



PUKA PUKA

# PARADE

June 2024

Issue No. 06/2024

## HONORING THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION ON ITS 82ND ANNIVERSARY

By Janice Sakoda [*daughter of Gary Uchida (HQ)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV President; Events Committee Chair

Happy 82th anniversary to the men of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion. We remember and are grateful to our fathers, grandfathers and others who fought for freedom and equality. We honor the men who served with the

100<sup>th</sup> who are still with us, including **Kayo Kyonosuke Hayakawa (A)**, **Enoch Haruo Kanaya (C)**, **Ikuro “Ike Mano” Kawahara (A)**, **Dr. Takashi Manago (A)**, **Ikito Muraoka (Medics)**, **Frank Shuzo Nakamura (C)**, **Yukitsugu Nishimura (A)**, **Masaharu “Bull” Saito (Rural/B)**, **Lawrence Y. Yatsu (C)**, and **Tokuji Yoshihashi (A)**.

In looking at past Puka Puka Parade (PPP) issues, I came across the following:

*As chair of the 100th Battalion’s 50th anniversary committee, (Dr. Kengo Kenneth) Otagaki (HQ/ Medics) wants to ensure that the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion is preserved and perpetuated for the children of the soldiers and the generations that*

*will follow.*

*“We want them to learn that the 100th really opened the doors for young people to be where they are,” explained Otagaki. “Our fathers and mothers were immigrant laborers. After 25 or 30 years of hard work, they didn’t make more than \$1 a day. They were so suppressed that they couldn’t vote. They couldn’t express their feelings without getting kicked out of their meager homes, which were made up of used lumber from the flumes.”*

*When the young men of the 100th saw Caucasians performing menial labor on the Mainland, Otagaki said the Japanese*

*American boys realized that they were just as good as any white man. When the war ended, many of those who survived took advantage of educational opportunities and attained prominence as educators, doctors and politicians. “You never saw*



Saluting our known living 100th Infantry Battalion Heroes. Pictured above are Enoch Haruo Kanaya (C), Ikuro “Ike Mano” Kawahara (A), Dr. Takashi Manago (A), Ikito Muraoka (Medics), Frank Shuzo Nakamura (C), Yukitsugu Nishimura (A), and Masaharu “Bull” Saito (B).

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those things before the war,” says Otagaki. “We can express ourselves; we can hold our own. That’s the legacy of the 100th.” <https://www.100thbattalion.org/archives/newspaper-articles/hawaii-herald/taking-care-of-the-boys/3/>

See the Legacy2Action article in this issue to learn how we are preserving and perpetuating our veterans legacy for the children of Hawai‘i.

**82<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Banquet.** The response to our home-grown banquet is overwhelming!!! I have to admit I was very skeptical when Anniversary Chair Joyce Doi suggested we cap the attendees to 140. I personally thought we’d be fortunate to have 100 guests. Well, the latest count as of the RSVP deadline is well over 140. We exceeded our wildest imagination! I say this to give you a heads up that the Anniversary Committee asks for your patience and understanding. There will be NO RESERVED SEATING (except for special guests). So think of it like coming to a Chapter Christmas party on a large scale (unless your chapter has reserved seats, then all bets are off). Come early, get a good seat, and enjoy making new friends while getting reacquainted with others. Ala Wai Elementary School has promised to open their back parking lot; even then, you are encouraged to carpool.

**Memorial Day Services.** At the 73rd annual Mayor’s Memorial Day Ceremony, held on May 27 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Pūowaina (Punchbowl), Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi said:

“This day is set aside to honor the courageous souls who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Their valor ignites a flame of gratitude in our hearts, a beacon guiding us towards unity, peace, and remembrance. Let us pause, reflect, and renew our commitment to honoring their legacy by upholding the values they fought



100th Infantry Battalion Veterans wreath presented on Memorial Day at Punchbowl.

so hard to protect. May their sacrifice never be forgotten, and may their spirit inspire us to strive for a better tomorrow.” Representing the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion in laying a wreath was Glenn Nagamine [son of **Seikichi Nagamine (Medics)**].

Representing the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans at the 25th Shinnyo Lantern Floating Hawai‘i, held in the evening of May 27 at Ala Moana Beach, was Jan Nadamoto [daughter of **Isao Nadamoto (B)**].



Glenn Nagamine presents the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans wreath. (Photo courtesy: Arlene Sato [daughter of **Hideshi Niimi (C)**]).

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Lighting of the lantern for “Victims of Wars and Conflicts” at the ceremony. (Photo courtesy: Jan Nadamoto)



Hundreds of lanterns representing well wishes of loved ones gently float from shore. (Photo courtesy: Jan Nadamoto)

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**National Parks Service (NPS) - Pearl Harbor / Pacific Historic Parks (PHP) Park Ranger Training.** We are honored that NPS and PHP arranged for their park rangers to attend a PowerPoint presentation training on the 100th Infantry Battalion at our Clubhouse on June 4 and 5. The presentation was developed by Amy Kwong [granddaughter of **Eugene Kawakami (A)**] and Isami Yoshihara [brother of **Hisashi Yoshihara (A)**], and is the same one we use for our Club 100 docent training. In attendance on June 4 were Aileen Utterdyke (PHP President & Chief Executive Officer), Taylor Smith (PHP Program Specialist), and four park rangers. In attendance on June 5 were David Kilton (Interpretation, Education, & Visitor Services Lead), and four additional park rangers.



