



PUKA-PUKA

PARADE



MAY 2004

ISSUE #04/5



REMINDER!

**CLUBHOUSE CLEAN-UP
SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2004
FROM 8:30 A.M.**

Roll up your sleeves, bring your buckets, washrags and necessary equipment to the clubhouse for its annual clean-up. It is time to remove the cobwebs, dust, junk, clean the windows, refrigerators, display cases and every area so our clubhouse will be sparkling clean again. The following chapters are in charge of:

Company

Able
Baker
Charlie
Dog
Headquarters/Medics
Rural

To Clean

Trophy cases
Windows, air conditioning
Lounge area and store room
Refrigerators
Wherever needed
Kitchen (Mr. Tanji, steam cleaner for stove)

IMPORTANT: Chapter presidents are asked to provide a list of or the number of volunteers coming from their chapters so that the club secretary can order bentos for each participant.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Stanley M. Akita

On Thursday, the day before the Board meeting, I received a call from Ron Yonemoto requesting me to bring some vets to the Matsunaga clinic on Friday for a news conference. The news conference was in regard to the bad vibes the VA hospitals on the mainland were receiving on TV. When told that our Board meeting was to be held on that day, Ron said bring the entire Board and they'd arrange for us to hold our meeting at the Matsunaga clinic after the news conference.

After a hectic Thursday afternoon of phone calling, we met at the clubhouse on Friday at 7:30 am to make it in time for the news conference at 8:00 am. Dr. McBride, the Head Physician at Tripler, did a splendid job explaining to the Channel 4 newsman about what Tripler is doing to take care of the vets here in Hawaii and also what the VA is doing here.

We felt that we should give our VA here in Hawaii all our support that they need from us being that the three bosses are all local boys. They are Dennis Kuewa, David Burge (whose mother is a local Japanese) and Ron Yonemoto. Incidentally, all the vets there at the news conference were vets from the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans.

Meeting:

The meeting was called to order and a moment of silence was observed. Installation of the new officers was tabled until the May meeting. The March 2004 minutes, the Club Secretary's report and the Sec./Treasurer's report were accepted.

Apartment:

Robert Arakaki reported that the project of repairing and painting over the rust on the apartment railing has been completed. Thanks to R. Arakaki and T. Wozumi.

House:

Robert Arakaki and Tom Wozumi are in the process of painting the front of the clubhouse. A bid for patching a few areas on the roof was received. The bid was for about \$3,600. Robert Arakaki will look into the matter and his findings to the Board.

Long Range:

The committee met and will report to the board their recommendations as to the disposition of the future of the club.

Bylaws:

Dr. Denis Teraoka met with Toshimi Sodekani to revise our Bylaws to be written in plain language. When the revision is completed, a general membership meeting will be held for approval by the members.

Anniversary Luncheon:

Co-chair, Hiromi Suehiro reported that the committee decided that there will be no key-note speaker. They decided that it will be a "get-together to chew the fat" type of gathering with some light entertainment by Ray Nosaka's ukulele group and the club's newly formed Line Dance group.

For anyone interested, the Club has a few burial plots for sale at Honolulu Memorial Park, Inc.

New Business: [New procedure adopted for requesting Club Secretary's assistance.]

Hereafter, Chapter Presidents, Committee Chairpersons, individuals or groups must formally submit, in writing to the Club Secretary, any and all requests for information and/or assistance. Requests can be submitted by utilizing the office "in-box," fax, U.S. mail or email. Upon receiving such formal written requests, the Club Secretary will respond to each submission within two working days.

I'm sure you will all agree, that with the many different agendas and programs that our club provides, this new procedure is not unreasonable and will benefit us all by helping to avoid any unnecessary confusion and to ensure that time-sensitive matters are carried out with due diligence, while at the same time allowing our Club Secretary to properly organize and schedule her many daily duties.

After a few announcements, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 am. The Board enjoyed having lunch at Bob's Big Boy in Mapunapuna.

THANKS TO PPPARADE VOLUNTEERS

by Joy Teraoka, Editor

I'm always grateful to see the cheery faces of our volunteers on collating day. Even though it may be an old-fashioned method of collating and mailing in this age of high technology, those who come to the clubhouse seem to enjoy the camaraderie and after-session "talk story" time it allows them. Thanks to all of you for your "continuing service" to a worthwhile cause--keeping the vets and their friends "in touch" with one another. Last month's volunteers were: Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ed Ikuma, Shigeru and Fumi Inouye, Larry and Regina Kamiya, Arthur Komiyama, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama (thanks for the drinks), Masanori Moriwake, Joe Muramatsu, Natalie Muramatsu, Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Ray and Aki Nosaka, Kay Oshiro, Moro Sato, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Dorothy Tamashiro, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Ricky and Evelyn Tsuda, Martin Tohara, Ukichi Wozumi, Marie Yoneshige, Ann Kabasawa for making the "biscuit dogs," and Charlie/Able chapters who were in charge of refreshments. If I inadvertently forgot someone, *gomen neh*, and thanks to you, too. Several of our volunteers were ill or out of commission not too long ago, but as soon as they felt better, there they were back at their posts carrying out their duties--in the indomitable spirit of the 100th Inf. Bn. Thanks Don, Bernard, Ray, Robert S., just to mention a few.



LOOKING BACK

By Joy Teraoka, Editor

EULOGY TO BEN TAMASHIRO

Our beloved fellow Doggie, Ben Tamashiro, passed away on March 26, 2004, after being confined briefly at Queen's Medical Center. His sudden demise leaves an emptiness in our hearts. We will miss the diminutive white haired "Harry" with the upturned bushy white eyebrows and wide friendly smile.

Ben was not only a popular TV actor for Bank of Hawaii commercials, but to the 100th Inf. Bn. veterans, he was their historian, their writer and philosopher. Many tributes have been paid to him as he was a man who found joy in serving others. Well-known Honolulu Advertiser staff writer, Beverly Creamer, eulogized Ben in her article of Tuesday, March 30, 2004. The following are excerpts from that column

Ben Hiroshi Tamashiro, who with his wife, Gloria, starred in the memorable series of homespun "Harry and Myra" commercials that touched the heart of a community, has died at the age of 86.

Tamashiro became so well-known as his Bank of Hawaii TV alter ego that people on the street would hail him as Harry -- and he would answer. . . "it tickled him." . . .

But Tamashiro also was a World War II veteran and member of the 100th Infantry Battalion, a tireless volunteer for worthy causes and a talented writer whose words grace a national monument to Japanese-American soldiers.

"Ben's personality in real life was exactly like you saw in the TV ads," said Alton Kuioka, vice chairman of Bank of Hawaii. . . . "They epitomized the idea of putting yourself in your customer's slippers," he said. "And Harry's Market (their fictional TV mom and pop store) became an icon for small business in Hawai'i."

In 1993, when the Tamashiros were invited along on a University of Hawai'i football trip as boosters . . . they were virtually mobbed on a side trip to Las Vegas . . . "They seemed to be the Hawai'i ambassadors over there."

But there was more to Ben Tamashiro than his popular public image. After he retired as an administrative officer with the federal civil service at Schofield Barracks, he kept busy with the Manoa Valley Church. He was a volunteer driver with their Meals on Wheels program for 17 years; was one of those who handled all the recycling efforts for the church, loading the cans into his own car; and helped install more than 450 emergency call systems for home-bound seniors.

A member of the 100th Infantry Battalion who served in Italy during World War II, Tamashiro carried the scars of two serious injuries, one to his leg, and one to his right arm. The latter sent him home and impaired the use of his right hand for the rest of his life.

Decades later, he would pen the moving words for a World War II memorial erected in Los Angeles to honor Japanese-American servicemen. After a nationwide search failed to elicit an appropriate inscription, his former commanding officer -- Col. Young Oak Kim, who was in charge of the project -- wrote to Tamashiro . . . The words Tamashiro sent back were the ones chosen . . .

