



100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS CLUB

PUKA-PUKA

MONTHLY NEWS

PARADE

OCTOBER 2006

ISSUE #2006/09

UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS AT THE JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

by Jayne Hirata-Epstein, PPP Technical Editor

The First Annual Joint Memorial Service (JMS) in honor of the fallen comrades of World War II veterans from the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion, the Military Intelligence Service, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the 100th Infantry Battalion was held on Sunday, September 24 at Punchbowl. The members of the Joint Memorial Service Committee dedicated over three years planning this event and their hard work paid off.

In the weeks leading up to the Service, 100th Inf. Bn. President Robert Arakaki and JMS Chairperson Stanley Akita joined forces with MIS President Judge Frank Takao, 1399th President Thomas Takemoto, and 442nd President Ron Oba to publicize the Service in the local media. Articles on the JMS appeared in the Honolulu Star Bulletin and on the front-page of the Honolulu Advertiser. Channel 9 and Channel 4 news covered the press conference that was held at the Clubhouse on September 15.

President Arakaki and Chairperson Akita had to wake up bright and early on the morning of September 22 for an appearance on the Channel 2 Morning News with Manolo Morales. Also on camera were Arling Nakayama (a veteran from the 1399th), President Oba, and President Takao. Also on hand were an off-screen cheering section consisting of Mike Harada and Warren Yamamoto of the Joint Memorial Service Committee as well as Office Manager Amanda Stevens. Manolo was really a great interviewer and put all the veterans at ease with his comments that they were all so handsome during the War days, they could have been movie stars. It was quite a coup for the public relation team (Amanda and me) to snag all of that free publicity in the papers and on tv.

On Saturday, September 23, a dress rehearsal was held at Punchbowl to run through the entire Joint Memorial Service Program. Prior to the start of the dress rehearsal, veterans and friends joined the Boy Scouts in placing American flags at the headstones of every veteran of the 1399th, MIS, 442nd and 100th who was interred at Punchbowl. Seeing elderly veterans working side-by-side with middle-aged volunteers and youthful Boy Scouts illustrated clearly the unbreakable connection between generations of the past, present and future.

The pre-event publicity was definitely effective as it was standing room only at the Joint Memorial Service on September 24. A spirit of pride and unity was evident as veterans dressed in crisp white shirts and hats bearing the insignias and slogans of their respective units warmly greeted each other with firm handshakes or warm embraces. Attendees were treated to spirited musical performances by the Pacific Fleet Band as they waited for the program to begin.

The Service promptly began at 9:00 am with a welcome by Pauline Sato. Ms. Sato introduced the many distinguished guests in attendance including Congressman Ed Case and his wife, Audrey (*photo on the right*), representatives from the offices of Daniel Akaka and Neil Abercrombie, General Robert Lee, John Ma, Lt. Col. Loh, Major General Arthur Ishimoto and Colonel Ed Cruickshank. The crowd rose for the presentation and posting of colors by the Joint Service Color Guard and remained standing for the playing of the National and State anthems by the Pacific Fleet Band.



An invocation was given by Reverend Yoshiaki Fujitani in which he called forth the memory of the veterans' comrades who had perished during the War and also the spirits of those who had survived battle but had since passed on. He stated that these men are all heroes and we owe a debt to them forever for their sacrifices.

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Choir then sang a moving version of "This Is My Country", bringing many in the crowd to their feet in a show of patriotism.

It was then President Robert Arakaki's turn to give a welcome address on behalf of the host unit, the 100th Infantry Battalion, and the JMS Committee. President Arakaki started out his address with a bit of humor, thanking JMS Chairperson Stanley Akita for suggesting a platform be set up behind the podium "so you could see us short guys". (Notice that President Arakaki is standing on a box in the photo to the left).



President Arakaki emphasized that although he was at the podium alone, all of his brothers in valor (living and deceased) were standing on stage beside him. He expressed his appreciation to the members of the JMS Committee for making this milestone day possible and hoped that it would be the first of many more commemorations held on the last Sunday in September. He asked that we remember and honor all of the veterans who are buried in Punchbowl, the Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, on the islands of Hawaii, on the Mainland and worldwide, regardless of whether they were killed in action during the war or have passed away thereafter.

President Arakaki explained that although much has been written about the military accomplishments of the AJA veterans during World War II, not enough has been said about how proud they were to have served their country. He reminded us his comrades fought and died to protect the rights of those of us living in the present. He encouraged the audience to learn from this legacy and take it upon themselves to appreciate freedom, embrace cultural diversity, and educate future generations about lessons from the past. President Arakaki concluded that the only way the Joint Memorial Service would become an everlasting tradition would be for sons, daughters and descendants to make sure that it continued on.

A patriotic dance performance by the 100th/442nd Line Dancers followed. Dressed in their smart white outfits, they proudly raised their American flags and reverently danced to "God Bless the USA". Audience members responded by singing along or tapping their toes to the beat.



The highlight of the Joint Memorial Service was the wreath presentation by representatives of various veterans and community organizations. Assisted by soldiers of the present 100th/442nd Infantry Battalion, wreaths were presented by President Arakaki, President Ron Oba of the 442nd, President Frank Takao of the MIS, President Thomas Takemoto of the 1399th, Walter Ozawa of the National Japanese American Council, Shigeo Iwatani of the Consulate General of Japan, Patrick Kelly and Dr. James Hastings of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Bob Freitas and Leonard Ka'ai of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Andy Tamori and James Kuroiwa of The Go For Broke Association, Barbara Watanabe and Doug Goto of the Go For Broke National Educational Foundation, and Warren Yamamoto, Eileen Sakai, Mark Matsunaga and Wayne Iha of the Sons and Daughters of the Veterans.



Presentation of the 100th Inf. Bn. wreath



Presentation of the 442nd RCT wreath by Ron Oba

Presentation of the MIS wreath by Frank Takao



Presentation of the 1399th wreath by Thomas Takemoto



A prayer of remembrance was then given by Chaplain Major Daniel White who asked that all in attendance give thanks to the veterans for their willingness to sacrifice all to protect us. He also asked that prayers be sent to those veterans who are in ill physical, emotional and spiritual health, including those who are still living with the stresses and strains of war. Chaplain White also reassured those veterans who continue to be plagued by guilt or negativity due to their actions during war that sometimes battles are necessary for the common good.

Lieutenant General John M. Brown, III, the Commander of the US Army Pacific Command, took the podium to deliver the memorial address. Having enlisted in 1969, Lt. Gen. Brown has had a wide and varied military career. He has been based out of such areas as Germany, Honduras, Kuwait, North Carolina, Alaska and now, Hawaii. Lt. Gen. Brown expressed the gratitude of every man and woman currently serving in the military to the veterans of World War II. He mentioned that on the prior Sunday, September 17, he was in American Samoa with the members of B and C Company of the 100th Battalion. He described these soldiers as "battle hardened veterans" who had recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq and added that they were great representatives of the 100th.



The theme of Lt. Gen. Brown's address was "still much more to honor," emphasizing that the achievements of the veterans of the 100th, 442nd, MIS and 1399th went beyond their victories on the battlefield or their numerous awards and commendations. In recognition of the brotherhood of these veterans, Lt. Gen. Brown observed that the accomplishments of one unit were an accomplishment for all. He added that it amazed him that even 61 years later, most Americans do not know about the accomplishments of the Japanese-American veterans during World War II.

