



Puka-Puka

Parade



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President's Message

by Lloyd Kitaoka

From time to time, I will use this column to share some of my thoughts concerning our organization. This will be one of those times. I am convinced that one of the duties we are entrusted with is the perpetuation of our "story." Our story is a very important part of Hawaiian, and for that matter, American history. The ramifications of what our veterans did in the difficult time of World War II still resonate today. The 100th Infantry Battalion is held in very high esteem, especially in military circles, but we need to get our story to the mainstream population. I am afraid that our younger generation knows very little about us and if we don't get the story out, it will be lost.

With our new Education Center, we now have a quality venue to educate our youngsters. This past year we had 10 groups (over 300 people) come through our doors to hear our story and to view our exhibits. Most of them didn't know what the "blue building" across Iolani School was all about, but they know now! That's 300 more that didn't know it before and most were youngsters. Out of the 10 groups, 7 were student groups (1 of those was a student group from France).

I also want to let you know about a short video produced by Iolani students that was a result of one of the presentations. It was shown on the PBS Hawaii show "Hiki No" which originally aired on January 31. It was hosted by students from Wheeler Middle School but it included Iolani's production featuring the 100th. (You can find the video on Hiki No's website or YouTube). This is exactly what my vision of our interaction with students should be.

My goal is for 600 people new to the 100th to visit this year. A group of 150 students from Mililani Middle School will visit on April 23, so that leaves us with 450 more people to go this year. This is where we need your help. If you are an educator, or know of one, tell them what we have and that we would love to have them visit. Just call the office to schedule. We are also looking for

volunteers who can spare a few hours a month as docents or presenters (we'll train you). You will find it very rewarding as I have this past year. We cannot let the story of the 100th Battalion fade away...it is too important!

Also, I strongly encourage you to visit the Congressional Gold Medal exhibit at the Bishop Museum between March 9 and April 14. Details will come out to the public soon but the exhibit will be called "American Heroes: Japanese American WWII Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal." It will feature THE Gold Medal awarded by Congress in 2011. The Medal will be accompanied by an education package centered on the character values associated with Japanese American veterans. In addition, the Museum will offer panel presentations, lectures and films during each Saturday during the exhibit run. The 100th presentation will be held on March 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Included in the program will be a slide presentation on the history of the 100th, a Bronze Star award presentation by Major General Robert Lee (Ret) to five of our veterans who for reasons unknown, did not receive the award during or after the war and a panel discussion with four of our veterans. This will be an excellent time of all of you to come out and show our support for our veterans. I hope to see you there!

Lloyd Kitaoka



Lloyd Kitaoka with his father, Birthday Boy Takashi "Kit" Kitaoka

In Memoriam

Yoshiyuki “Papoose” Tomiyama (C)

Passed away on January 25, 2013

Wallace T. Onuma

Passed away on February 2, 2013

Our deepest sympathy to their families.

The Congressional Gold Medal Comes to Hawaii

by Pauline Sato

The Congressional Gold Medal that was awarded last year to honor our 100th veterans (as well as 442 and MIS) created great excitement and long-overdue recognition. Now the real, one-of-a-kind solid gold medal will be touring the country as part of a comprehensive educational exhibit called “American Heroes: World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal.” We are very fortunate to have this exhibit come to Hawaii’s Bishop Museum from March 9 to April 14, 2013.

The tour will help to share an amazing and extraordinary story of 19,000 young Japanese American men and women who overcame prejudice to demonstrate their unwavering commitment and loyalty to America. This story is not known to majority of Americans thus this tour will provides an opportunity to share why this country has honored them with the Congressional Gold Medal.

The National Veterans Network has spearheaded the effort of the Congressional Gold Medal Tour and development of an educational package with an iPad application, social learning website and curriculum. Centered on the character values associated with Japanese American veterans—courage, respect, humility, perseverance, compassion and citizenship—these materials will provide users with a constantly-growing, social learning community.

Please see the recently updated website: nationalveteransnetwork.com as well as bishopmuseum.org.

We invite you to be a supporter of this historic tour by attending the exhibit with your family and friends and donating as much as you are comfortable to the campaign to fund the tour so that it reaches all seven cities. The goal is to raise \$100,000 for the national tour in 45 days. As of the date of this writing, more than 20% has been raised. Donations of any size are appreciated. You can donate online at: <http://wedid.it/campaigns/58-american-heroes-nisei-wwii-soldiers-and-the-congressional-gold-medal>

Or you may email the National Veterans Network for other ways to donate: donate@nationalveteransnetwork.com.



AMERICAN HEROES

★★★

World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal



ON DISPLAY MARCH 9 – APRIL 14, 2013

SPECIAL INVITATION FOR VETERANS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Blair D. Collis, President and CEO
and the Board of Directors of Bishop Museum
request the pleasure of your company at a

Private Exhibit Preview

Join us for a special reception to honor Nisei Veterans, and enjoy exclusive access to the Congressional Gold Medal and supporting exhibit items. This event immediately precedes the public Opening Ceremony on the Great Lawn at 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 9, 2013

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Castle Memorial Building, Bishop Museum

Refreshments and light breakfast provided.