Though he didn't want any credit, Tamashiro's name is inscribed in the stone "Go For Broke" monument in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles, under this inscription:

"Rising to the defense of their country, by the thousands, they came -- these young Japanese-American soldiers from Hawai'i, the states, America's concentration camps -- to fight in Europe and the Pacific during World War II. Looked upon with suspicion, set apart and deprived of their constitutional rights, they nevertheless remained steadfast and served with indomitable spirit and uncommon valor, for theirs was a fight to prove loyalty. This legacy will serve as a sobering reminder that never again shall any group be denied liberty and the rights of citizenship." Ben Tamashiro. (*Honolulu Advertiser*, 3/30/04, pp. A1, A5)

Ben has not only left an indelible legacy of his profound thoughts in stone, but also his brilliant writings

are a treasured part of the 100th Infantry's history in their 50th anniversary book *Remembrances*. He wrote many articles for the *Puka Puka Parade*, some of which we were reprinting in our recent issues.

At his memorial service, the Reverend Dan Hatch quoted Tamashiro's favorite Bible verse: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the lands! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" (Psalm 100:1-2). Each morning this verse was his exultation to the Lord and his inspiration for serving others. In so doing, he also joyously carried out in deeds the 100th Inf. Bn.'s motto, "For Continuing Service."

It is evident to anyone visiting the Tamashiro residence how much Ben and Gloria loved their garden, a profusion of plants and flowers. Ben, the "St. Francis of Assisi" of Manoa, took pleasure in feeding the birds that were welcomed to his garden. He delighted in saying, "I'm just trying to bring a smile to God's face when I am feeding the birds for they are God's creatures."

To his beloved wife Gloria, his five daughters Regina, Brenda, Vanessa, Jenny and Celia and their families and relatives, we convey our deepest sympathy. May the many treasured memories they shared sustain them and give them strength.

We will miss Ben deeply; but his legacy will be a lasting reminder of the wonderful and warm friendships he shared with so many.

POEM IN TRIBUTE TO BEN TAMASHIRO

by Hiroshi Minami, HQ Co., 100th Inf.

In Remembrance

In his life's journey
Courage and talent possessed;
In war and in peace,
Bronze Star, Purple Heart
And Combat Infantry Badge
His courage convey

As honored member
Of the 100th Battalion
Of Go For Broke unit;
Upon his return
Of fellow comrades in arms
Stories he wrote,

Talent he portrayed
Reminding us all of battles
The brave men had fought;
And in peace he served
His church and community
Giving of himself;

Generosity
Courage and his service
Uphold the motto
Of his Battalion
For Continuing Service
In words and in deeds;
As we bid Farewell
May we too display his warmth
Others so to help.



GEN. J. KAMIYA TO COMMAND U.S. ARMY SOUTHERN EUROPEAN TASK FORCE

Jason Kamiya, (son of Larry and Regina Kamiya, members of C Co., 100th Inf. Bn.), who recently was nominated by President G. Bush to the rank of major general, has been selected to command the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force (Airborne) in Italy. He will assume command on April 30, 2004.

According to reporter Gregg K. Kakesako of the *Honolulu Star Bulletin* (March 28, 2004, p. A16), the mission of the task force is "to provide trained forces that are deployable within 72 hours. With 1,900 soldiers, it is the largest U.S. Army force south of the Alps in Europe. The U.S. airborne rapid reaction force is located at Caserma Ederle in Vincenza, about 25 miles west of Venice."

General Kamiya, a 1972 Saint Louis School graduate, has clearly shown his leadership qualities in the many responsible positions he has held during his army career. Kamiya was commander general of the Joint Readiness Training Center for nearly three years. He helped implement changes to the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Polk as it converted to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team. For his outstanding leadership at Fort Polk Kamiya won the praise of President Bush and Gen. Larry R. Ellis, Forces Command commander and those officers he leaves behind to helm this post.

In this JRTC community Gen. Kamiya's strong personal beliefs in the Army values are evident: loyalty,

duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. Col. Wade Woolfrey, Deputy Commander, JRTC and Fort Polk, recounts Kamiya "demanded much of the military, civilian and contractor work force, but never has he demanded more than he's willing to give." Through a series of town hall meetings, Gen. Kamiya has shared with the entire work force, his philosophies and viewpoints with honesty and candor. The result has produced a community of excellence and a premier joint combat training center relevant to the Army's future. Woolfrey comments, "More important, all of this has been done without losing sight of our most valuable assets: the soldiers who serve our country and the families that support them."

Gen. Kamiya has shown his sincerity and concern for his men, taking the time to ask soldiers, from privates to colonels, their viewpoints on many topics. He fervently believes that family readiness equals soldier readiness. Because of his leadership and steady influence, he will leave Fort Polk a strong community.

Perhaps, symbolically, he will be returning to the "roots" of the 100th Inf. Bn. as he assumes his command in Italy. Our congratulations to Gen. Kamiya for yet another distinguished appointment.

J. Teraoka, Editor

Pictured below is General Kamiya with President George Bush when the latter visited Fort Polk to encourage the troops. At that time, Kamiya was nominated to be promoted to the rank of major general.



U.S. ARMY MUSEUM OF HAWAII'S *SHINSEKI* GALLERY HONORS THE GENERAL

On March 28, 2004, the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii on the grounds of Fort DeRussy, celebrated the opening of the Shinseki Gallery in honor of General Eric 'Ric' Shinseki. The exhibit traces Shinseki's career from his achievements at Kauai High School through his years at West Point, in Vietnam, and during his various European commands. A collection of memorabilia includes a "well-worn cowboy glove of a 7-year old child who grew up on Kauai loving horses" to other personal items such as Shinseki's West Point uniform, photos of when he participated in an exchange program with Hurtendon Central High School in New Jersey, and numerous plaques and honors he received during his 43 years of service.

From an early age, Shinseki distinguished himself as an outstanding leader. He excelled as a student athlete and as student body president of Kauai High School. In 1960 he was elected as youth governor for the State Hi-Y Model Legislature. In 1965 Shinseki graduated from West Point, then earned a master's degree in English literature from Duke University. During the Vietnam War he received two Purple Hearts, suffering the loss of a portion of his foot in one battle. Despite this injury, he fought to

stay in the Army to continue his military career.

In 1996 Shinseki was promoted to general and served as commander of the U.S. Army in Europe, the allied land forces in Central Europe, and the NATO peacekeepers in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Gen. Shinseki's career has not been without controversy, however. He met with opposition when he redesigned the Army's head wear, favoring the black beret that looked much like the green berets worn by the Army's elite Ranger corps. Shinseki wanted the black beret to symbolize "the commitment to transfer this magnificent Army into a new force"-- a symbol of unity, excellence, and Army values.

The General pushed for the formation of the Stryker brigades in 1999 enabling the Army to rapidly respond to small-scale contingencies or to major war. His first Stryker brigade was deployed to Iraq early this year.

When Shinseki reported to a congressional committee that in the aftermath of war with Iraq, 200,000 troops would be required as a peacekeeping force, he soundly was rebuked by both the President and Defense Secretary Donal Rumsfeld for this prediction, which, unfortunately, is now approaching a realistic assessment.

General Eric Shinseki is recognized as a soldier's soldier and a great military leader. We congratulate the General for the honor bestowed upon him by the U.S. Army Museum. We know the Shinseki Gallery will be an inspiration to all who visit this special place.



