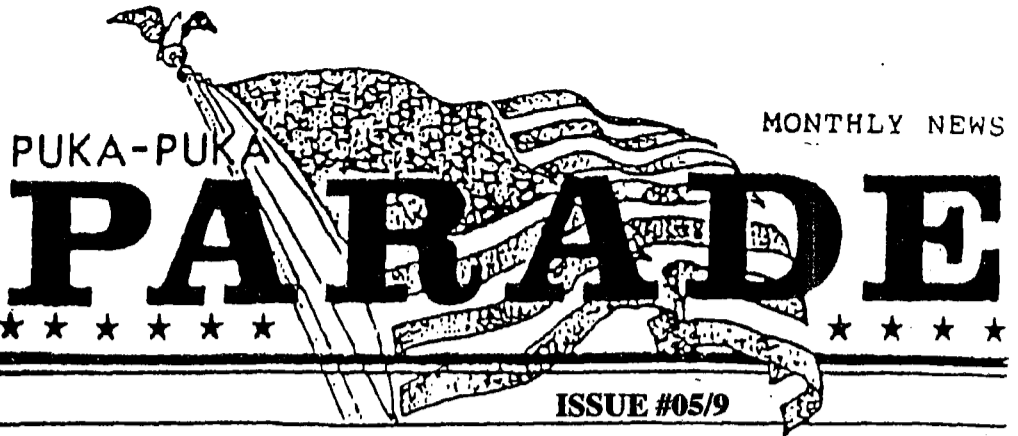




# 100<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB



OCTOBER 2005

ISSUE #05/9

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Denis Teraoka

### PRESIDENT'S WELCOMING SPEECH FOR SEPT. 25, 2005 MEMORIAL SERVICE

Distinguished guests, fellow veterans, and friends:

Welcome to the 100th Battalion's 60th Memorial Service which is held on the last Sunday in September on Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, Kauai and Los Angeles.

This day has been set aside to honor the sacrifices made by our fallen comrades who, long ago, fought on the battlefields of Italy and France to prove our allegiance to our country--America.

On this memorial day, we should recall the feeling of togetherness--the bond of camaraderie that existed within our ranks that helped us survive the difficult ordeals we struggled through. No matter how high the mountains in Italy or how deep the forests in France, we went into battle with the feeling we were never alone. It was the trust and faith in knowing our buddy next to us was ready to lend a helping hand if ever we got into trouble, and our determination to help our buddy when he got into trouble.

Going into battle, General Ryder of the 34th Division prepared our troops with these words:

"You'll see your buddies hurt and killed, and maybe you'll get it next, but you keep on fighting. You'll fill the place of the man that's hit, and you'll keep on fighting."

Our sense of duty and loyalty to the cause for freedom never dimmed our resolve to get the job done.

We should be grateful to our fallen comrades for their sacrifices and manifest this gratitude by continuing this camaraderie within and beyond our organization, and working together to perpetuate the legacy of loyalty, duty, honor and perseverance toward freedom and peace.

We have scheduled a joint Memorial Service to include the 442nd, MIS, 1399 and the 100th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on the last Sunday in September 2006, and we ask for your presence and continued support.



## PPPARADE VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Many thanks to our volunteers for the last issue. Because those who made monetary donations to the building fund were sent last month's issue of the PPParade, we printed more copies than usual. We hope these new readers found our newsletter interesting.

Our collating volunteers were Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Doc Hosaka, Ed Ikuma, Fumi Inouye, Regina Kamiya, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Seiei Oshiro, Susumu Ota, Mamoru Sato, Robert Sato, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Dot Tamashiro, Drusilla Tanaka, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Martin Tohara, Ricky and Evelyn Tsuda, Ukichi Wozumi, and Marie Yoneshige. Forgive me if I have inadvertently failed to mention someone.

Our heartfelt thanks to those who have made donations to the Puka Puka Parade.

Next month's issue of the PPParade will again be edited and compiled by Drusilla Tanaka

while I take a trip to the Mainland for two reunions. The first is for our Heart Mtn., Wyoming Internment Camp, at the Regency Hotel in Las Vegas. Two weeks later I will return to Las Vegas after visiting my children in California to join our vets at the 100th Inf. Bn. mini-reunion at the California Hotel (second home to many Islanders).

For next month's issue, please send articles for publication by the deadline date, October 18, to Drusilla Tanaka <datanaka@juno.com>. Thank you, Drusilla, for taking the helm again as "substitute editor." Collation will be on Friday, October 28, 2005.



#### GEORGE "JOJI" WATANABE, 100TH/442ND LIAISON IN ITALY, PASSES AWAY

Much to the shock and grief of those veterans in the 100th/442nd RCT who have taken tours to Italy and met our staunchest supporter George "Joji" Watanabe, it is hard to believe that he passed away, September 20.

George, originally from the Big Island, married a lovely Italian woman, Graziella, and has lived in Udine, Italy for many years. He became an aficionado of 100th/442nd history, especially covering their Italian campaigns. Whenever tour groups came his way, he would delight in guiding them through the areas where the AJA troops fought. He served as our liaison in Italy and contributed many articles to the PPParade. He was instrumental in having some kind of memorial preserved at Camp Darby in honor of MOH recipient Curly Nakai. Our sincerest condolences to Graziella on the loss of her beloved husband.

The following e-mail was sent to the 100th Infantry Battalion organization on September 20, from his dear friend and fellow supporter of the 100th/442nd RCT, Davide Del Giudice.

Dear Friends,

I'm full of sadness and it is not simple for me to say these words. But I'll try.

So, the facts: Yesterday our brother and beloved George Joji Watanabe passed away at 70 in his Livorno house. After months of suffering, he left us.

~~This morning I was at school when his wife Graziella telephoned me and I was astonished and without words to reply.~~

After work, I was in the Livorno Cemetery for the funeral ceremony. I saw George for the last time, and I put in his coffin the hat of 442 RCT veterans.

Some officers of Camp Darby, a few of friends and relatives were at brief Catholic mass.

Tomorrow there is the cremation service. This is the Graziella address and telephone in Udine, if you want give her your condolence:

Graziella Bernardis-Watanabe

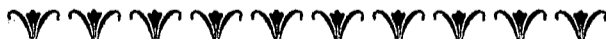
Via Romeo Battistig 58

0039/33100 Udine

Telephone: 39/0432-506459

Excuse me, But I am not able, now, to write more. I'm sorry.

Davide Del Giudice



(JT Editor's Note: The following editorial by Karleen Chinen appeared in the Hawaii Herald issue dated Friday, September 16, 2005. Chinen's *Dialogue: The 100th and 442nd "Rivalry"* is a thoughtful response to the caustic article Bob Jones wrote in *MidWeek's* August 24, 2005 issue. With her permission, we reprint her column.)

#### DIALOGUE: THE 100TH AND 442ND "RIVALRY"

by Karleen C. Chinen

In his August 24, 2005, column in *MidWeek*, Bob Jones went to town on the veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team with a column titled, "The Sad 442nd vs.

100th Rivalry.” In it, he criticized the vets — mainly the 100th — for what he perceived as their lack of foresight, their inability to reach a consensus, and their pettiness for wanting to continue to maintain separate clubhouses, separate memorial services and separate anniversary banquets.

“The 100th vets are sitting on a gazillion-dollar property that long ago should have been high-rise developed with ground-level clubhouse-and-poker-room rights reserved for the last old soldiers,” Jones wrote.

Well, I’m the daughter of a now-deceased 100th Battalion veteran — and maybe Dad lacked foresight, like all of the other vets Jones criticizes — but in all honesty, I think he loved that loud aqua blue building on Kamoku Street just the way it was. I don’t think he cared that a gazillion-dollar windfall was just a real estate deal away. And as one who has been a beneficiary of all those guys sacrificed, who am I to tell them what they should do? They earned the right to make their own decisions about their own clubhouse

For Dad, the clubhouse was a home away from home — someplace where he felt comfortable enough to kick back as if he was in his own home and talk story with the guys with whom he had faced death on the battlefields of Europe. That bond, I have come to learn, is as strong as any bond can be.

The guys could drop in anytime during the day. They still do. It’s their place . . . to talk story about their orchids and bonsai plants and fishing, gas prices and traffic (talk about revisiting an issue over and over again and never finding a solution!), their kids and grandkids, their trips, ailments . . . whatever.

I don’t even think it mattered to Dad that there wasn’t a “museum” that enshrined their exploits as Japanese American soldiers. I think all he hoped for was that we remember all they had gone through — not only in war, but as a segregated unit upon whose shoulders so much depended — and to pass on that legacy through books, videos and other educational materials and projects.

Maybe you had to have been one them — not an honorary member of the 100th as Bob Jones is, or even a daughter of a 100th veteran — to understand just how much it meant to them to wear the patch of the 100th. Dad was in from the very beginning (“first draft”) until the very end. He knew that the 100th had become the 1st battalion of the 442nd after the battle for Cassino, even though the 100th was allowed to keep its name. But he was always proud of having been one of the 1,432 men who had sailed out of Honolulu Harbor on the SS Maui on June 5, 1942, of having been “Seiko Chinen, 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate).”