R.S.V.P. to Kate McFall at (808) 848-4172 or kate@bishopmuseum.org

What's up with the Wine Gang?

by Jayne Hirata

Happy Chinese New Year to everyone. The Year of the Snake is supposed to be one filled with financial success so here's hoping you make enough money to retire and can come to the Clubhouse on Thursdays for lunch with us.

First of all, *mahalo* to the following for their generous contributions to our lunch kitty:

Robert and Nancy Arakaki - \$50 gift card to Foodland
Sam and Sara Terasaki - \$25

Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda in honor of Judge Kitaoka's birthday - \$20

On January 31, US Representative Colleen Hanabusa visited the Wine Gang to talk story with the boys about their concerns regarding veterans' issues. I was sick that day so I didn't get to hear any of the *monku monku* first hand but I was told by Robert Arakaki that she got an earful and more from each of them! I did notice that she was smiling in the photo of her visit that she posted on her website so that's a good sign. Mahalo to Pam Funai for coordinating this and to everybody who brought food that day to cover for the cook being AWOL.

On February 7, it was a full house as we celebrated two big birthdays – Judge Takashi Kitaoka's 101st and Edward Ikuma's 94th – as well as Chinese New Year. There were several new faces at Wine Gang that day as the Star Advertiser had sent a reporter and photographer to the Clubhouse to meet with Stacey Hayashi for an article on the *Journey of Heroes* comic book, and two current Cherry Blossom Princesses –

Tomomi Ida and Nicole Kinney – came to interview the veterans. Now, guess which pair was more popular with the boys? No worries though, they were accompanied by their male chaperone/bodyguard who goes with them to every public appearance to prevent any unwanted attention.

As is our tradition, each birthday boy had a cake and candles (delivered by Tomomi), and Major General Robert Lee (Ret) led the celebratory champagne toast and *banzai* wishing Judge



Birthday Boy, Eddie Ikuma

and Eddie many, many more birthdays in the future. Eddie and Judge made speeches about their lives and what the Club means to them. They also thanked all of us for the festivities which brought tears to the eyes of all (well, all of us who could hear anyway).

Thank you to everyone who brought decorations, food, and beverages to celebrate the day, especially to Judge's "driver" Lloyd and Eddie's "driver" Faye for delivering the treasured goods to the party. Usually my thank you list includes our official photographer Wayne Iha but he was recovering from surgery in the hospital that day. Best wishes from all of us, Wayne, for a speedy recovery, and yes, I'll make soup when you come back.

By the time this goes to print, we will have celebrated Akira "Aki" Akimoto's birthday and Valentines Day on February 14th.

To keep up with the Wine Gang, please visit our Facebook page at 100th Infantry Battalion aka Club 100 where I post photos, articles about our JA veterans and all other kinds of nonsense. Even better, come by every Thursday and join us.



Bokashi Workshop Still Has Space

by Jan Sakoda

In the last issue, we announced that on Wednesday, March 13 at 4 pm, we will be holding our second bokashi workshop at the Clubhouse. Our first workshop was a hit! Bokashi is a form of composting that is a safe and quick way to compost food waste. Bokashi can greatly improve your soil to grow better vegetables. You will learn how to make and use bokashi. The cost of this workshop is \$5 and you will take home four pounds of bokashi. Call the office at 946-0272 to sign up or email ednjansak@hawaiiintel.com if you have any questions. Please sign up today so that we are prepared with enough supplies for everyone.



Prepare for Take Off!

by Jan Sakoda

Nine-year-old Ella Frenzel, great-granddaughter of Ed Ikuma (HQ) and granddaughter of Gary Ikuma is seen here sitting at the controls of her family's airplane in Warrenton, Virginia, getting ready for her flying lessons. Ella loves to be in the air and at the controls. She's been flying for a couple of years now and is currently learning to communicate on the radio with FAA Air Traffic Control. When she's not flying, Ella is busy with school, gymnastics and horseback riding lessons. It's great to see a young person enjoying outdoors and not tied to a computer game! (Personally, I would be intimidated by the control panel!) It'd be a toss up to say who's more proud... Great grandpa Ed or grandpa Gary!



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Just for Fun!

Mahalo to Jan Sakoda for sending these tidbits to make us smile and chuckle.

Why I Like Retirement

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount, sometimes 15%.

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

And, my very favorite....

Question: What do you do all week?

Answer: Monday through Friday, NOTHING..... Saturday & Sunday, I rest.

THE SENILITY PRAYER

Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Now, I think you're supposed to share this with 5 or 6, maybe 10 others. Oh heck, give it to a bunch of your friends if you can remember who they are!