Lt. Gen. Brown spoke first about the men of the 1399th who constructed critical defense facilities in Hawaii. Their work was so vital to the success of the Pacific campaign that they were kept in place throughout the entire war effort.

Lt. Gen. Brown stated that the men of the MIS played an instrumental part in the communications effort at every major battle area. Their work saved millions of lives and shortened the war by two years.

Lt. Gen. Brown added that the men of the 442nd and 100th engaged in the most grueling mountain battles in US Army history, spending over ten months in continuous fighting. This led them to become the most decorated unit of its size in the history of the US Army.

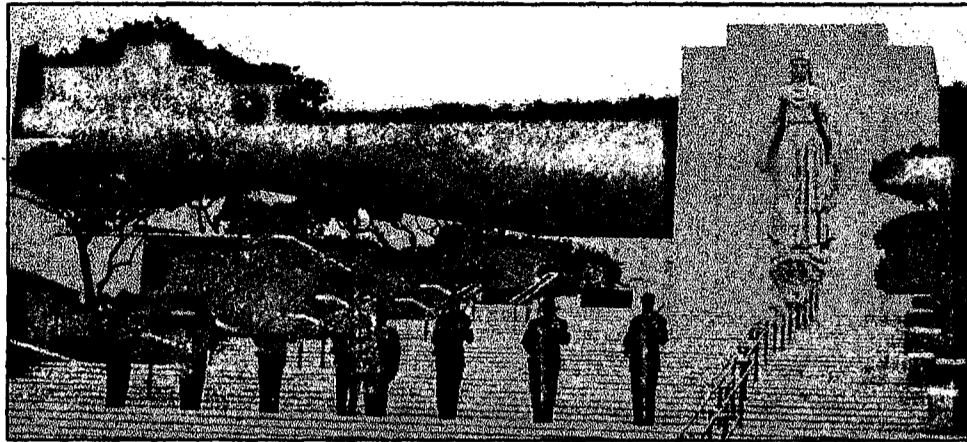
The greatest accomplishment of these veterans, Lt. Gen. Brown concluded, was not their many victories in battle but the fact that they chose to volunteer, fight, bleed and sacrifice for their country while many of their families were jailed in internment camps on the Mainland. Rather than turn against their homeland, interned family members were very supportive and proud of their sons who headed off to war. This devotion to America by the *Nisei* soldiers, even in light of adverse circumstances for families left behind, is what kept them dear in the hearts and souls of their fellow Americans.

Lt. Gen. Brown emphasized that the veterans showed the world that loyalty, courage and citizenship is not based on skin color, ethnicity or last name. The belief that "all Americans are equal" which arose due to the accomplishments of the *Nisei* soldiers has continued to directly impact US military culture. This was reflected in the treatment of the native people of Korea and Vietnam during those respective wars and the lack of a cry to intern Muslim-Americans in camps after 9/11. In closing, Lt. Gen.

Brown asked everyone to hold dear the following line from the "Go For Broke" song, "We will always remember how they died for liberty."

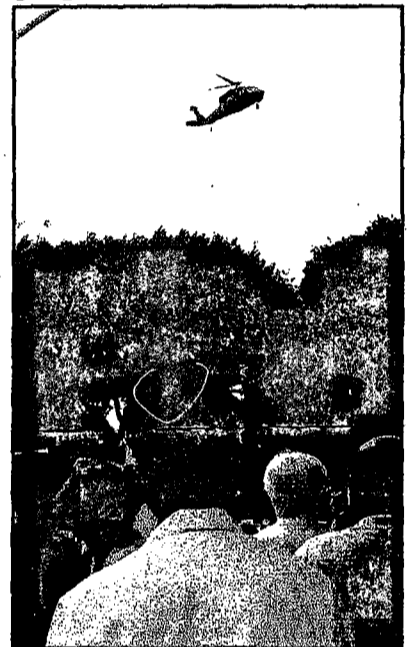
It was quite fitting that next on the program was the singing of the "Go For Broke" song by the Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin Choir. Toes were tapping and tears were flowing as the choir exuberantly sang about the "boys from Hawaii". You could almost see these men in their '80s as they were back then, young, handsome and ready to go into battle.

A 21 Gun Memorial Salute by the 100th Battalion/442nd Infantry, 9th Regional Readiness



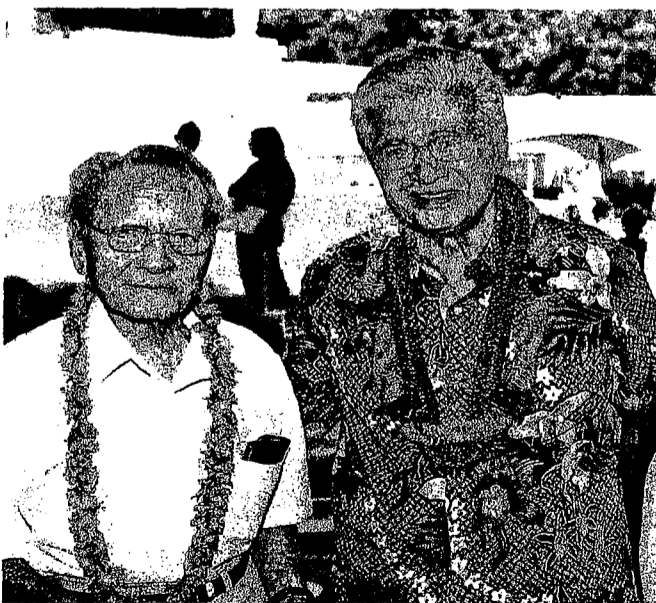
Command followed the choir. The sight of these soldiers in their dark green dress uniforms against the white marble backdrop of the Punchbowl memorial was truly breathtaking. The playing of "Echo Taps" by duo trumpeters of the Pacific Fleet Band brought even more emotion to the program.

The sound of whirling blades echoed in the distance as the helicopter flyover by soldiers from Company C, 1st BN, 207th AVN REG (AIR ASLT) commenced. Ms. Sato explained that the flyover is a symbolic gesture of the search for those who are missing-in-action. The helicopter flew into Punchbowl then slowly circled low above the cemetery, before retreating back into the blue skies.



The bagpipe performance of "Danny Boy" and "Auld Lang Syne" by Alan Miyamura, combined with the image of the helicopter flying off into the horizon, brought the reality of war and battle to the forefront. One could not help but realize how many beloved husbands and sons had left the comfort of their friends and families to head off to battle, never to return home alive. It also made one appreciate just how valuable and precious those veterans who stood amongst us really are.

Next on the program was a benediction by Reverend Donald Asman, who reminded the audience that "benediction" means "good word." Rev. Asman announced that he was recruiting everyone as active duty soldiers dedicated to bring freedom, justice and peace to our modern day "hurting" world. He beseeched everyone to "go in peace." With that, the Joint Service Color Guard retired the colors. Ms. Sato gave her closing remarks and the JMS ended.