HELP NEEDED IN IDENTIFYING 100TH'S CAMP MC COY BARRACKS

The National Park Service is reviewing Camp McCoy for possible national historic landmark designation and has asked if we could identify anyone who (1) underwent basic training at Camp McCoy from June to December 1942 and (2) can identify which barracks housed the members of the 100th Infantry Battalion during their training at Camp McCoy. If anyone has specific information about which barracks were used by the members of the 100th Infantry Battalion, **please contact** John Sprinkle, Jr., Ph.D., Supervisory Historian, National Historic Landmarks Survey, 1849 C Street, NW (2280), Washington, DC 20240; ph. (202) 354-2228; or john-sprinkle@nps.gov.

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If anyone has this information, you may also contact the 100th Inf. Bn. office secretary, ph. 946-0272.



FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Shari Kogan
Queen's Medical Center
Geriatric Medicine Department

on

"Drugs and the Elderly"

When: Sunday, May 23, 2004

11:30 - 1:30

Where: 100th Clubhouse

Lunch: \$5.00 per person

For Reservations, please call:

Bernard Akamine: 734-8738 Robert Arakaki: 737-5244
Kimi Matsuda: 988-6562 Marie Yoneshige: 536-9921

In the April issue of PPParade, we began the story of Turtle Omiya by the late Ben Tamashiro. In this issue is the concluding Part 2. As we read it, may we remember our two departed comrades, Turtle and Ben, with great affection.

ONCE TO EVERY MAN (TURTLE OMIYA'S STORY) PART 2

by Ben Tamashiro

For a while, during the latter half of 1945, Turtle was confident enough, because of Audrey, to go to work at Hawaiian Pine. There, he worked in the corrugated box department, assembling cardboard boxes for packing gallon-sized pineapple cans. He worked half a day, at about 60 cents an hour. The employees of the company used to marvel at the way Audrey used to guide Turtle around the corners, through the packed passageways and the overhead walkways of the plant. In the afternoon, Turtle began to take lessons in massage from Dr. Okazaki.

The Omiya family had moved to its present home on Hausten Street in 1947. There, Audrey became a zealous guardian of Turtle. Sometimes, when Turtle's sister-in-law would offer to help make his bed, Audrey would block her way into the bedroom. And whenever he'd take a sunbath, Audrey would take one, too; when he rolled his body from one side to the other, she would do likewise.

Then one day in November 1948, when she was out of her harness, she dashed across the street after another dog and was run over by a passing truck. It so happened that Taro Suzuki was back of the truck in his car. He picked up Audrey and rushed to the animal hospital but she could not be saved so the doctor put her to sleep.

Turtle returned to Morristown the following year and got another dog, Lady, whom he promptly renamed Lady Audrey. Although she was with him for ten years, she never measured up to the love, affection and intelligence of the first Audrey. After Lady Audrey died in 1959 of sickness, Turtle wanted no more dogs. For the first time in 15 years, he was without a constant companion. Family and friends took over the task of guiding and taking him around until, almost ten years later, in 1968, he went to the Palo Alto Rehabilitation Center for Blinded Veterans. There he learned the use of the cane.

For one brief period, 1947 to 1949, after completing his lessons from Dr. Okazaki, Turtle opened his own masseur business. The family put in a little extension to the house and it was here that he carried on his business. Business was good, too good, in fact! People began to call upon him in the evenings and on weekends and he soon found himself being overworked. Then one day, his stomach unexplainedly "ballooned" with gas; it was several days before the gas finally cleared itself. Meanwhile, he suffered a burning sensation throughout his body. He thinks it may have been caused by the constant breathing-in of the massage ointment, compounded by the lack of proper ventilation in his massage room. Whatever, the illness made him give up his business.

Where, what, to whom, does a man turn to – for help or direction – when he feels that he has come to the end of his ropes. Many turn to the bottle but this was not Turtle's cup of tea. Some give up on life, but Turtle, in his shuffles through the military hospitals, had encountered many others worse off than him. So, as many another in a like situation had done before him, Turtle turned to the Bible. Says Turtle: "Like Paul, who became a preacher for God and was in seclusion for three years in order to prepare himself, I was willing to sacrifice myself – to read the Bible and do all those things or whatever that God willed me to do. So instead of enjoying music and listening to the radio and going out to parties, and the like – I was trying to understand what God willed me to do, so the rest of the people could benefit by it."

Turtle can quote chapter and verse on almost any point one chooses to discuss. He cited Daniel 9:24-27, for instance, as being analogous to his situation. The Book of Daniel was written during the days of the bitter persecution of the Jews by Epiphanes, king of Syria, during his reign from 175 to 164 B.C. Its writings were for the purpose of sustaining the faith of the people in God and in the ultimate triumph of his kingdom in the face of present disasters and persecutions. "It seems as though God was speaking to me to understand all these things," says Turtle.

Turtle first tried Braille books but running his fingers over the type was too tiresome and monotonous. So he turned to "talking books" which are nothing more than books set on phonograph records. For instance, the entire Bible, in its recorded form, can be bought for about \$35 worth of records. Turtle reveled in these "books" because he could hear, for instance, the characters in the Bible; he followed their every move as the voice on the records played the part of Jesus, or a disciple, or the woman at the well. It was the voice expertise on the records, similar to the old-time "ben-shi" at the Japanese silent movies, which gave Turtle the "feel" for the Bible.

So it was through this means that he began to delve into the Bible, beginning about 1951. He wanted to start with the Gospels, in their order in the New Testament – Matthew, Mark, Luke, John – but something made him go to John first. And he could not get away from John, for about eight months. He ended up by memorizing all of John. He continued his intense study through the end of the decade. But as the years of study went by, doubts and recriminations began to seep into his mind. The Bible speaks of salvation, resurrection and revelation. But nothing of that sort seemed to come his way. So he began losing that key element – faith. Then he stopped listening to the Bible altogether. That was about ten years ago.

“There are so many preachers of the Bible; they debate among themselves, and the whole thing is like a jigsaw puzzle – how to determine what is the truth,” says Turtle. “I’ve suffered so much that I can’t endure any more. So I’ve said to myself, if I’m going to suffer that much, might as well give up. So I quit altogether and I want to stay away from it but somehow the words are living in my heart and I can’t get rid of it. Sometimes, it’s an excruciating thing, like a constant battle between the Devil and God in me. Why suffer like this? What for?”

“Lots of things are taken away from me, all the good things I wanted; regardless of my heart, taken away from me. . . I can’t cope with it. So I kinda gave up altogether. I believed in God guiding me, and many things I wanted to do, I didn’t do. And what I hated to do, I did, because it was the will of God. I left everything to God and so many years went by – not days or weeks – but so many years and years, and still goodness did not come of it. I did so many foolish things, like believing that my eyesight would be restored, but it didn’t come to pass. That belief was against my will. It made me feel so foolish.”

Turtle says that “As far as Scriptures go, God says he will uphold his word. And in fact, he calls others hypocrites if they can’t keep their promises. But God does not uphold his word. . . so I can call him a hypocrite, too. Before I never did judge God like that. But now, I judge God myself.”

Perhaps Turtle has a right to his bitterness, his strong words. Take the Book of Job, for instance. Of the misfortunes which befell Job, God restored everything to him, in greater measure, after seven years of suffering. Turtle makes the point that in the whole of the Bible, God does not hold sufferings against his own people beyond the period of seven years. “But for me,” Turtle laments, “there’s no end. That’s why I’ve given up altogether. For I suffered the loss of all things.”

Turtle claims that he is a much freer man today. This past winter, he spent about two months at Reno, Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas until his money ran out. And he steps out more often; he’s been coming out regularly to Dog Chapter affairs. But for all this, he admits: “I go to these places, trying to forget, to wash away all these things. But it just can’t be done. It’s so hard to understand these things.”

Certainly no one, least of all Turtle himself, pretends to understand why that particular piece of steel sought him out 35 years ago. And he has no recriminations for that misfortune; others were wounded and killed in that same blast. But he does have a feeling that perhaps that piece of steel was meant to help him “see” a vision of life uncluttered by that which detracts the rest of us. Which is why he tried so hard, but nothing seemed to work.

