



PUKA PUKA

# PARADE

February 2026

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## 2026 FIRE HORSE PACESETTER HAS 100TH LEADING THE WAY [PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE]

By Kathi Hayashi [*daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)*], 100th IBV President; Education Committee Chair

Happy Lunar New Year! This year of the Fire Horse is already blazing with the 100th “leading the way” like the [story](https://www.100thibv.org/post/100th-infantry-battalion-story) (<https://www.100thibv.org/post/100th-infantry-battalion-story>) and musical [tribute](https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-song) (<https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-song>).



Kathi Hayashi poses with newly mounted *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* article in Turner Hall, about the Purple Heart City sign dedication ceremony, held on December 22, 2025 at the Clubhouse.

**Education – Legislative Action.** One of the goals of the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100) is to perpetuate the legacy of the 100th by mainstreaming curriculum to all public high school students in Hawaii. We have taken steps toward this vision with Senate Bill 2687 and House Bill 1942, both of which propose to require the Hawaii Department of Education to incorporate the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion into the statewide public high school social studies curriculum and to establish a pilot curriculum program in select schools. Here is the [Senate version](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2026/bills/SB2687_.HTM) of the “Hawaii 100th Infantry Battalion Curriculum and Heritage Act.” ([https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2026/bills/SB2687\\_.HTM](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2026/bills/SB2687_.HTM))

Thank you to Senator Carol Fukunaga, Representative Adrian Tam and legislators who signed to introduce the bills as requested by Club 100. On February 13, 2026, a hearing was held where I submitted written and oral testimony on behalf of Club 100. I was so proud that compelling written testimony in support was submitted by former Governor David Ige [son of **Tokio Ige (A)**]; Club 100 Honorary members General David A. Bramlett (Ret.) and Major General Robert G. Lee (Ret.); Major General Kenneth S. Hara (Ret.); Colonel Keith Horikawa (Ret.); filmmaker Steve Sue; and the following organizations: Japanese American Veterans Association, Military Affairs Council, and Go For Broke Association — along with educators and many other supporters.

Written testimony included 21 in support, 2 in opposition, and 2 offering comments. The Department of Education (DOE) testified against the bill, noting, “we don’t think it’s necessary at this time.” After questioning by the Education Committee Chair directed to both me and the DOE, I am pleased to report that Senate Bill 2687 was unanimously passed with amendments by the Education Committee (Chair Donna Mercado Kim) and the Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee (Chair Carol Fukunaga).

Thank you to all who submitted testimony. Yay! This isn’t a done deal, but we’re grateful the bill is moving to the next stage. We look forward to collaborating with the DOE to develop a pilot statewide curriculum on the 100th Infantry Battalion that led to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, as well as also including information about the MIS and

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1399th.

In the decision, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Education Committee said, “I believe this is very important for our students to be well versed and understand what happened and to have heroes in their lives, as well.” Stay tuned, more to come.

**Education – 5th Annual Legacy2Action.** Club 100 has sent out [registration forms](https://www.100thibv.org/post/legacy2action-2026-application) (https://www.100thibv.org/post/legacy2action-2026-application) to kick off our 5th Annual Legacy2Action (L2A) initiative. Please save the date, **May 3, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00**

**p.m.**, to join us in watching this year’s student presentations.

Last year, one of our participants, Kayla Ling, made a 10-minute [documentary](https://www.youtube.com/) (https://www.youtube.com/



Legacy2Action 2026 is now accepting applications.

watch?v=9mAw2P2NSGo), “The Most Loyal Traitors,” about the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Kayla wrote to me to share good news about how her participation in L2A has helped her grow and contributed to her being accepted to Harvard in January 2026:

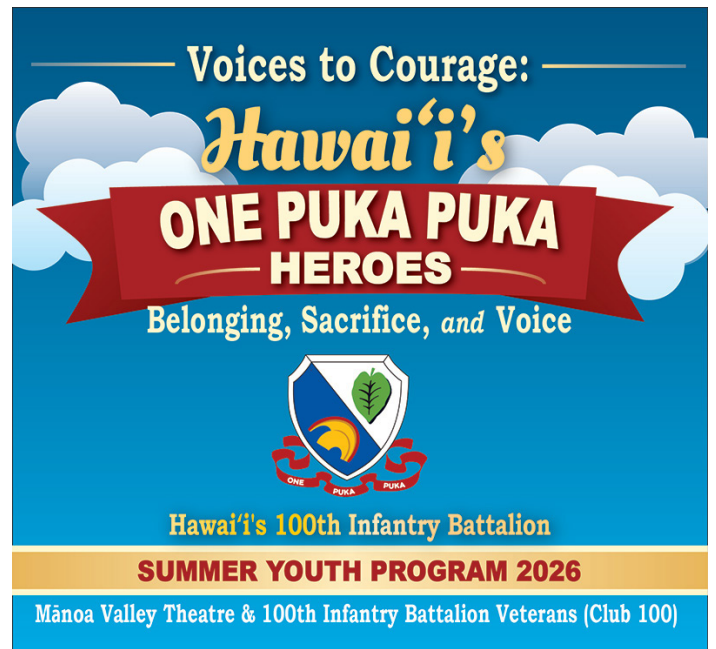
*“I am also happy to share that I have been accepted to attend Harvard. I am still in shock! I know that this positive outcome is no small part because of the lessons that you all have imparted on me; your dedication to furthering your fathers’ legacies is the foundation of my film. Because of your support, I did not just advance far in the National History Day program or college applications, but I have grown into a storyteller more passionate about preserving history and amplifying patriotism in my community.*”

*In fact, an admissions officer from Harvard reached out to me individually and shared: ‘I really enjoyed learning about your passion for impactful storytelling -- you certainly have a gift (and I loved watching your ‘Most Loyal Traitors’ film... so well done!).’*

*I will continue to seek and document impactful stories like the Niseis for the rest of my life!”*

Please encourage middle and high school students to register.

**Education – New Partnership with Mānoa Valley Theatre.** Another form of learning about the 100th is through artistic expression. We are proud to establish a new partnership with Mānoa Valley Theatre to share stories about 100th soldiers for budding actors to express their interpretations.



Club 100 and Mānoa Valley Theatre have partnered to present, “Voices to Courage: Hawaii’s One Puka Puka Heroes” summer youth program.

“Voices to Courage: Hawaii’s One Puka Puka Heroes,” is a summer theater program dedicated to honoring the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion. Running June 15 through July 12, 2026, this innovative educational and artistic program invites middle and high school students to step into history through performance, storytelling, and civic engagement.

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The program will culminate in two public performances on July 11 and 12, 2026, offering students the opportunity to share their work with the broader community. These performances will serve not only as a celebration of student achievement but also as a living tribute to the stories and sacrifices of Hawai‘i’s World War II heroes.

For more information on how to participate or for the application, please visit our web [article here](https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-youth-theatre) (<https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-youth-theatre>).

**Education - New Pacific Historic Parks video.** Thank you to Pacific Historic Parks (PHP) for helping to preserve the legacy of the 100th. Here is a new [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfKXddJZj20) from PHP, called “100th Infantry Battalion - Purple Heart Battalion” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfKXddJZj20>).

**Call for Soldier biographies and stories.** We are currently gathering soldier biographies and stories with photographs and/or videos, and historical materials on the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, both for this 2026 Mānoa Valley Theatre summer youth theater workshop, and to add to our current collection on our 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Education Center [website](https://www.100thbattalion.org/) (<https://www.100thbattalion.org/>). For more information or to send submissions, please contact us at [info@100thbattalion.org](mailto:info@100thbattalion.org).

**Correcting a Wartime Injustice: Honoring Seven ROTC Cadets.** Please read the article by Dr. Eric Tsukamoto [son of **John K. Tsukamoto (HQ)**] about the posthumous commissioning to second lieutenant of seven ROTC cadets, who were wrongfully removed from the ROTC under the hysteria of war for looking like the Japanese enemy. I’m proud of the America I love, for striving toward a more perfect union by correcting an error of the past. Dr. Tsukamoto and I were proud to represent Club 100 at

SAVE THE DATE!

