



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

PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

# PARADE

SEPTEMBER 2009

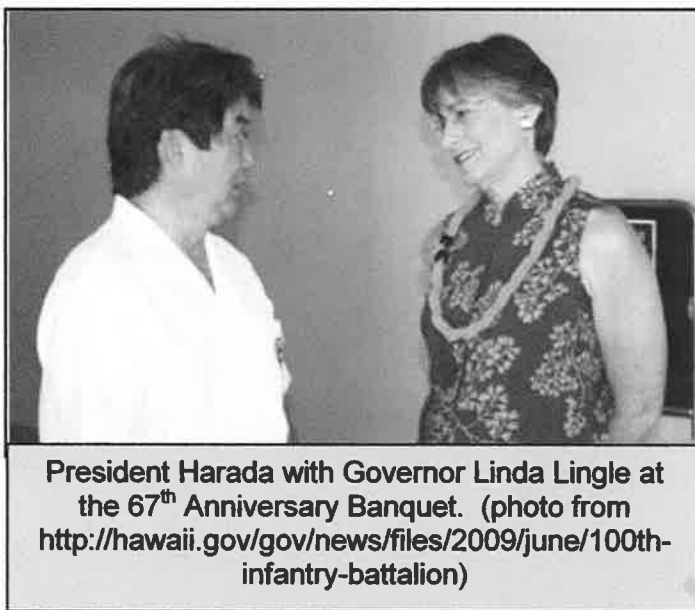
ISSUE NO. 8/2009

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Mike Harada

On Sunday, August 2, we held another town hall meeting where information was provided and members could voice their concerns. Approximately 30 were in attendance and the meeting lasted a little over an hour.

The agenda items for discussion were reflected in the August *Puka Puka Parade* (PPP) edition of my open letter to all members. I found the interaction between those in attendance and the Executive Board of Directors lively and very enlightening.

I was reminded of my commitment to provide our membership with a recap of the town hall meetings, especially the questions and answers that arose. To provide a verbatim recounting of all the questions and answers would be a daunting task for the limited space we have for the PPP. I will try and summarize them at the end of this article.



President Harada with Governor Linda Lingle at the 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet. (photo from <http://hawaii.gov/gov/news/files/2009/june/100th-infantry-battalion>)

One thing that I need from you is your trust. Together with the other Executive Board members, we have devoted a significant amount of time and energy to the club with the intention of making our club more sustainable and open to you, our members. There are times when we will make "executive" decisions to elicit some progress or movement on behalf of the club. You, as members, have every right to question me on those decisions and I am open to constructive suggestions. Please trust that the Executive Board is acting with the club's best interests in mind.

We will conduct two informational sessions for you to learn more about the two proposals for the State Grant for the Education Resource Center. The informational forums will be on Friday, September 11th and Sunday, September 13th at the clubhouse. Both sessions will start at 10 AM and feature presentations by the authors of the two proposals. Your chapter representative will decide on your behalf which proposal, if any, or combination thereof, will be considered for future development. Thus, you should voice your choice to your chapter representative. The decision for the future of this grant is scheduled on the October 17, 2009 Board meeting agenda.

Although we are making headway in balancing our monthly income and expenditures, these reports are month to month. We will likely still show a "red" or deficit for the entire year. The good news is we hope this will be the last year of a deficient budget for our club.

We are currently accepting nominations for the 2010 Executive Board of Directors. Nominations are due by 12 noon, September 15<sup>th</sup> for publication and membership notification in October's PPP. Elections, if required, will be at the November 22<sup>nd</sup> town hall meeting. At this time there are no nominations for the position of Treasurer.

As for the town hall meeting, these are the more significant items:

(1) By-Laws - With all else that is going on with the club I announced the deferral of by-laws revision until next year, 2010. With the time remaining this year, we cannot provide membership the ample opportunity to review and consider any revised by-laws impacts.

(2) State Grant for Education Resource Center (ERC) – The State Grant for the ERC was discussed and there are no plans to construct any given scheme at this time. As noted earlier, you should make every attempt to attend the informational forums scheduled on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

(3) 2010 Executive Board of Directors – There was some lively discussion on whether a nomination board exists or not. I stated there was not and that nominations were open to all members. As it turns out, some chapters do have a nominating committee member appointed. I will contact those individuals to discuss further the nomination process and subsequent voting procedure.

(5) Membership - Fair and equitable treatment of membership has been an objective of the Executive Board of Directors. The town hall events are one way to accommodate that. No one on the Board can control what any member wants to voice. Much of the town hall was an open forum for memberships' questions.

(6) Our club is going as electronic as we can. Ann Ishida-Ho is digitizing the PPP and you may likely receive your future publications electronically, if you desire. Same for some of our club's other documents. There was a question of whether our club has an official website. Although there is no official club website, there is a PPP website. You should also know that anybody can set up a website because it is public domain. We will try to get a list of all websites and let you know more about that later.

(7) The frequency of checking the Suggestion Box was raised. I admit that I have tried to be responsive in ensuring others besides me were present to check the suggestion box, as some members have suggested. I've tried that alternative and the result is we have not checked the box with any frequency. So I will revert back to my initial method of checking the box whenever I'm in the clubhouse. If anyone has a concern while I'm at the clubhouse you can speak to me directly.