Although the formal program was over, attendees were invited to stay at Punchbowl to partake of refreshments and to talk story with old friends, new acquaintances or long lost buddies. Sounds of laughter and war stories filled the air, handshakes and hugs were exchanged, and tissues were being passed around as people wiped away tears of joy and sadness. Joining in the fellowship was Senator Daniel Akaka, fresh from that morning's Democratic Party breakfast. A long line of men and women of all ages waited patiently in line to offer incense and prayers in homage to the veterans who had passed on.

This First Annual Joint Memorial Service was unquestionably an event that will live on in the hearts and minds of all of us who were given

the honor of attending. I cannot even begin to count the number of times I had "chicken skin" listening to the heartfelt words of the speakers, witnessing the joy on the faces of the choir members and the line dancers, or simply watching a veteran wipe away a tear or raise his hand to salute the colors. The spirit of unity, camaraderie and pride that shown on the faces of each veteran in the audience is something I will never forget. I will forever keep in my heart the memory of this wonderful morning that I spent in the presence these great men who are truly our country's "living treasures".

BEHIND-THE-SCENES OF THE JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Veterans and volunteers who participated in the project to place flags on the graves at Punchbowl on Saturday, September 23 (the day before the Joint Memorial Service) dealt with more than the scorching heat that morning. Flags were placed on the final resting place of EVERY veteran of the 1399th, MIS, 100th and 442nd including not only those who were KIA in World War II but also those who had passed away in the decades since. Thus, aside from being physically demanding, the job was also mentally taxing as they had to make sure the flags ended up honoring the right person from the correct unit. Kudos to the volunteers for taking on a seemingly insurmountable task with such enthusiasm. I'm sure all of us who looked out on those fields of flags couldn't help but be touched.

Thank you to Evelyn Tsuda for letting the PPP know about Mr. Takashi Tsueshita. He flew in from Yokohama, Japan specifically to attend the Joint Memorial Service. He told Evelyn that he was very impressed by the Service and that he was very happy to have been able to come to Hawaii for it. He said this was the one thing he wanted to do on his trip. Some of our readers may recognize Mr. Tsueshita's name as he has visited the Clubhouse on several occasions to "talk story" with the veterans. He has conducted interviews with a number of 100th Inf. veterans including Martin Tohara. Mr. Tsueshita devotes a lot of his time researching World War II *Nisei* veterans because he believes it is important to make the people of Japan aware of their many accomplishments. It is interesting to note that Mr. Tsueshita taught himself English by listening to the radio and watching television! I wonder if we could learn Japanese the same way?



You might have thought their jobs were over but members of the JMS committee and other 100th volunteers could be seen in the crowd, working their hearts out to keep things moving smoothly. Mike Harada (*photo on left*) "directed traffic," ensuring that participants knew where and when to make their appearances. Amanda Stevens passed out water to the audience and was the "media liaison" for the event. Lois Nakagawa escorted veterans and invited guests to their seats. Also, Kuni Fujimoto remained glued to his video camera, shielded from intermittent rain showers by Drusilla Tanaka and her trusty umbrella.

MAKING THE JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE A REALITY by Stanley Akita, Joint Memorial Service Chairperson

It had been noticed that the attendance at our annual Memorial Service had been dwindling down in recent years. Leaders of the AJA Veterans Council consisting of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion met a few months ago to discuss this matter.

Early this year, we decided to hold an Annual Oahu AJA Joint Memorial Service beginning this year.

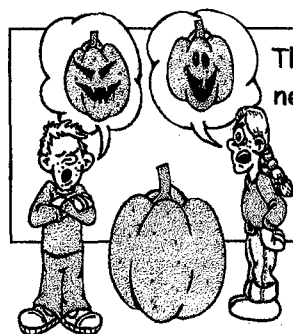
MIS President Frank Takao suggested that the day for the Memorial Service should be the last Sunday in September, the same date that the 100th observes,

because it was the day that the first AJA died in combat. That last Sunday in September was unanimously approved by the AJA Council. The 100th BN was put in charge of this 2006 First Annual Memorial Service. The MIS will be in charge of the Second Service in 2007 and the 442nd in 2008.

Because this Service was the first of its kind, we hoped that all of the veterans of the 100th and their families would make an effort to attend and make this Service very successful. We were so very pleased to see that our wishes came true.



Joint Memorial Service Press Conference at the Clubhouse on September 15, 2006
Top Row: Arling Nakayama, Stanley Akita, Dennis Teraoka, Ed Ikuma and Ed Goto
Bottom Row: Robert Arakaki, Ron Oba, Frank Takao, Thomas Takemoto



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

We welcome readers to send signed written comments via mail to PPP Editorial Committee, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826 or via e-mail to our new e-mail address at pukapukaparade@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Robert Arakaki



Reroofing of the Clubhouse is now completed. The gravel which was removed from the roof has been spread on our driveway and along the walkway in front of the Clubhouse at no extra cost (*manuahi*). No muddy parking.

On August 26, 2006, Stu Tsubota represented the 100th Infantry at the dedication ceremony of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Stone at Punchbowl.

On September 2, 2006, Stu Tsubota and I attended the services aboard the USS Missouri to commemorate the 61st Anniversary of the end of war with Japan.

On September 8, 2006, the Board of Directors approved the formation of a Descendants Chapter. (*Read more on page 7*).

On September 9, 2006, Sgt. Major Bert Hamakado and his fellow soldiers from the 100th/442nd Infantry presented the unveiling of a Hawaiian flag that had flown over the unit in Iraq. The framed flag is now mounted on our Clubhouse wall. (*For more information on this event, see Evelyn Tsuda's article on page 8.*)

An *Irrasshai Renkyo* Open House sponsored by the United Japanese Society of Hawaii was held at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. Stu and Mieko Tsubota and Amanda Stevens represented the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans organization. Amanda presented the 100th's Purple Heart panel display. It was a lucky night for Amanda – she won a door prize for two Inter-Island Air tickets donated by Panda Travel.

We would like to thank Ukechi Wozumi, 100th member, for painting the front door to the Clubhouse and always helping to maintain the appearance of our building. Job well done.

THANKS TO OUR PPP VOLUNTEERS by Joy Teraoka, Editor

Thanks to all the collating volunteers who helped assemble and mail our last issue. Although I repeat this more often than not, we sincerely appreciate your commitment in turning out each month so that news of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans' activities and interests continues to flow to your comrades, families and friends. Even though in this column we do not acknowledge by name those who contribute monetarily to the *Puka Puka Parade*, we are grateful to each and all of you for your support. Amanda Stevens, our Office Manager, and the Sons and Daughters organization list your names and gifts in their monthly reports.

Mahalo to Bernard Akamine, Otomatsu Aoki, Alfred Arakaki, Robert Arakaki, Akira Akimoto, Eunice Dela Cruz, Kunio Fujimoto, Mary Hamasaki, Ed Ikuma, Fumiko Inouye, Arthur Komiyama, Susumu Kunishige, Don and Kimi Matsuda, Philip Matsuyama who brought soft drinks, Masanori Moriwake, Joichi Muramatsu, Jennifer Naguma (Ed Ikuma's granddaughter), Saburo Nishime, Tom Nishioka, Kay Oshiro, Seiei Oshiro, Nancy Sakaki, Mamoru Sato, Robert Sato, Kazuto Shimizu, Hiromi Suehiro, Goro Sumida, Dot Tamashiro, Drusilla Tanaka, Denis and Joy Teraoka, Martin Tohara, Rikio and Evelyn Tsuda, Takako Umamoto, Ukichi Wozumi and to any whom I have inadvertently missed.