# 84<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

**JUNE 27, 2026**

## CELEBRATING AMERICA250

Mark your calendars for this year’s banquet.

We’re celebrating the 84<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and request your presence for this special occasion. Please save the date on your calendar and look for the reservation form in the March issue of the Puka Puka Parade.

<b>Date:</b>	Saturday, June 27, 2026
<b>Place:</b>	100 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Clubhouse 520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
<b>Time:</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (approximate)

The 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100) 84th Anniversary Banquet will be held on June 27, 2026.

this auspicious event.

Howard High, President of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) in Washington, DC,



JAVA representatives and President Howard High invite Club 100 officers Kathi and Eric to join them for a tour of the USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118), led by Commander Ryan Kelly (Commanding Officer) and Commander Erik Gardner (Executive Officer).

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JAVA sponsored dinner at the Elks Club. (Seated L to R) Lynn Heirakuji, General David Bramlett (Ret.), Howard High, and Nora Bramlett. (Standing L to R) Kathi Hayashi, Major General Bob Lee (Ret.), and Mark Matsunaga (MIS).



(L to R) Lynn Mariano, Isami Yoshihara, Kathi Hayashi, Howard High, and Dr. Eric Tsukamoto at the 100th IBV Clubhouse with JAVA challenge coin.

attended the commissioning. It was nice to spend quality time with Howard and his staff at the event, at the Elks Club dinner sponsored by JAVA, during his visit to the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse, and at a visit to the USS Daniel Inouye while he was in town.

**Remembering the Royal T. Frank.** Also, Wayne Yoshioka [nephew of **Susumu Yoshioka (A)**], shares an article about the little-known story of the sinking of the Royal T. Frank and the recent memorial dedicated in Hilo to honor those who were killed and the survivors — eight of whom served in the 100th.

**SAVE THE DATE (more details forthcoming).** Our **84th Anniversary Banquet**, celebrating the formation of the 100th Infantry Battalion, will be held on **Saturday, June 27, 2026**, at the Clubhouse. Please look for the reservation form in the March issue of the *Puka Puka Parade*.

**Cafe 100 (Hilo, HI) presentation.** On April 6, 2026, at 10 a.m., at Cafe 100 in Hilo, there will be a presentation of a poster honoring their founder,

**Richard Miyashiro (HQ)** and the 100th Infantry Battalion. This is an amazing story of how a seed can grow into a giving tree. I recently was contacted by attorney and LTC Steve Dyer (Ret.), who had lunch at Cafe 100 after completing a deposition in Hilo. He knew the story of the ties of Cafe 100 to the 100th Infantry Battalion, but did not see any historical or memorial information. He took the initiative to create a poster, with historical collaboration by COL Chris Moylan (Ret.) and 100th IBV Communications committee member, Isami Yoshihara [brother of **Hisashi Yoshihara (A)**].



Invitation from Mari Kobayashi for the April 6 poster presentation at Cafe 100.

We reached out to current owner, Mari Kobayashi [granddaughter of **Richard Miyashiro (HQ)**], who is excited and invites members to attend the poster presentation. Interestingly, LTC Dyer’s father was wounded twice in Italy and once in France while serving in the 36th Infantry Division. Each time, he was on the same battlefield as the 100th and 442nd.