(8) Next scheduled events

- Friday, September 11 at 10:00 a.m. – ERC grant proposal information forum
- Sunday, September 13 at 10:00 a.m. – ERC grant proposal information forum
- Tuesday, September 15 at 12 noon – Nomination deadline for Executive Board of Directors
- Saturday, September 26 at 8:00 a.m. – Grave decorating for memorial service
- Sunday, September 27 at 9:00 a.m. - Joint Memorial Service at Punchbowl
- Saturday, October 17, 2009 – Board of Directors meeting to decide on the future of State grant for Education Resource Center
- Sunday, October 18 to Thursday, October 22 - Mini Reunion at Las Vegas, NV
- Sunday, November 22 at 10:00 a.m. - Next Town Hall Meeting

*In Memoriam*

NAME	COMPANY	DATE OF DEATH
George C. Miyahara (Hayward, California)	C Company	December 17, 2008
Tony Tsunehisa Miyasako (Homedale, Idaho)	C Company	May 22, 2009
Kenneth Tomoe Nunogawa	C Company	July 14, 2009
Hiroshi Hashimoto	C Company	August 2, 2009
Thomas T. Kariya	C Company	August 9, 2009

*Our deepest sympathy to their families*

# TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUGUST 7, 2009 by David Nakamaejo

## FINANCIAL REPORT

- Cash Flow for January, 2009

Income	\$12,628
Expenditures	(18,129)
Deficit	(5,501)

- Cash Flow for February, 2009

Income	\$8,169
Expenditures	(12,330)
Deficit	(4,161)

- Cash Flow for March, 2009

Income	\$12,080
Expenditures	(17,577)
Deficit	(5,497)

- Cash Flow for April, 2009

Income	\$11,346
Expenditures	(9,464)
Balance	1,882

- Cash Flow for May, 2009

Income	\$9,646
Expenditures	(8,460)
Balance	1,887

- Cash Flow for June, 2009

Income	\$7,441
Expenditures	(11,333)
Deficit	(3,892)

- Cash Flow Year-to-Date, 2009

January	(\$5,501)
February	(\$4,161)
March	(\$5,497)
April	\$1,882
May	\$1,187
June	(\$3,892)
Total	(\$15,991)

- Month of August, 2009 -continuing to work with Office Assistant to get the office more organized
- Next month's EBOD meeting report:
  - Cash Flow for July, 2009

### FROM THE EDITOR by Ann Ishida-Ho

Our organization is going through much transition to address its future. As we move toward improvements to protect the future of the organization, its assets, and membership, these changes may not all be understood or welcomed.

Many of us contribute with passion, in honor or memory of our parents. We serve this organization with respect and commitment. As descendants, we come from all different walks of life and experiences. We aren't bonded together by war experiences as our fathers are, but by the mere desire to serve our seniors well and to ensure that the future of this organization is in secure hands when the reins of leadership are passed on by us to our children.

The boomer generation grew up in the turbulent times of the 1960's and 1970's. Thanks to our parents, we became better educated, more sophisticated to the world, and definitely more vocal and

articulate as activists with conscience. We wanted to make the world a better place to live and we tried very hard to offer our children the best, as did our parents with our generation.

Our seniors may think that by vocalizing our questions, concerns, and comments regarding the challenges before this organization, we are being “negative” and are not “playing nicely” together. Far from the truth! We are seeking answers to the questions. We are registering concerns that face the organization and possibly our future. We are raising people’s awareness with our comments. We do all of this with respect and appreciation for each other and for the organization.

The ability to express one’s self is a part of our fathers’ legacies. Our fathers stood up for themselves and that of others, at the front and at home. Thanks for the opportunity to express ourselves as descendant members of this organization.

### **PPP COLLATING VOLUNTEERS by Bernard S. Akamine**

The thirty three people who came to help collate for the August issue were Doris Aimoto, Bernard Akamine, Alfred Arakaki, Robert and Nancy Arakaki, Jayne Hirata-Epstein, who brought a pot of chicken *miso* soup and rice, Kuni Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Susumu Kunishige, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Masanori Moriwake, Tom Nishioka, Seie Oshiro, who brought plenty of avocado, Elsie Oshita, Nancy Sakaki, Kazuto Shimizu, Goro Sumida, Dot Tamashiro, Joy Teraoka, Riki and Evelyn Tsuda, Takako Umamoto, Terri Wakuzawa, China Yamashina, Marie Yoneshige, Velma Nakahara (daughter of the late Toshikatsu Nakahara (B), who brought two containers of pastries, and her nephew Dayne, and, Arlene Sato who brought *sekihan* which was wiped out in minutes, plus *edamame* and peanuts.



Four visitors from Huntington Beach, California, my sister and her family, also came to help. My niece Kim was here earlier in March and came to help collate. She enjoyed it so much and said it was the highlight of her trip. She timed their summer trip to coincide with our collating day again. Thanks to everyone who helped!



### **COMMUNICATION/MARKETING COMMITTEE by Ann Ishida-Ho**

Please accept our apologies for not having the August *PPP* articles up and running at the [onepukapukaparade.weebly.com](http://onepukapukaparade.weebly.com) website as promised. We will make every effort to get the September articles imported as we work on the hardcopy.

We are looking for a volunteer that could provide us with a little time to import the files into the *PPP* website on a monthly basis. This task should take no more than one hour to two hours max, since all the articles would have already been edited and digitized. PDF files would be forwarded to you to import. Please call Ann Ishida-Ho at 383-2667 or email at [pukapukaparade@gmail.com](mailto:pukapukaparade@gmail.com). Thanks!

The *Puka Puka Parade* is the monthly newsletter of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans (aka Club 100). It is published at 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826.

The opinions expressed in the *Puka Puka Parade* are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans. We welcome readers to send signed written comments via mail to Ann Ishida Ho, Editor, *Puka Puka Parade*, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826 or via e-mail to [pukapukaparade@gmail.com](mailto:pukapukaparade@gmail.com).

**JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE AND CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**  
**by Lois Nakagawa**

The Oahu AJA Veterans Council will hold its fourth annual Joint Memorial Service at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

The service honors fallen World War II members and veterans of the Military Intelligence Service, 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and 1399<sup>th</sup> Engineer Construction Battalion. The soldiers of these racially segregated units overcame bigotry and doubts about their loyalty with heroic and honorable service in every theater of World War II. The Joint Memorial Service is held the last Sunday of September each year in honor of Joe Takata, the first member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, who in 1943, was killed in action in Italy.