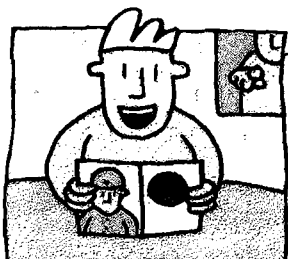


ALERT: During the month of December the *PPP* staff will take a vacation so there will not be a January 2007 issue. Any notice or news which needs to appear before the year's end should be submitted to us by the November deadline (that will appear in our December issue).

ATTENTION!!

NEW PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING *PPP* ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Please read the article on our newly formed Editorial Committee which will review and authorize articles appearing in the *Puka Puka Parade*. In the past, some questions on articles or their contents have arisen leaving the Editor alone to decide what should or should not be printed. Hereafter, the Editorial Committee, consisting of President Robert Arakaki and Office Manager Amanda Stevens, will review submissions and approve each article. They will then go to the Editor, her proofing staff and finally the Technical Editor for formatting and layout. Thank you for your cooperation.



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

ORGANIZING A DESCENDANTS CHAPTER by Dr. Denis Teraoka

On September 8, 2006, the Board of Directors adopted the motion to organize a Descendants Chapter. We must support the formation of a strong and united Descendants Chapter. Let us put our trust in our descendants, pass the baton to them and have them go to bat for us veterans. We are asking our sons and daughters, our descendants to carry our banner and our legacy into the future so it won't be a lost and forgotten dream.

PUKA PUKA PARADE CORRECTIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENTS

President Robert Arakaki received this letter, dated September 18, 2006, from Mr. Arthur Ishimoto, a veteran of the MIS. President Arakaki was so touched by Mr. Ishimoto's generosity and heartfelt words that he wanted to share it with PPP readers.

Dear Mr. Arakaki:

I read in this morning's newspaper that the veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion would be hosting the Japanese-American Veterans' ceremony at the Punchbowl National Cemetery next Sunday. I noted that Club 100 will be donating a wreath. Please accept my check for \$200 to defray a portion of the cost to buy a wreath.

I am doing this for several reasons. I am a veteran of the MIA and fought in the Philippines Campaign. I had a childhood friend who was killed in action during the early days of the 100th Italian Campaign. My brother-in-law, Akira Akimoto, is alive and well and served in the original 100th. I had several friends who were my brother-in-law, namely Tak Takahashi, Marshall Higa and a few others who have passed on. I am extremely proud of the 100th battlefield accomplishments and look upon the members of the 100th Infantry Battalion as big brothers and view them with great respect and endearment.

I would also like to thank you for attending our memorial service at our church – the Wesley United Methodist Church on Hunakai Street. It was nice that your wife also attended the service.

Although I am not a member of the MIS Veterans Club, I plan to attend the ceremony.

Very Truly Yours,

Arthur Ishimoto, Veteran of the MIS

In Memoriam

Kozo Watanabe	Company C	Passed away on May 30, 2005
Shigeru "Charlie" Nakata	Company HQ	Passed away on July 21, 2006
James Hajime Kitashima	Company B/Rural	Passed away on July 21, 2006
Takeo Ohara	Company D	Passed away on August 17, 2006

Our deepest sympathy to their families

STANLEY'S CORNER by Stanley Akita

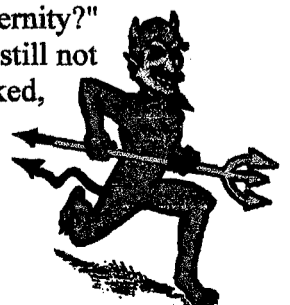


People were in their pews talking at church. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the altar. Everyone started screaming and running for the entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate. Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seemingly oblivious of the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence.

So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?" The man replied, "Yep, sure do." "Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked. "Nope, sure ain't." said the man. "Don't you realize I can kill with a word?" asked Satan. "Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone.

"Did you know that I could cause you profound horrifying AGONY for all eternity?" Satan persisted in asking. "Yep," was the calm reply from the old man. "And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan. "Nope," said the old man. More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for 44 years".



SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE CLUBHOUSE by Evelyn Tsuda

As announced in our last issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*, two special events took place at the Clubhouse on September 9, 2006. At 9:30 a.m., the Hawaiian flag which was presented to the club by CSM (Command Sergeant Major) Bert Hamakado (son of the late Masami Hamakado of Baker Chapter) was unveiled. This beautifully framed flag is embroidered with the inscription "Presented to 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club - Go for Broke - Flown at LSA Anaconda, Balad, Iraq - Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06 - November 28, 2005" and is now prominently displayed in Turner Hall.

In presenting the flag, Sgt. Hamakado thanked the veterans for their support and CARE packages which his men received while serving in Iraq. He also mentioned that the men in his unit performed very well because of the lesson learned from the 100th veterans. Sgt. Hamakado was accompanied by six soldiers from his unit, four of whom were women, and as each person was introduced, he or she received a flower lei and a cap with the 100th logo. It was quite interesting to hear about the women's contribution in the Iraq operation.



Goro Sumida, Sgt. Hamakado and Mac Moriwake with the Hawaiian flag that was flown in Iraq.

Samples of MREs (meals ready to eat) were later passed out to the veterans who agreed that they were definitely a far cry from the C and K rations which they had to thrive on during combat. The meal package contained entrees such as beef teriyaki, spaghetti, chicken breast with pasta shells in tomato sauce; but the most amazing thing was the heating unit which is activated with a small amount of water.

The second event of the day was to celebrate the publication of the book *Combat Chaplain* which was based on an unpublished manuscript written by the late Chaplain Israel Yost and co-edited by the Chaplain's oldest daughter, Monica, and Mike Markrich, a Hawaii resident and writer. At this book signing event, Chaplain Yost, who passed away in June 2004, was represented by his oldest son Nathan, who shared his recollections of his life with his father after the war. Mike Markrich also spoke about his role in the publication and shared heartwarming stories about the Chaplain and his family. (Did you know the Yost family lived in Hawaii for about three years, during which time Reverend Yost was a teacher at Radford High School and started a new Lutheran ministry in Waianae? Nathan, now a doctor, attended Kalani High School, where he was a member of the basketball team.)

The two events were a huge success, thanks in part to the help received from numerous volunteers. A special *mahalo* must be extended to Ann Kabasawa and her hastily formed team of volunteers who prepared and served the delicious refreshments.

100th INFANTRY BATTALION SOLDIER LEN TANAKA CARRIES PRIDE AND FAMILY TRADITION



(**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Thank you to Tom Nishioka of Able Co. for sharing this with the PPP readers. The article entitled "100th Infantry Battalion Soldier Carries Pride And Family Tradition With Him Into Iraq Campaign" and written by Chuck Prichard, Army Reserve Public Affairs, was originally published in the Fall 2005 edition of the Army Reserve Magazine. The complete text is available online at www.armyreserve.army.mil/NR/rdonlyres/DF07D265FB204A7D84BB4FC0B4919CBC/0/ARM512.pdf#search=%22%22Len%20Tanaka%22%20army%20reser%22%22.)

