible for getting him.

**DOG CHAPTER NEWS**

by Helen Nikaido

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!** Dog Chapter Christmas party, held on December 4 at the clubhouse, was well attended by members, wives, widows, children, grandchildren and friends.

We had a terrific program, thanks to Joy Teraoka, our program chairman. Patty Tsutsui (daughter of Ruth and the late Richard Tsutsui) led the line dances; she also danced the hula. Quinten and “Scuppy” Nishime (grandsons of Saburo Nishime) played the piano; Tiffany Yoshida (granddaughter of “Jits” and Mildred Yoshida) played the violin, and ballroom dancing was performed by Douglas Teraoka (son of Denis and Joy Teraoka) and his partner Amy Doh. Douglas and Joy also sang some songs.

After enjoying the delicious food catered by Leeward Drive-In and having our “opu” settled down, it was time for the children’s games. Finally jolly “ole” Santa arrived to give them their presents. We had many door prizes. Some families won not only one but several. There were two special prizes donated by Bob Ogata - his own hand-crafted ukulele. The lucky winners were Dr. Joyce Chinen (daughter of the late Wally and Kay Chinen) and Thomas Downes (grandson of Ed and Kay Harada).

By the way, did you get to eat the delicious oama pupu during the fellowship hour? They were hooked and cleaned by Rhoda Kawamata. With the help of Mildred Yoshida, Mildred Hosaka and Yoshi Tsukayama the oama were crispy fried in hot oil and we were able to enjoy the delicious fish. Thanks ladies.

Overall attendance coordinators were Mildred Yoshida and Mary Hamasaki; general chairman was Prexy Saburo Nishime; program chairperson was Joy Teraoka; Mary Tsukayama conducted the crafts; game coordinators were Kay and Annette Harada; Santa Claus was none other than Mike Harada; and finances were taken care of by “Jits” Yoshida; donations of door prizes and desserts were handled by “Doc” Hosaka and Moriso Teraoka; invocation was given by Cline Ardo; taking care of the bar were the Nakayama brothers, Harry and Arthur; and ordering of the food was by Helen Nikaido.

To all of you thank you for your generous donations of desserts, cash and door prizes. Thank you for your help with the cleanup. Hope you all had a nice time.

To Mr. Yamaki and Joy of Leeward Drive-In, thank you for the delicious food and tsukemono we all enjoyed.

**BAKER CHAPTER NEWS**

by Bernard Akamine

Congratulations to Robert Arakaki on his installation as President of the mother club for 2006!

The following appeared in the Star Bulletin after the deadline for the December issue: “Brandon Arakaki, a fifth grader from Waikoloa and the State winner of the 2005 Tar Wars poster contest placed fourth in the National Contest in Washington, D.C. The anti-tobacco contest is sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians.” Brandon is the grandson of Robert and Nancy Arakaki. He was congratulated by our congressional delegation at the event. There were participants from all 50 states, so it was quite an event. Congratulations to proud grandparents, Robert and Nancy.

The Christmas Party committee members think that the party was a success because everyone was smiling and their arms were full of goodies as they were leaving. Sixty-eight people attended and I’m sure everyone had some kind of prize. There were many donations, but I have to single out the 9 ceramic works of art that Alma Takata donated. These are the art pieces that her daughter, Glenda Koyama, created. As Mieko Muroshige wrote, she was “squeezing” for one of them, but was out of luck. Instead, Kenneth chose the limited edition pen/pencil holder, not exactly a work of art, but very practical.
Our special guests from the Executive Housekeepers organization, Patty and her husband Warren Kawaoaka were not able to attend. In their place she sent Santa Claus and his two assistants, Leonida Lumantas, Robbin Loanda and Santa Ireneo Carumba. Patty even had Santa bring a big bag of gifts. They all work at the Miramar Hotel. The leftover toilet tissue and Kleenex that they donated for our August event were made into goody bags for each family to take home.

Kay Katabara surprised us by bringing apples and oranges to give away. We're sorry that she could not stay, but it was great to see her and her famous smile. It was great to see Charles Tanaka and his family, all the way from Waipahu. Thank you, Charlie, for your generous donations to the chapter. Amy Munoshige was so thrilled to win the microwave oven in the lucky drawing. Pat Toyama's hula really was a beautiful part of our program. Her parents, Sakae and Stella Tanigawa proudly watched from the front row. Marge Toma's beautiful ribbon leis certainly added to the festive atmosphere. There were four generations of Sonsei and Elaine Nakamura's family, including their twin great-grandchildren. The games were challenging, but there was plenty of participation. Next year, be sure to add thermos jugs and Eddie Bauer tools to your Christmas shopping list! The food was delicious and service by Maple Garden was tops! Any leftover food was boxed up by the restaurant and taken home by appreciative families. The room was cozy, but air conditioned, and best of all, nobody needed to stay behind to clean up. One family that was missing was the Nosaka's who had a conflict and could not attend. But, Ann Kabasawa did all the shopping for prizes, packaging them, and wrapping the poinsettia plants well before the party. Thanks to Evelyn Tsuda and Elaine Nakamura for taking care of the chobah and donations list.