**Dedication of the Shinyei Nakamine (B) and 100th Infantry Battalion Memorial Park.** On April 11, 2026, at 10 a.m., the dedication of the Shinyei Nakamine and 100th Infantry Battalion Memorial Park (Waianae District Park) will be held. On June 4, 2025, Councilwoman Andrea Tupola obtained approval of RES 25-149, FD1 to rename the park. The Resolution states in part:

*“WHEREAS, Shinyei Nakamine was born and raised in Wai‘anae and exemplified extraordinary*

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heroism and devotion to duty while serving in the United States Army during World War II, ultimately sacrificing his life in battle on June 2, 1944, near La Torreto, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Private Nakamine posthumously received the Medal of Honor from the United States Armed Forces for his courage, which included eliminating multiple enemy positions and capturing several enemy soldiers while leading his platoon under heavy machine gunfire; and

WHEREAS, the 100th Infantry Battalion, known as the “Purple Heart Battalion,” was a segregated unit of second-generation Japanese Americans who served with unparalleled distinction despite facing racial discrimination and whose legacy reflects the triumph of patriotism over prejudice; and

WHEREAS, renaming the Wai‘anae District Park after Shinyei Nakamine and the 100th Infantry Battalion would create a lasting tribute to both a local hero and a historic military unit that embodied sacrifice, loyalty, and courage; and

WHEREAS, the renaming would also provide educational opportunities for visitors and foster a sense of pride within the Wai‘anae community by honoring one of the community’s own members who displayed the highest ideals of service;”

Shinyei’s sister, Anita Korenaga, and her daughter and granddaughter will attend. They invite members to attend and share in camaraderie with refreshments.

I intend to attend the Cafe 100 and Shinyei Nakamine and 100th Infantry Battalion Memorial Park dedication events and hope to see you there.



COL Noe Noël Uchida of the French 1st Battalion - Commander and Lynn Mariano (Hawai‘i JAVA representative) join Kathi for a briefing on the 100th at the Clubhouse on February 14.

**Visitors:**  
We’ve been blessed by so many visitors interested in learning more about the 100th and becoming ambassadors to sharing their story in an accurate

way. In the past month, we have welcomed Howard High, President of JAVA - Washington, DC;

Lynn Marino (Hawai‘i JAVA representative); French Colonel

Noe Noël Uchida; LTC Jillian Chang and US Army Pacific soldiers who led the seven ROTC posthumous commissioning; Shawn Brinsfield, past president of Nisei Veterans Committee Foundation (NVCF) Seattle; and Tom Graves, author of “Twice Heroes.”

The opening ceremony for the “I Am an American” traveling exhibit will be on February 20, 2026. I plan to attend and hope to share photos and good reviews in the next *Puka Puka Parade*.



Kathi with Shawn Brinsfield of NVCF - Seattle, who visited the Clubhouse and also filed testimony to support SB2687, noting successful mandated curriculum in Washington State. [Photo by: Shawn Brinsfield]



Author Tom Graves and Club 100 Communications Committee member Isami Yoshihara commit to doing their best to correct errors seen online or in print about the 100th.

by the 442nd. The 2026 Fire Horse is at full gallop, with an exhilarating sense of flying. Best wishes to all in 2026. 🐎



LTC Jillian Chang (4th from the left) and her US Army Pacific soldiers visit to learn about the 100th. They were in charge of the seven ROTC posthumous commissioning.

## US ARMY MAKES THINGS RIGHT FOR SEVEN WORLD WAR II AJA ROTC CADETS

By Dr. Eric Tsukamoto [*son of John Kazuo Tsukamoto (HQ)*], 100th IBV Treasurer



**Daniel Betsui      Jenhatsu Chinen      Robert Murata      Grover Nagaji (B)      Akio Nishikawa      Hiroichi Tomita      Howard Urabe**

[Photos courtesy: US Army Pacific]

On the morning of January 26, 2026, a gentle drizzle fell during the U.S. Army Pacific ceremony at Keehi Lagoon Memorial State Park. It was an auspicious blessing; gentle and nurturing, a propitious spiritual cleansing, finding peace and renewal for seven Nisei soldiers, being honored posthumously as they received their promotions to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.

sympathy honoring the loss of these seven Nisei soldiers.