The 1399<sup>th</sup> is the host unit for this year's service. The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans Club's next turn to host is 2010.

Veterans, their widows and families are invited and urged to attend. Parking at Punchbowl for the Joint Memorial Service will be extremely limited. Because of the expected high turnout and limited parking, carpooling is encouraged. The cemetery will remain open to other members of the public during the service, so it is imperative that we try to minimize the number of vehicles there. We are strongly urging people to carpool.

The 100th veterans are asking their sons, daughters and descendants to support the memorial service by volunteering for the following tasks in their stead.

Tasks	No. Needed
<b>Saturday, 9/26/09 (gate opens at 7:30am)</b>	
Decorate 100 <sup>th</sup> graves with flowers (Avin Oshiro organizing)	Lots
<b>Sunday, 9/27/09</b>	
<b>100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse at 6:30am</b> Pick up ice/bottled water/coolers; snacks & <i>oshoko</i> table Return coolers after service	2
<b>McDonald's (Aina Haina) at 6:30am</b> Pick up coolers/ice/cups/punch syrup Return coolers after service	1 filled
<b>Punchbowl gate opens at 7:00am</b>	
Check spelling on wreath ribbons; lay out wreaths	1
Check in VIPs (Lois Nakagawa)	2
Present lei	1
Assist with directing cars for parking (Bert Hamakado)	6*
Drive carts to transport attendees (Bert Hamakado)	2*
Cue the band	2
Refreshment tent – set up and serve (Ann Kabasawa)	6 – 8
Transport wreaths to Ft. DeRussy after JMS	2

\*Meet on Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am at Punchbowl for a briefing with Bert Hamakado.

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Lois Nakagawa at [lean@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lean@hawaii.rr.com) or Bert Hamakado at [hamakadobm@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:hamakadobm@hawaiiantel.net). Indicate which task you are volunteering for and provide your contact information (name, phone/cell and email). Volunteers are asked to park behind Lady Columbia on Sunday. Thank you for your support and for continuing our fathers' legacy.

**VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS STILL NEEDED FOR 100<sup>TH</sup> GRAVE DECORATING by Avin Oshiro**

The response to last month's request in the August 2009 *Puka Puka Parade* for monetary donations to purchase flowers for our annual 100<sup>th</sup> Grave Decorating event was overwhelming. Thank you very much to everyone for their support. As you can guess, every year the number of graves that we plan to adorn with a floral tribute increases which means our budget for the event also increases. So, while we are close to meeting our goal of providing flowers for the grave of every deceased 100<sup>th</sup> club member, we are not there quite yet. Therefore, we are still accepting donations for this fund. Please

make your checks out to the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans or the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Legacy Organization with "Memorial service education-grave decoration fund" in the note line. Keep in mind that a donation to the Veteran's club is not tax deductible and a donation to the Legacy organization is probably tax deductible. (Still working out the technical details)

I am pleased to report that there are a number of individuals and organizations (including our Clubhouse neighbor, Ala Wai Elementary School) who have offered to provide us with fresh flowers and greenery in the event we are unable to raise enough funds. Thank you to those of you who have offered to help in this way.

We are continuing to look for volunteers to help on Saturday, September 26. Please read Lois Nakagawa's article on the Joint Memorial Service in this issue for more information.

Please contact me via the Clubhouse if you have any questions.

### **JAPAN AUTUMN TOUR MEETING by Helen Nikaido**

The One Puka Puka Japan Autumn Tour meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup> had a good turnout. The response was very good. Kazu Hiranaka says anyone who wishes to join will be placed on the waiting list only as all seats have been sold out.

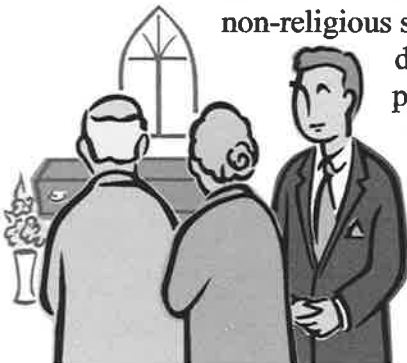
**REMINDER:** The next meeting will be on September 10 (Thursday) at 10:30 am at the Clubhouse. Payment for the tour will be collected. (Please bring your checkbook).



### **DESCENDANTS CHAPTER TO CONDUCT "CREATING MEMORIAL SERVICES" SEMINAR**

**Date:** Sunday, September 20  
**Time:** 11:00 bento lunch with reservations and 12 noon session starts; ends at 1 p.m.  
**Location:** 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse, 520 Kamoku St.  
**Parking:** Ala Wai Elementary School, Diamond Head end of parking lot  
**RSVP:** Shayna Hanai: [hanai.shayna@gmail.com](mailto:hanai.shayna@gmail.com); ph: 284-7254 by September 14

The Rev. Clarence Liu, Chaplain of Hospice Hawai'i, will discuss the purpose of the memorial service and discuss what is included in a traditional religious service as well as new trends in non-religious services. This session will be enlightening for all generations. We encourage descendents to come with their parents to start the conversation. Knowing our parents' wishes would help greatly in decision making when the time comes. It certainly takes the worry and guess-work out of planning for a most important family event.



You may also order a bento lunch for \$6 or bring your own lunch and mingle with session attendees before the presentation begins. This event is free and open to the public; donations will be accepted.

Also, mark your calendar for the next Descendants Chapter's Family Support Group seminar which will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2009.

### **LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE by Ann Ishida-Ho**

This committee will be conducting a survey of its membership in the near future. The survey is currently being developed.

We are requesting that the chapter presidents designate one veteran/spouse and a descendant to represent their respective chapters at the LRPC committee meetings. If chapter representatives are not designated, the chair will ask for volunteers among its general membership.

Please contact Ann Ishida-Ho at 383-2667 with your chapter's representatives.