I grew up running around that loud aqua blue clubhouse, attending “Dog Chapter” (Dad served in Dog Company) Christmas parties and chicken hekka “family nights” at the Kamoku Street clubhouse. The other Doggie veterans were like uncles to me and my siblings — the ones who survive still are. I have always identified myself as the daughter of a 100th Battalion veteran, not a 442nd veteran, even though I know that the 100th became the 1st Battalion of the 442nd.

If the memorial service is too much work, scale down. Remembering is what’s important. Decades ago, Dad told me something that I have included every single time I’ve covered the 100th’s memorial service for the Herald: that the memorial service is held on the Sunday closest to September 29, the date in 1943 that Sgt. Shigeo “Joe” Takata became the first member of the 100th to be killed in action, just one week after the 100th had entered combat. That’s why I, by habit, set aside the last Sunday in September for the 100th memorial service. I don’t need a notice to remind me; *I know*.

And the banquet? It’s always held in June. Why? — you ask. Because on June 5, 1942, the 100th — then the Hawaiian Provisional Infantry Battalion — sailed out of Honolulu Harbor without any fanfare. The men had no idea where they were headed. Several days later, they sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge and docked in Oakland, where they finally learned their destination: basic training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. They also learned that they had been given a new name: the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate). That’s why their banquet is held in June, because it celebrates the anniversary of the 100th’s formation as a separate battalion.

The 442nd veterans, on the other hand, hold their memorial service and anniversary banquet over a weekend in late March for an equally special reason. You see, the Hawai’i boys who volunteered were inducted in a mass ceremony on the grounds of ‘Iolani Palace on March 22, 1943. You’ve seen that impressive photo.

So, for both the 100th and 442nd, there is historical significance behind these very special events. And at their respective memorial services, the 100th or the 442nd — along with the other World War II Nisei

veterans groups: the Military Intelligence Service and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion — honor each other with floral offerings and representation. I would surmise that the “rivalry” rests with individual veterans, not the entire unit — and it’s unfair to paint them all with the same brush.

In the final analysis, I think what we need to remember is that all of these American men of Japanese ancestry, regardless of which unit they served in, helped change Hawai‘i and our country. That story should be part of a much-needed and often-discussed (but no action, so far) Hawai‘i history center, along with the stories of every other ethnic group that now calls Hawai‘i “home.”



## **VA QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION DRAWS LARGE CROWD**

Thanks to the efforts of Stanley Akita and Steve Molnar of the VA, the Saturday, September 17, Question & Answer Session presented by representatives of the Veterans Administration drew a large crowd of veterans and their wives to our clubhouse. The spokespersons for the VA were Steve Molnar, Veterans Counselor; John “Jack” Marshall, Supervisor, Contact Team Leader of the Veterans Benefits Administration; Joann Connelly, Medical Administrator of the Veterans Health Benefits Administration; and Gene Castagnetti, Director of the National Cemetery Administration for VA Burial Benefits.

Many interesting points of advice in seeking claim benefits were explained. Marshall encouraged the veterans to apply for benefits because he believes they deserve to receive whatever is due them. It is this Nation’s way of thanking the vets for their service to our country. Marshall differentiated between “service” and “non-service” connected benefits.

An important point Marshall emphasized was that the veteran should work through a veterans’ organization such as the DAV, VFW, American Legion, or State Office of Veterans Services in applying for claims. The reason is that their representatives are knowledgeable in assisting the claimant on how to file the various forms, what documents are needed, where to send them, what departments must each have a copy, etc. Also, the representative can serve as the claimant’s “power of attorney” in advocating his/her case, and as such will follow through each step in the arduous process. Many of these organizations have offices on the first floor of the E Wing of the Veterans Army Medical Center at Tripler. Even without going through one of these organizations, we found that a veteran can meet with any of the representatives of the Veterans Benefits Administration and get help and guidance in pursuing benefit claims.

To contact the office of “Jack” Marshall, telephone 433-0513. Leave your number if he is not available and he will make every effort to return your call.

Connelly explained the procedure for applying for medical benefits. She emphasized that even though a doctor examines you and diagnoses your condition, you must ask to have this information relayed to the VBA by filing the correct forms to receive claim benefits. Veterans are also eligible for eyeglasses and hearing aids through the VA if they are examined at a VA doctor’s office. Also, whenever a vet calls for an ambulance, the ambulance personnel must be told you are a veteran, so that the proper form can be filled out to be eligible for reimbursement.

Gene Castagnetti of the National Cemetery Administration explained the procedure that is followed for ground or columbarium burial. He astonished the audience by his statement that “1,800 veterans die everyday throughout the U.S.”

Based upon the availability of personnel, a minimum of two service persons may conduct the folding of the flag military honors at a Punchbowl funeral service. Also, depending upon availability a gun salute may be performed. These details must be discussed with the office staff at either the Punchbowl or Kaneohe veterans’ cemeteries.

Information booklets, phone numbers and other relevant brochures were passed out to the attendees.



## **100TH 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL CEREMONY AT PUNCHBOWL**

September 25, 2005, the last Sunday of the month, marked the 60th Anniversary Memorial observance of the first 100th Infantry soldier, Joe Takata, killed on the battlefields of Italy. We also honor all those veterans who passed away between September 2004 - September 2005. MC Pauline Sato, daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sato, conducted the service flawlessly. President of the 100th, Denis Teraoka gave the welcoming speech. Col. Gene Castagnetti, Director of the NMCP also spoke emphasizing that the United States must stay the course in its fight to bring democracy to Iraq and not give in to those who might oppose this position. Brig. Gen. Vern Miyagi was the keynote speaker (his speech is printed elsewhere). The Pearl City Community Church chorus sang several numbers throughout the program using signage. Our 100th/442nd Line Dancers performed a solemn and touching patriotic number "God Bless the USA," using the flags given to them by a Vietnam veteran. Other musical numbers were performed by the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Band. Wreaths were presented by the Consul General of Japan, veterans organizations representing the 442nd, MIS, 1399th, Nat'l AJA Veterans Council, Department of Veterans Affairs, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Sons & Daughters of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans. The Reverend David B. Turner, grandson of Col. Farrant L. Turner, commanding officer of the original 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate), offered a beautiful prayer of remembrance. The Reverend Yoshiaki Fujitani gave both the invocation and the benediction.

A volley of 21 booming cannon shots was followed by the poignant sounds of Taps, a haunting helicopter flyover and the Retiring of Colors. Ann Kabasawa and her crew prepared light refreshments after the ceremony. Thanks to Boy Scout Troops 117 and 216 and to all who helped with bundling and placing flowers on the grave sites.



**MEMORIAL SPEECH BY BRIG. GENERAL VERN MIYAGI**  
**100th BN, 442d INF 60th Annual Memorial Ceremony**  
**0900 – 25 September 05;**  
**Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific**

**Introduction**

Thank you for that introduction, and most of all thank you for the honor of speaking to you today at your 60th Annual Memorial Service. GEN Brown, GEN Bramlett, GEN Imai, GEN Ma, Mayor and Mrs. Hanneman, Senior Consul Hinei, Dr. Teraoka, Mr. Goto, Judge Takao, Mr. Takemoto, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Nakatani, Mr. Kitamura, other distinguished guests and most importantly, you, the veterans of the 100th BN and your families .... Good morning and Aloha. GOV Lingle and MG Lee, the Adjutant General of Hawaii also send their aloha to you.

**Recognition**

Chaplain George Aki's dedication in the book by Chester Tanaka – GO FOR BROKE, clearly expresses what we want to do today. In his words, "We offer our unending thanks to those who gave their all and to the loved ones they left behind. We pay homage to those who made the numbers 100 and 442 meaningful and sacred with their lives." Today's ceremony commemorates the anniversary of the first 100th BN soldier killed in action in WW2 - SGT Shigeo "Joe" Takata killed by an enemy machine gun at Chiusana, Italy - on 29 September 1943. Later that same day, Private Keiichi Tanaka became the second 100th BN soldier killed. They were the beginning of 680 - 100th BN and 442d RCT soldiers that gave their lives in a foreign land .... **All not knowing the legacy that they were leaving for subsequent generations.**

**100th BN – Current Operations**

Last year, BG John Ma spoke about the 100th Battalion's preparation for war in Iraq. Your legacy and tradition continues today – your namesake Battalion is now engaged in Operation Iraqi Freedom in the vicinity of a town called Balad approx. 20KM NNE of Baghdad in Iraq. The BN is well led by LTC Colbert Low and CSM Estabrook. Just as you fought for freedom and democracy 60 years ago in Europe, the 100th BN soldiers today are fighting for a free and democratic Iraq

The soldiers of today's 100-442 are somewhat larger in physical size than you were, but they still come from island homes - most from Samoa, Guam, Tinian, Saipan, and Hawaii.. They sing great, especially your "Remember Pearl Harbor Song" and still follow your tradition of "no make shame," "GAMBATTE," and GO FOR BROKE. Please, be proud of them because they are proud of you.