Thank you, doomo arigato, and molto grazie to the following donors for their contributions to the Christmas party: Charles Tanaka, Seiji “Lefty” Tanigawa, Marie Yoneshige, Robert Arakaki, Sonsei Nakamura, Vivian Nakamura, Marge Toma, Bernard Akamine, Stanley Tanaka, Alma Takata, Tom Tsubota, Patty Kawaoaka, Kenneth Munoshige, Joe Muramatsu, Evelyn Tsuda, Kay Katabara, Tokuji Ono.

At our November meeting, we unanimously accepted author Graham “Sandy” Salisbury as an honorary member of Baker Chapter. Joe Muramatsu and Robert Arakaki nominated him to be an honorary member of the mother club at the December board meeting, but no action was taken due to the holiday luncheon of the board. The book, Eyes of the Emperor has already received several awards and excellent reviews. Let's hope that the Sons and Daughters will have more books to sell.

Speaking of the Cat Island boys, we apologize for omitting the name of Yasu Takata in the December issue. Much of the information that was printed about the Cat Island gang was taken from the article that Yasu wrote for the book, The Boys of Company B.

For 2006, our officers are: President Joe Muramatsu, Vice President Ann Kabasawa, Secretary Drusilla Tanaka, and Treasurer Jean Maeda. Thank you to Robert Aoki and Rikio Tsuda who served as Secretary and Treasurer for so many years, and mahalo to Evelyn Tsuda who was an all-around pinch-hitter.

We've talked about having our meetings at a restaurant, so maybe 2006 will be the year. Stay tuned for announcements about future events, or better yet, come to the chapter meetings on the third Saturday of each month, at 1 p.m.

Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tanaka for their donation to the chapter treasury and also thanks to Carol Anamizu for her donation in memory of Poka Anamizu.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!

By Wayne Nagao

The annual Christmas Luncheon Party held on Sunday, Dec. 18, 05 at 11 a.m. was a delightful success with a good turnout. We counted close to 90 attendees in total - with members, their families and their friends all gathered at the Clubhouse to enjoy great food and entertainment. The members present were M/M Kazuto Shimizu, Warren Iwai, M/M Stanley Kimura, Oscar Miyashiro, Wayne Nagao, Lorraine Miyashiro (widow), Jack Mizushima’s family, Arlene Sato, M/M Ray Nosaka (Baker Co.), Jean Obara (widow), Philip Okada, M/M Toshimi Sodetani, M/M Takeichi Onishi, Hiromi Suehiro, “Papoose” and Skip Tomiyama, Takako Ummoto (widow), Warren Yamamoto, Norine (Hada) Hung and her family, Nancy Nakamura (HQ widow), Ann Kabasawa and Drusilla Tanaka, and lots of families and friends.

The entertainment was started off by Danny Carvalho (Warren Iwai’s 15 yr. old grandson), with his skillful slack key guitar to provide all the guests with good music before we started to feast on the awesome foods prepared by our families and friends.
One of the highlights was the "play" - when 12 cast members were selected from the audience to participate in the singing of "12 Days of Christmas" - Hawaiian-style of course. Skip led the "play" with her fine ukulele playing. Skip also entertained us by leading a group of Hula Girls before the "play" started.

The finale came with the game of BINGO and thanks to the generous cash donations from Hiromi Suehiro and Warren Iwai and all the other donated prizes from everyone else - it was a very fun and eventful Christmas luncheon. Without the hard work of everyone involved, especially Warren Yamamoto and Skip Tomiyama, the party wouldn't have been this good. We must apologize for the delay in sending or not sending out the party registration form to some of the members. We are updating the roster, addresses and phone numbers so every member has enough time to respond for this year's Christmas Party and other fun functions we have planned.

Our first meeting of the year was held at 10 a.m. on Jan. 7, Saturday (meeting day changed from 3rd Monday to 1st Saturday of the month).

Items discussed were Warren Iwai's "Program of the Year" list which is targeted for completion sometime around March or April.

Annual Anniversary Banquet will be held sometime in June. Charlie Chapter is also planning on a HEKKA DINNER PARTY - one Saturday night in July.