But there have been some gains. Surely the perceptions of his other senses have been heightened. Attentive listening to radio and TV enables him to forcefully discuss almost any local and world happening; he can sharply define the sounds of things and voices of people; he “follows” the roll of the dice through the voice of the croupier. When food is set before him, the server need only indicate to him that the rice is at “6 o’clock,” the soup at “9,” ham at “12,” beans at “3” and so on; he wards off intoxicating liquids, even beer; and a commonplace dish is often an exciting new experience to him as for instance, having been told of the delights of the Mexican tacos, he expressed a desire to taste it so he recently had his first bite into one at a Taco Bell establishment. The offer of one’s shoulder is all he needs to help him move from place to place; a light touch of his right hand upon that shoulder and he’s ready to go wherever one goes. He’s well “read” into the Bible and other books through the medium of the talking books. And so on. In other words, he keeps himself sound of mind and body about as well as the next hale-hearted person.

What flags his spirit is why God seems to have deserted him at a moment when he wanted to do something for God; when he was willing to sacrifice himself to whatever God willed; when he wanted so much to do things for others.

As I sat across from Turtle in his living room with only the tape recorder between us, listening to his lamentations, his words came pouring out of him. Then he turned to Paul again, to Ephesians 3:8-9, for a

rationale for his current fun trips to the mainland: "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ."

What Turtle is saying is that he needs a win someplace to reinstalled in him the old confidence he once had; a win to help him find the "unsearchable riches. . . hid in God." In a nutshell, since nothing has come his way yet, and he's been a loser for so long, he now needs a win to give him back his old spirit of wanting to be a winner; the confidence he once had in himself, like those days when he could step up to the plate, runner on first, and bring home that winning run with a smash right up the middle!

To which I can only add that if he can do that for himself by way of the crap tables, then therein may yet lie the salvation he seeks, the God he has deserted.

The title of this piece is taken from the hymn, "Once to Every Man and Nation" whose lines begin with "Comes the moment to decide/In the strife of truth with falsehood" and ends with "Truth forever on the scaffold/Wrong forever on the throne/Yet that scaffold sways the future/And, behind the dim unknown/Standeth God within the shadows/Keeping watch above his own."

CHALLENGE

What if I have eyes that do not see
This gaily colored world of forms and show;
What if in the dark I always go,
My footsteps led by sounds and memory;
What if autumn never dressed a tree
In golden brown for me to love and know;
And what if the sunset always hides its glow,
And morning's dawn does not unveil to me:
My father gave me strength of soul and mind;
My mother taught me how to laugh and pray;
My ears and nose and fingers are designed
To bring me knowledge, beauty, work and play
I do not envy those who see the light,
For I know my way and have no fear of night.
- G. K. CHESTERTON



DIS AND DAT (Thinking out loud)

by Ray Nosaka

Just relax, take a sip and savor the comfort of your afternoon wine time, and "kwitthere bellyakin" Enjoy life while there is still time. Cement our relationships -- let's all put our hearts and minds together and put "building fund" as our number one priority -- that is BUILD A MEMORIAL MONUMENT and infrastructure our building.

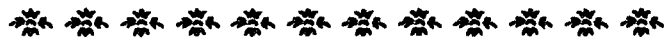
Once again, this dream comes to mind. A clubhouse shared with the veterans of the 442nd and the MIS with a memorial statue of three soldiers, arm in arm, standing in front. The inscription should read something like this, "We are brothers. Together we proved to Congress that we are loyal Americans." I sincerely believe this project should have priority on the long range program listing. It would be great if those of us veterans still alive could live to see this "dream come true."

And this would be a great tribute to those comrades who died overseas and never got the chance to see what their investment of \$2.00 a month would be worth today.

The following trivia questions are printed here for your interest and to test your memory:

1. What is the motto of the 100th Inf Bn? (Remember Pearl Harbor)
2. What was the original name of the 100th before leaving Hawaii for training? (Hawaiian Provisional Inf. Bn)
3. In what year was the 100th Bn officially formed (1942)
4. Who was the commander of the 100th? (Col. Farrant Turner)
5. Where did the 100th get its basic training? (Camp McCoy, Wisconsin)

6. What year was the 442nd officially formed and who was the commander? (1943, Col. Charles Pence)
7. What military units formed the 442nd? (100th, 232 Eng, 522FA, 206 Band)
8. How did the 100th Bn qualify for a bronze arrowhead device award? (Beachhead landing at Salerno)
9. Who was the first KIA in the 100th? (Sgt. Joe Takata)
10. Who was the first Medal of Honor recipient of the 100th? (Pfc. Sadao S. Munemori)



VANDALISM/HATE INCIDENT AT GO FOR BROKE MONUMENT IN LITTLE TOKYO

(Torrance, Calif. - March 24, 2004) - The Go For Broke Monument in Little Tokyo was defaced, stated the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, with more than 20 six-point stars with circles around each etched into the granite surface of its donor pillars. The Los Angeles Police Department has classified it as vandalism but is investigating it as a possible hate crime, stating the circles are satanic symbols.

The star-like symbols were discovered by WWII veteran Ken Akune on Thursday, March 18 as he cleaned the Go For Broke Monument. The incident was reported to the LAPD on Friday, March 19 and it is believed the incident occurred sometime late Sunday March 14 - Wednesday March 17. "We are letting the police handle the incident, as well as the Little Tokyo Koban, but also realized we needed to voice our concern and disappointment about the incident," said Akune. "We have had flower pots knocked down, but nothing of this magnitude has ever happened."

"This incident is very disturbing because the Go For Broke Monument is a civil rights symbol representing the patriotism of the Japanese Americans soldiers of WW II during a time that the civil liberties of Japanese Americans were being infringed," stated Christine Sato-Yamazaki.

"The veterans built the Go For Broke Monument to ensure the civil liberties of all Americans are forever guaranteed as stated in the U.S. Constitution."

FORT BENNING TOUR REUNION

by Drusilla Tanaka

Turner Hall was the scene of the Fort Benning Tour Reunion on Saturday, January 31, 2004. Approximately 30 people gathered to share remembrances of the trip to Fort Benning, Georgia, where the memorial to the 100th Infantry Battalion was dedicated in October 1999. Guests of honor were Jerry (Peach Boy or Momotaro) Conner, his wife, Tippiie, their daughter, Jerry Ann, and family friend Brent Gray. The pot-luck buffet of "local kine grinds" was loaded! Thanks to all who brought local favorites for our guests to sample. Jerry Ann said that the poke tasted like steak!

In late 1998, the idea of a memorial to the 100th at the Sacrifice Field of the "Home of the Infantry" was suggested to the club's Board by Col. Bill Pye and Sakae Takahashi. With the Board's approval and generous donations from veterans and families in Hawaii, on the mainland and in Japan, Col. Pye began his work with the National Infantry Museum (which oversees the memorials on Sacrifice Field). Sometime in his conversations with the museum staff, another project came about—a permanent display for the 100th in the museum, which is the former Army hospital. The Sons and Daughters group, with Evelyn Honda in charge, was given this assignment and thanks to the wonders of the internet and e-mail, a beautiful exhibit is on display.

Talk of being in Georgia for the dedication began flowing, and then-President Joe Muramatsu said he would go, but someone else had to drive. Yours truly volunteered to go and volunteered husband Stanley to drive. We were very short-sighted and certainly did not expect that the group to witness the dedication of the memorial would be nearly 50 in all.

In May 1999, just after final approval from the Army had been received, Col. Pye unexpectedly suffered a massive heart attack and passed away in Texas. The 100th lost another good man, too soon.