Next LRPC meeting is on October 31<sup>st</sup> at the Clubhouse at 10 a.m. Please RSVP with Ann via the clubhouse by October 28 if you will be attending or by email: [ishidaho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ishidaho@hawaii.rr.com).



## HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS by Janice Sakoda

Well, it's been said that no news is good news. Well, if that's true, this column is loaded with good news!

I recently learned that many of our HQ chapter members will be traveling: Ken Akinaka will be gone for three weeks, vacationing one week each in Shingle Springs, CA, where he will be attending a wedding; San Francisco Bay Area, and Chicago, Illinois to visit wife Delores' family. Elsie Oshita will be going to Japan in October with Club 100. (This must be at least her ga-zillionth trip there!) Lois and John Nakagawa were recently in Los Angeles for a Kenny Endo taiko performance. Lois is the daughter of Doris Aimoto. Mac Moriwake, Aki and Pat Akimoto, Doris Aimoto, Dorothy Tamashiro will be going to the Las Vegas mini-reunion in October. Bea Shinoda will be going to Las Vegas with her family in November. As for me, my husband and I are off to visit some friends in Alaska and to do some sightseeing and fishing. And my sister, Vicki, will be going to Washington state and Europe in September. We're all doing our "patriotic duty" to stimulate the economy.



What about you? Taking any trips? Let me know (call 737-7778) and I'll include it in the PPP!

## MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS by Sam Fujikawa

August 13, Thursday at the National Center for Preservation of Democracy, will be the National Veterans Meeting. The keynote speaker will be Army Major General Jason Kamiya, Commander, Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command and son of 100th veteran. It will be followed by discussions on the Congressional Gold Medal bill and comments from Congressional representatives. August 14, Friday on the agenda will be participation from 19 different Veterans' groups and organizations from all over the United States. The keynote speaker will be William McLemore, U.S. Service Organization Liaison for the Heart of Texas Veterans Health Care Network. Scheduled among the participants, via Video Conference, are Mike Harada and Avin Oshiro representing the 100th Infantry Battalion and Jimmy Kuroiwa representing the Go For Broke Association. Also participating are John Wakamatsu, President of the 100th/442nd Veterans Association (son of the late Jack Wakamatsu 442nd Co F), and Sam Fujikawa, President of the 100th Veterans, Mainland Chapter. Detailed comments and discussions of this conference can be found on the GFBNEC website at [www.goforbroke.org](http://www.goforbroke.org).

The Annual Nisei Week Parade will be held on Sunday, August 16 at 5:30 pm downtown Los Angeles. The sons and daughters will be giving the vets well appreciated support leading off the parade with the banners and colors. Two large troop trucks have been arranged by Ken Shigemitsu and Russell Nakaishi for the veterans to ride. Many wives and widows of the veterans helped make the *Tanabata kazari* for the Go For Broke entry and we wish all participants good luck and success.

Mainland 100th members are busy volunteering at the GFBNEC, preparing for the upcoming Nisei week projects, a big annual GFB Fundraiser, and the October mini reunion. So far the following members have registered for the reunion (in the order that they registered): Sam and Sara Terasaki, Tokuji and daughter, Pauline Yoshihashi, May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Chuckie Seki, Mitsi Fuchigami, Mary Catherine and son, Daryl Doi, Michael Doi, Kiyoshi and Bonnie Horino, Harry and Yoshi Kiyabu, Sadie Yoshiwara, Chiz Ohira, Claudia Nakano, Lindsay Mueller, Jim and Fumi Akagi, Kathy Tanaka, Robi Shibao Martin, Sam and Teri Fujikawa, Jean Miyasato, Jim Katayama, Margaret Deveny, Sherrill Richardson, Betty Sipes, Elizabeth and Thomas Pruett, Melvin Shiramizu, Steve Noguchi, Ruth Oda, Vince Oda, Jennifer Duncan, Douglas and son, Howard Tanaka, Steve and Sonia Sato, Toe Yoshino, Duke Ogawa, Ben and Jean Tagami, William and Margaret Omoto, Tosh and Lois Taniguchi, Hank and Elsie Hayashi, Tak and Sharon Shimazaki, Ron and Gayle Tanaka, Robert and Yoshiko Hayashi, Toshimi and Lillian Sodehani, Kay Kobashi, Henry and Carol Guerra, Ken Miya, Don and Sets Miyada, Ben and Elaine Matsui, Stan and Mary Sanford, Mitzi Okazaki, Annie Koshi, Harry Fukasawa, Noby Okamoto, Henry Ikemoto, Ralph Kaneshiro. Our Treasurer, Harry Fukasawa is still receiving registrations.



We are certainly looking forward to seeing everyone again in October so please, take care and keep well and safe.

## MAUI CHAPTER NEWS by Stan Izumigawa

Maui Chapter members usually get together only twice a year because of limited finances. Since the Mothers' Day Lunch activity was cancelled because the 442nd club invited us to their social which was scheduled only days apart we actually have not met together yet this year as a club. We got to see each other today Aug. 15, because the 442 generously invited us as guests. We appreciate and enjoy this gesture. The last few 442 socials that we were invited to were held at the Wailuku Hongwanji facility, which allows lots of socializing time and bingo after lunch. Speaking of socializing, in some ways we are just like kids, the 100's still sit together.

Those who participated today included Ed and Marie Nishihara with daughter Francine, Violet Moto and son Eric, Kats and Fumie Hanada, Tsukio and Helen Yamagata, Willie Goo and widows Helen Nakashima, Fusae Yamato, Kiyono Endo, Fumiko Nagata, Lillian Miyagawa, Thelma Iwami, Kay Sato, Carol Shinyama and Lillian Maeda. Art Kurahara and Stan Izumigawa are members of the 100th and the 442nd clubs. Much-traveled Tom Yamada would have joined us, but he was in Canada.