Always Remember This:

You don't stop laughing because you grow old,
You grow old because you stop laughing.

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Chapter News

Baker Chapter News

by Cecilee Tanaka

There was a nice group gathered at our last meeting. Jack Nakamura surprised us by having a 100% perfect attendance for 2013—he attended in January after a long absence and again in February! Good to see you, Jack, and great to hear that you are getting the royal treatment at Pohai Nani. Baker Chapter sends out shouts of encouragement to Robert Arakaki and Wayne Iha.

Just before the next meeting on March 2, there will be a “brainstorming session” at 12 noon to gather ideas for the future. So, put on your thinking caps and bring your crystal balls and share your ideas. The chapter meeting will start at the usual time of 1 p.m. Thanks to Susan Hokama, Charlie Tanaka, and Ann Kabasawa for the ‘ono refreshments and to Ralph and Yasuko Steensen for the array of door prizes!

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Dog Chapter News

by Joy Teraoka

There is no news to report as we had no meeting in February. Our next meeting is expected to be on March 2, Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse.

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Headquarters/Medics Chapter News

by Janice Sakoda – 737-7778

Daughter of Gary K. Uchida

Save the date! Our Spring Luncheon for the HQ/Medic Ohana is slated for April 17th at 11:00 a.m. at Tree Tops Restaurant. Please let Elsie Oshita know by April 10 if you plan to join us so she can make final reservations.

We missed Dot Tamashiro at our February HQ/Medic meeting as she had eye surgery the day before. Wishing you speedy recovery for “looking good”, Dot!

Happy Birthday to Ed Ikuma and Aki Akimoto who both turned 94 years young in February.

We extend our condolences to the Onuma family on the passing of their dad, Wallace Onuma. He is survived by sons Malcolm and Lambert, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. According to Malcolm, Wallace was an original member of the 100th assigned to Company B first and then to Headquarters Company.

Aki and Pat Akimoto and son Brian recently returned from Las Vegas, where they had a great time. Didn't see their name in bold headlines so I'm guessing they didn't win their millions... yet.

Please join us at our next meeting on March 9th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Boardroom.



Photos

Editor's note: Due to space considerations, these photos were not included in the print version of last month's PPP. Full color versions of all photos are available in the electronic versions of the PPP.



Fred Kurisu, practices his ukulele that he won at the Baker Chapter Christmas party.



These decorated pine cones were made by Susan Hokama for the Baker Chapter Christmas party.



Ralph "Santa" Steensen enters the Baker Chapter party.



These photos (above and below) were taken at the AJA Veterans Christmas Party in Hilo.





Ken Higa celebrates his birthday at Wine Gang.



Eddie Yamasaki poses with his "Go For Broke" doll received as a going away gift.



Photo Pop Quiz!



In the last issue of the Puka Puka Parade, we showed a picture of four handsome men standing in front of the Clubhouse with the American flag. We asked if you could name the men in the photo and the positions in which they served. Congratulations to Drusilla Tanaka for identifying the men: (L-R) Shigeru Inouye, Dan Inouye, Bob Sato, and Tokuji Ono.

Here's the next quiz:

Following the theme of historic photos, who are these talented ballroom dancers who are still lighting the floor today? Please send your answers to pukaparade@gmail.com



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March 2013 Calendar of Events

EBOD Meeting	Saturday March 16, 8:30 am
BOARD Meeting	Saturday March 16, 9:30 am
ABLE Chapter	Saturday March 23, 8:30 am
BAKER Chapter	Saturday March 2, 1:00 pm
CHARLIE Chapter	Saturday March 30, 10:00 am
DOG Chapter	Saturday March 2, 9:30 am
HQ/MEDICS Chapter	Saturday March 9, 10:00 am
RURAL Chapter	To be announced
DESCENDANTS Chapter	To be announced
LONG-RANGE PLANNING	To be announced
SCHOLARSHIP Committee	To be announced
LINE DANCING	Every Wednesday, 9-11 am, Turner Hall
CRAFTS	Every Tuesday, 9:00 am
PUKA PUKA PARADE	Collating on Saturday, March 30, 2013, 9:00 am
BANQUET PLANNING	Saturday, March 9, 2:00 pm

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



The *Puka Puka Parade* is the monthly newsletter of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization. It is published at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826, eleven times a year.

The opinions expressed in the *Puka Puka Parade* are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans.

The deadline to submit articles for the April 2013 issue is **March 11, 2013.**

Please send your articles, comments or questions about the *Parade* via email to pukaparade@gmail.com

If you do not have access to email, please contact the office to discuss how best to submit content for the newsletter.

If you would like to be removed from the PPP mailing list, would like to receive the PPP via email, have a new mailing address, or have any questions, please contact the Clubhouse Office at (808) 946-0272 or club100vets@gmail.com www.100thbattalion.org