On December 7, 1941, **Daniel Betsui, Jenhatsu Chinen, Robert Murata, Grover Nagaji (B), Akio Nishikawa, Hiroichi Tomita** and **Howard Urabe** were cadets in the University of Hawaii Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

As a result of the attack on Pearl Harbor, these American cadets were expelled from the ROTC program simply because they looked like the enemy. Filled with determination to help their country, they joined the Hawaii Territorial Guard. They were soon branded as IV-C, “enemy aliens,” and removed from the Guard. Despite this injustice, they were determined to prove their loyalty by helping to form the Varsity Victory Volunteers, supporting the US Army Corps of Engineers in Hawaii. When the U.S. government later called for volunteers to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, they answered the call, and would ultimately give their lives in combat.



Seven WWII ROTC cadets are honored with posthumous commissions. (Photo by: Clyde Sugimoto [nephew of Nolan Miyazaki (B)])

They were welcomed in spirit, with their presence felt by all, as they were praised and commended by General Ronald Clark, the Commanding General of the United States Army Pacific, as a long overdue acknowledgment in American military history for their leadership, courage, unwavering military service and sacrifice.

During the ceremony the rainbow grew, the timeless bridge between the spiritual and physical world, intertwined with tears and quiet sorrow of the audience, it seemed like a moment of divine



Grover Nagaji, Howard Urabe, Robert Murata, Jenhatsu Chinen, Daniel Betsui, Hiroichi Tomita and Akio Nishikawa are honored. [Photo by: Terry Takaki]

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One of the seven, Grover Nagaji, was sent from the 442nd as an early replacement to the 100th, and served with Baker Company of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate). He was killed in action on June 26, 1944 during the battle of Belvedere, Italy, where the 100th earned its first Presidential Unit Citation.



[Left photo] 2nd Lt. Grover K. Nagaji (B) is honored at the Jan. 26 commissioning ceremony. (Photo by: Terry Takaki) Following the ceremony, his certificate of honorary promotion is proudly displayed at the 100th IBV Clubhouse. (Photo by Kathi Hayashi [daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)]).

Jenhatsu Chinen served with Easy Company, 2nd Battalion of the 442nd, and was killed during the fight for Hill 140 near Livorno, Italy. Jenhatsu is a relative of Club 100 Dog Chapter honorary member, Stephen Chinen.



Steve Chinen (center) and family at the ceremony, honoring their relative, Jenhatsu Chinen. [Photo by Clyde Sugimoto]



2nd Lt. Jenhatsu Chinen. [Photo by: Terry Takaki]

Without fail, they proved their loyalty to the United States and joined the U.S. Army when the “enemy alien” status was lifted. Their actions speak loudly, with unmistakable clarity, of the Nisei soldier’s legacy to serve a nation that had once questioned their allegiance. With extraordinary bravery and selflessness they made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom during their European war campaigns.

We are very grateful for their service representing an everlasting testament to the Nisei soldier’s loyalty, resilience and honor. Their sacrifices secured freedom and equality that should be remembered and passed on for generations to come. 🇺🇸



Seven UH ROTC cadets are honored at the Jan. 26 posthumous commissioning ceremony, with their families and friends in attendance. [Photo by: Terry Takaki]

## ROYAL T. FRANK SOLDIERS REMEMBERED WITH NEW MEMORIAL DEDICATED IN HILO

By LTC Wayne Yoshioka, HIARNG (Ret.) [*nephew of Susumu Yoshioka (Easy/Able)*]

Just over 84 years ago, on January 28, 1942, the U.S. Army transport ship USAT Royal T. Frank was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine in the Alenuihāhā Channel between Maui and Hawai‘i island. On board were 26 soldiers of the Hawai‘i National Guard, then serving on federal active duty with the U.S. Army, who were heading from basic training on O‘ahu to assignments in Hilo. Seventeen Hawai‘i soldiers were killed and nine survived. The survivors, later known as the “Torpedo Gang,” were ordered by military authorities not to discuss the incident.

A memorial for the soldiers was dedicated on January 28, 2026, at the Lt. Col. Henry S. Hara Armed Forces Reserve Center, Hawaii Army National Guard, Keaukaha Military Reservation in Hilo, Hawai‘i. A Royal T. Frank memorial plaque is also located near the flagpole at the East Hawai‘i Veterans Cemetery.