I left a little early while the bingo was in progress because I had noticed that there was enough wind to get in some windsurfing. I rigged up and got out on the water and it was great. I had to tell myself not to overdo it and get tired because I still had to do this article after I got home. My kind of windsurfing is not like the stuff you see on TV. I just ride back and forth in flat water where there are no real waves.

## RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER by Ted Hamasu

The 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a wonderful gathering. Rural Chapter had a total of five veterans, Masaharu Saito, Susumu Ota, Mitsuo Nagaki, Kenneth Higa and Ted Hamasu. There were about 360 in attendance, with descendants outnumbering the veterans. Thanks to our own organization's Banquet Committee and descendant volunteers, all of the details were handled by them with the veterans staying on the sidelines and acting when asked.

Rural Chapter held its meeting on July 25 with 6 members attending. They were Masaharu Saito, Mitsuo Nagaki, Susumu Ota, Mimi Nakano, Kenneth Kaneshige and Ted Hamasu. We discussed our Learning Center and decided that it was time to start moving to gather the funds and build the Center.

No meeting planned for the month of August.



## BAKER CHAPTER NEWS by Bernard S. Akamine

Baker members who plan to attend the September 5 Chapter meeting should contact President Robert Arakaki at 737-5244 to order your lunch. Please call by September 1.

Baker Chapter sends a get well and speedy recovery to Ray Nosaka, who is being treated at Hale Nani Nursing Home. Aki visits there every day. Fellow member Martin Tohara is now a resident there.

We still do not have a Chair for the Christmas party in December. Please contact Chapter President Robert Arakaki if you can help out.

Since the August meeting was canceled due to a private party, I'll write about the happenings at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl. I went with my wife as a pinch-hitter because our daughter Drusilla was sick with the flu. My wife and I had a very interesting day with a surprise visitor, namely, Masayo Duus, Honorary Member of our Club. She came to visit Young Oak Kim's grave site. We had a difficult time locating him. Every time I touched the screen after typing in the name "Kim," the screen displayed, "OK." I assumed there were no "Kim's" in the computer. After several tries, I read the small print and it said, "There are 201 Kim's so input first name." Hooray, we got the gravesite number after many tries. I told Mrs. Duus that I have a copy of her book, *Unlikely Liberators* that she autographed. She was delighted about that. She said she would visit our clubhouse while she was here.



While we are on duty, we wear name tags and the door signs announce who is on duty for the day. Old-time friends can recognize our names, but we have difficulty recognizing them after many years of not seeing each other. Working at the Visitor Information Center gives us opportunities to renew friendships. For out-of-state visitors, we tell the story of the Nisei who earned the Medal of Honor. There is still no display of Shizuya Hayashi. I'm wondering who is responsible for supplying a photo of him.

At the Club's 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet, Cemetery Director Gene Castagnetti recognized the years of work and thousands of hours contributed by the 100<sup>th</sup> Docents. He gave a moving speech, recalling a particular heart-warming encounter between the veteran docents and visitors from Texas. After the slide show which accompanied his speech, several people expressed their interest in volunteering, too. We are now gathering information from current and new volunteers and setting up a schedule for 2010. If you are interested, contact me, Bernard Akamine, at 734-8738 or my daughter, Drusilla Tanaka at [drusillatanaka@gmail.com](mailto:drusillatanaka@gmail.com). There will be a training session later this fall. This is a very valuable service to the visitors who go there when the office is closed on Saturdays, so hope more will join the effort. It's a great way to spend quality time with your spouse or your Club comrade or another family member—children and grandchildren (must be 18 years old or older) are welcome to serve, too.



The expert grape-picker in August 2009's "Who Dat???" was Rikio Tsuda.

**“HERSHEY” MIYAMURA AND OTHER KOREAN WAR MOH RECIPIENTS  
RECOGNIZED AS HEROES BY SECRETARY SHINSEKI  
from the Japanese American Veterans Association (July 31, 2009)**

Washington, DC. On July 27, 2009 at the Korean War Memorial, in a ceremony marking the 59th anniversary of the North Korean invasion of South Korea, Secretary of US Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki paid tribute to 17 nation military forces, including nearly two million Americans, who served in the Korean War. He described the profound acts of gallantry of four recipients of the Medal of Honor during the Korean War, including 100<sup>th</sup> WWII veteran Corporal Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura.

Secretary Shinseki reminded the audience that nearly two million American in every branch of the military served in Korea, fighting and dying at “Pork Chop Hill” and “Heartbreak Ridge”; in towns like Chipyeong-ni, Pusan, and Chosin Reservoir; and in unnamed locations known only by grid coordinates or hilltop elevations. 54,246 Americans gave their lives; more than 103,000 were wounded; over 8,000 went missing, and more than 7,000 were captured, 40 percent of whom died horrifically in captivity. From their ranks came a few who performed acts of valor so profound that they were awarded our Nation's highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor, 131 awarded for combat action in Korea, 94 of them posthumously.

Secretary Shinseki said Miyamura volunteered for Korea War duty and was awarded the Medal of Honor for “conspicuous gallantry on April 24, 1951, near Taejon-ni. When a massive enemy attack threatened to overrun his company's defense, Corporal Miyamura fought off the attack in his sector by downing 10 of the enemy with his bayonet in hand-to-hand fighting. Under continuing assault, he aided the wounded, expedited their evacuation, and then ordered the remainder of his squad to withdraw while he single-handedly manned his machine gun until it ran out of ammunition. Severely wounded, he held his ground and was last seen by his comrades in a hand-to-hand fight against an overwhelming number of the enemy. He personally killed 50 of the enemy that night, saved the members of his squad, and managed to survive severe injury and a long, brutal captivity as a prisoner of war.” [Though presumed dead because his body was not recovered when the position was retaken, Miyamura had been subsequently captured by the enemy and, while a prisoner of war, was unaware of being awarded the Medal of Honor. It was not until he was repatriated over two years later that he found he was to be honored. President Dwight Eisenhower personally presented the award to him on October 27, 1953].