SPC Len Tanaka, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Milton Tanaka, is also the grandson of Asao Tanaka, original 100th Infantry Battalion member of Company A. Len has served in Iraq with the Army Reserve unit of the 100th Infantry Battalion. As an infantryman he not only carried the full weight of his desert camouflage uniform, flak vest, helmet and his M-249 machine gun, but there was something else that helped him get through the long, hot days of deployment. Len describes it as "intense pride" in being a part of the 100th Infantry and wearing the famous 100th/442nd Torch of Liberty patch. He feels a deep reverence for his roots and the legacy of his grandfather's service with the 100th during World War II.

Today, the 100th Infantry Battalion remains a part of the Army Reserve structure. However, it is the only remaining ground combat unit in the Army Reserves. Most of the other USAR units provide combat support and combat service support missions. Like their forefathers, the 100th has been in the thick of battle, protecting key logistics bases such as Balad, Iraq. They have served alongside soldiers of the new Iraqi Army to maintain security, clear roads leading to and from their base, patrol villages and provide mortar fire when needed. Len Tanaka believes he and his comrades have made a vital contribution to Iraq's strive for democracy.

On the wall of Len Tanaka's room is the picture of his grandfather. Asao and the legacy of the famed 100th Infantry Battalion of WWII is Len's inspiration. He values the sense of duty, courage, loyalty and dedication that they passed on to him. Were he alive today, Grandfather Tanaka would be proud of his grandson.

At our 100th's 64th Anniversary Banquet, Len was one of the color guards who participated in the opening ceremony. More recently, when the returning troops of today's 100th/442nd Infantry were presented with the orange yarn lei at our Clubhouse, Len was a member of the guard who posted the colors.

We can be proud that the legacy of the WWII 100th Infantry is being perpetuated by these fine young men of today's 100th/442nd Infantry.

DIS AND DAT by Ray Nosaka

This will be the final reminder of the Mini-Reunion to be held in Las Vegas on October 22 to 26. I believe we are all well aware of the strict airline security regulations regarding what CANNOT be hand carried aboard the plane--briefly, to mention a few things, bottles of water, juice, any liquid, toothpaste, cosmetics, etc. If you have any doubt of any items, pack them in your check-in luggage. Those of you who were planning to bring some goodies for the hospitality room--it would probably be best to forget it this time. The hassle of clearing baggage inspection may not be worth it. I have been told that the ladies in the Southern Cal group have been hard at work preparing surprise goody bags for all of the attendees. That is always something to look forward to. Also, we look forward to seeing the "Country-Western" Montana group again.

Please meet at the OMNI Airlines Lobby #6 by 8:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, October 22, 2006 -- and don't forget your picture I.D.! Let's go with the intention of having a great time.

Remember our motto "Enjoy yourself, it's later than you think!"

BAKER CHAPTER NEWS by Drusilla Tanaka

NEW DATE FOR OCTOBER CHAPTER MEETING: Due to the Mini-Reunion and Opu's One *Puka Puka* Tour, the date of the October meeting has been changed to October 14, at 1 p.m.

2006 Christmas Party: Details and a reservation form will be mailed out to all Baker Chapter members shortly. If you do not receive a flyer and reservation form by the end of this October, contact Bernard Akamine at 734-8738. Volunteers are still needed to help with the reception table, prizes, and program.

We send our *aloha* and best wishes to Ted Hirayama who recently celebrated his 89th birthday. Ted is now residing with his wife at the Korean Care Home. One of the articles he wrote about the Aloha Baseball Team at Camp McCoy can be found on the internet at www.baseballinwartime.co.uk. Shigeo "Joe" Takata and Mushie Miyagi's profiles can be found among other *Nisei* ball players who were killed in action. This website is amazing. The person who is compiling this information is named Gary Bedingfield and he lives in Glasgow, Scotland.

At the September meeting, a quick survey found that there are quite a few Bakerites whose children and grandchildren are members of the mother club. Let's shoot for 100% sign up and get them involved in the newly created Descendants Chapter.

Speaking of descendants, congratulations to Sonsei Nakamura whose grandson, Jonathan D. Awaya, Ph.D., received one of 12 National Science Foundation fellowships. The fellowship will support his post-doctoral research at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. When we asked Sonsei what Jonathan was studying, his answer was, "I don't know." So, a quick call to Jonathan's mother, Geraldine Awaya, gave us the answer — molecular biology and bio-engineering. His research is primarily on the DNA of plants.

Does anyone remember Maraaki Murai? His name is listed in "Ambassadors In Arms," but there is no information on him anywhere. The researchers in the AJA Memorial Alliance cannot find any record of this person in the Army or National Archives Database. In the book, he is listed as B Company. If you remember him or have any information on him, please contact Drusilla Tanaka at 235-1343 or by e-mail at datanaka@juno.com.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER NEWS by Ed Ikuma and Jan Sakoda

Our joint AJA Veterans Memorial Service held on September 24 at Punchbowl was very well attended by members, family, and guests. Headquarters Chapter was especially well represented and we had the opportunity of seeing old faces we have missed for a number of years. Inasmuch as this year's memorial committee of the 100th had decided to forego the placing of flowers at individual gravesites, Headquarters Chapter officers decided to buy and place a wreath/flower arrangement at the Memorial Service site in memory of all deceased members and families of the Chapter. This cost was budgeted at \$100 from our treasury.

The quarterly luncheon scheduled for September 9 was cancelled at the last minute due to a lack of participants and also because of Chaplain Yost's book signing function on the same day. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, October 14 at the Clubhouse. This is an especially important meeting and, as such, we would like all members to attend.

The generous gesture by member Otomatsu Aoki is greatly appreciated. He donated a substantial amount of "okane" to our treasury recently.

Randy Ikawa, son of Edna and the late Roy Ikawa, passed away this month. Roy was a member of Headquarters chapter and was a regular at *Holau Mochi* year-end *mochi* sessions for many years. Our condolences to all the Ikawa family. Randy assisted as Santa Claus and was M.C. in past Headquarters Chapter Christmas party gatherings.

If you watched Hawaii Skin Divers on OC16 in August, you saw David Sakoda (son of Jan and Ed Sakoda, grandson of Gary and Edna Uchida) with his friends spear fishing off of Lanai. You can read his account of this adventure in the current issue of Hawaii Skin Diver magazine (issue 28) and see some of the fish that were speared. I understand that in a few months, the cable television program will be featuring a dive off of Molokai, and David had the opportunity to be a part of this dive, too. And the inside scoop is that the divers got to swim with a whale shark!