Within a week of Col. Pye's untimely passing, the clubhouse office received an e-mail from Jerry Conner who was inquiring about his cousin, Lt. Cloudy Gray Conner (KIA), who was with Dog Company at Cassino. A notice was published in the PukaPuka Parade and Sakae Takahashi made the connection with Jerry by long-distance. In subsequent e-mails between Jerry and the Executive Secretary, his cousin's name was confirmed and explained. Yes, his name is "Gray," not "Gary." No, his name is not Native

American. Gray is his grandmother's maiden name and "Cloudy" was a story-book character in his mother's childhood days. Jerry's interest in the 100th's history earned him a subscription to the PPP and his mailing address was learned, "Newnan, Georgia." GEORGIA!

Jerry (a veteran Air Force pilot, and commercial airlines pilot) went into action and suggested an itinerary for the group going to the dedication; researched affordable motels along the route; made arrangements for meals at restaurants that are usually closed on weekends; found a wonderful bus driver, and hosted our farewell dinner at his church. It was because of Jerry and his superb connections that many tour participants still say it was the best trip ever. It certainly was outstanding and memorable. Because of his "miraculous" appearance in our lives when we really needed help, we nicknamed him "Momotaro." Georgia is the land of peaches, and Jerry, like the legendary character who was "hatched" from a giant peach, became our Hero!

So, it was no surprise that nearly 100 per cent of the tour participants from Hawaii were at the reunion and luncheon for Jerry and his family in January. Upon entering the clubhouse lobby, Jerry gazed at his cousin's name engraved on the memorial plaque, along with the more than 300 who paid the supreme sacrifice. But the sobering moment was short-lived, as familiar faces greeted him. To add to the enjoyment for Jerry was Martin Tohara's memories of Lt. Cloudy Gray Conner, platoon leader for Dog Company. (CG Conner was from South Carolina. Unlike our local boys who visited next of kin of their departed comrades, there was no one to visit CG's family, to reassure them that he was a good soldier. So Martin helped to fill this void.) Kuni Fujimoto showed his video of the 1999 dedication and tour and took more footage that day of tour members sharing their memories of the terrific tour which was called, "Georgia on My Mind." Clint Inouye (son of Shigeru and Fumi Inouye) brought his scrapbook/photo album which so neatly and colorfully captured the highlights of the tour. Evelyn Honda shared her pride in the permanent exhibit at the National Infantry Museum and showed our guests a few artifacts from the S&D Archives. Of course, Joe Muramatsu will never forget meeting his favorite TV news personality—Miss Sachi Koto and the moment that he "lei'd" her!

Thanks, y'all, to Kimi Matsuda who coordinated everything, to Yoneko Shimizu for her great advice, to Evelyn Honda for her dedication, to Ann Kabasawa, Clyde Sugimoto, and Wayne Iha for taking beautiful photos and making albums for the Conners and the clubhouse; to Kimi, Cecilee Tanaka and Dr. Jerry "Bones" Barnett for the musical entertainment, and to everyone who brought food and contributed to the gifts and souvenirs for the Conners. They send their deepest appreciation and wrote that the time spent at the clubhouse was the highlight of their entire trip!

Now there is talk about returning to Fort Benning to see the memorial completely finished. You see, in 1999, the Army was still reviewing the WWII Asian American and Pacific Islander awards, and so the "numbers" for the Medal of Honor and Distinguished Service Cross were left blank on the monument. After the awards were made in 2000, the monument company engraved the new numbers. (Jerry Conner brought photos that he took of the new engraving.) Anyone interested in going to see the memorial and the National Infantry Museum?



WORLD WAR II LETTERS SOUGHT FOR BOOK PROJECT

Ron Yamada, a researcher from Southern California, is interested in gathering letters written by and to AJA soldiers, their families, friends, and loved ones during World War II. The purpose is to capture the essence of that period when the AJA soldiers served overseas in Europe, Japan, the Southwest Pacific and other regions involved in the war. He and his staff hope people might willingly share some of their precious letters which would reveal the soldiers' and their families' feelings, hardships, views and experiences during World War II. Some letters that have been received are from soldiers before they were KIA overseas. Others are from soldiers to their parents, wives and friends. We would photocopy these letters, returning the originals to the donor.

Yamada would like anyone still having such letters they are willing to share, to please contact the 100th Inf. Bn. office, ph. 946-0272, or contact Ann Kabasawa: e-mail: <diverseinnovations@hawaii.rr.com>

Or Joy Teraoka: e-mail: <joykiku@hawaii.rr.com>; ph. (808) 734-3842.

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

RESUMING PUNCHBOWL (NATIONAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC) VOLUNTEERS

Beginning on Saturday, May 1, we will start the Punchbowl volunteering service again. The schedule mailed to volunteers is temporary because the 442nd Vets Club members are also interested in volunteering. When their list becomes available, we can make a new schedule which will mean fewer times we must go.

(Submitted by B. Akamine)



HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS

By Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

We had our monthly meeting on Saturday, April 10, and had a good turnout. Attending our meeting were: Ed Ikuma, Seisaburo Taba, Edith Baba, Gary Uchida, Vicki Sakoda, Arthur Komiyama, Mac Moriwake, Pat and Aki Akimoto, Elsie Oshita, Bea Shinoda, Frances Okazaki, and Jan Sakoda. Thanks to Seisaburo Taba who brought us hot cross buns in celebration of Easter, and Gary Uchida who donated manapua and custard desserts. A big **Mahalo** was expressed for Wally and Edith Teruya's gracious thank you note and generous donation to Headquarters Chapter. After our meeting, Arthur Komiyama and Seisaburo Taba shared some artwork they acquired and painted, respectively. Afterwards, Seisaburo had a drawing for two pieces of artwork. Elsie Oshita and Ed Ikuma both won a matted and framed handmade floral paper. Even though Seisaburo didn't personally make the paper, it was a beautiful piece of work. Thank you, again, Seisaburo, for your generosity. After our next meeting, we'll learn about and see wash paper in art. (Side note: Elsie Oshita was just commenting how unlucky she is as she never wins anything. Then her name was called as a winner of the drawing. Maybe that's the secret to winning. Anyone want to test this theory in Las Vegas? If you do, be sure to report back to us.)

We had such a nice time at our last luncheon at Hanaki that Doris Aimoto and Pat Akimoto have "volunteered" to plan our next get together. Look for more information in a future PPP. If you want to help plan future get-togethers, please let us know.

Clubhouse Clean Up is set for May 22, 2004. This year, the Rural Chapter has been given the responsibility of cleaning the kitchen. This year the Rural Chapter (with a little more muscle power) has been given the responsibility of cleaning the kitchen. Headquarters will be asked to fill in as needed and able, so be sure to come and help. Remember, "many hands make light work."

Have you marked your calendar and saved Saturday, June 26 for our Anniversary Luncheon at the Ala Moana Hotel? Have your kids mark their calendars now so you'll be sure to have a ride. (Good excuse to get them to come and meet their "uncles" and "aunties" and meet other sons and daughters.) Try your best to make it, as we want to see you. Let's have a record attendance for the Headquarters and Medic chapters!!! This is about the only time we see some of you so make sure you come. This year, there will be no keynote speaker so we'll have more time to "talk story." As you think about the luncheon, think about who you'd like to see and call them to arrange to sit at the same table.

Sick Call: Here's wishing a speedy recovery to Wally Teruya who is at home recuperating from his mild stroke. Eh Wally, no speeding in your wheelchair, okay? We're also wishing a speedy recovery to Doris Tamashiro after her mild stroke. Doris, make sure you get better by Christmas because we want to see you at our Christmas party. We know you really enjoyed the "musical gift" game so we promise to have it again.