June 4 group (L to R: Mikeal Fox, Taylor Smith, Aileen Utterdyke, Tyson Kilbourn-Shear, Kara Jones, Amy Kwong, Bryan Maul, and Kathi Hayashi).



June 5 group (L to R: Joey Wohl, Gigi Kaestner, Dustin Furlong, David Kilton, Billy Crowe, and Amy Kwong).

The groups learned about the origin, formation, training, and combat experiences of the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. They also learned of how the majority of the original members of the 100th and 442nd were from Hawai‘i, and how the 100th/442nd is the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. Army. Amy and Kathi Hayashi [daughter of **Tokuichi Hayashi (A)**] tag-teamed for their presentation on the first day, while Ada Akimoto [daughter-in-law of **Akira Akimoto (HQ)**] manned the office. On the second day, Amy did the presentation as I handled office matters, since I was recovering from a cold. The park rangers on both days were very engaged and attentive, and had wonderful ideas on how we can collaborate in the future, on their World War II educational and interpretive programs and plans. We look forward to where this partnership will lead! We are thankful to the Park Rangers, who are excited to share the experience of the Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II with the 4,000 to 8,000 visitors per day who visit Pearl Harbor.

**Enoch Haruo Kanaya’s French Legion of Honor Ceremony.** With Jeff Morita’s help, **Enoch Haruo Kanaya (C)** was awarded the French Legion of Honor Ceremony in Chicago in May 2024. In the March 2024 PPP, I had written that Tony Moy, who lives in Chicago, learned about the Nisei soldiers around the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. He was so impressed with their story, and has since been passionate about creating a hand-painted water color comic book (<https://www.4forty2nd.com/>) about them. Jeff arranged for an invitation to be extended to Tony Moy to attend this very special ceremony. You



Robert Hashimoto (Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (retired); Commander, Chicago Nisei Post 1183 American Legion), Enoch Kanaya, and Tony Moy with portrait of Mr. Kanaya that Tony painted for him.

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can imagine how thrilled Tony was to receive this invitation. He wrote, “it was a bucket list item that I never thought would be achieved. I painted a portrait of Enoch and presented it to him and his family. Here are some shots of us after the ceremony! I am still without words and am humbled and honored all at once.”

Note from Jeff Morita: *Most World War II military veterans never received full accounting of their hard fought for, sacrifice and eligible U.S. military awards and decorations. Many only received one or more service ribbons and not the actual medals. The National Personnel Records Center | National Archives and Records Administration (NPRC | NARA) maintains a program for surviving military veterans, or their primary next-of-kin (PNOK) for deceased veterans to request a one-time ‘fee free’ replacement(s) of eligible U.S. military awards and decorations. One important note, if the World War II military veteran was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB), or Combat Medical Badge (CMB), the veteran is fully eligible for a Bronze Star Medal (BSM) for World War II meritorious service. The Army Regulation (AR) 600-8-22, 5 March 2019 provision is not widely known. If interested in submitting an NPRC | NARA request, I am available to share additional program information, and to assist with the request process [jeff\\_kine\\_57@icloud.com](mailto:jeff_kine_57@icloud.com).*

**Proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.**

Now on to serious and important business for members. One of the responsibilities as a member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion is to help propel our organization forward. One of the ways you can help is by reviewing our proposed amended and restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The Articles & Bylaws Committee, headed by Avin Oshiro [son of **Seie Oshiro (A)**], has worked hard to revise the existing 2016 Bylaws to make sure it is in compliance with the restated Articles of Incorporation and with the Hawai‘i Revised Statutes Non-Profit Law.

The Proposed Articles and Bylaws should be reviewed and discussed by each chapter at their meetings in June, with concerns submitted in writing to the Board at the July BOD meeting, and reviewed by members once more in August. Proxies will be distributed in the September PPP, with voting taking place on Saturday, November 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the Annual meeting. The proposed documents and current Articles & Bylaws files are available for review on our 100th IBV website at <https://www.100thibv.org/members>.

Thank you for your continued support of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100), and we look forward to honoring the formation of the 100th Infantry Battalion with everyone at our 82nd Anniversary Banquet! 🍷

**ALA WAI SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE AT THE CLUBHOUSE**

By Janice Sakoda [*daughter of Gary Uchida (HQ)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV President; Events Committee Chair



It's time for our annual school supply drive!

Drop off your donated school supplies for Ala Wai Elementary School at the Clubhouse from Monday through Friday, at 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or whenever you come to the Clubhouse (except on June 29 as we will

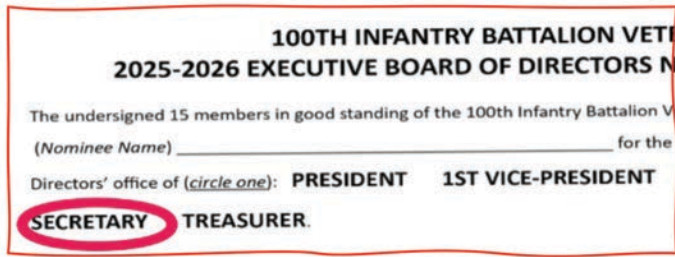
be busy with the banquet) from now until July 27.