Secretary Shinseki asked the crowd to remember what the Korean people have never forgotten, that the guarantors of the democracy that is, today, the prosperous Republic of Korea were the young, who gave so preciously, nearly 60 years ago, to defend freedom and liberty on a distant, war-torn peninsula. He reminded them that a new generation of Americans walks in the boots of the Korean War veterans and because they do, our country remains the land of the free, the home of the brave and the guardian of freedom and liberty for others.

You can read Secretary Shinseki's speech in its entirety at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website: [http://www1.va.gov/opa/speeches/2009/09\\_0727.asp](http://www1.va.gov/opa/speeches/2009/09_0727.asp).

## **UPDATE ON THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL by Grant Ichikawa (JAVA-APAVET Round Robin, August 18, 2009)**

Jack Kojimoto and I were JAVA Representatives to the second National Veterans meeting, sponsored by the Go For Broke National Education Center, which was held in Los Angeles on August 13 and 14, 2009. A great deal of time and effort was spent learning about and discussing the Congressional Gold Medal to be awarded to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II. On May 14, 2009, the House bill known as H.R. 347, introduced by Congressman Adam Schiff (D-CA), was passed by the House by a vote of 411 to 0.

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced a companion bill known as S-1055 with three co-sponsors, Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Senator Daniel Akaka (D-HI) and Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who signed on as the original cosponsors of S-1055. What is now needed is 2/3 of the Senators (68 Senators) to sign on as cosponsors to get the bill out of the Senate Banking Committee and on to the floor of the Senate.

Both Aaron Baird from Congressman Adam Schiff's office and Alton Garret, South California CA Director, from Senator Barbara Boxer's office emphasized that the first priority is to get 2/3 of the Senators to cosponsor the S-1055 bill in order to get it out of the Senate Banking Committee. Any move to change the bill at this critical stage, such as by adding the MIS (Military Intelligence Service), could severely delay the outcome of the bill. Therefore, the first and only move at this point is to get the 68 Senators to cosponsor the S-1055 bill as introduced by Senator Barbara Boxer and cosponsored by the three Senators Inouye, Akaka and Feinstein

According to both Alton Garret and Aaron Baird, who were present on the first day of this meeting, it is very important for constituents in the states other than California and Hawaii to approach their Senators asking them to cosponsor the bill S-1055. According to Bill Takakoshi, advisor to Go For Broke National Education Center who is well versed in how to approach members of Congress, the messages need to be brief and to the point because the Senators do not like lengthy messages. He suggested the following key points:

- \* Become a co-sponsor of S-1055 which will award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Japanese American 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team

- \* Two-thirds of Senators are required to sign on as a co-sponsor of S-1055 to get it out of committee and to the Senator floor.

- \* A bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100th and 442nd passed the House of Representatives in May 2009

- \* When S-1055 reaches the Senate floor, an amendment to add the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) will likely be offered. We request your support of this amendment on the Senate floor and with the Conference Committee.

It would be appreciated if you would send a letter, in whatever length you wish to make it, to contact Senators from your state and also other states, except Hawaii, to request they cosponsor the Bill. If you have friends who are willing to help, please ask them to also send e-mail letters or make telephone calls to their Senators offices. Enlistment of other national organizations will definitely help, such as the JACL, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legions, and others who may be willing to instruct their member constituents to approach their Senators to co-sponsor the S-1055. Also, family members of the Texas "Lost Battalion" might be willing to approach their Senators to co-sponsor S-1055. Word from constituents is very important to get Senators to sign on as co-sponsors. The more letters a Senator receives from his constituents the better. Your letters are very important and each one will make a difference.

When you call or send emails to their offices, say something along the following lines:

"I am contacting you to ask Senator \_\_\_ to cosponsor S. 1055, a bill that would grant the Congressional Gold Medal to the Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team of the U.S. Army in

recognition of their dedicated service during World War II. We feel that it is important to recognize and honor these brave soldiers with a Congressional Gold Medal for their heroic contributions in defense of the United States and we hope we can count on the Senator's support."

Please contact Terry Shima of JAVA

## **ERIC SAUL COMMISSIONED TO BUILD JAPANESE AMERICAN EXHIBIT AT ELLIS ISLAND, NEW YORK**

Eric Saul's exhibit on the Japanese Americans experience during World War II will open early next year at the Ellis Island Immigration Station Museum, New York. The theme of the exhibit will be "Go For Broke: Japanese Americans soldiers fighting on two fronts, the enemy abroad and prejudice at home". It will be divided into the following: (1). Japanese Immigration to the United States, 1885-1924; (2). Prewar Japanese Experience in Hawaii and the Mainland, 1924-1941; (3). Pearl Harbor and Japanese American Evacuation and Internment on the West Coast; (4). Japanese American Soldier in WWII; (5). Soldiers Returning Home and the Closing of the Internment Camps; (6). Japanese American Veterans and the Civil Rights Movement; (7). Japanese American Veterans and the Redress Movement; and (8). The Legacy.

According to the press release by JAVA: "The exhibit will tell the history of the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, the 522<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, and Military Intelligence Service (MIS). It will tell this story in the wider context of the role of Japanese American soldiers in influencing the postwar Japanese American experience. The war record of the Nisei soldier had a significant impact on the postwar civil rights of Japanese Americans, and contributed to the successful passing of the House Resolution 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988."