DOG CHAPTER NEWS

by Helen Nikaido

Our deepest sympathy to Gloria Tamashiro, daughters Regina, Brenda Imoto, Vanessa Miller, Jenny Hazama, Celia, grandchildren and sister on the passing of their beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother, Ben Tamashiro. Ben passed away on March 26 at the age of 86.

Ben and Gloria starred in the memorable TV commercial "Harry and Myra" for Bank of Hawaii. They became so well-known that we used to greet them as "Harry and Myra" instead of Ben and Gloria.

Ben retired as an administrative officer with the federal civil service at Schofield Barracks. After retirement he kept busy with the Manoa Valley Church. We will miss you, Ben. Rest in peace.

Congratulations to Karleen Chinen (daughter of the late Wally and Kay Chinen) who moves back into the editor's job at the *Hawaii Herald* she previously held from 1991 to 1995. She says she is pleased to be able to come home "so to speak" and help move the *Herald* forward. She is an UH journalism graduate who has been working as a media specialist.

Jane Matsunami spent two weeks in Lodi, CA, visiting her sister. Mitsuko Kurisu was in Las Vegas recently trying her luck on the mega bucks. She said she met Ken and Florence Mitsunaga who were there, too. Mary Hamasaki was on a trip to Japan recently. Heard Sue Kondo was there, too.

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

By Evelyn Tsuda

Deepest sympathies are extended to the family of Travis Mitsuda, who passed away on March 25. He was the grandson of Marge Toma of our ohana. He was 21 years old, a graduate of Iolani School and a junior at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

The next time you drop by the Clubhouse, take a good look at the apartment building. You'll see it sparkling white – no rust stains and nicely painted railings. As reported in a previous issue, this transformation was the work of two Baker chaps: Robert Arakaki and Uki Wozumi. They are now in the process of improving the appearance of the Clubhouse. Isn't it wonderful that we still have members who are physically able and willing to do so much to upkeep the property? THANK YOU VERY MUCH, Robert and Uki.

REMINDER!!!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT: Sunday, May 23, 2004

Our chef Robert Aoki is preparing to cook up a storm for 100 adults and is waiting to hear that you and your family will be there to enjoy the feast and have lots of fun. So please call him at 488-3395 or Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 by May 14, 2004.

Please refer to last month's PPP for details of the party. Supplemental information follows:

Time: 4:30 – 5:30 PM Talk story time, arts & craft activities
5:30 Dinner
6:30 - ? Bingo, door prizes

~~Parking at Ala Wai School~~

This year we are doing something extra in keeping with the Club motto "For Continuing Service". We are asking each person attending the party to bring at least one canned or packaged food, which will be donated to the Hawaii Foodbank. In its newsletter, the Foodbank says the most desired items are canned meats and tuna, canned meals (spaghetti, ravioli, etc.), canned soups, fruit and beverages. With your cooperation, we will be able to feed quite a few of Hawaii's hungry. (Note: We will welcome food donations from those not planning to attend the party. Please leave it in the foyer of the Clubhouse before May 23.)

HASTE MAKES WASTE! I should have heeded this adage when I wrote about our Xmas party for the February issue. It was done in such a hurry (to make the deadline) that I omitted a lot of information: For instance, I forgot to mention that Robert Aoki and his hard-working crew prepared the delicious feast as in the past; our featured entertainer was Angel the Clown who fascinated the young and old alike with his magic and balloon shaping prowess; Aki Nosaka won the candy guessing game and took home a hand-held TV; and the reason why we had so many wonderful door prizes was because Denis and Karen Tanigawa, the chairman of the event, made some prudent purchases and even donated almost \$400 worth of gifts. We can't thank them enough for all that they did to make this affair a rousing success. I also need to acknowledge the cash donation for door prizes from China Yamashina, and generous donations for the Chapter from Fred Kurisu and Mrs. Humi (Kenichi) Iha. A belated THANK YOU to all.

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS

by Sam Fujikawa

On Friday, February 27, Jason Young, Counselor from the VA Service Center, held another one of his informative veterans' benefits meetings at the Ken Nakaoka Center in Gardena. Special speakers were Gloria Young and Garry Monji, Counselors from the Rehabilitation Department of Veteran Affairs. They explained benefits available to veterans to improve their living capabilities and the qualifications required under the Title 31, Vocational Rehabilitation Service and welcomed those veterans who have not signed up to contact their office. Garry Monji is available by email VRCGMONJ@vba.va.gov, or by phone at 213-253-2677, ext. 4759. Also presenting information on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, was Candice Lyles from the East Los Angeles Office, phone 323-728-9966 and Joe Cicconi, Chief of Community Nursing

Home Program talking on long term nursing care, phone 310-478-3711, ext. 42260 at the VA Medical Center in West Los Angeles. Jason Young who arranged the meeting is available at 310-767-1221.

About 60 veterans and their family members attended this meeting and enjoyed a Southern New Year's lunch of delicious fried chicken, black-eyed peas and corn bread provided by Jason Young and an assortment of salads and desserts furnished by the ladies. 100th members attending were Ben and Jean Tagami, Lloyd Toda his son, Lloyd, Jr., Henry Hayashi, Yeiki Matsui, Ted and Chizu Ohira, Douglas Tanaka, Young Oak Kim, Sam and Teri Fujikawa.

We were so happy to see Mimi Nakano, when she joined us for a quick lunch at Tin Sing Restaurant in Gardena on Saturday, March 13. Ben and Jean Tagami ordered up an assortment of delicious dishes from the menu and we all ate up a storm. Most of all it was fun to see so many who were able to turn out on such short notice to visit and eat together thanks to Christine Sato-Yamazaki who made the arrangements. Joining Christine and Mimi, were Ed and Amy Nakazawa, Ken and Hisa Miya, Mas Takahashi, Ben and Jean Tagami, Toke and Rae Yoshihashi, Ted and Chizu Ohira, May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Dave Wasserman, and Sam and Teri Fujikawa. Mimi reassures us she and her father, Shizuya Hayashi, will see us again in October at the mini-reunion.

A bit of a sad news. Irene Sakaye Abe, wife of the late Eric Abe (Co D), passed away on March 17. A touching memorial service was held for her at the Hollywood Funeral Home Chapel, in Hollywood. Spotted among the attendees were 100th members Chuckie Seki, Fumi Sakato, Hank and Elsie Hayashi, Douglas Tanaka, Ken and Hisa Miya, June Kurisu, Leland Kurisu, May Fujita, Wayne Fujita, Sam and Teri Fujikawa. Eric and Irene were such active and valued members of our club for so many years and we treasure all the happy memories we have of them. Sincere condolences go to their family from all of us in the 100th.

At the March 20 meeting, we discussed some of the program plans for the mini-reunion. Those plans were phoned to Ray Nosaka, who was able to get them into the March issue of the Puka Puka Parade since the virus worm invasion of our computer had struck us down. Nothing new has been added other than all the Mainland application forms have been sent out to our members and we are already receiving reservations for the mini reunion and the Nellis Air Force Tour. A gentle reminder to those interested in the Nellis Air Force Tour (scheduled for Wednesday Oct. 20) to please get your reservations in by August 1st to Sam Fujikawa so the names can be turned in to Kauai Masuda who is handling the Security List.

Of great concern to all the veterans and the 100/442/MIS Memorial Foundation is the recent vandalizing of the monument donor pillars in downtown Los Angeles. It has brought much media attention. Veterans were interviewed on local news programs and newspapers. The City Council has voted to offer a reward toward the investigation which is now considered a hate crime. Discussions for securing better surveillance cameras were held at the 100/442 Association meeting led by Steve Tagami, President, and an unanimous vote was passed to support and donate towards this necessary need.

There will be no 100th meeting in May as the third Saturday is also the Armed Forces Day Parade. All veterans are urged to participate in the parade. Each year their placement in the order of the parade has been moved forward and the 100/442 Veterans now parade right behind all the dignitaries at the beginning of the parade.