The Torpedo Gang’s account of the attack was published in a 1986 Hawai‘i Herald article by Karleen Chinen [*daughter of Wallace Seiko Chinen (D)*]. The 200-ton transport ship, towing an ammunition barge, left Honolulu Harbor as part of a 3-ship convoy on January 27, 1942. The next morning off the coast of

Maui someone on board saw what appeared to be a torpedo whiz by in the water. Less than a minute later, a second torpedo was sighted and it scraped the side of the transport. **Shigeru Ushijima (HQ)**, then 23 years-old, said they all heard a “thud” as the torpedo grazed the ship’s hull. A third torpedo fired by the

Japanese submarine was a direct hit on the USAT Frank’s stern. The ship sank in less than a minute and the soldiers and crew below deck never got out. The captain of the ship was killed and the soldiers on the deck were thrown overboard or jumped off.

The 36 survivors,

including the nine Torpedo Gang soldiers and 27 crew members, held on to floating debris and water-proof mail bags for two or three hours before they were fished-out by members on the ammo barge they had been towing. They were taken to the gymnasium in Hāna, Maui, which had been converted into a first aid station.

The sunken transport ship and the remains of those killed were never recovered. Survivors of the USAT Royal T. Frank were ordered to keep the attack secret, and families of the deceased did not learn the full story until after World War II.



On Jan. 26, 1942, before boarding the USAT Royal T. Frank, 23-year-old Shigeru Ushijima gathered 26 fellow draftees — along with their sergeant, who would not join the trip — for what would become their final photograph together. Within 48 hours, only nine would survive, leaving this image as the last memory of the 17 who never returned. (Photo courtesy: Debbie Shigehara [*daughter of Shigeru Ushijima (HQ)*])

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The 14 fallen soldiers from Hawai‘i island were: **Iwao Nakamura, Yoshito Nii, Muneo Larry Oku, Reginald M. Osato, John Perreira, John S. Rodrigues, Raymond H. Shirakawa, Allen Yeishun Soken, Bushichi Tani, Pernal C. Torrijos, Alfred Veriato, Torao Yamamizu, Albert H. Yano, and Yonezo Yonemura**; the three from O‘ahu were: **Shoji Okido, Shinichi Shiigi, and Hook Yuen Young**.



Memorial dedication ceremony held to honor the soldiers aboard the USAT Royal T. Frank. [Photo by: Steve Sue]

The “Torpedo Gang” soldiers would continue to serve in the war. They were: **Yoshio Ogomori (100th HQ), John Souza (298th IR), Tokimaru Takamoto (100th HQ), George Taketa, (100th Medics), Shizuo Toma (100th HQ), Shigeru Ushijima (100th HQ), Tsutomu Wakimoto (100th HQ / MIS), Haruo Yamashita (100th Charlie), and Susumu Yoshioka (100th Easy/Able).**



Susumu Yoshioka at Camp Shelby, Mississippi (1943). [Photo courtesy: Wayne Yoshioka]

Eight of the men would serve as original members of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), and Tsutomu Wakimoto would be transferred from the 100th to the MIS in December 1942. Susumu Yoshioka was captured as a German POW while on patrol during the assault on the Gustav Line on January 22, 1944, and was held at Stalag VII in Moosburg, Germany, until his liberation on July 25, 1945.

Their story, once silenced by wartime secrecy, continues to live on. 🇺🇸

EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATES

By Jan Sakoda [daughter of Gary Uchida (HQ)], 100th IBV Secretary; Events Committee Chair

Beginning this year, the Events Committee is pleased to introduce a new Member Benefit program. For select events, members will enjoy complimentary admission, while for other events, we may request a modest \$5 donation when expenses are anticipated. Non-members will be asked to contribute \$5 or \$10.

All donations directly support the event itself and help maintain our clubhouse, including cleaning and utility costs. We appreciate your continued support in keeping our clubhouse welcoming and vibrant for all.

We invite you to join us at all our events, including the following.