Their enemy is the insurgent and his primary weapon is the improvised explosive device. The IED. The 100th BN has suffered casualties – to date - one KIA and 39 combat wounded. Their bravery is shown every day by their frequent and random security patrols that keep the enemy off balance and the main supply routes open. How do you keep going out day after day after you have a vehicle blown up under

you? Your soldiers do - they shake it off and keep on going. Last month, the BN conducted their Combat Patch ceremony – moving their 100th BN patch to the right shoulder. Believe me – they are very proud of that honor.

### Legacy

SFC Frank Tia'i is the first 100th BN soldier killed in action since WW2. SFC Tia'i from Charlie Co. was killed by an improvised explosive device on 17 July 2005. SFC Tia'i came from American Samoa. At the time he was killed, his combat patrol was on its way back to base and he was on the radio thanking his soldiers for their great work – he was scheduled to return home for his two-week leave on the following weekend. He was well respected and loved by his men and definitely proud to be a member of the 100th BN.

SGT Deyson Cariaga is the first Hawaii National Guard soldier from Hawaii killed in Iraq. He died nine days before SFC Tia'i on 8 July 2005. Although not assigned to the 100th, SGT Cariaga is an example of your legacy to future generations. He is a Yonsei, a 4th generation AJA. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 2002 and his mom, Theresa Inouye is a third generation AJA. SGT Cariaga was very close to his grandparents, Roland and Haruko Akatsuka. He was assigned to the 229th Military Intelligence Co. as a UAV operator – but he didn't want to stay within the compound – he wanted to go outside the wire and make a difference. He did – he had direct contact with many of the Iraqi civilians and their children – he gave them toys, supplies and showed them personally what Americans were like. Deyson was killed by an improvised explosive device while returning from patrol.

Both men were not “victims” of this war. They were taking the battle to the enemy and making him pay for the atrocities committed against the people of Iraq. Just like you did 60 years ago against a different enemy. They were fighters and American heroes - not victims.

Although coming from diverse hometowns and backgrounds, both of these soldiers are proud examples of your legacy in terms of service and sacrifice. Frank Tia'i was a proud member of the 100th BN and Deyson Cariaga was a proud Yonsei American of Japanese Ancestry. And they both join the members of the 100th and the AJAs that gave their lives for freedom during WW2. Both lived the standards of **GAMBATTE, NO MAKE SHAME, and GO FOR BROKE.**

As an update: The connection between SFC Tia'i and SGT Cariaga was made complete when it was reported this past Wednesday, that soldiers from the 100th BN captured one of the Iraqi insurgents suspected in emplacing the IED that killed SGT Cariaga. Iraqi Police captured another suspect.

### Closing and Personal Remarks

I ask for your indulgence in closing with some personal notes. I don't like to use “I” or “me” in any speech, but I need to personally thank all of you for what you did for me. As a third generation Japanese-American, a “sansei,” I have directly benefited from the service and sacrifices that you and your fellow “nisei” made as American soldiers. You soldiers of the 100th were the first to go to war. We will never forget what you did for us.

When I was a kid someone, told me a story that still inspires me to this day. It was about a Nisei captain, who, after finding out that some of his soldiers were getting into trouble because they were so focused on proving they were American, addressed this issue in a sermon. He said that if you are here to prove that you are an American, you have it wrong. You are here because you **are an American.**

My uncle SSG Eugene Kawakami, Able Company, is buried just a few meters over on the other side of this wall. His marker proudly reads, “100th BN Separate.” Before my son left for Iraq with the rest of the 29th BCT, we visited his marker and thanked him for his service. These are two generations that will not forget what he and you did for us.

Throughout my life and career, I have never felt what you felt during your service. I have always felt that I was an American. There was no doubt in my mind. I never felt less American because of my racial background. Your service, battlefield record, and sacrifice **coupled so importantly with your humility** makes me so proud to be an American. Thank you for the legacy you left for us. My generation and those of my children will never forget what you did for us. You did give us a better life in the greatest country in the world and hopefully we will not let you down.

**GAMBATTE; NO MAKE SHAME; GO FOR BROKE – HOOAH! Thanks again.**

DANIEL K. AKAKA  
HAWAII

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HONOLULU, HI 96850  
TELEPHONE: (808) 522-8870

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

September 25, 2005

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
INDIAN AFFAIRS  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### MESSAGE FROM U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA

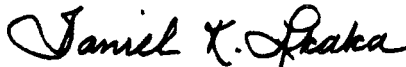
It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest aloha and best wishes to the veterans of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and guests on the occasion of your 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

As a veteran and a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I join you in commemorating the anniversary of the first 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion soldier killed in action on September 29, 1943. Being a member of this unit bred a special loyalty, honor and duty to our country and to each other because of what they set out to prove as Americans. It is always an honor to recognize the heroic acts of these valiant soldiers.

Today, we appreciate and praise the brave men and women of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, United States Army, who are now deployed overseas as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The world owes these soldiers and your comrades-in-arms an enduring debt of gratitude. I offer my profound gratitude to these brave soldiers who serve our country with such distinction and sacrifice. Mahalo from a grateful country.

I join in thoughtful prayer for those of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion whom we honor in this memorial service and I express my warmest mahalo for the very important roles you have played in shaping history.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA  
U.S. Senator

DANIEL K. INOUE  
HAWAII

APPROPRIATIONS  
Subcommittee on Defense—Ranking Member

COMMERCE  
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and  
Merchant Marine—Ranking Member

## United States Senate

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9/21/05

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HONOLULU, HI 96850-4975  
(808) 541-2542  
FAX (808) 541-2548

**100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans  
60<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service  
National Memorial Cemetery of the  
Pacific at Punchbowl  
Honolulu, Hawaii**

**September 25, 2005**

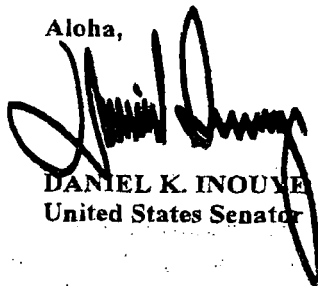
**Dear Friends:**

Today we pay tribute to the bravery and sacrifices of your comrades-in-arms. We are grateful for their courage, like yours, to guarantee the principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all future generations. It was a great price to pay—from the first 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion soldier killed in action to the last.

Each day, we must take a few moments to remember the many brave men and women who went to battle for their country, and to also honor those who did not return.

I commend all of you who are gathered here today for taking the time to recognize all of our heroes. We owe them much.

Aloha,



DANIEL K. INOUE  
United States Senator

## **LAWRENCE YATSU, CO. C, VICTIM OF HURRICANE KATRINA by Joy Teraoka, Editor**

We have seen picture after picture of the unbelievable destruction of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Among those whose lives have been turned topsy-turvy by this walloping storm is one of our own 100th Infantry members, Lawrence Yatsu. Just before Katrina swooshed down on New Orleans, Yatsu and his wife heeded the evacuation warning and headed in their car to Houston, where his brother resides. Because his brother is just recovering from surgery, Lawrence then drove to Boulder, Colorado, at his sister's invitation, and is now residing with her family until it is safe to return to New Orleans.

According to Yatsu, one of his neighbors flew over the inundated area of their home, and revealed the houses were under eight-feet of water, and still impossible to inspect for interior damage. However, hope was that soon the area will be pumped to drain the water. By mid-October, the Yatsu's hope to return to their New Orleans home to assess the damage and see what or whether there is much they can salvage. Surely it will be a heart-wrenching decision whether they should stay in or move from New Orleans.

Many of his fellow buddies from the 100th have shown their concern for Lawrence's plight and wish to extend a helping hand to ease this transition while the Yatsu's recover from the destruction of their home. When I called to inquire how they were doing and to tell them many in the 100th were very concerned and wanted to help, Lawrence and his wife Terry were deeply moved and grateful to have such caring friends.

Lawrence previously worked for the US Department of Agriculture as a researcher. After his retirement, he taught at Tulane University in a very specialized field of biology. He is a lifetime member of the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company C.

100th veterans, individually or collectively, who wish to help the Yatsu's may send monetary donations designated for this special Lawrence Yatsu fund, to the 100th Infantry Battalion clubhouse at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826; or checks may be sent directly to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Yatsu, c/o Mrs. Kaz Mizoue, 1185 Hancock Drive, Boulder, CO 80303.



## **ONE HUNDRED UKULELES BRING ALOHA SPIRIT TO 29TH BRIGADE IN IRAQ**

Gregg Kakesako recently reported in the August 14, 2005 issue of the *Honolulu Star Bulletin* that 100 ukuleles are "strumming up smiles" in Iraq where soldiers of Hawaii's 29th Brigade Combat Team are sharing their love of this musical instrument. Kakesako writes:

It started out as a simple idea of Anita Coyoli-Cullen, blossomed under Shirley Orlando, and then the aloha spirit just exploded.