Don't forget that our next meeting will be on Saturday, October 14 at 10:00 at the Clubhouse. Please join us for this important meeting.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS NEWS by Drusilla Tanaka

Mahalo nui loa to the following donors for their thoughtful gifts which were received between August 14 and September 18, 2006:

For the Veterans Club:

The Family of the late Ralph Fukunaga	\$300 in memory of Ralph and Ethel Fukunaga
Mrs. Fumi T. Inouye	\$250 in memory of Shigeru Inouye
Mr. and Mrs. James Tanabe	\$25 in memory of Kaoru and Mitsugi Moto
Jo Ann Tengan	\$100 in memory of Charles Nishimura

For the Puka Puka Parade:

Jo Ann Tengan	\$100 in memory of Charles Nishimura
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For the One Puka Puka Scholarship Fund:

Mr. and Mrs. Kazuto Shimizu	\$100 in memory of Ralph and Amy Ikeda
The Family of the late Ralph Fukunaga	\$300 in memory of Ralph and Ethel Fukunaga
Mrs. Gladys Kawakami	\$100 in memory of Amy Ikeda
Charles K. Miyamoto	\$50 in memory of Clarence Miyamoto

For the Sons and Daughters:

Paulette and Alfred Arakaki	\$100 in memory of Ralph and Amy Ikeda
Clinton Inouye	\$250 in memory of Shigeru Inouye
Jo Ann Tengan	\$100 in memory of Charles Nishimura

For Rural Chapter:

Jo Ann Tengan	\$100 in memory of Charles Nishimura
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Gifts to the Sons and Daughters organization are tax-deductible as allowed by law and are acknowledged with a written letter-receipt.

S&D Annual Meeting: The S&D Annual meeting is set for Sunday, November 12, at 9 a.m. at the clubhouse. Parking is available at the Ala Wai Elementary School for this event. All sons, daughters, and grandchildren are invited to attend. This should be an exciting meeting, as we see the "launching" of the Descendants Chapter of the veterans club. Please let us know you plan to attend by calling or e-mailing Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841 or diverseinnovations@hawaii.rr.com or Drusilla Tanaka at 235-1343 or datanaka@juno.com.

MAINLAND CHAPTER NEWS by Sam Fujikawa

We held our last meeting this past Saturday, before we leave for Las Vegas for the Mini Reunion. Many final details were discussed. It looks like we'll be having another informal laid back reunion where hopefully everyone will have a good time. Members present to participate in the discussions were Jean Tagami, Elsie and Hank Hayashi, Ed Nakazawa, Mas Takahashi, Toke Yoshihashi, Toe Yoshino, Steve Sato, Harrison Hamasaki, Chuckie Seki, Fumi Sakato, Ken and Hisa Miya, Teri Fujikawa and little Kiana Noda.

With the support of Ray and Aki Nosaka planning another happy program, we will have the Hui Hanele Singers, the Montana Group, Toe Yoshino, Ted Ohira, and Kauai Masuda providing an enjoyable evening at our banquet. We will aim to start at 5:00 pm so we will have enough time to be finished by 9:00 pm. Harrison Hamasaki will have his display of treasured WWII memorabilia for everyone to see in the second Hospitality Room; Slot tournaments Monday and Tuesday mornings with Mas Takahashi in charge; Shopping trip tours with Chuckie Seki and Amy Nakazawa on Monday; and two bus loads to Red Rock Canyon on Wednesday. All sign up sheets will be up in the Hospitality Room by Sunday night (October 22).

The registration list keeps changing and we note that many sons and daughters will be attending this year which will be great. The name tags for everyone are done and ready and many other preparations are getting done also. We are looking forward to seeing all our friends next month. We wish everyone good health and care and please keep safe.

Joy Teraoka recently sent to Steve Sato a copy of the poignant program for the services that were held for Charles Nishimura. Steve had met Charles last year at the reunion and was so touched to be able to hear first hand WWII memories about his father from Charles. How very sad to think we will be missing Charles' playing his harmonica at our reunion banquet and visiting with him. We send our sincere condolences to his family.

RETURN TO ITALY: GEORGIA HILL - A RECONFIRMATION by Saburo Nishime

When this article of mine was first published in our PPP in the following month, a writer questioned the authenticity of my article. My article went against the comment of known historians and writers whose comments were, "Georgia Hill was easily taken by the 100th Infantry Battalion in 30 minutes."

Just recently I happened to read the book *Combat Chaplain - The Personal Story of The World War II Chaplain of The Japanese American 100th Battalion: Israel A.S. Yost*.

Chaplain Yost was with the 100th Infantry Battalion throughout the entire period the 100th Battalion was in combat in Italy and in France. During this period, Chaplain Yost kept a daily written diary.

At the Battle of Georgia Hill on April 5 and April 6, 1945, in Chaplain Yost's book, comments can be found in pages 232 to 235. The following are general comments of Chaplain Yost's involvement in the battle, which included supervising the treatment, and evacuating the wounded from the battle site.

These diary reports of Chaplain Yost describe the heavy fighting of the 100th Battalion on Georgia Hill on the 5th and 6th of April 1945. Therefore, these diary reports of Chaplain Yost's would also confirm the authenticity of my report.

Chaplain Yost recorded 13 KIA. Actually, the 100th Infantry Battalion records show 22 KIA on the 5th and 6th of April 1945. Since the last KIA member on 6 April 1945, there was a period where the 100th Infantry Battalion was involved in only light skirmishes with the enemy. It was not until 13 April 1945 before a number of KIA occurred in the 100th Battalion.

From this date on 13 April 1945, to the end of the War in Italy on May 2, 1945, the 100th Battalion KIA numbered 15. The following are the listed KIA members.

1. Furukawa, Satoshi	Company B	13 April 1945
2. Furushiro, Henry T.	Company B	14 April 1945
3. Inatsu, Masami	Company B	13 April 1945
4. Iwai, Hisashi	Company C	19 April 1945
5. Miyoko, Noboru	Company B	14 April 1945
6. Morishige, Joseph	Company B	14 April 1945
7. Naemura, Roy I.	Company B	14 April 1945

8. Nakashima, Raito R.	Company B	14 April 1945
9. Okamoto, Donald M.	Company B	21 April 1945
10. Sakamoto, Robert I.	Company C	19 April 1945
11. Sasaki, Yoshio F.	Company C	16 April 1945
12. Shigezane, Masao	Company B	21 April 1945
13. Shiozawa, Roy R.	Company A	21 April 1945
14. Shirokane, Kizo	Company C	16 April 1945
15. Taketa, William H.	Company C	28 April 1945

Interesting Note: The first KIA in the 100th Battalion was a TAKATA on 29 September 1943. The last KIA was a TAKETA on 28 April 1945.

NEW PUKA PUKA PARADE GUIDELINES – PLEASE KOKUA

We would like to thank you, our loyal *PPP* readers, for the feedback (positive and negative) you give us with each publication of the *PPP*. Some of your suggestions have already been put into place, for example, requests for more photos and changes in the size of fonts we use. Other suggestions require more of a long-term implementation such as putting the *PPP* online or sending it via e-mail. In response to our readers' wants and needs, we have initiated a few new procedures and guidelines.

NEW *PPP* PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

1) The deadline to submit articles to the *PPP* is the 15th of each month. So, if you would like to have an article included in the November 2006 edition of the *PPP*, you must send your article to us by October 15. If the article is received on October 16, we will not consider it for the November issue but it may appear in the December issue.