RURAL CHAPTER CHATTER

by M. Hamasu

The Rural Chapter returned to its old home at Dot's of Wahiawa to hold our meetings. Our home at Zippy's was to be renovated and we were told that it would not be loaned out as our meeting place.

We met on 19 March 04 from 11:00 AM with six members attending. They were Masaharu Saito, Susumu Ota, Kenneth Higa, Yukio Tanji, Mitsuo Nagaki and Mitsuo Hamasu.

One of the agenda items was to increase the membership of the chapter. We appointed Yukio Tanji as the chairman of the chapter membership committee, so those wishing to join the chapter please contact Yukio. Phone # 621 8949.

It has been suggested that we change the location of our Installation and New Year's banquet. If you have any suggestions, please get all the info as to the place, cost, time, etc. so that we can consider it.

Clubhouse cleanup will be on 22 May 04 from 8:30 am. Rural chapter will be helping in the kitchen so bring lots of elbow grease and rags.

The 62nd Anniversary of the 100th Inf. Bn. will be held on 26 June 04 from 10:00 AM at the Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Room. Send in your reservations with your choice of the menu early, to make it easy for the committees working on the seating arrangements.

The members and wives of Rural Chapter express their sympathy to the family and relatives of the late Tsukasa Muramoto. He died on 23 March 2004.

His funeral service was held on 18 April 2004 at the Mililani Mauka Chapel from 4:00 PM. We thank Robert Arakaki for delivery and return of the American flag and our colors from the Clubhouse to the Mililani Mauka Chapel for the funeral service.

Next meeting on 21 May 04 at Dot's Drive Inn in Wahiawa from 11:00 AM. See you all there.

MAUI CHAPTER NEWS

by Tom Nagata

The only news to report is the coming Mother's Day Get-together at Tokyo Tei Restaurant in Wailuku, May 11, Tuesday, at 11 a.m.. The cost is \$8.00/person. Butch Arisumi is chairman of the affair.

CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

by Warren Iwai

Meeting: 10 veterans and 3 wives were present at our April 20 meeting. It was a spirited meeting with good discussions. Clubhouse cleanup day is May 22, 8:30 AM, report to Kazuto Shimizu.

The service to inurn Takeichi "Chicken" Miyashiro was held on March 30 at the Punchbowl National Cemetery. Mrs. Lorraine Miyashiro made a generous donation to our bento fund in memory of Chicken

The service to inurn Tadashi Umamoto was held on April 16 at the Punchbowl National Cemetery.

With the cannons roaring again in Iraq, I remembered that it was 60 years ago on May 7, 1944, in the vicinity of Castellina, Italy, the 2nd platoon distinguished itself in action against the enemy where Pfc. Kaoru Moto was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism and Lt. Takeichi Miyashiro was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his leadership and bravery. But we also had casualties. Pfc Kazuo Hiramatsu from Hawaii and Pvt Satoru Onodera of Seattle, WA were killed in action. Satoru wrote a poem, a touching poem, before he died. This poem was previously published in the October 1991 issue of the Puka Puka Parade. I wish you would read it again.

A VOICE IN THE NIGHT by Private Satoru Onodera

I heard a whispered voice last night
Which floated through the battle's might
It sought to ask of God above
The way of men below:
"Weren't they meant to trust and love
Instead of Thinking each as foe?"

To enjoy as Thou the gentle rains,
That wash Thy cheeks so clean:
Sweeps o'er field of waving grains,
And makes the grasslands green.

Stars that light the traveler's way,
Winds that cool the fevered brow-
The sun that brightens each new day,
The smell of heather - the song of plow.

Do I speak of these in vain?
Must they live in greatest of sins?
Must they fight and curse the rain?
Knowing the while that no one wins?
Then midst the angry cannon's roar
The voice for living spoke no more.

Next meeting May 17, 10:00 AM Clubhouse -- Lunch will be served. SEE YOU THERE.

CLUB 100 GOLF CLUB POOP SHEET

by Warren Iwai

Welcome back Richard Hamasaki and Fred Kanemura. Richard splits his time between California and Hawaii and Fred has just recovered from his cataract surgery.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS:

Olomana Golf Links March 24, 2004
Winner: Richard Hamada Net 68
2nd Warren Iwai 70
3rd Kazuto Shimizu 74

Navy Marine Golf Course April 7, 2004

Winner: Katsumi Maeda Net 62
2nd Edward Ikuma 68
3rd Warren Iwai 69

Sonsei Nakamura, our tournament chairman, was away for a couple weeks visiting his great granddaughter in Sacramento, CA. He played a round of golf at South Lake Tahoe after 3 hours of driving from CA. Hey guys, how about us driving 30 minutes to Ewa, Oahu and playing in some good golf courses we have never played before?

COMING TOURNAMENTS

Olomana Golf Links 9:30 AM May 5 - 1st round of Club championship
Olomana Golf Links 9:30 AM May 19 2nd round " "
Pali Golf Course 11:15 AM June 2 3rd round " "
Olomana Golf Links 9:30 AM June 16 4th " " "
Navy Marine Golf Course 9:00 AM July 7 5th " " " "

TO PLAY: Call Sonsei Nakamura @ 737-1027

LINE DANCING AND TAI CHI, TOO, AT THE CLUBHOUSE

By now many know that we have a wonderful line dancing class on Wednesdays, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. taught by Sandy Zook, our very popular instructor. We are happy to announce that following our vigorous line dancing class, Sandy is now offering a calming class on Tai Chi. Although it looks slow and easy, the controlled movements are exercises in developing balance, breathing and energy. For anyone who wants to improve his/her balance and healthful breathing, come and join this class. Zook is the model of patience and exudes genuine "aloha" to her students. You'll love it.



STANLEY'S CORNER

by Stan Akita

Snow and Rain are Like Children

There was a preacher whose wife was expecting a baby. The preacher went to the congregation and asked for a raise. After much consideration and discussion, they passed a rule that whenever the preacher's family expanded, so would his paycheck. After six children, this started to get expensive and the congregation decided to hold another meeting to discuss the preacher's salary.

There was much yelling and bickering about how much the clergyman's additional children were costing the church. Finally, the preacher got up and spoke to the crowd, "Having children is an act of God!"

Silence fell upon the congregation. In the back of the room a little old lady stood up and in her frail voice said, "Snow and rain are also acts of God, but when we get too much, we wear rubbers!"

Don't you just love little old ladies?

CLUB SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Amanda Stevens

The following donations are acknowledged with many thanks:

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans:

Masae Mende – In memory of Harumi Mende	\$200
Rural Chapter – In memory of Oswald Kawahara	20
James & Yoshie Tanabe – In memory of Kaoru & Mitsugi Moto	10
James & Yoshie Tanabe – In memory of Ben Tamashiro	10
Takeshi Teshima – In memory of Ben Tamashiro	100

Puka Puka Parade:

Anonymous	25
Eleanor F. Shigemoto – In memory of Henry M. Shiyama, “C”	50

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

\$100 - \$499:

Fairfull, LTC(Ret) Thomas & Claire Mitani (Honolulu)– IM of Ben Tamashiro
Ikuma, Edward & Hazel (Honolulu) – IM of Harold Tamashiro, Yoshito Aimoto,
Yoshio Ogomori & Kungo Iwai
Shimabuku, Choriki & Dorothy (Waipahu)

To \$99:

Akamine, Bernard & Jeanette (Honolulu)

**SONS & DAUGHTERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION – TREASURER’S REPORT
DATED MARCH 2004:**

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Scholarship Fund:

\$1,000 and up

Central Pacific Bank (Honolulu)
First Hawaiian Bank (Honolulu)
Hamasaki, Mary (Honolulu)
*Hung, Norine (Kailua) – In memory of Chester Hada
Nakagawa, Rusty and Alice (Honolulu)