Any and all school supplies are welcome! You may place all supplies on the shorter table in the Lounge (table nearest the bookshelves). If you prefer to give a monetary donation, you may mail it to the Clubhouse or drop off your check in the donation box at any time, even on June 29, as long as it is in a sealed envelope and clearly labeled for school supplies.

During the banquet, the Donation Box will be temporarily relocated near the Boardroom. Please make the donation check payable to Ala Wai Elementary School. 🍷

### 2025-2026 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS INFORMATION

By Jan Nadamoto [*daughter of Isao Nadamoto (B)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Nominations and Elections Committee Chair



Reminder! The petitions form for EBOD nominees must be submitted to the Clubhouse Office via mail or in-person delivery to the Nominations Committee by **Wednesday, July 31, 2024. Additional information was included in the May 2024 PPP, and the form is on page 6.** If you have any questions, please email the Nominations Committee at [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org).

WE HAVE A FEW POSITIONS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE CANDIDATES FOR. WE INVITE YOU TO RUN FOR AN OFFICE. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO DRIVE MEANINGFUL CHANGE AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ORGANIZATION’S CONTINUING SUCCESS. 🇺🇸

### UPCOMING 82ND ANNIVERSARY BANQUET INFORMATION

By Kelly Imada [*granddaughter of Haruto Soma (C)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Banquet Committee Member

Growing up, I learned about the 100th Infantry Battalion from my parents and through attending Club 100 events. Becoming a member last year and volunteering on the Banquet Committee led me to research the history of the 100th. I needed to know more. As I dived in, I found myself lost in the stories, memoirs, and pictures of the men who were examples of loyalty and who believed so strongly in our beloved United States of America. Going through the numerous recollections and history available, their story is nothing short of captivating and cinematic. These are the real life story of a proud Americans. I am proud to be a member of this organization where I can contribute and continue to tell their stories.

In just a couple of weeks, we’ll come together following the wishes of these honored men. The turnout has been tremendous, and we cannot wait to see the smiling faces and reunion of our 100th Infantry Battalion family. Our “home” will boast of pride and honor. As family and friends come together, we will have one common purpose: to remember

and honor the sacrifices of our great heroes— “For Continuing Service.”

Our event is at full capacity! We are excited and looking forward to welcoming all of you! We have a lot planned! Our emcee will be the wonderful Megan Muramatsu [*granddaughter of Joichi Muramatsu (B)*], and we will welcome Dr. Christy Nishita as our esteemed keynote speaker. The food will be plentiful and delicious. Lastly, we will get to “talk story” and enjoy each other’s company.

Check-in will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a program at 11:00 a.m. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis, so please come early to get a good seat. Because of the tremendous turnout, we kindly ask for your patience and cooperation with the seating arrangements. Your understanding is greatly appreciated. Parking is available at Ala Wai Elementary School (front lot and back lot); however, carpooling is highly suggested!

We look forward to celebrating with all of you on June 29th! 🇺🇸

**100th Infantry Battalion 82nd Anniversary Banquet**  
**June 29, 2024 (Saturday)**  
**Check-in: 10:00 a.m. | Program: 11:00 a.m.**  
**100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse (520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 98626)**

## 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS 2025-2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM

The undersigned 15 members in good standing of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans hereby nominate  
 (Nominee Name) \_\_\_\_\_ for the 2025-2026 Executive Board of  
 Directors' office of (circle one): **PRESIDENT**    **1ST VICE-PRESIDENT**    **2ND VICE-PRESIDENT**  
**SECRETARY**    **TREASURER.**

	Print Name	Sign Name	Date Signed	Phone/Email Contact
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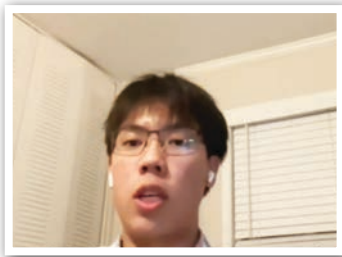
## LEGACY2ACTION “FOR CONTINUING SERVICE”

By Kathi Hayashi [*daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Treasurer; Education Committee Chair & Elsie Yoshimura [*daughter of Thomas Taro Higa (A)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Education Committee Member

In the May 2024 PPP, we provided an overview of student presentations made “live” at the clubhouse on April 28, 2024. The 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Legacy2Action (L2A) challenge is to identify a problem or issue facing Hawai‘i to develop a creative solution applying the values of the 100th Infantry Battalion.

Due to illness and schedule conflicts, many students submitted videos of their projects since they were unable to attend the event in-person. Here are the problems identified, and how the students proposed creative solutions using the values they learned from the 100th Infantry Battalion.

**Owen Lai – Enhancing Community Engagement through Educational Enrichment.** Impressively, Owen interviewed many people in the community, both educators and Club 100 members, to research strategies to enhance the spread of the 100th Infantry



Owen Lai presents by video.