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**Sunday, March 22, 2026 (1:00 to 3:30 p.m.)**  
**“Finding Your Japanese Roots”** led by Allen

Kamemoto [son of **Kazuo Kamemoto (A)**].

Allen will guide us into starting our family research, specifically using *Koseki* (Japan’s family registry system) research. Topics will include:

- Getting started with your Japanese Genealogy
- What is a *Koseki*
- Understanding the process to get your *Koseki*

This is an introductory class to give interested persons an idea of what Japanese Genealogy entails and how to get started.

Members \$5. Non-members \$10 for materials.



RSVP for 3/22 Genealogy workshop.

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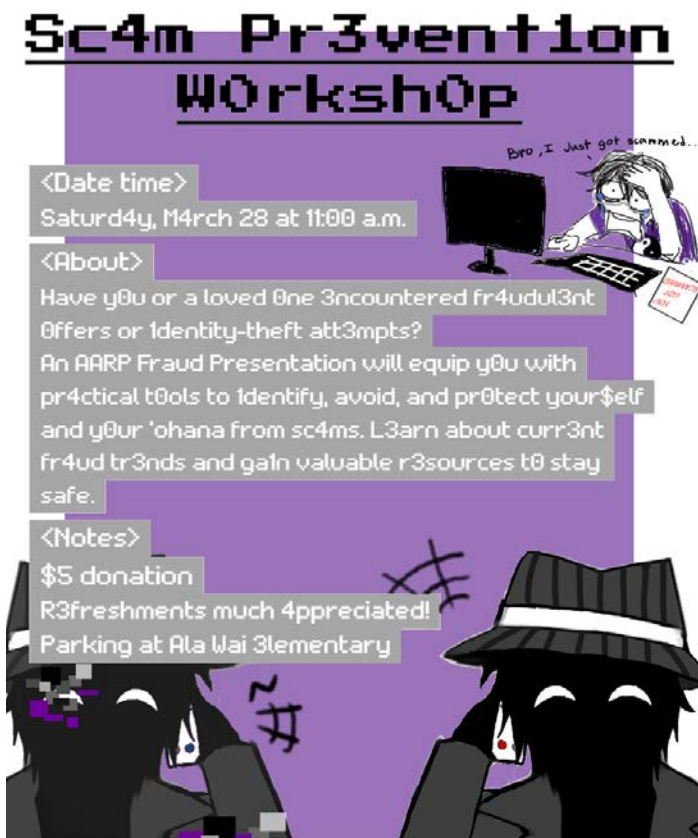
Parking will be available at Ala Wai Elementary School. RSVP via <https://elkqr.link/clRsm7rD> or with the QR code.

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**Saturday, March 28 (11:00 a.m.) 1 hour.  
Scam Prevention Workshop.**

Have you or a loved one encountered fraudulent offers or identity-theft attempts? Have you ever received a scrambled text message like in the poster below?

An AARP Fraud Presentation will equip you with



[Poster by: Nova Hanai [great-granddaughter of Yoshio Saito (A)]]

practical tools to identify, avoid, and protect yourself and your ‘ohana from scams. In today’s world, we need all the information we can get to arm ourselves!

**Saturday, March 28 (1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)  
CPR and AED training.**

Be Prepared. Save a Life.

Join us for this CPR & AED Training Workshop and learn the skills that could help you save a life in an emergency. This hands-on session will teach you how to recognize cardiac arrest, perform CPR, and properly use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which we have in the Clubhouse lounge, thanks to the generous donation by Club 100 member, Sharon Maekawa [daughter of **Koyei Robert Matsumoto (B)**].



RSVP for 3/28 Scam Prevention / CPR & AED training workshops.

Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere — at home, at work, or in our community. Be ready to respond with confidence.

Spaces are limited for both workshops so sign up today. RSVP via <https://elkqr.link/ADXDV4eF> or with the QR code above.

Members free. Non-members \$5. Refreshments welcome! Parking will be available at Ala Wai Elementary School.