Annual October Mini Reunion will be held in Las Vegas. In December, we will have our Charlie Chapter Christmas Party again. The time and date hasn't been set yet on all events listed above.

On a sad note, we lost a dear friend and a life-long "Charlie Chapter" member, Saburo Ishitani - Dec. 29, 05. He served as a platoon sergeant in the Italian Campaign. The service was held at Makiki Christian Church on Jan. 4, and many people from his church were present to pay respects. All the Charlie Company comrades were there too. Our new president, Robert Arakaki, was also present with his wife.

Warren Iwai delivered a touching remembrance and gave everyone more insight into what kind of a great man Saburo Ishitani truly was.

The wonderful luncheon held on August 23 at Kyoya Restaurant to honor Saburo Ishitani meant a lot to him. He looked so happy and energetic that summer day. I personally will remember him as a wise, well-loved, and a happy, kind person - despite all the hardships he had to endure. Mr. Saburo Ishitani will be dearly missed but will never be forgotten by us. Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Fukuko Ishitani and rest of the Ishitani family.

Now, I feel it is my duty as one of the descendants of 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans from WWII to keep my father's legacy alive. My father was Katsumi "Bambino" Nagao and passed away 14 years ago due to lung cancer. My uncle Goichi Nagao was K.I.A. in Italy in 1944. They were both in Charlie Company. No "Saving Private Ryan" sentiments applied to 100th Battalion Infantry soldiers in those days. Thanks to all the soldiers in the 100th, M.I.S. and 442nd - AJA like myself can live in USA in basic luxury and comfort. Actually all Asians living here have benefited from the accomplishments of these brave men who fought for us during WWII - in one way or another. They just gave all Asians a good name because of their true display of bravery and sacrifice for their country, and to top it off - they were all reluctant heroes. Most veterans here do not look at themselves as heroes. They just carried out their duties and did them well. Sometimes they didn't even get credit for their accomplishments but never complained about it. To me, those are the real kind of heroes and should be recognized by the next generation and the next.

At this time, I would like to invite all descendants of the 100th Battalion veterans from WWII to come join our exclusive club - if you haven't yet. Lifetime membership fee is only $100 or an annual fee is $10, all going to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (mother club) at 520 Kamoku Street. We are not the same club as the Sons & Daughters of the 100th infantry Battalion. You will be joining the Company Chapter your father or grandfather served in. This is an honorable privilege and your birthright to be able to join the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization and to meet and befriend a real life hero that your dad or your granddad knew. I hope to see new faces this year so we can all keep our fathers' and/or grandfathers' legacy going in the future with honor, respect and love.

We would love to hear from you so we can at least keep our rosters up to date - thank you.

May You All Have A Safe & Wonderful New Year !!
RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

By Ted Hamasu

Rural Chapter held its meeting at the LCC (Leeward Community College) in Pearl City on 18 Nov. 05 from 11:00 AM with seven members present. They were Bull Saito, Mitsuo Nagaki, Yukio Tanji, Shizuya Hayashi, Evelyn Honda, Mimi Nakano and Ted Hamasu. It was very nice to have new faces as members of the Rural Chapter and I pray more S&Ds and others will join us in the near future.

At the meeting, one of the items on the agenda was to pick a location for our Installation & New Year’s Banquet and also to pick the chairman of that committee. The location was picked as Dot’s of Wahiawa and Susumu Ota was appointed as chairman in his absence.

The nomination was open for our New Officers for year 2006. It was unanimously passed that the officers be the same slate as this year. So the officers for the year 2006 will be:

President
Ted Hamasu

Vice President
Vacant

Secretary
Masaharu Saito

Treasurer
Susumu Ota

Auditors
Mitsuo Nagaki & Kiyomi Kaneshige

The members moved that we invite the new 100th President and the Office Manager, as our guests at the Installation and New Year’s Banquet.

I was caught by surprise, so did not close the 2005 year at the PPP with all the good tidings. May all of you in Rural Chapter and the rest of the 100th Ohana have health, happiness and prosperity for the year 2006.

Our deepest sympathy to the Yoshida Family for their loss of their beloved Mrs. Miyako Yoshida. Her funeral service was held at the Hosoi Mortuary on 2 December 2005.

Our deepest condolence to Charlie Nishimura and family for the loss of his beloved wife Ethel. Her funeral service was held on 30 December 2005 at the Hosoi Mortuary.

Our deepest sympathy to the late Col. Kim’s family and relatives. His burial service will be held at Punchbowl on Friday February 3, 2006 at 2:00 PM.

The 100th Inf. Bn. has a memorial plaque on the walkway to the Punchbowl Lookout to commemorate the outstanding sacrifices that the AJAs made during WW II. The notation on the plaque donated by Mr. Donald Jones reads: “Out of their ordinary lives the AJAs met the crisis of the times. With courage and valor they fought prejudice at home. 100th Infantry Battalion World War II Veterans.”