Battalion’s story. He thinks that to share the story of the rich legacy of the 100th would best be served by integrating it into the curriculum of schools. Many states have mandated the teaching of Asian American Pacific Island (AAPI) history to educate, promote empathy, and tolerance. Owen felt *sekinin*, or responsibility, to take the initiative to approach legislators to consider a bill to require AAPI education and the values of the 100th in school curriculum. This summer, he will continue to work on this initiative. Best wishes, Owen, in achieving this much needed goal!

**Juliana Shi – Bridge to Confidence: Empowering Second Generation Immigrant Youth in the SHINE English Tutoring Program.** There is a need to help bridge the language gap for first and second generation immigrants. Juliana believes that it is the *giri*, or duty, of the younger generation to help tutor their elders so that they can better integrate

into U.S. society. She has created S.H.I.N.E. (Students for Inclusion & Newcomer Empowerment) welcome packets for those that she helps.



Juliana Shi’s presentation.

**Taybr Alexio – Sustainable Seeds.** There is a lack of sustainability education among children. Taybr says that it is our *sekinin*, or responsibility, to do more in this regard. Taybr also says that the under-13 age group should be targeted so that they can help impact people from the lower income bracket. Coloring books for youngsters with pictures of fruits



Taybr Alexio’s video presentation.

and vegetables and other youth friendly methods of influencing family member habits were highlighted.

and vegetables and other youth friendly methods of influencing family member habits were highlighted.

**Leilehua High School JROTC – Educational Awareness and Stewardship of the Kūkaniloko Royal Birthing Stones Site.** 80 students of the Leilehua JROTC took on the huge task of clearing the land around the Kūkaniloko Royal Birthing Stones near Wahiawā and reintroduced native plants to beautify the area. The producers of this video carefully weaved several of the 100th Nisei soldiers’ values into their production. It was their *giri*, or obligation, for the cadets to clear out the land of unwanted foliage in order to restore the sacred site to its natural beauty. Similar to the soldiers of the 100th, the cadets



Video presented by Leilehua High School JROTC students.

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worked on the taxing project as they felt it necessary to show *sekinin*, or responsibility for it, and also *gaman*, or endurance, while completing this job. They showed *gambari*, or perseverance, together with their positive attitude and team spirit. They closed their video with a profound statement that serving others and making a positive impact on the community is of utmost importance to them.

**Ms. Katherine Shinsato's Ala Wai Elementary 3rd Grade Class – Mō'ili'ili Community.** Yes, it takes a village to solve problems together. A few months ago, Ms. Shinsato's 3rd grade class visited the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse to learn about the 100th and the values that made them successful in war and how they helped the community when they returned home. The 3rd graders feel the same obligation to their Mō'ili'ili community.



Ms. Katherine Shinsato's class video.

They learn about mo'olelo (narrative stories of the Native Hawaiian people), history, government and community organizations. They are committed to using their leadership to create a better Hawai'i. These 8-year-olds shared many ideas and built models on what they envision a pleasant, relaxing, safe and fun place to live in.

The Legacy2Action 2024 Student Presentations in its entirety, can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZKofAfA1Tc>.

**Student Recognition.** Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Central Pacific Bank (CPB), students who participated in L2A were awarded certificates and treats. Individuals and small teams were recognized with a clear reusable 100th IBV logo bag loaded with a \$20 Rainbow Drive-In gift certificate, a snack, a cool, lucky cat (maneki neko) logo magnet and sticker from CPB, a Rainbow Drive-In sticker, and two stickers from the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization. Larger groups or classes were recognized with a pizza party.

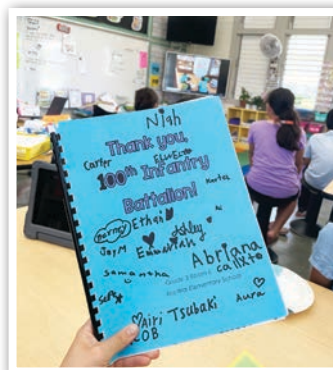
Thank you to Elsie Yoshimura [daughter of **Thomas Taro Higa (A)**] for hosting the pizza party at

Dr. Megan Kawatachi's 'Iolani class. Elsie thanked the students for learning about the 100th values and applying them to their projects to increase the probability of success. In addition, Elsie led the class in "One Puka Puka Bingo" to learn key concepts and relevant dates associated with the 100th. Everyone said they learned a lot and had lots of fun. Thank you to Dr. Kawatachi for being a wonderful supporter and advisor of L2A projects.



Dr. Kawatachi's class playing One Puka Puka Bingo at the pizza party. (Photo courtesy: Dr. Megan Kawatachi)

Thank you to Jennifer Kumura [granddaughter of **Isamu Nakasato (A)**] for hosting the pizza party at the third grade class of Ms. Katherine Shinsato. Her third graders visited the 100th clubhouse earlier this year, became interested in the 100th soldiers and their values, and became the first elementary class to participate in L2A. The class also created an art project booklet honoring the men of the 100th, which is available for viewing at the Clubhouse office.