This exhibit will later be shown at the Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance in LA, then tour the United States and Canada. One of Saul's principal colleagues in this exhibit is Ted Tsukiyama, Esq., a historian of Japanese American WW II experience. *(Photo of the right is of Eric Saul (with moustache) at a lunch with members of the Japanese American Veterans Association. Photo by Irene Mori, [www.javadc.org](http://www.javadc.org)).*



If you have World War II photographs or memorabilia relating to the theme of "Japanese American soldiers fighting on two fronts" and would like to have them included in the exhibit, please contact Eric Saul at 810 Windwood Place, Morgantown, WV 26505. You can also call him at 304-599-0614 or e-mail [visasforlife@s.com](mailto:visasforlife@s.com).

## **LITTLE KNOWN BENEFIT CAN HELP OLDER VETS, SPOUSES by Saul Friedman, Newsday (Stars and Stripes, July 2, 2009) (Submitted by Midori Hirano, HQ)**

Here is some old but good news for veterans of modest means who were in service during wartime and need medical and nursing care.

On December 19, 2006, then-Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson issued a press release "to inform wartime veterans and surviving spouse of deceased wartime veterans about an underused, special monthly pension benefit called "Aid and Attendance". The press release stated, "Although this is not a new program, not everyone is aware of his or her potential eligibility. The Aid and Attendance pension benefit may be available to wartime veterans and surviving spouses who have in-home care or who live in nursing homes or assisted living facilities." Eligible veterans need not have served overseas or in combat; they must have served during the period of a war: World War II, December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946; Korean, June 27, 1950-January 31, 1955; Vietnam, August 5, 1964-May 7, 1975; Persian Gulf War, August 2, 1990 to a date not yet determined.

The press release got little notice, perhaps because Veterans Affairs wanted to save money. But it has surfaced among veterans and elder lawyers such as Frank L. Buquicchio, who is accredited by the VA to give advice to and represent veterans. The head of his law firm, Vincent Russo, said that, other than the press release, the VA had chosen not to publicize this benefit. But, he added, "It can be a lifesaver for veterans and their spouses because the additional monthly payment from the VA can make assisted living more affordable."

Buquicchio told me Aid and Attendance is meant “for the veteran or surviving spouse who have not received reimbursements for medical expenses. It is most ideally suited for someone who needs assistance at home and is paying for an aide or is in assisted living. Assisted-living charges are considered by the VA as a medical expense.” Assisted-living is not supported by Medicaid. Buquicchio added that the eligible income and asset levels are similar to Medicaid, but not as restrictive.

The person’s home is exempt, and the VA will do an “age analysis” to determine if the veteran (or surviving spouse) has sufficient assets to pay for his or her own care. The basic requirement is that the veteran requires ongoing aid and attendance for the performance of activities of daily living. This requirement is waived if the veteran is in a nursing home. The 2008 maximum benefit for a married person is \$1,842 a month and \$1,555 for a single person. The benefits are tax-free and needy surviving spouses may get more generous benefits.

You may learn more by calling Veterans Affairs at 800-827-1000 or by visiting the VA Web site at [www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/docs/aid-and-attendance.doc](http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/docs/aid-and-attendance.doc). You can apply for the Aid and Attendance benefit at any veterans’ service agency or online at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

## **OFFICE UPDATE by Jayne Hirata-Epstein and Arlene Sato**

### **DONATIONS**

It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge the generosity of the following persons and/or organizations whose financial support ensures the legacy of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion World War II veterans will continue on for future generations:

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

Mr. Choichi and Mrs. Doris Shimabukuro	\$500	
Mrs. Lois Nakagawa	\$25	In Memory of Frances Komiyama
Mrs. Lois Nakagawa	\$25	In Memory of Kenneth Nunogawa

#### **PUKA PUKA PARADE:**

Mrs. Blanche Maeda	\$100	In Memory of Yasuo Iwasaki of Hilo
Mr. Bernard and Mrs. Jeanette Akamine	\$80	In Memory of Kenneth Muroshige

#### **100<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS:**

Ms. Carolyn McGahan	\$150	In Memory of Tomeno Odo
Mr. Toyo and Mrs. Kathy Nishida	\$50	In Memory of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Otagaki
Mr. Don Toyama and Mrs. Pat Takahashi-Toyama	\$100	In Memory of Sakae and Stella Takahashi
Mr. Roberto Stevens	\$200	In Memory of Michael Mitsukazu Miyake
Mr. Choichi and Mrs. Doris Shimabukuro	\$500	In Memory of F and HQ Members
Mr. Sonsei Nakamura	\$80	
Mr. Melvin M. Shiramizu	\$500	
Mr. Rikio and Mrs. Evelyn Tsuda	\$80	In Memory of Kenneth Muroshige
Mrs. Shizuko Akamine	\$40	
Mr. Martin and Mrs. Mabel Fujimoto	\$25	
Mrs. Eleanor Nedjar	\$50	For Turner Hall Rental

#### **JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE 100<sup>TH</sup> GRAVE DECORATING**

Mr. Don and Mrs. Kimi Matsuda	\$100	
Mrs. Dorothy “Dot” Tamashiro	\$25	
Mrs. Lorraine H. Miyashiro	\$25	
Mr. Andrew and Mrs. Fumie Nishino	\$100	
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Tanaka and Sgt. Len Tanaka	\$100	
Mr. Kirk T. Nishibayashi	\$100	In Memory of Tsunehiro “Nick” Nishibayashi
Mr. Kazuto and Mrs. Lynn Shimizu	\$50	
Mr. Tom and Mrs. Margaret Nosse	\$30	
Mrs. Lois Nakagawa	\$50	
Mrs. Beatrice Shinoda	\$25	
Mr. Masanori “Mac” Moriwake	\$100	
Mr. Seie and Mr. Avin Oshiro	\$200	
Mr. Neal S. Nakayama	\$100	

## VETERAN VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Clubhouse Office continuously receives invitations from schools and other organizations for 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion WWII veterans to attend special events or speak to groups. Our practice has been to contact the Chapter Presidents to ask if they know of any members who may be interested in attending. This works fine when there is a sufficient amount of time but when there is very short notice, it is not very efficient.