Because Coyoli-Cullen's daughter is stationed in Iraq, she wanted to send some ukuleles to the troops and a bit of aloha from home. Coyoli-Cullen then contacted Shirley Orlando, the owner of a shop specializing in Hawaiian things. In May, Orlando donated six ukuleles and song books to the 29th Support Battalion stationed at Anaconda, which is 50 miles north of Balad.

The shop is also the gathering place for an ukulele group - Kolohe Ukulele Players. Upon learning of Orlando's gesture, the Kolohe Ukulele Players wanted to join in and donated \$600 which was enough to send an additional 30 ukuleles and songbooks to the brigade. To date, 100 ukuleles have reached the troops. Another 20 are waiting to be sent.

The commander of the 29th Support Battalion, Lt. Col. Norman Saito, wrote to Orlando and Coyoli-Cullen: "You have brought joy to all of us, and all of us are determined to learn and play the ukulele of memorable songs of Hawaii that brings our hearts and souls close to home from a far away place in Iraq. Well, if anything, I think we made history here in Iraq. Your love and support to us has brought about the goodwill and brotherhood we share with the Iraqi people here at LSA (Logistical Support Area) Anaconda, Iraq through our love of music played by the simple strings and wooden ukulele instrument."

Saito related that upon receiving the package, their "troops gathered around the postal room and opened it to much surprise and a lot of smiles!" The troops have been there since January and the months and days have been very long and tiring. This wonderful gift of love has been a great morale booster and this bit of Hawaiian culture has helped bond people together to join in the fun of hearing this music, singing and dancing.

A photo accompanied Kakesako's article, but could not be reproduced for our PPParade. However, those radiating joy in receiving the ukuleles were Spc. Sandy F. Estigoy of Kalihi, Spc. Jill Mutter of Seattle and Spc. Tara N. Muromoto of Kaneohe; in the second row, instructor Spc. Jason A. Fujimoto of Kaneohe, Spc. Vatala L. Coleman of Aiea, Spc. LaPetra D. McMoore of Ozark, Ala., and Sgt. Freddie D. Wilson of Ashland, Ala.; and in the third row, Capt. Jeffrey D. Hickman of Kaimuki, **Sgt. Maj. Bert Hamakado of Honolulu**, Spc. Edward K. Kam III of Wahiawa and Spc. Ryan C. Valdez of Kalihi. Hamakado is the son of 100th Inf. Bn. veteran Masami Hamakado of Co. B (deceased early this year).

## **HER WORLD (On Bruyères, France)**

**by Susan Spano, *Los Angeles Times*, 9/4/05**

### **A French village's unexpected heroes: In Bruyères, a bond remains between locals and their Japanese American liberators.**

At first glance, nothing special distinguishes the town of Bruyères in the Vosges mountains of eastern France. It has a town hall, serving a population of about 3,500, a train station, post office, medieval church, hospital and sports stadium. It's only if you wander onto Rue du 442ème Régiment Américain d'Infanterie that you might notice an anomaly, and wonder. That street, beneath a forested hill on the west side of town, marks Bruyères as a special place, where a page in French and American history was written.

On Oct. 18, 1944, in the waning days of World War II, the people of Bruyères were anticipating the arrival of Allied soldiers, who had entered occupied France from Normandy and the Mediterranean. But as shellshocked residents climbed out of town cellars, they never expected that the first faces they'd see would appear to be Japanese. I like to imagine that moment when the Jeans and Jacques of Bruyères met the Tadaos and Masakis of the 442nd — the shock yielding to joy and amazement, cultures crossing, stereotypes shattering.

Now, even Bruyères school children know that the word "nisei" refers to the U.S.-born children of Japanese immigrants and that their town was liberated by a one-of-a-kind regimental combat team composed of Japanese Americans, some of them recruited from internment camps in the U.S. mandated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's infamous Executive Order 9066.

Bruyères is hardly a major tourist attraction, though family vacationers and outdoor enthusiasts favor the Vosges mountains, at altitudes of 1,000 to 2,000 feet and with thick woods, lakes and trails shared by cross-country skiers and hikers.

When I made my trip in August, I stayed 20 miles southeast in Gérardmer, which has more tourist facilities than Bruyères.

The D423 highway winds between the two towns, following the Vologne River, passing through tiny forest-enveloped villages built around a farm or château that could have come out of a fairy tale by Charles Perrault. In *Unlikely Liberators: The Men of the 100th and 442nd*, by Masayo Umezawa Duus and Peter Duus, unit chaplain Masao Yamada said the landscape reminded him of the region around Nara, north of Tokyo.

Four wooded hillocks hem in Bruyères on the west, north and east. They have names but were simply known as Hills A, B, C and D to the men of the 442nd, who fought for them during one of the most epic struggles in American military history.

In hindsight, it seems clear that the Third Reich was doomed by the fall of '44. But the Vosges mountains lay at Germany's doorstep, and Hitler had ordered his troops to die before letting the Allies cross the Rhine River.

By the time the 442nd moved into the area, nisei soldiers already had distinguished themselves, especially those in the 100th Infantry Battalion, made up largely of Japanese American volunteers from Hawaii intent on proving their loyalty to the U.S. after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The 100th Battalion — known as One Puka Puka — fought at Monte Cassino in Italy and lost more than half its men in five months of combat.

Their example persuaded the U.S. Army to recruit more nisei — 2,600 from Hawaii and 800 from mainland internment camps — who became the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 100th Battalion was added to the 442nd when the newer unit reached Italy in the summer of 1944, battling up the boot and into occupied France. They approached Bruyères from the west on Oct. 15.

"The first day, our platoon got hit by artillery and 20 guys were wounded," Stan Izumigawa, who lives on Maui and served in A Company of the 100th Battalion, told me by e-mail. "A mortar barrage hit our squad where we were dug in, and the man in the hole next to me died. The weather was lousy too, wet and cold. The one good thing I recall is that our kitchen crew brought us hot meals on several occasions." By Oct. 19, Hills A and B had fallen, and the nisei had entered Bruyères.

When I arrived, I went to the town hall. The tourist bureau wasn't open, but I found an office occupied by Jean Michaud, the adjutant mayor of Bruyères. He insisted on driving me about two miles north into the hills to see the 442nd monument on a dirt track in the woods, redolent with the smells of pine and decaying leaves. It's a stone tablet, made of Vosges granite, with French and American flags flying above. Nearby is "The Ties of Friendship," a sculpture by Shinkichi Tajiri, a 442nd vet.

Ron Yamada, whose late father served in the 442nd, joined a group of veterans last year for a visit to Bruyères, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the town's liberation.

"The relationship between the townspeople and the nisei has continued for 60 years," he told me. "Whenever a group of veterans arrives, they throw a banquet and have a parade. School children are still taught 'Aloha Oe.' After the U.S. [went to war in Iraq], I remember reading and hearing comments about how the French had forgotten what the U.S. did for them during World War II. I know that, at least in this little corner of France, that sacrifice will never be forgotten."

That afternoon, I climbed Mt. Avizon, or Hill D, near where Staff Sgt. Robert Kuroda was killed by a sniper after single-handedly attacking a party of Germans who had fired on Americans carrying a wounded soldier on a stretcher.

At the end of the war, only one nisei soldier had been given a Medal of Honor. It took until 2000 for 20 more Japanese American World War II veterans to be similarly recognized; 13 of them, including Kuroda, were posthumous Medal of Honor recipients.

From the top of Mt. Avizon, I could see the rugged countryside to the east, where the exhausted 442nd fought on in the fog and rain after liberating Bruyères. Thousands of fresh German troops had been sent to the area, battling the nisei with artillery barrages, mines, sniper attacks and roadblocks as they tried to move east on a tangled network of dirt tracks through the forest.

The Americans' ultimate goal was the relief of the 141st Texas Regiment, stranded in enemy territory near the hamlet of La Houssiere, perilously low on food and ammunition. The rescue operation of what has come to be known as the "Lost Battalion" lasted five days, cost the 442nd 54 men and many more wounded and helped it become one of the most-decorated units in military history.

A handful of graves of the brave nisei who fought in the Vosges mountains rests at the American cemetery near Epinal, about 25 miles west of Bruyères, the last stop on my pilgrimage.

It was like other American cemeteries scattered throughout France, green and immaculately tended, with perfectly aligned rows of graves all marked by identical white marble crosses.

There, I found the grave of Sgt. Tomosu Hirahara, who was born in Hawaii and died on the first day of fighting for Hill A. While I stood by his cross, smelling freshly cut grass and listening to the thrashing sound of a sprinkler, I thought of what President Harry Truman told the men of the 442nd at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., on July 15, 1946, when they were given a Presidential Unit Citation: "You fought not only the enemy but you fought prejudice — and you have won."