Booklet from Ms. Shinsato's class. (Photo courtesy: Jennifer Kumura)

I hosted the pizza party with Dr. Eric Tsukamoto [son of **John Tsukamoto (HQ)**] for the Leilehua Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC), and also attended their Awards ceremony a few months ago. Many attendees at the L2A presentations and those who watched the Leilehua video via the YouTube link in last month's PPP, came up to me to mention they were very impressed with their presentation. They especially loved the articulation

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of the 100th values of gaman (perseverance), giri (obligation), ganbari (to give it all you've got), enryo (humility) and chuugi (loyalty to operate as one team) to the application of the Kūkaniloko service project. It was wonderful.

I am especially excited, since most of the cadets are not of Japanese descent. The Leilehua JROTC made the “vision” become a “reality.” As the 100th IBV’s Education chair, we want ALL residents of Hawai‘i, regardless of ethnicity, to understand what the Hawai‘i-born 100th Infantry Battalion men did during World War II, how they overcame distrust by both Americans and Japanese, how they achieved



MSG Kualii Makaneole, SFC Jayla Kamelamela, 2nd Lt. Shanaya Santa Maria-Sharpe, Kathi Hayashi and Dr. Eric Tsukamoto.

their mission, why they felt it was important, and how they changed civil rights via President Truman’s Executive Order 9981 and taking leadership positions to help Hawai‘i

become a better place for people of all colors. It was so inspiring to have non-Asians truly absorb the 100th values, articulate the merit and implement the action via the education and stewardship of the Kūkaniloko Royal Birthing stones in Helemano, Wahiawā.

Finally, thank you to all those who helped to make this another successful year for the 100th Legacy2Action education initiative. Thank you to our partners, Central Pacific Bank (Jon Teraizumi), ‘Iolani School (Candice Sakuda) and the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Center on Aging (Dr. Christy Nishita). Thank you to all the 100th mentors and volunteers. Most of all, thank you to all the students for taking the time to learn about the 100th and to

apply their values to their lives and to make the world and better, more peaceful place.

I close with a summary of student feedback compiled by Jennifer Kumura, who is our team’s invaluable Legacy2Action organizer to keep the project on-track, community focused, and expanding with continuous improvement. Mahalo Nui Loa, Jennifer!

*What did you learn about values, sacrifices, contributions, and accomplishments of the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion?*

Participants in Legacy2Action learned about the values, sacrifices, contributions, and accomplishments of the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, particularly their Nisei values of duty, perseverance, and solidarity. Through their bravery and selflessness, these soldiers made significant contributions to society, inspiring others to stand up for what is right and serve their communities and country with courage and humility. Despite facing adversity and discrimination during WWII, the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion persevered, demonstrating the importance of seeing the bigger picture and prioritizing the greater good.

*Why do you feel it is important to perpetuate the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion?*

Participants stress the importance of perpetuating the 100th Infantry Battalion’s legacy for several reasons. Firstly, it ensures the integration of their values, particularly Nisei values, into modern solutions, fostering personal growth and societal progress. Secondly, it honors the soldiers’ sacrifices and achievements, preserving a vital historical chapter and inspiring future generations. Additionally, the legacy serves as a source of pride and belonging for marginalized groups, fostering resilience and unity amidst challenges, while promoting collaboration and shared experiences. Ultimately, continuing the legacy is viewed as vital for preserving cultural heritage, shaping identities, and advancing towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

If PPP readers are interested in participating in next year’s Legacy2Action initiative, please write to [info@100thbattalion.org](mailto:info@100thbattalion.org). 🇺🇸

## HONORING FIVE MIS HEROES FROM HAWAI‘I

By Mark Matsunaga [Special to the Puka Puka Parade], Military Intelligence Service Veterans of Hawai‘i



From left: Staff Sgt. Joe Kuwada, T/4 Haruyuki Ikemoto, T/4 Kazuyoshi Inouye, T/4 Wilfred Motokane and T/4 Masaru Sogi.

Families of five Hawai‘i nisei soldiers who died in a plane crash near the end of World War II received posthumous Purple Heart medals at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial on May 10, 2024. They were part of a ten-man Military Intelligence Service language team on the flight and detailed to the 11th Airborne Division.

The team members were among 31 U.S. troops who died in the crash of a C-46 transport plane at Naha, Okinawa, the evening of August 13, 1945. The flight was part of a huge airlift from the Philippines to Okinawa. As this plane neared the end of its five-hour flight, an air raid alert left the airfield blacked out and covered with smoke. Two landing attempts failed, and on the third, it crashed, killing everyone aboard.

Researchers Mark Matsunaga of Honolulu and Daniel Matthews of Minnesota discovered that 12 passengers, all members of the 11th Airborne Division, were classified “killed in action” and at least some of them received the Purple Heart medal, which

is given to Americans who are wounded or killed in battle. The researchers found, however, that the others killed in the crash were deemed “died, non-battle” and did not get the honored medal.

This disparity was brought to the Army’s attention, and a year-long review concluded all of the soldiers should have received the Purple Heart. The Army has now authorized those medals.

The first five of those medals were presented to the families of Staff Sgt. **Joseph T. Kuwada** of Honolulu and Technicians 4th grade **Haruyuki Ikemoto** of Maui, **Kazuyoshi Inouye** of Kaua‘i, and **Wilfred Motokane** and **Masaru Sogi** of Honolulu.