2) All articles should be sent via e-mail to pukapukaparade@yahoo.com or dropped off at the Clubhouse. Please include a "Subject" entry or it will not be opened (an anti-SPAM or virus precaution). Please do not send articles directly to *PPP* Editor Joy Teraoka, Office Manager Amanda Stevens or anyone else on the *PPP* staff.

3) Due to space limitations, not every submitted article may appear in the *PPP*. Also, articles may be shortened, edited or corrected as needed. In response to our readers' request for shorter articles (see below), a newly formed *PPP* Editorial Committee is in place to make any necessary changes to submissions such as correcting erroneous information, misspelled names or wrong dates, deleting duplicate information, or editing ones that are too long. Articles in their original long form will kept on file at the Clubhouse office for anyone to review.

SUGGESTED *PPP* ARTICLE GUIDELINES

The most frequent comment from our readers is that *PPP* articles and the *PPP* itself is "TOO LONG." It has been our practice in the past to run submitted articles in their entirety but it is clear to us that most of our readers want us to get to the point and publish "just the good stuff." In order to satisfy the wants of our readers, we would like to offer the following suggestions to writers:

1) Pick a topic that will interest a MAJORITY of the *PPP* readers. For example, articles on veterans' benefits or long term care insurance would be helpful to most of our readers but articles on the tax benefits of buying a solar powered motorcycle or on how to care for a pet iguana probably would not.

2) Remember KISS – Keep It Short and Sweet. If you can say it in two paragraphs instead of 22, please do so. If you are submitting a lengthy article, please use a highlighting pen to indicate which paragraphs are the most important. For example, if you are submitting the text of a speech, you may not want to highlight the introduction of the speaker, thank yous to other attendees, etc.

3) Keep it fresh and current. Try to avoid writing about activities that happened months earlier or about previously covered events, unless you have something new or different to add. Articles on upcoming events, recently completed activities, book releases relevant to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the like are always welcome.

4) No *hu-hu*, just good news. Our readers want a newsletter that is interesting, informative and brings the 100th Inf. Bn. FAMILY closer together. If possible, try to avoid divisive issues in your articles such as heated political discussions, religious matters, candidate endorsements, personal attacks, offensive language or other hurtful speech. If you feel you must speak out, you may want to pursue other forums in the local media.

5) Everyone likes (personal) thank yous but it is somewhat tedious to read an article consisting of thanking a long list of donors and/or volunteers that specifies what each person contributed. If you

would like to include a thank you in the PPP, please do so in a general manner by simply posting the names of those who helped and thanking them for their generosity or their delicious donations.

6) When in doubt, check it out. If you are uncertain about something in your article, please check with someone who would know the right answer rather than asking for it to be published as is. There have been some incidents of confidential data being published, erroneous dates or locations for events, or condolences offered for persons who hadn't passed away. Also, if you are speaking on behalf of a group, please make sure you have that authority. Contact your Chapter President, Committee Chairperson, Club Officers or Amanda if a second opinion is needed.

7) Got photos? Please pass along any photos that would go with your article. You can send them via e-mail or we can scan the originals and return them to you. Please tell us a little about what is going on in the photo and identify the subjects, if possible. Choose photos without dark backgrounds or images (they use too much printer's ink and are hard to reproduce). Make sure subjects in the photos are clearly defined to ensure a good newsletter print. It is the Technical Editor's prerogative to accept or reject the photo for inclusion in the PPP.

The PPP is your newsletter and we are all working hard to make it the best it can be. In order to help us continue to grow and improve, please complete the survey that appears below and send it to us. We would also welcome any comments you may have on the new procedures and suggested guidelines in this article. Please mail your completed survey to the PPP Editorial Committee, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826. Please send any comments, concerns or suggestions to our new e-mail address at pukapukaparade@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation from the dedicated volunteers of the PPP: Robert Arakaki (*Editorial Committee, Printing Staff*), Mary Hamasaki (*Copy Editor, Printing Staff*), Jayne Hirata-Epstein (*Technical Editor*), Amanda Stevens (*Editorial Committee*), Hiromi Suehiro (*Printing Staff*), and Joy Teraoka (*Editor, Copy Editor, Printing Staff*).

PUKA PUKA PARADE READERS SURVEY

Please complete and mail to PPP Editorial Committee, 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826
Please send any questions or comments to pukapukaparade@yahoo.com

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE (optional): _____

EMAIL (optional) _____

I receive the PPP because I am (select one)

100th Infantry Battalion veteran

Wife of a 100th Infantry Battalion veteran

Widow of a 100th Infantry Battalion veteran

Descendant member of the 100th Inf. Bn. Assn.

Member of the Sons and Daughters

Other (please specify)

I don't know why I get the PPP

I would like to continue receiving the PPP (select one):

NO – please remove me from your mailing list

YES – via mail only

YES – via e-mail only

YES – via mail AND e-mail

Does anyone else in your household receive the PPP? (select one)

NO – we only get one copy

YES – we get more than one copy; please continue to send the PPP to the following persons:

YES – we get multiple copies but only want one; please remove the following persons
from your mailing list:

Suggestions to improve the PPP (please feel free to attach additional pages):

MAHALO FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

We acknowledge receipt of the following donations, with much thanks:

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans:

Tokuichi & Alice Hayashi	IM of Pluto Arakaki	50.00
Sons & Daughters	Grant	600.00
Leslie Yoshioka		10.00
Arthur Ishimoto	Joint Memorial Service	200.00
Choriki Shimabuku		100.00
Takashi Tsueshita (Japan)		100.00

Puka Puka Parade:

Steve & Sonia Sato	IM of Charlie Nishimoto	50.00
Florence Matsumura		25.00
Sadako Kaneko		50.00
Jun Shiosaki	In honor of Stanley Akita	25.00
Choriki Shimabuku		50.00

Office Manager's Report:

I thank the board for allowing me to attend the Non-profit Organizations Seminar sponsored by The Hawaii Tax Institute and Chaminade University on August 25, 2006 (8:30am-3:30pm.) I learned so much about non-profit organizations and what is expected from the management aspect. Being that this club will be receiving State and Federal funds totaling over 1.5 million dollars, our organization may be under scrutiny. The club has not been audited for many years. We should take the pro-active role and get audited; furthermore, it is on the list of compliance issues to receive the CDBG grant (135 thousand dollars of Federal Funds) from the City & County. This workshop came up at the perfect time.

I have met with the City a number of times this month and I got together with Irene Anzai and Avin Oshiro (LRPC Building Development co-chairs) to update them on the progress of the grants for the Apartment Building. In order to get the CDBG grant, we have to prove that 51% of the apartment tenants fall within the low to moderate income level. I have to collect all of this information from the tenants and hand it in to the City by the end of the month.

I also met with Col. Cruickshank's staff (State of Hawaii) regarding the grants for the Apartment and Education Resource Center. Mimi Nakano joined me at one of those meetings and we learned more about what is expected from the club regarding letters requesting "the release of funds" from the State of Hawaii. Nicole Wong, from the State, told us that the 1 Million dollars for the Education Resource Center will not cover construction costs. Mimi and I talked about possibly tapping into the clubhouse Building Maintenance Fund. At the last board meeting (Sept. 8, 2006) Mr. Akita made a motion to allocate a portion of the Building Maintenance Fund (clubhouse) for the construction of the Education Resource Center which will be located in the clubhouse. The motion was unanimously approved. The funds will not only go towards the construction of the Education Resource Center but it will also go towards upgrading the security of the building. I will continue to work with Avin Oshiro, Irene Anzai and Mimi Nakano and I will update the board and the Puka Puka Parade readers on our progress of the grants.