### *In Memoriam*

Charles J. Okimoto	Company A	Passed away August 25, 2005
"Nash" Takayuki Tahara	Company B/Main.	Passed away September 1, 2005
Sadao "Stanley" Inouye	Company C/Maui	Passed away September 17, 2005

*Our deepest sympathy to their families*

## MAINLAND CHAPTER

by Sam Fujikawa

Our club supported the MIS Annual Steakbake Fundraiser on Sunday, August 31 at the Maryknoll Japanese Cultural Center located in downtown Los Angeles. The large turnout of MIS members and friends and all their friends filled the auditorium. In between playing Bingo, and the awarding of many door prizes, we all enjoyed the delicious lunch of Prime Beef or a half of Barbequed Chicken with all the trimmings. The Nikkei Bridge Club headed the long list of great assistance and help from many groups and individuals in getting the event successfully organized and presented. Helping with barbequeing the chicken were 100<sup>th</sup> members Toke Yoshihashi, Ted Ohira, Toe Yoshino and Sam Fujikawa. Spotted among the attendees were Mas and Elma Takahashi, Chizu Ohira, Reiko Yoshihashi, Shieko Aiso, and Teri Fujikawa. Funds raised help provide for donations to Visual Communications, Nikkei Bridge, JANM, the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, and Hollywood High School ROTC John Aiso Scholarship Award.

Sunday, August 14, the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Nisei Week Parade was held along the streets of Little Tokyo, LA. Proudly marching at the beginning of the parade were the veterans units which included the 100/442 Association veterans carrying the flags and colors of their units – Toke Yoshihashi (100, Co. B), Bob Ichikawa (442, Co. E), Harrison Hamasaki (HM 100 and Co. H), Sam Fujikawa (100, Co.C), followed by two WWII vintage jeeps, with Govan Yee (HM 442, Co. L), Ocean Miyake (442, Co. F), Bill Sato (100, Co. A), James Ogawa (100, Co. C), and others. They were supported by Capt. Russell Nakaishi and his Army Reserve Unit 185/AMR SMR. Many colorful groups of dancers, Taiko performers, Marching bands, and Dignitaries in open convertibles, preceded the beautiful float bearing this year's lovely Nisei Week Queen, Steffanie Tamehiro and her equally lovely court of Princesses. Of important notice is one of the four chosen Grand Marshals for this year was Col Young O. Kim, an Honorary Grand Marshal, for his numerous outstanding services and contributions to the community throughout his whole life.

We enjoyed visits from Goro Sumida and Ray and Aki Nosaka last month. Our regular meeting was held Saturday, August 20. So far, we have the following people registered for the October Mini Reunion: Jean Miyasato, Mary Katayama, Sherry and Sam Richardson, Marlynn Campbell, Peggy Deveny, Bill and Carmen Poka, Tom and Betty Pruett, Jim and Joan Katayama, Ben and Jean Tagami, Michael and Gene Doi, Ken and Hisa Miya, Ted and Chizu Ohira, Duke and Dorothy Ogawa, Henry and Elsie Hayashi, Sharon Shimazaki, Gayle Tanaka, May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Toke and Rae Yoshihashi, Pauline Yoshihashi, Peggy Saka, Sam Furukawa, Fumi Sakato, Aileen Yoshino, Chuckie Seki, Mitsi Fuchigami, Hiroshi and June Fukawa, Kiyoshi and Bonnie Horino, Sadie Yoshiwara, Charlie and Bessie Okazaki, Harry and Yoshi Kiyabu, Jim and Fumi Akagi, Ted Sato, Tony Miyasako, Yeiki Matsui, Toe Yoshino, Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Sam and Teri Fujikawa, Daryl Doi, Mary Catherine Doi, Warren Tamura, Mel and Emily Ozeki, Mas and Elma Takahashi, Sam and Sara Terasaki, Richard and Joyce Phillips, Katherine Sakaguchi, Harry and Harumi Sasaki, Stan and Mary Sanford, Jerry Okazaki, Mitzi Okazaki, Harry Fukasawa, Noby Okamoto, Don and Setsuko Miyada, Roy and Ruth Terada, Sam and Yoshiko Ikari, Elaine Toguchi, Ben and Lillian Matsui, Toshimi and Lillian Sodehani, Harrison Hamasaki, William and Margaret Omoto, Henry Maeyama and Friend, Stephen Sato, Masi Seki, Hershey and Terry Miyamura, Tom and Gladys Tsuda, George Tsuda, Rebecca Taniguchi, Mike and Nani Takamine, Eric Takamine, Ken Inada, Ed Kobata, Shizuya Hayashi, Mimi Nakano, Pat and Ben Matsumoto, Kauai and Helga Masuda, James Wilson, Douglas Tanaka, Howard Tanaka, Diane McMath, Reginald Ishida, Roy Yokota, Key Seno, Steve and Janet Yokoyama, Susumu and Margaret Ota, Al Okazaki. Please everyone take care and stay well.

Saturday, September 17, we held our last meeting before we leave for our reunion in Las Vegas. We have kept in touch with Ray and Aki Nosaka and Ann Kabasawa who have been helping to plan another enjoyable program for our banquet. Locally, we are winding up with all the other preparations for the reunion and will be looking forward to seeing everyone in October.

The devastating damages from the recent hurricane, Katrina, has reached one of our 100<sup>th</sup> members. We have learned that Lawrence and Teri Yatsu, Co. C, have reached Boulder, Colorado safely after losing their house and belongings in New Orleans. Some of us are reaching out to help them. They can be reached in c/o Kaz Mizouye, (Teri's sister), 1185 Hancock, Boulder, Colorado, 80302.

Finally a sad note. We are sorry to hear that Michi Toda passed away on July 22. We offer our sincere condolences to Lloyd (HM 100, 442 Co. H) and his family. We will miss her at our gatherings. News from Henry Hayashi – Memorial services were held at Green Hills Memorial Chapel in Palos Verdes for National "Nash" Tadayuki Tahara who passed away on September 2. "Nash" was Henry's Platoon Sgt overseas during WWII and has been a true friend for over 60 years. And an added thought of good wishes to Col. Young O. Kim who is still undergoing much care for his illness and Al Takahashi in his Physical Therapy treatments.

## **MAUI CHAPTER NEWS**

**by Tom Nagata**

Maui County is celebrating its centennial year this year and has selected over one-hundred men and women of Maui who have performed outstanding service during the past century. When Maui's centennial honorees' names appeared in the recent *Maui News*, Sunday edition, there were three men who were members of Maui Chapter, 100th Inf. Bn.

### **MAUI'S CENTENNIAL HONOREES PAST AND PRESENT:**

#### **KAORU MOTO, CO. C**

Served in the 100th Infantry Battalion during World War II; awarded the Medal of Honor; Makawao Veterans Cemetery pavilion named in his honor. Also, the Maui U.S. Army Reserve Center at 1686 Kaahumanu Avenue, Wailuku, named in his honor at a dedication.

#### **EDWIN S. NAKASHIMA (CO. A)**

Served in the 100th Infantry Battalion during World War II; became the first recreation worker on Molokai and Lanai; and in Hana, was coordinator of transportation, recreation and nutritional funds for the Kaunoa Senior Center.

#### **MASAO SATO (CO. C)**

Served in the 100th Infantry Battalion during World War II; for years served as Scoutmaster for Waikapu's Boy Scout Troop and was awarded the Silver Beaver Medal for his long and dedicated service to boy scouting; was active in the Waikapu Community; took care of the Community Center voluntarily; also active in the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission.

### **FOR CONTINUING SERVICE, CONGRATULATIONS!**

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Kay Kaoru Fujita Michioka, 82 of Wailuku, who died on August 26, 2005. Funeral Services were held at the Kahului Union Church on Friday, and burial at 10:30 a.m., Sept. 7 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific where Wataru is buried.

## **HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS**

**By Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda**

There's not much to report in this month's issue. It seems all the events are happening after the PPP goes to press.

Our next meeting of the HQ chapter will be October 15 (in the lounge) and November 12 (Boardroom) so make sure you mark your calendar and be sure to attend! Seisaburo Taba makes sure we have goodies to eat and we appreciate his efforts to pick up the ono food every month.

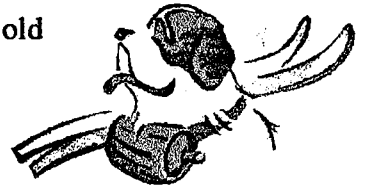
This year's Christmas party, headed this year by Brian Akimoto and assisted by his wife, Ada, will be held on Saturday, December 17, so make sure you spread the word to those who don't receive the PPP. With new hands at the helm, we may see a few changes to the Christmas program.

The Headquarters Social gathering was held on Tuesday, September 20, and more details will be shared in our next newsletter.