Next of kin of the five heroes, from left: Edward Kashiwamura (Joe Kuwada’s nephew); Wilfred Ikemoto (Haruyuki Ikemoto’s brother); David Fujii (Kazuyoshi Inouye’s nephew); Wilfred Motokane Jr. (son), and James Sogi (Masaru Sogi’s nephew). [Photo courtesy of Clyde Sugimoto]

“This was not a racial issue. Most of the men killed in the crash were Caucasian,” said Matsunaga.



Matsunaga and Minnesota researcher Daniel Matthews with the five Purple Hearts. [Photo courtesy of Clyde Sugimoto (nephew of Nolan Miyazaki (B))]

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“The Purple Hearts for the Hawai‘i men are being presented first because we were already in contact with the families and the Army processed them first, with the help of Congressman Ed Case.”

The medals were presented by General Paul M. Nakasone, recently retired head of U.S. Cyber Command and the National Security Agency after nearly 40 years in the Army. Nakasone’s father, Colonel. Edwin Nakasone of Minnesota, grew up in Wahiawa and was an MIS linguist in World War II and occupied Japan.

General Nakasone said, “The medal not only honors



Ikemoto ohana surround General Paul Nakasone and Wilfred Ikemoto (holding medal). [Photo courtesy of Clyde Sugimoto]

individual courage, it also serves as a symbol of gratitude for the nation, recognizing the sacrifices made by its service members and the heavy price of freedom.”

Nearly six thousand AJAs fought against Japan, primarily as interpreters and translators, and helped to rebuild it as a modern democracy and staunch U.S. ally.

“The five Soldiers we honor today are part of the 806 men Hawai‘i lost during World War II,” Nakasone said. “These nisei linguists represent an incredible contribution, sometimes forgotten, from what was then a territory and is now our 50th state,” Nakasone said. “Their devotion was marked as members of the Military Intelligence Service, an extraordinary chapter in American military history, showcasing the profound impact of linguistic skills and cultural knowledge in international conflict.”

The Pearl Harbor ceremony was presented by Pacific Historic Parks, MIS Veterans - Hawai‘i, the National Park Service and U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC), particularly the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade – Theater.

For a list of the other soldiers who were killed in the crash, see: <http://www.misveteranshawaii.com/news-announcements/> 🇺🇸

*Thank you to Pacific Historic Park and MIS Veterans - Hawai‘i, for presenting a very moving ceremony, which representatives of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans were honored to attend. It was very moving to see the families of these five Purple Heart recipients, all of whom were Americans of Japanese ancestry from Hawai‘i serving in the Military Intelligence Service, finally receiving recognition on behalf of the men after nearly 79 years have passed.* 🇺🇸



Mark Matsunaga (MIS), Kathi Hayashi [daughter of **Tokuichi Hayashi (A)**], and Minnesota researcher Daniel Matthews.



Kathi Hayashi and Larry Enomoto [nephew of **Edward Enomoto (HQ)** and son of MIS veteran **Gulstan N. Toshisuke Enomoto**].



Aileen Utterdyke (President & CEO, Pacific Historic Parks), Karleen Chinen and Joyce Chinen [daughters of **Wally Chinen (D)**] with niece, Darryln DelaCruz. [Photo courtesy of Ann Kabasawa (daughter of **Raymond Nosaka (B)**)]

## HEADQUARTERS/MEDICS CHAPTER NEWS

By Jan Sakoda, HQ/Medics Chapter Vice President [*daughter of Gary Uchida (HQ)*]; 100<sup>th</sup> IBV President

Well, this is a slow month for news so I'll write about our trip to Oregon for our Armchair Travelers.

Ed and I had a relaxing two weeks in Oregon where we enjoyed beautiful, sunny weather! We spent a week at a timeshare in Klamath Lake where we visited Crater Lake. Snowdrifts as high as about 10 feet were breathtaking, especially against the backdrop of the blue sky. Because the sun was out, the air was very pleasant. We also visited Tule Lake Museum (Tule Lake Monument Visitors Center was still closed for the winter) where we learned about Project Fu-Go, a Japanese balloon bomb that drifted 6,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean and killed 6 citizens near Tule Lake. <https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/article/project-fugo-the-japanese-balloon-bombs/> I believe this was the only incident during the war, where Americans in the continental U.S. were killed by the Japanese Imperial Army. This museum also had a small exhibit about the Tule Lake Internment Camp, including a geta (a Japanese footwear), a shell broach purchased at the

Tule Lake Internment Camp, a 20-foot guard tower (as opposed to the 40-foot normal height guard tower) and a half barrack from the Tule Lake Internment Camp. We learned that after the war, barracks were re-purposed into homes, storage, and other facilities and we were encouraged to look for these re-purposed buildings while driving around. It was fun guessing which might have been repurposed buildings!

Ed got to go fly-fishing twice and each time was successful in his quest to "catch and release".

The trip ended on a high note as we were able to catch up with our long-time friends (from *hanabata* days) who had moved to the mainland.