Happy New Year and may our Rural Chapter and 100th Ohana be blessed with health, happiness and long life for the coming year of 2006.

We held our Installation and New Year’s Banquet on a beautiful Sunday on 15 January 2006 at Dot’s Restaurant in Wahiawa from 10:00 AM. There were 100 members, wives, S&Ds and guests at the gathering. Since our goal is to increase the membership in the Club and Chapters, I asked Mrs. Mimi Nakano to speak to the S&Ds present about the reason they should join the S&D organization to help keep up the legacy of the 100th Inf. Bn. Vets, their Fathers’ or Grandfathers’ legacy.

In order to increase the membership of wives and widows to the Club, I asked our Office Manager Ms. Amanda Stevens to give a spiel about the application form and what to do after you have filled it. Now that our Chapter wives and widows have the info to join the organization, I am expecting a rush of new members in our Club. I hope. For the Wives and Widows, your membership is free. You do not have to pay any dues to become a member, so do not hesitate, get hold of an application form and send it in to the Club Office so it can be recorded and assigned to Rural Chapter. If you are in need of a form give me (Ted Hamasu) a call at 455-3341, I will send you one by mail.

It was a busy meeting and we closed with our usual bingo and lucky number games. We even forgot to sing our closing song, “Hawaii Aloha,” too.

We thank our generous members and wives for the donations and ono desserts. It was outstanding. Lots of people were raving about the desserts.

We in Rural Chapter are fortunate to have such a generous and big hearted membership. MAHALO NUI LOA.
January 8, 2006, the Paradise Restaurant was the location of the Annual Go For Broke Foundation’s Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Successfully organized and coordinated by Leslie Amparo, to an appreciative crowd of Staff members, Board of Directors, Board of Governors, and volunteers from the Office, Special Events, Hanashi Oral History program, Monument Docents, and other committees, all enjoyed the delicious lunch and wonderful program. A touching and heart-wrenching ending of the video slide show created by Doug Urata and Alice Roe, of the many volunteers and staff participating in many of 2005 activities, showed the late Col Young O. Kim (Ret.) in various scenes from his happy days at the Foundation events. From the many 100th members who are faithful volunteers and Board members, the following were those who attended this memorable event – May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Ken and Hisa Miya, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Toke and Reiko Yoshishashi, Ted and Chizu Ohira, Sam and Teri Fujikawa, Kiyoshi and Bonnie Horino, Henry and Elsie Hayashi.

Very important but sad news about the passing of Col Young O. Kim commands attention. Courageous to the end, Col Kim bravely acknowledged the many visitors he had while hospitalized. Funeral/Memorial Services were held on Monday, January 9, 2006, at the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica. Chip Mamiya, son of the late Yoshi (Buddy) and Lily Mamiya (Co. D), served as Chairman, eloquent Frank Fukuzawa (442 Co. F), gave the Personal History. Among the many Floral Presentations given were John Wakamatsu, President of the 442/100 Association, (son of the late Jack Wakamatsu (442 Co.F); George (Oscar) Miyashiro, (100 Co. C), assisted by his son Garry, represented the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans of Hawaii; Sam Fujikawa, (100 Co. C), President of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans, Mainland; Hitoshi Sameshima, President, MIS Club of Southern California; Minoru Tonai – Japanese American Korean War Veterans; Vince Okamoto – Japanese American Vietnam War Veterans; Bill Seki (son of the late Lloyd Seki, 100 Co. D) represented the Go For Broke Educational Foundation; Irene Hirano, President of the Japanese American National Museum; and many Korean American and Asian Pacific groups took part in the floral presentations. The Col’s friend from his childhood days, Dr. Sammy Lee, shared his treasured memories, Author Masayo Duus, Los Angeles City Councilmember Jan Perry, and President of the Go For Broke Educational Foundation Christine Sato-Yamazaki all had much to add to the Sharing of Memories. A Message of Condolence from Colonel Mukyum Kim; an Award Presentation by Colonel Bong-Keon Kim, President, the Korean Veterans Association in US Western Region; a resounding Soldier’s Tribute led by Lt. Colonel Henry Ikemoto (Ret.); and Words of Appreciation by Henry Kim wound up the very impressive service. A reception followed immediately in the church social hall. Among the 100th members paying their respects to Col Kim and his family were Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Ken and Hisa Miya, Ted and Chizu Ohira, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Ben and Jean Tagami, Henry and Elsie Hayashi, Mike and Doris Miyake, Donald and Frank Fukuzawa, George (Oscar) and son Garry Miyashiro, Chuckie Seki, Fumi Sakato, Sets and Don Miyada, Harry and Harumi Sasaki, Kei and Chisato Yamaguchi, James and Yuri Ogawa, Bill and Irene Sato, Toke and Reiko Yoshishashi, Ted and Gladys Toguchi, Toye Yoshino, and Sam and Teri Fujikawa. Our deepest and sincere condolences go to Col Kim’s family – he will be greatly missed and we will all treasure his many dedicated endeavors and accomplishments and strive to support and continue his valuable projects.
For the PukaPuka Parade:

Mrs. Hanayo Yamane $50 in memory of Takayuki Yamane

For the One Puka Puka Achievement Scholarship Fund:

Dr. and Mrs. Coolidge Wakai $300 in memory of Hajime Kodama

For the Building Fund:

Mrs. Hanayo Yamane $100 in memory of Takayuki Yamane
Mrs. Florence Nishida $100
Mrs. Vicki Ho $100 in memory of Richard "Japan" Nakahara
Mrs. Mildred Sakuragi Ono $100
Mrs. Carol Inafuku $100 in memory of James Inafuku
Mr. and Mrs. Masaichi Yozu $100
George H. Iwasaki $100
Mrs. Gertrude Uyeno $100 in memory of Kiyoshi Uyeno

For the Sons and Daughters:

Mr. Milton Tanaka $150
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Tanaka $20
Mr. and Mrs. Don Matsuda $100
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Takekawa $200

For the Sons and Daughters Scholarship Fund:

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Tanaka $50 in honor of Shizuya Hayashi’s 88th birthday
Mrs. Marian Yamamoto $200
Island Insurance Foundation $150

For Sakae Takahashi Scholarship Fund:

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Tanaka $250

For Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund:

Mrs. Alma Takata $55

Congratulations to newly elected board members! At the S&D Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 14, 2006, the following were elected to the Board of Directors: Warren Yamamoto, Ann Kabasawa, Mary Ann (Mimi) Nakano, Russell Iwasa, Randy Shiraiishi, Steve Takushi, Avin Oshiro, Evelyn Honda, Clayton Kamiya, James Nakatani, and Drusilla Tanaka.

Interested in books by Graham Salisbury? The Sons and Daughters has ordered a supply of books by Graham Salisbury. “Under the Blood Red Sun” and “Eyes of the Emperor” will soon be available from the S&D. “Under the Blood Red Sun” is the first in a series of five books set in Hawaii around the time of World War II. This book is about two boys (one Japanese American and the other haole American) who experience the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The story focuses on how that event affects both of them. The second book, “Eyes of the Emperor,” is about the dog-bait training that involved some of the men of Baker Company on Cat Island in the Gulf of Mexico. The books are fiction, based on actual events in history; enjoyable reading for all ages. To order books, please contact Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 or by e-mail at diverseinnovations@hawaii.rr.com.

DIS AND DAT

By Ray Nosaka

SHINEN OMEDETO GOZAIMASU - HAUOLI MAKAHIKI HOU and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2006 is the year of the DOG. People born in this year are supposed "bright, daring, fearless, over-confident, honest, impulsive, blunt, eloquent, exaggerating and extravagant. It is recommended that they marry a horse or a tiger—and to stay away from the dragon.” (I am a dragon and have been married to a dog for over 62 years!)
Our Hui Hanele O Aikane Ukulele Club was invited to take part in the Ala Wai Elementary School Christmas program this past December. The hall was packed with the whole student body, teachers and parents present. Those participating were Marie Yoneshige, Harriet Nakamura, Takako Umamoto, Kimi Matsuda, Ted Hamasu, Tom Tsubota, Ray and Aki Nosaka. We were given recognition not only by applause, but by a commentary printed on the program for everybody to read.

It was a pleasure to be able to perform with the children. Thank you, Mrs. Charlotte Unni, Principal of Ala Wai School and a member of our sons and daughters.

On the following day, I was asked to speak to 70 students at Iolani School about the 100th Infantry veterans in general and about some of the experiences I had. It is good that the children of all ages are being made aware of what the men of the 100th did.

This is just a reminder to mark your calendars for the week of October 22 as “Mini-Reunion Las Vegas” week. This will possibly be the last L.A. chapter sponsored mini-reunion, so please plan to attend. We would also like to see more sons and daughters participating too so that we can help carry on this tradition with their parents. Watch for the announcement in next month’s PPP.