We would like to put together a roster of volunteer who would be willing and able to represent the 100<sup>th</sup> at special events like the 'Iolani School Fourth of July parade pictured on the right. If you are interested, please contact the Office as soon as possible at 946-0272 or e-mail [club100vets@gmail.com](mailto:club100vets@gmail.com). Let us know the best phone number to reach you at, the days and times you are available, whether you need a ride or can drive yourself, and whether you would be willing to give a presentation (speech, talk story, etc.) or just want to enjoy the event as a guest (no public speaking involved). Also let us know if you need any other accommodations (a ramp for a wheelchair or a walker, meals or snacks, unable to stand, unable to stay in the sun, etc.) or have special skills (speak foreign languages, willing to share photo albums, etc.).



Opportunities to attend special events will also be posted at the Clubhouse bulletin board and online at our 100<sup>th</sup> website at [onepukapukaparade.weebly.com](http://onepukapukaparade.weebly.com).

## ALOHA TO OUR SOLDIERS

A very welcome phone call came in to the office from Tammy Kubo, the mom of 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> reservist Spc William Lurbe, Jr. and the wife of upcoming Decendants' Chapter guest speaker Ed Kubo, letting the 100<sup>th</sup> veterans know that the first stop on the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> homecoming would be Fort Hood. Tammy donated a beautiful red-white-and-blue "Welcome Home" banner for the veterans, the EBOD and the 100<sup>th</sup> 'ohana to sign and took it with her to welcome the boys home in Texas! Mahalo, Tammy for always keeping the 100<sup>th</sup> veterans old and new in your heart.

When the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> soldiers finally arrived in Hawaii on Tuesday, August 18, they were greeted by Robert Arakaki, Tom Tsubota, Lois Nakagawa and Bert Hamakado at a Welcome Home Ceremony at Kalaeloa. Robert reported that they truly received the VIP treatment, getting shuttled to the holding area in a private car and being the first guests to meet the soldiers in the holding area (even before their families saw them). Thank you to Bert for your help and for driving everyone in the midst of traffic.

A surprise visitor to the Thursday Wine Gang was 1Sgt Beau Tatsumura of the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> who shared stories with the veterans about his tour of duty in Kuwait. Beau and his hardworking crew picked up where they left off by coming on Saturday, August 22 to clean the Clubhouse and take care of the many gardening and yard work duties. They will be regular visitors to the Clubhouse, coming on the fourth Saturday of each month to volunteer wherever needed. Make sure to thank them for a job well done in Kuwait and also at the Clubhouse when you see them.

On Monday, August 17, 2009, SPC Steven Fudd of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion/300<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery of the 960<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion was warmly welcomed to the Clubhouse by Goro Sumida, "China" Yamashina, Aki Akimoto and Al Matsumoto. SPC Fudd explained that he



lived around the corner from the Clubhouse and had always wanted to come in but never did because he saw the "private club – members only" sign on the door. As he was deploying for Kuwait in a few hours, he figured that "today was the day" and walked in.

SPC Fudd said he would love to stay in touch with the 100<sup>th</sup> 'ohana. You can write to him at 2/300<sup>th</sup> FA, 960<sup>th</sup>, Alpha Battery, Camp Virginia, Kuwait, APO 90327.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2009**

EBOD Meeting.....	Friday, September 11.....	5:30 pm
ERC Grant Proposal Forum.....	Friday, September 11/Sunday, September 13.....	10:00 am
Board Meeting.....	Saturday, September 19.....	9:30am
Able.....	Saturday, September 26...(TV lounge).....	8:00am
Baker.....	Saturday, September 5.....	11:00am
Charlie.....	Saturday, September 22.....	10:00am
Dog.....	(to be announced)	
HQ/Medics.....	Saturday, September 8.....	10:00am
Rural.....	Saturday, September 19 (Leeward CC) .....	10:00 am
Mainland.....	(to be announced)	
Descendents Chap./Creating Memorial Svcs. Sem. Sun., Sept. 20..	11:00 am (lunch), 12 noon (program)	
Development Committee.....	(to be announced)	
Scholarship Committee.....	Saturday, September 12.....	9:00 am
Long Range Planning Comm.....	No Meeting	
Line Dancing.....	Wednesdays, September 9, 16, 23, 30 (no class Sept. 2)...	9:00am
Beginning Waltz.....	Wednesdays, September 9, 16, 23, 20 (no class Sept. 2)...	10:30 am
Crafts.....	Tuesdays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.....	9:00am
Jewelry.....	(to be announced – call Clubhouse at 946-0272)....	10:00 am
One Puka Puka Tour.....	Thursday, September 10.....	10:30 am
100 <sup>th</sup> Grave Decorating.....	Saturday, September 26...Punchbowl.....	7:30 am
Joint Memorial Service.....	Sunday, September 27....Punchbowl.....	9:00 am

*(Start Tab here)*

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100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Veterans  
520 Kamoku Street  
Honolulu, HI 96826-5120

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**SEPTEMBER 2009 ISSUE**

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**ATTENTION** – Article deadline for every issue of the *PPP* will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month. (Please submit articles on time or they may not be included in the issue.)

**PRINTING** for the October 2009 issue will be on Tuesday, September 22 at 9:00 am. **COLLATING** will be on Friday, September 25 at 8:30 am. Baker Chapter is responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to *kokua*.

Please send Chapter news, articles, comments or anything to do with the **CONTENT** of the *PPP* to Editor Ann Ishida-Ho at [pukapukaparade@gmail.com](mailto:pukapukaparade@gmail.com) or mail to *Puka Puka Parade*, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826.

If you want to be removed from the *PPP* mailing list, have a new mailing address, or have non-*PPP* questions, comments or requests for information, please contact the Clubhouse Office at [club100vets@gmail.com](mailto:club100vets@gmail.com) or phone: (808)946-0272.