If you haven't yet looked at the amended bylaws, please take about 30-45 minutes to familiarize yourself with the changes that are being proposed. HQ/Medics spent a good part of our meeting reviewing the changes; all comments can be sent to me and I'll consolidate it into one document to submit to the bylaws committee. 🇺🇸

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## ABLE CHAPTER NEWS

By Kathi Hayashi [*daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)*], 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Treasurer; Education Committee Chair

School is out for the summer, and the Club 100 is ready to "rock and roll"! There is a buzz of activity at the Clubhouse, in preparation for the 82nd Anniversary Banquet on June 29th at the Clubhouse. Chairwoman Joyce Doi [*daughter of Joichi Muramatsu (B)*] has a wonderful, relaxing, 'ono and fun day planned — and it is already fully-booked, a month before the big day!

Able-ites are very actively assisting in the preparation. The other day at the Clubhouse, I saw Amy Kwong [*granddaughter of Eugene Kawakami (A)*] and Shayna Hanai [*granddaughter of Yoshio Saito (A)*] preparing the banners, while Paul Fukunaga [*son of Ralph Fukunaga (A)*] and Avin Oshiro [*son of Seie Oshiro (A)*] were hard at work on setup for over 170 attendees! There are many volunteers from other chapters, too. It is fun to work

together to make something BIG happen in honor of our 100th patriarchs.

A month after the banquet, Elsie Yoshimura [*daughter of Thomas Taro Higa (A)*] has plans to lead a "Meet and Greet"



Avin Oshiro with the chairs prepared for the banquet.

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gathering for Able Chapter members, current and new, on **Saturday, July 27th, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** at the Clubhouse. We will talk story over desserts and also have a short presentation by the **Thomas Taro Higa (A)** great-grandchildren, ages 6 - 10. They will talk a little about his participation in WWII, and also share information about his family life after the war. We will play One Puka Puka Bingo, as well as other

games for the children. Please come as we want to get to know all of you better.

Sounds like a lot of fun for all ages. It's going to be a great summer! Be safe and enjoy family and friends. It takes a bit more effort to engage conflict resolution skills in our work, play and at home, but I think peace is what the 100th veterans in our families desired after returning home from the horrors of war. Let's try our best to *keep da peace*. 🕊️

**BAKER CHAPTER NEWS**

By Jan Nadamoto [*daughter of Isao Nadamoto (B)*], Baker Chapter President; 100<sup>th</sup> IBV BOD Director, Baker

Got suggestions for movie day or want to help out? Please contact Jan Nadamoto (email below).

In the meantime, we're brainstorming on more activities we can do together! Hope you can attend the next Baker Chapter meeting that will be on July 6, 2024 at the clubhouse and via ZOOM. If you are not receiving the information for these meetings please email [jannadamoto@gmail.com](mailto:jannadamoto@gmail.com). 🕊️

**OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL CHAPTERS!**

*Save the Date!*

*August 3, 2024*

*Movie Day! All Chapters welcome!*

*Featuring the One Puka Puka episode from the series, "The Gallant Men"*



**Look for more information in upcoming PPP's!**

### CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

By Arlene Sato [*daughter of Hideshi Niimi (C)*], Charlie Chapter Treasurer

Recently the Genki Ball Project has gotten permission from the Department of Health (DOH) to pour the Activated EM1 solution directly into the Ala Wai Canal. Therefore, our chapter will not be making the Genki balls for now. We will be making the activated solution using the EM1, molasses, and water. This has to rest for two weeks, then it can be poured into the Ala Wai. Each pour will be supervised and recorded. We will be given a special permit issued by DOH. We're proud that C Chapter is the very first group to participate in this project. The

Genki Ball Project's goal is to pour five gallons/week. They are looking for more groups to help.

Would you like to learn to make this activated EM solution? I have been using this solution on my plants for over ten years. I've heard that it can be used in house cleaning too. After the permit is issued and we're given the official go ahead, we can start making the activated EM solution.

The next C Chapter meeting will be on **Saturday, June 22, 9:00 a.m.** at the Clubhouse. 🇺🇸

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### CLUBHOUSE OFFICE UPDATE

By Amy Kwong [*granddaughter of Eugene Kawakami (A)*], Office Manager; 100<sup>th</sup> IBV BOD - Director, Able Chapter

Welcome to our newest 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100) members, Gregg Nishime [*nephew of Saburo Nishime (D)*] and Ryan Moriguchi [*grandson of Goro Moriguchi (A)*]. We look forward to seeing you both at the Clubhouse!

On May 15, we welcomed back Dr. Heather Wark from Barker-Langham, and Domitille Arnaud, American Battle Monuments Commission Project Manager, to the Clubhouse. The two are part of the team from Paris and London, who are working to design and develop a future Interpretive Center at the Honolulu Memorial in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Pūowaina (Punchbowl). The team first visited with us at the Clubhouse in February this year, to explain and discuss their plans with us.