We hope that many of you will be attending the memorial service to be held for Col. Young O. Kim on February 3 at Punchbowl National Cemetery, and reception at the 100th Clubhouse. Although he was not born here in Hawaii, his wishes were to remain here with the boys with whom he fought side by side during the war. The announcement is printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

US Army Museum of Hawaii

GALLERY OF HEROES INDUCTION CEREMONY

Thursday, February 23, 2006
1:00 p.m.
Fort De Russy
Open to public
The following will be inducted:
Irving Akahoshi, Hoichi Kubo, Larry Tanimoto, Matsuichi Yogi

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP PRESENTATION

The next FSG session is on Sunday, February 26, 2006, beginning with lunch at 11 a.m. At 12 noon an attorney from the Legal Aid Society who specializes in public benefits will come and answer questions about the Medicare Part D prescription drug program. If you have not yet chosen your Medicare Part D coverage and have questions, please attend. A $6 bento lunch from Gyotaku Restaurant is available. Please call one of the following by February 18 to reserve a lunch: Kimi Matsuda (988-6562), Marie Yoneshige (536-9921), Robert Arakaki (737-5244) or Bernard Akamine (734-8738).

IMPORTANT NOTICE: 100TH INF. BN. VETS CHANGE OF E-MAIL ADDRESS

Because the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans office has been receiving a heavy load of junk mail and other unwanted solicitations (viruses) along with its legitimate e-mail, Amanda Stevens, our Office Manager, has been compelled to change the organization’s electronic mailing address. Your editor of the Puka Puka Parade has also been victimized by unwanted and damaging e-mail and has changed her address. Please note the following changes:

E-mail address to the clubhouse is now: <club100vets@yahoo.com> (No spaces)

E-mail address to the Editor is: <joyteraoka@mac.com> (this is until further notice)

Please do not send mass mailings (e-mail directed to many different recipients) to Joy Teraoka as this enables or makes her mailbox susceptible to junk, worms, and viruses from unknown sources. Please individualize your messages. BE SURE TO INCLUDE “SUBJECT” info or “SUBJECT: PPP” (for the Puka Puka Parade) or it won’t be opened.

Transformations: Be true to your teeth or they’ll be false to you!
(from Chicken Soup for the Dental Soul by J. Canfield, M.V. Hasen, D. Dible)
LOUISIANA NAT'L D-DAY MUSEUM CURATOR SEEKS MEMBERS OF 100TH/442ND

Seth Paridon, historian/curator of the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, is seeking interviews with 100th/442nd veterans who reside in Hawaii. He is planning to conduct oral histories on Pearl Harbor survivors and also with 100th and 442nd veterans during his visit here in late February/early March. He will appreciate any help that can be provided to him. His address is: Mr. Seth Paridon, Historian/Traveling Curator; The National D-Day Museum, 945 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70130; Ph. (504) 527-6012, ext. 312; e-mail: <seth.paridon@ddaymuseum.org>

THIS IS HEAVEN

An 85-year-old couple, having been married nearly 60 years, died in a car crash. They had been in good health the last 10 years, mainly due to her interest in health food and exercise.

When they reached the Pearly Gates, St. Peter took them to their mansion, which was decked out with a beautiful kitchen, master bath suite and Jacuzzi. As they oohed and aahed, the old man asked Peter how much all this was going to cost. “It’s free,” Peter replied. “This is Heaven.”

Next, they went out back to survey the championship golf course in the backyard. They would have golfing privileges every day, and each week the course would change to a new one, representing the great golf courses on Earth. The old man asked, “What are the greens fees?” Peter’s reply, “This is Heaven – you play for free.”

Next, they went to the clubhouse and saw the lavish buffet lunch with the cuisines of the world laid out. “How much to eat?” asked the old man. “Don’t you understand yet? This is Heaven, it’s FREE!” Peter replied with some exasperation.

“Well, where are the low-fat and low-cholesterol tables?” the old man asked timidly.

Peter lectured, “That’s the best part – you can eat as much as you like of whatever you like and you never get fat and you never get sick. This is Heaven.”

With that the old man went into a fit of anger, throwing down his hat and stomping on it, and shrieking wildly.

Peter and his wife both tried to calm him down, asking him what was wrong. The old man looked at his wife and said, “This is all your fault. If it weren’t for your blasted bran muffins, tofu, natto and vitamin supplements, I could have been here 10 years ago!”

YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2006 WHEN...

*You haven’t played solitaire with real cards in years.
*You have a list of 15 phone numbers for your family of 3.
*You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
*Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn’t have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years in your life, is now cause for panic and you turn around to go get it.