Since it is a slow news month, and since Mr. Ikuma asked, I wanted to take a moment to say we had a great vacation. I visited a college friend in Sebastopol, CA (one hour drive north of San Francisco) for a week, where we were "foster parents" to two black Labrador puppies for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI). This is a wonderful organization that trains dogs to help people with various kinds of disabilities. I then joined my husband and son in Los Angeles to settle our son in Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. When I went to college, nobody's parents went to help their kids settle in. How different it is today! One speaker calls our generation the Helicopter Parents because we tend to hover over our kids. The speaker encouraged us to land the helicopter and let our kids become adults. After making sure our son was settled, Ed and I visited our friends in Palmer, Alaska, about an hour's drive northeast of Anchorage. Ed and his friend went on a charter boat and caught some silver salmon and halibut. (If you want the fish story, talk with Ed). We also went to the State Farm Fair where we saw cabbages over 80 pounds and pumpkins over 800 pounds!!!! And people brag about how big things grow in Texas! (Well, in all honesty, the cabbages and pumpkins were the winning displays.) The only thing I didn't get to see were the Northern lights (Aurora Borealis) but knew it was too early in the season to see it. Wouldn't you know it, my girlfriend wrote and said three nights after we left, the Northern Lights decided to come out in full force all the way across the sky! Shucks. All in all, my four week vacation was very enjoyable but I'm glad to be home again.

# HEADQUARTERS/MEDIC CHRISTMAS PARTY 2005!

**Date:** Saturday, December 17  
**Time:** 4:00 Gingerbread house (moms and dads,  
please help your little ones)  
5:00 Registration and talk story time  
6:00 Dinner  
**Cost:** \$10 for 11 years and older (pay at the door)  
\$ 5 for children between 5 and 10 years old  
free for children under 5 years old  
**Menu:** Buffet (to be determined)  
**Parking:** Ala Wai School



**Donations Welcomed:** Door prizes, dessert, pupus, prizes for bingos and other games, table decorations, plants, etc., etc., etc.

## Things to bring:

1. Gifts for the little ones for Santa to hand out. Please keep the cost of the gift within a \$10 range.
2. A wrapped "white elephant" gift for the adults (or big kids), something you have around the house that you don't use any more but still in good condition. (This is back by popular demand!)

Please RSVP to Dorothy Tamashiro at 734-5122 by Friday December 4. It's important that you call Dot by this date since we need to guarantee the final count with the caterers a week before our party.

For those of you who would like to help plan this year's Christmas party (especially the sons and daughters), call **Brian Akimoto at 487-6169**. Many hands make light work!



## DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

On August 24 we enjoyed a buffet luncheon at the Pagoda Restaurant. Members, wives, widows, sons and guests attending the get-together were Ed and Kay Harada, "Doc" and Mildren Hosaka, Ken and Florence Mitsunaga, Saburo Nishime, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Moriso Teraoka, Shigeru and Mieko Tsubota, Jitsuri and Mildred Yoshida, Mary Hamasaki, Ruth Ishizuka, Rhoda Kawamata, Sue Kondo, Mitsuko Kurisu, Stella Nakayama, Helen Nikaido, Kay Okamoto and sister Edith Yamaguchi, Yoshi Tsukayama, Michael Harada, Edna and Greg Kuwazaki, Glen Yamasaki and guests.

Our thanks and appreciation to Clifford, Pagoda's manager and Kelly at the reservations desk. She was so patient and pleasant when I called her for the changes, and the service we had was great.

It was good to see Ed Harada looking so well. He was hospitalized recently. He was ready to go to Las Vegas again.

Thanks to Dog Chapter for paying the balance of the luncheon as we paid only \$5.00 per person.

Donations: Four Ohai ala leis woven by Edna Kuwazaki; energy bars for each person from Helen Nikaido; Mildred and Jits, thank you for your help and headaches.

We were at Punchbowl Cemetery to volunteer on September 10. The women's restroom was "out of order" so "China" was doing latrine guard outside at the men's restroom while the women used it. Gotta go, gotta go, yeah! I stayed at the visitors' center.

Dog Chapter will be having its **Christmas party on December 4, Sunday.**

Helen Nikaido received the following message from Mildred Fencil:

TO: All 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans  
FROM: Millie Fencil

I just returned from the annual 34th Inf. Div. Reunion which was held in Des Moines, Iowa this year.

Warren used to compile a list of the deceased Nisei veterans each year and the names would be read, along with the regular 34th Div. members, at the Memorial Service. Since Warren passed on I have been keeping up the list each year. I have been honored to participate in the Memorial Service and I now read the "Final Roll Call." I have been told I do a fine job in reading the Japanese names. (This makes me very proud.)

I wanted the members of the 100th Inf. Bn. and the 442nd RCT to know that their deceased comrades are being honored along with the rest of the "Red Bulls" at their annual reunions.

Next year the reunion will be held in Council Bluffs, Iowa and in 2007 - which will be the 60th Anniversary - will be held in Des Moines

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**REMINDER:** Kazu "Opu" Hiranaka's One Puka Puka Autumn Tour: October 9, luncheon meeting. Don't forget to bring your passport.. Baggage tags, etc. will be issued. Time: 11:00 a.m. at the clubhouse.



#### CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Skip Tomiyama and Wayne Nagao

A wonderful luncheon was held on Tuesday, August 23, at Kyoya Restaurant to honor Saburo Ishitani, life-long Charlie member who served as platoon sergeant in the Italian Campaign.

Thirty-one members and friends gathered to enjoy a sashimi-misoyaki butterfish-tempura lunch decorated with a fresh granny apple and spring bouquet favor. Included among honorees Saburo and Fukuko Ishitani were Stanley and Yuki Akita, Manabu Hongo, Sumio Ito, Yoroku and Edith Ito, Warren Iwai, Stanley and Doris Kimura, Kaoru Matsumura, Rusty and Alice Nakagawa, Shinko Nohara, Elsie Oshita, Kazuto and Lynn Shimizu, Kay Oshiro, Wayne Nagao, Shigeru and Mieko Tsubota, Kenneth Higa, Ed Ikuma, Saburo Nishime, Ted Hamasu, Skip and Papoose Tomiyama, Bob Arakaki and Betty Tokunaga.

The banquet room and service were exemplary and what monies left over were donated to our bento fund. Chaired by Skip Tomiyama, kudos go to Warren Iwai for the idea, and to Lynn and Kazuto Shimizu for telephone and reception table duties for a job well done.

From LA correspondent Sam Fujikawa, word has been received that Charlie member, Lawrence Yatsu has lost his home to Hurricane Katrina. Our chapter voted to send him \$200 *omimai*.

#### RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by Ted Hamasu

Rural Chapter held its meeting on 16 September 05 at the LCC from 1:00 p.m. with only six members attending. They were Shizuya Hayashi, Bull Saito, Susumu Ota, Yukio Tanji, Mary Nakano and Ted Hamasu. We had one unfinished business and that was the new location for our installation and New Year's Banquet in January 06. Mary Nakano volunteered to look for a suitable location.

The cemeteries will be decorated on Saturday, 24 September 05 from 08:30 a.m. The flowers can be picked up at Punchbowl at that time. Rural Chapter members will take care of the cemeteries at the Mililani Memorial Park.

Our Memorial Service will be held on 25 Sep 05 at the National Memorial Cemetery at Punchbowl from 0900. The keynote speaker will be BG V. Miyagi, Commanding Officer of the Hawaii National Guard. There will be a 21 Cannon Salute and a helicopter fly over.

**Building Fund:** Donations for our building fund are being received. Make your donations through the S&D and make it tax deductible. Books were received till 22 Sep. 05 and baked goods will be received on 08 Oct.

The Scholarship Committee requested the BOD for two \$3,000 scholarships to be awarded in year 2006 and it was granted.

All Wives and Widows are welcome to join the 100th Vets Club. Send your name in to the Club Office so that Ms Stevens can make a note of it. Join us and come to the meetings and we can discuss the most convenient time and place to meet. There are no dues to pay to the 100th or to the Rural Chapter, so join us. If you are 18 years old and a descendent of a 100th member you are qualified to join us.

There will be a TV hook up on the morning of 6 October 05 from 06:30 a.m. from the Club house. Those who want to appear on Channel 2, be at the Office at that time.

Decorating the Xmas tree will be on 2 December. If you're free come on over to the clubhouse and kokua.

No meeting in October.

## ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nishioka

Well, well, what do you know. The time of HO! HO! HO! Is right around the corner. This year Able Chapter will be holding its annual Christmas party on December 10, 2005. It may seem rather early, however time really goes so fast. I'm asking you to submit your registration as soon as possible. The count of attendees is very essential to the committee because we order the food based upon the count. More details will be printed in the next issue.

### **Able Chapter Christmas Party**

**Date: December 10, 2005**

**Time: Cocktails: 5:00-6:00 pm**

**Dinner: 6:00 pm**

**Cost:**

**Guests: \$10.00**

**Chapter Members: \$5.00**

**Children under 12: FREE**



(Please purchase a grab bag gift for your child not to exceed \$10.00. Remember to help Santa out by putting the name of the child on the gift.)

**Place: 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse**

**(Parking at Ala Wai Elementary School)**

**Deadline: December 1, 2005**

**Send Payment to: 100th Inf. Bn., ABLE Company**

**520 Kamoku Street**

**Honolulu, Hawaii 96826**

**Donations Welcomed! Door Prizes, Soda, Desserts, etc.**

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### **Able Company Registration Form**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER(S):** (\$5.00) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5 = \_\_\_\_\_

**GUEST(S):** (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILDREN (AGES):** \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the names and ages of children 12 and under attending.