This recent visit was to give us an update of their planning and design of the interpretive exhibits that will go inside the Interpretive Center. 100th IBV representatives included Joyce Chinen [*daughter of Wallace Seiko Chinen (D)*], Isami Yoshihara [*brother of Hisashi Yoshihara (A)*], and me. Also

joining us for the presentation were Tom Leatherman (National Park Service Superintendent - Pearl Harbor National Monument), Aileen Utterdyke (Pacific Historic Parks President & CEO), Karl Okemura (442nd Veterans



Presentation on the Honolulu Memorial Interpretive Center plans. (From L to R: Karl Okemura, Tom Leatherman, Aileen Utterdyke, Dr. Heather Wark, Domitille Arnaud, Joyce Chinen, Karen Kikukawa, Amy Kwong, Isami Yoshihara.)

Club & 442nd Legacy Center President), and Karen Kikukawa (MIS Veterans of Hawai'i President). We listened to an informative presentation and had a lively discussion about their exhibit plans and ideas. It was a wonderful afternoon of collaboration with the

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veterans groups, the National Park Service, Pacific Historic Parks, and the visiting team members.

You may notice in the group photo that our Lt. Col. Farrant Turner portrait, usually displayed prominently in Turner Hall, has been temporarily relocated to the Boardroom while the Banquet Committee continues to conduct painting, construction, and other work in the social hall. It makes us feel as though Lt. Col. Turner is participating in all of our Boardroom meetings and presentations, and we have been enjoying his presence — in this case, in our photos as well!

Our second 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Docent Training session was held on May 28 at the Clubhouse. Isami Yoshihara and I presented the PowerPoint slides to the group of eight. Attending the session were Gordon Aoyagi, Yumi Saito, José Barzola, Ed and Jan Sakoda [son-in-law and daughter of **Gary Uchida (HQ)**], Joyce Chinen, Cary Miyashiro [son of **Oscar Miyashiro (C)**], and Donna Teshima [niece of **Michio Teshima (C)**].

The next step is for docents-in-training to start presenting the material to members who are interested in serving as their practice audience. If you would like to learn about the 100th Infantry Battalion and assist in this Communications Committee initiative

by serving as a member of our practice audience, please contact the office at (808) 946-0272 or [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org).



100th IBV Docent Training session attendees with Communications Committee presenter, Isami Yoshihara. (From L to R: Yumi Saito, José Barzola, Gordon Aoyagi, Donna Teshima, Jan Sakoda, Ed Sakoda, and Isami Yoshihara.)

The Clubhouse office will be staffed by a supportive group of volunteers from each chapter, while I am out of town on vacation from June 11 through June 24. A big mahalo to Jan Sakoda (HQ/Medics), Kathi Hayashi [daughter of **Tokuichi Hayashi (Able)**], Joyce Doi [daughter of **Joichi Muramatsu (Baker)**], Arlene Sato [daughter of **Hideshi Niimi (Charlie)**], and Joyce Chinen (Dog), for assisting with office matters in my absence. The Clubhouse office hours will remain unchanged, open from Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (the office is closed on June 11, in observance of King Kamehameha I Day).

I am scheduled to return to the office on June 25, just in time for the final banquet preparations. Although our office volunteers will be answering the phones, checking voicemail, and be at the Clubhouse during operating hours to assist members as needed, please be advised that any donations to the club or new membership applications will not be processed until after my return. I will be checking email periodically. We thank you for your patience and understanding. Wishing you all a safe and happy summer, and thank you for your continued support of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100). 🇺🇸

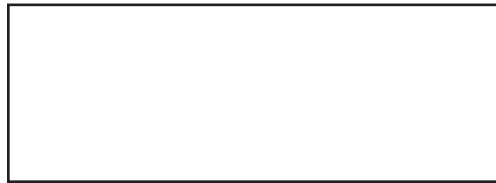


100th IBV Docent Training attendees listen attentively to Isami Yoshihara, as he presents the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion and Club 100.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETINGS (2024)

(All events at the 100<sup>th</sup> IBV Clubhouse and all times are HST unless otherwise indicated)

- June 11 (TUE)**      *Office Closed* in observance of King Kamehameha I Day.
- June 15 (SAT)**      100th IBV Board of Directors Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.  
82nd Banquet Committee Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- June 22 (SAT)**      Charlie Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.  
82nd Banquet Committee Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- June 26 (WED)**      HQ/Medics Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse and on Zoom.
- June 29 (SAT)**      **82nd Anniversary Banquet. RSVP Required.**  
Doors open 10 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- July 06 (SAT)**      Baker Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse and on Zoom.  
Dog Chapter Meeting. 10:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse (Boardroom).
- July 20 (SAT)**      100th IBV Board of Directors Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.  
82nd Banquet Committee Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- July 27 (SAT)**      Charlie Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.  
Able Chapter Meet and Greet gathering. 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse.
- Aug. 01 (THU)**      **B.Y.O.Bento.** 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse. All members welcome.
- Aug. 03 (SAT)**      **“The Gallant Men: One Puka Puka” Movie Day.** Time TBA.
- Aug. 10 (SAT)**      Able Chapter Meeting. 10 a.m. at the Clubhouse and on Zoom.



**PUKA PUKA PARADE**

The *Puka Puka Parade* is the official newsletter of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100), and is published monthly.

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

Please email your articles, comments or questions about the *Puka Puka Parade* to [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org).

If you do not have access to email, please mail your articles, comments or questions to the Clubhouse Office.

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**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**  
**or contact for appointment**

Closed on holidays.

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Mahalo!