IMPORTANT!! INSTRUCTIONS TO DONORS

As a non-profit organization, the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans association depends on monetary and material donations and the work of volunteers for the success of all of its programs and activities. Our tax status is 501(c)(4), which means we are exempt from paying taxes on donations that we receive. However, donors may not claim a tax deduction for the donations they give us because monetary donations given to the veterans’ organization are not tax-deductible. Therefore, potential donors to the veterans’ organization who desire to make a tax-deductible donation are advised to make their donation checks payable to the Sons and Daughters group, and specify the program, fund, or chapter, such as Scholarship Fund, Building Fund, PukaPuka Parade or specific Chapter as the designated recipient of the check. The Sons and Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion is a 501(c)(3) organization which can accept tax-deductible contributions as allowed by law. Because part of its mission is to support the programs and activities of our veterans organization in several ways, including making monetary grants, donors who designate the veterans organization are assured that their donations will be used according to their expressed intentions. All donations of more than ten dollars are acknowledged with a receipt-letter and in the PukaPuka Parade.
OFFICE MAHALO REPORT (February, 2006 issue) . . . Amanda Stevens, Evelyn Tsuda & Tyler Chun

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans

Reyold Kagiwada in appreciation for what the 100th has done for our country $250
Fred Kurisu $50
Kenneth Mitsunaga $100
Brett, Troy & Chad Nishibayashi in memory of Nick Nishibayashi $100
Leo. E. Treacy (CO) friend of the late Shigeru Inouye whom he met at Centre College $500

Puka Puka Parade
Matsue Furushima $25
James Yanate $250

Building Maintenance Fund
Sumiko Abe (CA) $100
Sumio Ito $300
Grace Kimura (CA) $50
Seiki & Mildred Koga $100
Paul Kusunoki in memory of Joyce Kusunoki $75
Hideo Nakamine (442nd veteran 522-B) Brothers, best wishes to all & Happy New Year $100
Roy & Bernice Nakatani $100
Tetsuo & Hanako Tateishi in memory of Mits Fukuda & Ken Harada $200
Takashi Tseueshita (Japan) $100
Tri State Chapter 34th Infantry Division Association $100

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Up to $99
Stanley & Yukie Akita in memory of Iyono Shimizu (mother of Kazuto Shimizu Co. C)

$100 - $499
Warren Iwai 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans in memory of Iyono Shimizu (mother of Kazuto Shimizu Co. C) in honor of Shizuya Hayashi’s 85th birthday
Hiromi Suehiro in memory of Col. Young O. Kim
Yukio & Thelma Tanji in memory of Eichi Endo

$1,000
Takeshi Teshima (Japan) in memory of Col. Young O. Kim

Miscellaneous: Thanks to the Hawaii Nikkei History Editorial Board for their donation of four books, ‘Japanese Eyes, American Heart,” to the club.

Aloha! I am so excited to report to you that Phase One of the Building Maintenance Project has been completed, thanks to Rep. Scott Nishimoto & Kyle Chock (Executive Director - Pacific Resource Partnership) and their heart for the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans. They worked together and came up with ways to help the 100th with their Building Maintenance Project. Apprentices and their supervisors from the Carpenters Union completed repair-work in the clubhouse on Saturday, January 21, 2006. Their work included replacing termite-eaten doors and shelves, replacing the shed door, reinforcing old shelves, replacing parts of the gate to the apartment building and they will be building recycle bins for the apartment building. All of their work was free of charge. They volunteered their labor and Honsador and City Mill donated the materials for this phase of the Building Maintenance Project. The veterans were happy to provide them with a breakfast snack, also a chicken katsu & teri beef lunch from L&L. They were hungry and very grateful. Ann Kabasawa, despite feeling ill, came by and dropped of a scrumptious dessert for them. Thanks to Denis Teraoka’s hard work and insight as president last year, everything is coming together. I must say that it has been a pleasure working with new president, Robert Arakaki. No one knows the needs of the apartment building and the clubhouse building more than Mr. Arakaki. Over the years, he’s given so many hours to the club each week, but I fear that his wife, Nancy, might forget what he looks like; he’s been working so hard at the club. All kidding aside, it is great to see the goals of the 100th for the Building Maintenance Project come to fruition.

Mr. Stanley Akita (1st Vice President) & Mr. Arakaki have been working on the next phase of the Building Maintenance Project - painting the inside of the clubhouse. Five Navy Seabees have volunteered to take the items off of the walls on February 4, 2006 in preparation of the painting project. If there are any Sons & Daughters who would like to assist on this day, please call me at the office. It is a day for removing items, no painting will be done on that day. The actual painting will be done by the Painters Union on February 6, 7, & 8, 2006. IMPORTANT: the clubhouse will be closed February 6-8.

More phases of the Building Maintenance Project (roof work and landscaping) will be coming up this year. A HUI HOU, Amanda Stevens. (Part two of the Office Mahalo Report is on the next page.)
Country Line Dancers help out by organizing boxes of books to be shipped to troops.