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

## BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

By Bernard Akamine

Wow! Every chair was occupied at our September chapter meeting. We had three wives and two daughters at the meeting. It was nice to see Lefty Tanigawa and his wife – he is looking good and as handsome as ever. The tumors on his neck were removed with hardly a scar left. Ken Muroshige and his wife were present and they told of the fun they have riding the HandiVan. For example, to go to Ala Moana Shopping Center, it takes about an hour because the van picks up other passengers on the way so they get to see neighborhoods that they never saw before. The other wife was Evelyn Tsuda, who is acting as our secretary because our regular one, Robert Aoki, is laid up. We really miss him – hope he gets better real soon. Ann Kabasawa always brings a tray of her baked creations. The other daughter was Drusilla Tanaka.

Suggestions were made to serve lunch to the attendees at our chapter meetings or to hold meetings at a restaurant but no vote was taken on the suggestions. If more people attend the meetings, it may become a reality. Our treasurer says we have “plenty money – better spend it before we ma-ke.”

We are going to need help from our sons and daughters to volunteer at the Visitors' Center at Punchbowl on Saturdays. Currently, Glenn Tamashiro, son of Dot Tamashiro, and Drusilla Tanaka, daughter of Bernard Akamine, with her mother Jeanette are serving as volunteers. We veterans are getting old and feeble so we need the next generation to carry on the legacy. The other 100th members who are volunteers are Martin Tohara, Bernard Akamine, Alfred and Paulette Arakaki, Richard “China” Yamashina, Helen Nikaido, Don and Kimi Matsuda. Anyone interested in what goes on at the Visitors' Center can go on October 1 after 9:00 AM when Don and Kimi will be on duty; or October 8 when Drusilla and Jeanette will be there. To me, it is a very enjoyable 6 hours, talking stories with the visitors – sometimes we tell them tall stories. There are 16 teams made up of members from the 442nd Veterans Club and 6 teams from the 100th. This program was started more than ten years ago by Stanley Akita; and it would be a shame if we don't get more volunteers from the 100th.

## NEWS FROM THE SONS & DAUGHTERS

Submitted by Drusilla Tanaka

The latest book by Graham Salisbury is out and it is a must-read for all Puka Puka Parade readers! *Eyes of the Emperor* is the story of Eddie Okubo, an American of Japanese Ancestry (AJA) who finds himself caught up in confusing and exciting circumstances after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Author Salisbury depicts the experiences of Eddie and his platoon buddies who are sent to Ship Island and Cat Island in the Gulf of Mexico to be the “dog-bait” in training dogs to sniff out the scent of the Japanese. Those of you who have heard the first-hand account by Ray Nosaka, Tokuji Ono, Bob Takashige, Lefty Tanigawa, Kats Maeda, the late Yasu Takata and others, will find the vivid details and dramatic events captivating. One sansei reader said she already admired the Cat Island “boys,” but after reading this book, she feels she never fully appreciated what these men actually did. Vivid imagery, “local-kine” humor, and not too subtle jabs at the general treatment the AJAs received during WWII are all included in this easy-to-read, fascinating book.

A benefit book sale and signing is planned for Friday, November 11, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the clubhouse, Turner Hall. Please come to meet author Graham “Sandy” Salisbury, who also wrote the award-winning *Under the Blood-Red Sun*. There will be a limited supply of his latest book, *Eyes of the Emperor* which you may purchase for \$15 each and then have your copy of the book autographed by him as well as the surviving veterans of the dog-bait experiment.

Net proceeds from the book-sale will go to two special funds: 1) Hurricane Katrina Relief for the Gulf Port area, where the dog-bait experiment took place, and which holds many memories for these boys of Company B and 2) to the Sons and Daughters Scholarship Fund.

Light refreshments will be served. Please let us know if you plan to attend by e-mailing Ann Kabasawa at <diverseinnovations@hawaii.rr.com> or by phoning her at 734-0841 or by e-mailing Drusilla Tanaka at <datanaka@juno.com> or by phoning her at 235-1343. We encourage the attendance of school-aged children who may have read other books by Graham Salisbury. Please call Drusilla Tanaka if you have any questions regarding this event.



## SOMEWHERE EXPENSIVE

After being bored staying at home all day doing housework, this woman waited impatiently for her husband to come home from the office. When he walked in the door she demanded, “Take me to someplace expensive.” He said, “OK, I will.” So he took her to a gasoline station.

**BEWARE OF THIS SCAM**

We have been alerted to a scam that is going around, victimizing many people. The following is a warning from a person who received a phone call from one of the schemers. This is how he operates.

I received a telephone call last evening from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service technician who was conducting a test on telephone lines. He stated that to complete the test, I should touch nine (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#), and then hang up.

Luckily, I was suspicious and refused. Upon contacting the telephone company, I was informed that **by pushing 90#, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which enables them to place long distance calls billed to your home phone number.**

I was further informed that this scam has been originating from many local jails/prisons. I have also verified this information with UCBTelecom, Pacific Bell, MCI, Bell Atlantic and GTE.

Please beware. **DO NOT press 90# for ANYONE.** The GTE Security Department requested that I share this information with **EVERYONE I KNOW.** PLEASE pass this on to everyone YOU know. If you have mailing lists and/or newsletters from organizations you are connected with, I encourage you to pass on this information to them. After checking with Verizon, they said it was true, so **do not dial (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#) and hang up for ANYONE.** PLEASE HIT THAT FORWARD BUTTON AND PASS THIS ON TO EVERYONE YOU KNOW.

(This information is from the office of Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, State Capitol, Rm. 226 Honolulu, HI 96813)



**MEDICAL TERMS (PART 3)**

<i>Impotent.....Distinguished, well known.</i>	<i>Tablet .....A small table.</i>
<i>Labor Pain.....Getting hurt at work.</i>	<i>Terminal Illness...Gettingsick at the airport</i>
<i>Medical Staff.....A Doctor's cane.</i>	<i>Tumor .....More than one.</i>
<i>Morbid.....A higher offer than I bid.</i>	<i>Urine .....Opposite of you're out.</i>
<i>Nitrates.....Cheaper than day rates.</i>	<i>Varicose .....Near by/close by.</i>
<i>Node.....I knew it.</i>	
<i>Pap Smear.....A fatherhood test.</i>	
<i>Pelvis.....Second cousin to Elvis.</i>	
<i>Post Operative.....A letter carrier.</i>	
<i>Recovery Room.....Place to do upholstery.</i>	
<i>Rectum.....Damn near killed him.</i>	
<i>Secretion.....Hiding something.</i>	
<i>Seizure.....Roman emperor.</i>	

**THE SHORT OF IT**

In qi kung, laughter is considered very beneficial to one's well-being. A hearty laugh stimulates the endorphins and promotes good health. Just before one segment of our qi kung exercises where we lift our arms and give a series of hearty laughs, our instructor told this little joke to incite laughter:

In the days of telegrams, a young college student wanted to send his Dad a short message to save on costs. Carefully composing his message he wired: "No mon; no fun; your son."  
Just as carefully, his Dad replied: "Too bad; how sad; your Dad."

Well, anyway, it got us laughing!

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

**Office “Mahalo” Report –Oct., 2005 issue.....Amanda Stevens, Evelyn Tsuda & Tyler Chun**

**100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans**

Masao & Elma A. Takahashi	In memory of Chester Hada	\$100
Masao & Elma A. Takahashi	In memory of Shigeru Inouye	\$100

**Puka Puka Parade**

Anonymous	(I enjoy reading the PPP)	\$100
Mildred B. Fencil	In memory of Warren Fencil	\$25
Dr. Harold F. & Jane Muschamp		\$200
Tom T. Sekimura	(great work done on the PPP)	\$100

**100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

(up to \$99)

Alfred & Paulette Arakaki (Honolulu)	In memory of Fred Kanemura & Mike Tokunaga
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(\$200-\$299)

James L. Metcalf (Struthers, Ohio)	In memory of Hajime “Piccolo” Kodama
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**Building Maintenance Fund Donations – 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans**

Azama	Mr. & Mrs. Takeo		\$100
Chinen	Mr. & Mrs. Jon		\$500
Hamasaki	Mary K.		\$100
Hayashi	Shizuya		\$100
anonymous			Up to \$99
Ikawa	Edna	In Memory of Roy Ikawa	\$100
Katayama	Mr. & Mrs. Robert		\$300
Kinoshita	Mr. & Mrs. George		\$200
Kubota	Hiroko		\$100
MIS Veterans			\$500
Muroshige	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth		\$100
Nakazawa	Mark	In Memory of Takao Miyao	\$250
Nohara	Shinko		\$100
Nomura	Diane		Up to \$99
Okubo	Marlene		Up to \$99
Ono	Mr. & Mrs. Peter		Up to \$99
Onuma	Mr. & Mrs. Wallace		\$100
Petland, Inc.			\$500
Rojas	Mr. & Mrs. David		Up to \$99
Sakoda	Mr. & Mrs. Jerry		Up to \$99
Sora	Shigeo		\$200
Tamura	Dr. Irwin		\$100
Tanimoto	Samuel	In Memory of Teruto Tanimoto	Up to \$99
Teraoka	Denise		\$100
Teshima	Takeshi		\$1,000
Vietnam Vets of Amer.	c/o Luis Parker		\$100
Watanabe	Mr. & Mrs. Atsushi		\$200
Wozumi	Uki & Frances		\$500
Yoshihashi	Mr. & Mrs. Tokuji		\$100