\$500 - \$999

Verizon (Honolulu)

\$100 - \$499

Fuchigami, James & Florence (Honolulu)
Kihara, Akiko (Wahiawa) – In memory of John Kihara
Otagaki, Kenneth & Janet – In memory of Ayako Nakata
Otagaki, Kenneth & Janet – In honor of Edward Tanigawa
Otagaki, Kenneth & Janet – In honor of Edward Harada
Paul Tanigawa, Denis Tanigawa, Patricia Toyama & Lois Lee
(children of Sakae Tanigawa) – In honor of their dad
Tateishi, Dale & Cheryl (Aiea)
Umamoto, Takako (Honolulu) – In memory of Tadashi Umamoto
Yamamoto, Warren & Amy (Honolulu)

To \$99

Otagaki, Kenneth & Janet – In memory of Mike Takahashi
Shiraki, Edith

100th Inf. Bn. Veterans Club:

Fuchigami, James & Florence		\$ 100
*Hung, Norine – In memory of Chester Hada		2,000
Nakayama, Jessie – In memory of Roy Nakayama	(For memorial service)	25
Nakayama, Jessie – In memory of Roy Nakayama		50
Paul Tanigawa, Denis Tanigawa, Patricia Toyama, and Lois Lee (children of Sakae Tanigawa) – In honor of their dad		250

Puka Puka Parade:

Hayashi, Chris and Marian		25
*Hung, Norine – In memory of Chester Hada		500
Kunihiro, Mitsuru & Ellen		30
Nakayama, Jessie – In memory of Roy Nakayama		25
Nishida, Florence – In memory of Yoshiharu Nishida		100
Paul Tanigawa, Denis Tanigawa, Patricia Toyama, & Lois Lee (children of Sakae Tanigawa) – In honor of their dad		250
Umamoto, Takako – In memory of Tadashi Umamoto		25

Contributions to Chapters:

Nakayama, Jessie – In memory of Roy Nakayama	Baker	50
Paul Tanigawa, Denis Tanigawa, Patricia Toyama, & Lois Lee (children of Sakae Tanigawa) – In honor of their dad	Baker	250
Umamoto, Takako – In memory of Tadashi Umamoto	Charlie	100

*Breakdown of amount reported in Feb. issue

<i>In Memoriam</i>		
Tsukasa Muramoto	B/Rural Company	Passed away March 23, 2004
Ben Tamashiro	D Company	Passed away March 26,2004

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party.....even if it lasts until 8 p.m .

I'm very good at opening childproof caps...with a hammer.

I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm very good at telling stories; over and over and over and over...

I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not nearly as cute as mine.

I'm so cared for --- long term care, eye care, private care, dental care.

I'm not really grouchy,

I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, lawyers, loud music , unruly kids, Jenny Craig and Toyota commercials, barking dogs, politicians and a few other things I can't seem to remember right now.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm having trouble remembering simple words like.....

I'm beginning to realize that aging is not for wimps.

I'm sure they are making adults much younger these days, and when did they let kids become policemen?

I'm wondering, if you're only as old as you feel, how could I be alive at 150?

And, how can my kids be older than I feel sometimes?

I'm a walking storeroom of facts.....I've just lost the key to the storeroom door.

Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!

Now if I could only remember who sent this to me, I wouldn't send it back to them,
but I would send it to many more!

TED TANOUYE (MOH) MEMORIAL PLANNED FOR TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, (CA)

The following e-mail has been received from Ron Yamada of the Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation explaining the current fund raising campaign and the target date for its dedication.

Dear Friends,

As many of you know I have been working with the "Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation" for the past two years. I'm glad to report that we have raised the funds for the construction of the memorial itself. The dedication ceremony will be on July 7, 2004 at 4:30 pm in front of Torrance High School.

Additionally, we are in the second phase of fundraising for the production of a video on Ted's life that will be used in local high schools' 11th grade history curriculum. I've attached an informational brochure on the history and purpose of this cause.

If you have any questions regarding the TTMF, please contact me at anytime. Again, we thank you for your ongoing support in this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Ron Yamada, Executive Director, Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation Ph. (310) 722-9984

In an article for the *Daily Breeze*, Doug Irving wrote:

Ted Tanouye grew up on the outskirts of Torrance, a well-liked farm boy who spent his afternoons shooting marbles or running a football.

He died on the Italian battlefield, a few months after he fought his way up a rocky hillside against German gunfire and grenades. His family learned of his heroics from behind the barbed wire of a swampy Arkansas internment camp for Japanese-Americans.

Tanouye remains the only Torrance soldier to earn a Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award. A foundation formed in his honor will break ground . . . on a monument of stone and bronze outside Torrance High School. It will be the first memorial in a city park to recognize an individual. . . .

According to the article, Tanouye enlisted in the U.S. Army and volunteered for the AJA unit, the 442nd, whose motto was "Go for Broke." He was promoted to the rank of technical sergeant and "led an infantry platoon into combat in Italy. In July 1944, they waded across an open field and launched an assault on a well-fortified hill."

Tanouye attacked two German machine-gun crews. A grenade exploded nearby, injuring his left arm. He kept on fighting until he ran out of bullets. He crawled to get more clips for his gun. Ted threw another grenade, knocking out a German nest. He refused first aid until after his platoon captured the crest of the hill. Although Tanouye was taken to the hospital, he insisted on returning to the front lines a few weeks later.

In late August he was "again dodging artillery fire and bullets . . . sitting in a foxhole." That was to be his last letter home. Less than a week after he wrote it, Sept. 6, 1944, he died on the battlefield.

His family received his Distinguished Service Cross while they were still incarcerated in an Arkansas concentration camp. Fifty years later, President Bill Clinton upgraded that award, along with 21 other Asian-American soldiers, to the Medal of Honor.

At the Torrance High School, Tanouye's portrait, biography, citation and medal will be etched on a bronze plaque facing the front of the school, with stone benches surrounding the memorial.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY 2004

ABLE.....	Saturday, May 22.....	8:00 am	
BAKER.....	Saturday, May 15.....	1:00 pm	
CHARLIE.....	Monday, May 17.....	10:00 am	
DOG.....	Saturday, May 15.....	9:00 am	
HQ.....	Saturday, May 15.....	10:00 am	
RURAL.....	Friday, May 21.....	Dot's In Wahiawa.....	11:00 am
MAUI CHAPTER.....	Mother's Day Lunch. Tuesday, May 11...Tokyo Tei Restaurant.....	11:00 am	
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, May 14.....	10:00 am	
GOLF CLUB.....	Wednesday, May 5,19.....	Olomana Links.....	9:30 am
GREEN THUMBS.....	Monday, May 3.....	Lounge.....	10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, May 5..Maluhia..May 12, 19, 26....clubhouse.....	9:00 am	
TAI CHI.....	Wednesday, May 12, 19, 26.....	clubhouse.....	10:30 am
CLUBHOUSE CLEANUP.....	Saturday, May 22.....	8:30 am	
FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP.....	Sunday, May 23.....	clubhouse.....	11:30 am
CRAFT/CROCHET CLASS.....	Tuesday, May 4, 11, 18, 25.....	clubhouse.....	9:00 am

Deadline for articles will be May 18, 2004. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on FRIDAY, May 28, 2004, 8:30 a.m. (For those bucking heavy traffic, 9:00 am.) Hq/Med & D chapters are responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.

For PPP chapter news and articles: joykiku@hawaii.rr.com (no attachments to joykiku, please) or vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com (attachments okay.)

IMPORTANT New e-mail address for club business, questions or correspondence: vetsofthe100thbn@yahoo.com

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Honolulu, HI 96826-5120

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MAY 2004 ISSUE

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