After the successful Book & Bake Sale, (October 8, 2005) we had quite a few paperback books left. Thanks to Jayne Hirata-Epstein, (grand-niece of Jesse Hirata) we found a program, called Operation Paperback. Through this program we donated books to troops in Europe and troops in the Middle East. Jayne checked out each paperback cover since there was a specific protocol to follow. For instance, no book showing a woman's neck could be sent to the Mid-east, so we boxed those books and sent them to the troops in Europe. We ended up sending 25 boxes of books in all. It was time-consuming but well worth it. I received word that the folks at Operation Paperback received the books and are very excited and thankful.

Please read the message below.

Hi again [Amanda Stevens & the men of the 100th!] Here is a thank-you from one of our volunteers who is also now serving in the army in Kuwait. And ...... thank YOU!:) Chrissy Honeywell, Operation Paperback

Greetings from Kuwait:

"On behalf of myself and the soldiers here serving, I want to thank all participants (especially the veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion) for being involved with Operation Paperback. Up until August of 2005, I was like you - back home in the states & was myself, a volunteer, shipping books overseas to our troops to show my support. Then I got mobilized and now am on the receiving end of this organization's great effort. I work in an area where many soldiers come through either on R&R leave, emergency leave or for individual deployment & re-deployment. While they wait - they are able to peruse our 'library' of books (thanks to YOU!) and find one or two books that will help them pass the time. Often, their time here is under extreme conditions and if reading a book can take a soldiers mind off of his circumstances, even if it be a brief moment - it is good. So from my heart, I thank you. It is because of people like all of you back home that I proudly serve our great nation. I am glad to see you're all home safe and pray God's blessings upon you and your families! Thank YOU for your service! We look forward to your shipments!" Proudly Serving God and Country..........................

SGT Susan T. Merlo, Task Force 189 LNO APO AE 09815."

"The Soldier, above all others, prays for peace, for it is the Soldier who must suffer the deepest wounds and scars of war." -General of the Army Douglas MacArthur.

The Go for Broke Association is still selling the Go for Broke car magnet yellow ribbons. If you are interested in purchasing a car magnet, please call me at the office. It is great to see that many veterans and their family members are interested in purchasing these symbols that honor our troops.

The opinions expressed in the Puka Puka Parade are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Association. We welcome readers to send signed, written comments to the following address: PPP Editor, 520 Kamoku St., Hon. HI 96826, or e-mail to <club100vets@yahoo.com> or to <joyteraoka@mac.com>.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2006

ABLE ............................................•......... Saturday, February 25 ................................................ 8:00 am
BAKER .............................................• ...... Saturday, February 18 .................................................. 1:00 pm
CHARLIE ......................................... Sunday, February 4 .................................................. 10:00 am
DOG ............................................... Sunday, February 18 .................................................. 10:00 am
HQ .................................................. Saturday, February 11 .................................................. 10:00 am
RURAL ........................................... No February meeting ...................................................

HAWAII ........................................... Wednesday, February 23 .................................................. 11:00 am
MAUI ............................................. No February meeting ...................................................

BOARD MEETING ................................... Friday, February 10 .................................................. 10:00 am
GREEN THUMBS ................................... Monday, February 13 ........................................ 10:00 am
LINE DANCING ................................... Wednesday, February 1, 15, 22 ........................................ 9:00 am
EXERCISE ......................................... Wednesday, February 1, 15, 22 ........................................ 10:30 am
CRAFTS/CROCHET ................................ Tuesday, February 14, 21, 28 ........................................ 9:00 am
FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP ................................ Sunday, February 26 ........................................ 11:00 am

Y.O. KIM MEMORIAL RECEPTION ................................ Friday, February 3 ... After 2 pm Cemetery service ... 3:00 pm
INDUCTION OF DSC AWARDEES ................................ Thursday, February 23 ... Army Museum, Ft DeRussy ... 1:00 pm

Note: No clubhouse activities on February 6, 7 or 8 due to painting.

Deadline for articles will be February 14, 2006. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be
included in the issue.) Collating will be on Friday, February 24, 2006, 8:30 am. (For those bucking
heavy traffic, 9:00 am.) Headquarters, Medics and Dog Chapters are responsible for providing
manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

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Note new e-mail address for PPP: Chapter news and articles (Spam Alert! Show SUBJECT or
your message will be deleted): <joyteraoka@mac.com>
Club business, questions or correspondence, address to: <chub100vets@yahoo.com>

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans
520 Kamoku Street
Honolulu, HI 96826-5120

FEBRUARY 2006 ISSUE

Happy Valentine's Day