Also, with the board's permission, I asked Mrs. Charlotte Unni, Ala Wai School Principal, to send me "A Teacher's Wish List" for their students and classroom. Mrs. Unni is very grateful to the men of the 100th, their family and friends. She is the daughter of 100th Inf. Bn. Veteran, the late George Yamamoto -Able Chapter. If you can contribute to this list, please call me at 946-0272. We are collecting the following items here at the clubhouse.

For the kids:

slippers- all sizes but especially the larger sizes for grades 3-5, calculators, school supplies, backpacks, playground equipment like balls, hula hoops and jump ropes.

For the classrooms:

Globes, fans- [it's really HOT!], tennis balls- [need LOTS of them to put on all the chair legs throughout the school to dull the noise], dice -[to teach math probability], playing cards- [to teach math], VCR players, DVD players, cassette recorders, CD players, Video tapes [kids subjects and -rated G], Science equipment like microscopes.

I wanted to add that it was an honor to serve on the Joint Memorial Service Jr. Committee with Mike Harada, Ed Goto, Ann Kabasawa, Pam Lau, Lois Nakagawa, Eileen Sakai, Arlene Urada-Young, Dennis Fujii, Evelyn Tsuda and Paul Kusunoki. Also, Jayne Hirata Epstein was an invaluable resource in helping me with the press release. Sincerely, Amanda Stevens

Please join us for

HEROES

A performance by storyteller

ALTON CHUNG

Accompanied by **BERNICE HIRAE** on koto

Saturday, October 14 at Noon

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse



Noted storyteller Alton Chung will give a free performance of his one-man show, *Heroes*, on Saturday, October 14, 2006 at 12:00 noon at the Clubhouse. All veterans are invited to bring their families and friends to what will surely be a wonderfully rewarding experience for all, audience and artist. Mr. Chung explains why it was so important for him to perform before an audience of veterans, "The story of the men of the 100th and 442nd, whom I always thought of as Gods growing up in Hawaii, is not so well known outside of the Asian Community. I've been collecting material for the last two years, knowing I had to tell your story. It is a dream-come-true to present it to you veterans- please come and tell me if I got it right."

Heroes is a fictional story based on real-life experiences. Mr. Chung describes the tale as follows:

"In the present day at the dedication of a WWII monument, an old man, a decorated WWII veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, begins to remember his brother Kenji. The story retraces their lives together just out of high school in Hawaii on December 7, 1941. We share his reactions to the attack and the creation of the 442nd RCT. Both brothers volunteer and their father tells them 'not to bring dishonor to the family.' His mother makes him, the elder brother, responsible for the younger one. Training in Shelby, Mississippi, there's real tension between JA from Hawaii and the Japanese Americans from the mainland. The stability of the unit is in question. When the Hawaii boys go on a fun trip to Arkansas (across the border), and stumble into the internment camps, realizing more, respect follows. The unit gels, and shipped off to Europe, eventually make their way up to the Vosges Mountains on the Franco-German border.

On October 15, 1944, the 442nd begins eight days of intense combat, capturing three villages neighboring the Vosges Mountains. They were a badly battered unit. Two days later, they're ordered to rescue the beleaguered 1st Battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment. This unit, surrounded for five days by enemy forces, was near annihilation. The attacks of the other battalions of the 141st Regiment fail to save this unit. In the midst of the intense fighting, Kenji, the younger brother is killed, dying in his brother's arms. Racked with guilt and pain, the narrator and the men in his squad press on. Under the daily exhortation of Division Commander Major General John Dahlquist to rescue the endangered unit at all costs, the 442nd reaches the "Lost Battalion" on October 30. The toll: over 800 casualties to free 211 survivors of the Battalion. The narrator buries his brother in a sunny part of a cemetery in France.

The old veteran remarks that his brother, Kenji, loved these types of ceremonies. 'You wanted a real live hero to speak, but I'm not a hero. I'm one of the lucky ones. I got to come home. The real heroes are the ones buried over there.'

Storyteller Alton Chung is a local boy, who draws inspiration from his Japanese and Korean roots, and the superstitions, stories, and magic of Hawaii. He enjoys weaving tales and legends from many lands, but his passion is telling ghost lore. If you are unable to come to the performance of *Heroes* on October 14, Mr. Chung will be featured at the following events:

"Ghost Stories", Talk Story Festival at McCoy Pavilion on Oct. 13, 6:30 pm to 9 pm (*free*)

Storytelling Workshop, McCoy Auditorium on October 15, 1 pm to 4 pm

"Tales and Tunes", Talk Story Festival at McCoy Pavilion on Oct. 15, 5:30 pm to 8 pm (*free*)

"Japanese Folk Tales", *Kaidan* at the Japanese Cultural Ctr. on Oct. 22, 2:40 pm to 3:20 pm (*free*)

"Scary *Obake* Stories", *Kaidan* at the Japanese Cultural Ctr. On Oct. 22, 7:30 pm (*free*)

For more information, call the Clubhouse or go to www.altonchung.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2006

ABLE.....	Saturday, October 28.....	8:00 am
BAKER.....	Saturday, October 14.....	1:00 pm
CHARLIE.....	Saturday, October 28.....	10:00 am
DOG.....	Saturday, October 21.....	9:00 am
HQ.....	Saturday, October 14.....	10:00 am
RURAL.....	No meeting	
HAWAII CHAPTER.....	Thursday, October 26...AJA Vet. Mem. Hall.....	10:00 am
MAUI CHAPTER.....	No meeting	
BOARD MEETING.....	Friday, October 13.....	10:00 am
LINE DANCING.....	Wednesday, October 4, 11, 18, 25.....	9:00 am
	(Practice & perform at Ala Wai "Palladium")....Friday, October 6 at 11:00 am and Saturday, October 7 at 8:00	
EXERCISE.....	Wednesday, October 4, 11, 18, 25.....	10:30 am
CRAFTS/CROCHET.....	Tuesday, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.....	9:00 am
HEROES PERFORMANCE.....	Saturday, October 14.....Clubhouse.....	12:00 noon
LAS VEGAS MINI-REUNION.....	Sunday, October 22...Omni Airlines, Lobby #6....	8:30 am

ATTENTION – NEW PROCEDURE: Deadline for every issue of the *PPParade* will be on the 15th day of each month. (Please submit articles on time or they will not be included in the issue.) Collating will be on **FRIDAY, October 27, 2006 at 8:30 am**. Charlie Chapter is responsible for providing manpower and refreshments, but everyone is welcome to kokua.



NOTE - new e-mail addresses for PPP: Chapter news and articles (Spam Alert! Show **SUBJECT** or your message will be deleted): pukapukaparade@yahoo.com.
Club business, questions or correspondence, address to: club100vets@yahoo.com.

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