**Building Maintenance Fund Donations - checks written to: Sons & Daughters**

Arakaki	Dr. Leslie		\$200
Arakaki	Mr. & Mrs. Alfred		\$100
*Baidack	Mr. Miles and Mrs. Joann		\$100
Durant	G. M. & Margie		\$100
*Fukuda	Toshiko		\$100
Furuya	Herbert and Asako		\$100
Honda	Evelyn K.	In Memory of Robert Y. Honda	Up to \$99
*Honda	Takashi & Lily		\$100

Honda	Evelyn A. & Natsue	In Memory of Tatsuo Honda	\$400
Horiuchi	Mae	In Memory of Gregory Ikeda	\$125
Ikeda	Victoria	In Memory of Gregory Ikeda	\$125
Ikeda	Mr. & Mrs. Wesley	In Memory of Gregory Ikeda	\$125
Ikeda	Mr. & Mrs. Ashley	In Memory of Gregory Ikeda	\$125
Ito	Betty		Up to \$99
*Kashiwahara	Ken & Guadalupe	In Memory of Uiichi Sakamoto	\$200
Koga	Hisako		\$5,000
Lorimer	Mitsuyo		\$100
Mattos	Lynn	In Memory of Kentoku Nakasone	\$150
Miyashiro	Alan, Mark, Kurt & Dean		\$1,000
Muraoka	Ivan	In Honor of Ralph Okamura	\$100
Murata	Helen	In Memory of Etsuo Katano & Herbert Yamamoto	\$200
Murata	Florence	In Memory of Seiji Nomura	\$100
Nagasako	Judy		Up to \$99
Nakamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald		\$100
Oi	Oliver & Hazel		\$100
Okada	Col. (ret.) Ranceford and Ginger	In Memory of Ichiro Okada	Up to \$99
Okamoto	Kimiko		\$100
Okimoto	Lily	In Memory of Charles Okimoto	\$250
Oshiro	Mr. & Mrs. Howard	In Memory of Masaji Kutara	\$250
Oshiro	Ronald	In Memory of Masaji Kutara	\$250
*Hui Lokahi Pearl City Comm. Church			\$300
Salisbury	Graham		\$1,000
*Saruwatari	Kenn	In Memory of Ken Saruwatari	\$500
Shioi	Kathryn		\$100
Shiozaki	Alice		\$1,000
Singlehurst	R.P. & Patti		Up to \$99
Sodetani	Mr. & Mrs. Toshimi		\$1,000
Sokugawa	Raymond	In Memory of Terry Higa	Up to \$99
Co. D 298 <sup>th</sup>	c/o Dai Woon Sur		\$200
Takahashi	Elizabeth	In Memory of Sakae Takahashi	\$1,000
*Takaki	Mr. Russ and Mrs. Miyako		\$100
Teraoka	Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey		\$100
Teraoka	Muneo		\$100
Teruya	Mrs. Ethel	In Memory of Janet Otagaki, Shigeru Inouye and Frances Okazaki	\$150
Thielen	Representative Cynthia		Up to \$99
Ueda	Christopher		Up to \$99
Ueda	Linda		\$100
Yamada	Hifumi		\$100
Yamane	Kazuo		\$10,000
Yano	Mr. & Mrs. Katoshi		\$100
Yoakum	Mrs. Kris		Up to \$99
Yoshida	Mr. Alfred		\$400
Young	Mr. Chester		\$250

Additional donations to Building Maintenance Fund will be listed in the next issue of the PPP.

\* = Corrections to last month's report

**Contributions to the Scholarship Fund in lieu of koden:**

The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans have donated \$40 to the 100<sup>th</sup> Inf. Bn. Scholarship Fund in memory of each of the following members who passed away between Sept. 2004 and Sept. 2005.

Seiko Arakaki (A)  
Aketo Doi (HQ)  
Robert Y. Fukumoto (HQ)  
Masami Hamakado (B)  
Seitoku Hanashiro (A)  
Kenneth W. Harada (A)  
Seiju Ifuku (C)  
Tokio "Bobby" Ige (A/Rural)  
Shigeru Inouye (Medics)  
Kow Ito (B/Mainland)  
Wataru Kaneshina (B/Maui)  
James Satoshi Kawashima (B)  
Yeiki Kobashigawa (B)  
Hajime Kodama (B)  
Peter Katsushi Kuromoto (E/A)  
Richard Liyoichi Maeda (B)  
Shiro Maki (A/Rural)  
Katsumi Murai (C)  
Hisaki Murakami (A)  
Kentoku Nakasone (C)  
Hideshi Niimi (C)  
Takuichi Okajima (F/Hilo)  
Charles J. Okimoto (A)  
Tsukasa "Terry" Santo (F/Hilo)  
~~Nash T. Tahara (B)~~  
Wallace Takeshi Teruya (HQ)  
Mike Tokunaga (C)  
Shigeru Tokuuake (D/Hilo)  
Robert Shihan Toma (A)  
Kiyoshi Yonemori (E/Hawaii)

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Aloha Everyone,

Congratulations to the Memorial Service Committee for doing such a fabulous job planning the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service. I feel so blessed to have been there to witness such a momentous occasion.

I am so honored to be a part of this Building Maintenance Fundraiser. I am touched by the outpouring of community support and well-wishers. First of all, Evelyn Tsuda has been an instrumental part of making this Building Maintenance Fundraiser such a success. I absolutely don't know what we'd do without her.

The community has been very enthusiastic about donating books to the club for the *Book & Bake Sale*. We have many books stored in Turner Hall. Fortunately, about forty Iolani School students have assisted Tyler Chun & myself in organizing the books by genre. Special thanks to Harold Dias, Jr. for spending many hours organizing and stacking the books so neatly. We ceased taking donations of books after September 22, 2005.

In addition to The Pacific Resource Partnership, Officer Steve Miller, Jr. of the Honolulu Police Department who is also in the Construction Battalion Unit of the Navy Reserves (Seabees) is offering assistance for the maintenance of the clubhouse and with the landscaping in the front of the clubhouse.

In my humble opinion, I can clearly see that many folks in the community are showing you, the members of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans club, how much they appreciate all that you have done for the community and for our country.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Stevens

CALLING ALL VETERANS, we request your presence at the One Puka Puka Book & Bake Sale!!! Many folks in the community are looking forward to meeting you and giving you a proper Mahalo for all you've done. Thank you to the Sons & Daughters and friends who have volunteered to serve "free" beverages to our members and guests. We look forward to seeing our readers there. Please tell your friends and neighbors about this event ☺.

**100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club  
BOOK AND BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER**

**Cafe One  
Puka Puka**

**Saturday, October 8**

**9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Sunday, October 9**

**9:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**Veterans Clubhouse at**

**520 Kamoku Street**

**(blue building across from Iolani School)**

**great books, great food  
and great fun for a  
great cause**

**(all proceeds go to the Clubhouse's  
Building Maintenance Fund)**



**parking available at Ala Wai  
School on Saturday**

**For More Information,**

**Call 946-0272**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2005

ABLE.....	Saturday, October 22.....	8:00 am
BAKER.....	Saturday, October 15.....	1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....	Monday, October 17.....	10:00 am
DOG.....	Saturday, October 15.....	9:00 am
HQ.....	Saturday, October 15.....Lounge.....	10:00 am
RURAL.....	No meeting	
HAWAII CHAPTER.....	Thursday, October 27.....AJA Vets Mem. Hall.....	11:00 am
MAUI CHAPTER.....	No meeting	
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, October 14.....	10:00 am
GREEN THUMBS.....	Monday, October 3.....Lounge.....	10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, October 5, 12, 19, 26.....clubhouse.....	9:00 am
TAI CHI.....	Wednesday, same as line dancing.....clubhouse.....	10:30 am
BOOK AND BAKE SALE.....	Saturday, October 8.....clubhouse.....	9 am - 2 pm
	Sunday, October 9.....clubhouse.....	9 am - 12noon
CRAFTS/CROCHET.....	Tuesday, October 4, 11, 18, 25.....	9:00 am
LAS VEGAS MINI-REUNION .....	Sunday, October 16 - 21	

*Deadline for articles will be October 18, 2005. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on FRIDAY, October 28, 2005, 8:30 a.m. HQ/Dog/Medics chapters are responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.*

\*\*\*\*\*

E-mail address for PPP: chapter news and articles: Drusilla Tanaka <datanaka@juno.com>  
(Spam Alert! Show SUBJECT or your message may be deleted); club business, questions or correspondence: <vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com>

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

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**OCTOBER 2005 ISSUE**

**HAPPY HALLOWE'EN!**