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When you come to the clubhouse, you’ll notice the photo portraits before entering Turner Hall. If you’re interested in scheduling a photo session at a reasonable price, contact Jan Sakoda at [info@100thbattalion.org](mailto:info@100thbattalion.org). All sitting fees are donated to Club 100, thanks to Club 100 member Al Yatagai [son of **Keiji Yatagai (HQ)**].

**HEADQUARTERS/MEDICS CHAPTER NEWS**

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

Please join us for our annual **Spring Luncheon on Monday, March 23, at 11:00 a.m. at Gyotaku Restaurant** (King Street location).

We look forward to gathering and enjoying good

food and fellowship. To assist with reservations, please let me know if you plan to attend by **March 10**. Additional details will be emailed after March 10.

We hope you will join us!

**ABLE CHAPTER NEWS**

By Shayna Hanai [*granddaughter of Yoshio Saito (A)*], Able Chapter President

Happy February everyone!

Be sure to save the date for our Rummage Sale in March, headed by Avin Oshiro [son of **Seie Oshiro (A)**]. It will be held on **Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** both days. Donations are welcomed and feel free to invite your family or friends.

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.** at the Clubhouse and on Zoom. Feel free to email me anytime if you have any questions, suggestions or any news you would like to share. 🍷



It was great to see 100th veteran **Dr. Takashi Manago (A)** at the last Able chapter meeting. (Photo by: *Kathi Hayashi [daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)]*)

**100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS (CLUB 100) ABLE CHAPTER**

**Date: Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Location: 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Clubhouse  
520 Kamoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96826**

**Parking available at Ala Wai Elementary School**

The 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization; therefore, contributions and gifts in-kind are NOT tax deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

### BAKER CHAPTER NEWS

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

Calling all chapters! We’re actively looking for ways to strengthen connection across generations—and we need your input.

If you’re part of the younger generation, we want to hear from you:

**What kinds of activities would actually bring you out and make you want to participate?**

Your ideas matter. We’re listening.

<https://elkqr.link/9wuLNeo6>

We’re also exploring a special intergenerational event and are **looking for teens or young adults who are confident using iPads, iPhones, or Android devices.**

The idea?

A relaxed, hands-on workshop where younger



members help older members navigate their devices—sharing practical tips, shortcuts, and everyday tech know-how.

If you’d be willing to help lead or assist, we’d love to connect with you. Please contact Jan Nadamoto. See contact information below.

Let’s build something meaningful—together.

Also, please join us for another Essential Oil Mixer on April 12, 2026! See below for more information and the form!

**Next Meeting:**

**Saturday, March 7, 2026**

**9:00 AM | In person & via Zoom**

Not on our email list? No worries! Reach out to Jan at [jannadamoto@gmail.com](mailto:jannadamoto@gmail.com) or **808-347-3127**, and we’ll get you connected. 📧

### CHARLIE CHAPTER NEWS

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


Warren Yamamoto [son of **Richard Yamamoto (C)**] will be retiring and will no longer be C Chapter President. Susan Hashimoto [daughter of **Robert Hashimoto (C)**] has agreed to be the interim President. We thank Warren and Susan for their dedication to our chapter.

Some things discussed at our January meeting:

1. Kadomatsu making was a success and was an excellent opportunity for members to bond.
2. Anniversary Banquet on June 27.

3. Coconut island tour
4. Brunch to be planned
5. Majority want to keep the meeting day on the 4th Saturday of the month.


The next Chapter meeting will be on **Saturday, February 28, 9:00 a.m.**, at the clubhouse. One of the things on the agenda is doing a community service project. After all, our club’s motto is “For Continuing Service.” 📧







## Call for 100th Infantry Battalion Soldier Biographies & Photos

Contribute to our 100th Infantry Battalion Education Center website collection of soldier profiles and photographs

See samples at:  
<https://www.100thbattalion.org/archives/photos/>  
 Email [info@100thbattalion.org](mailto:info@100thbattalion.org) for more information



## 🌿 OPEN TO ALL CLUB 100 MEMBERS 🌿

ALL AGES WELCOME!

### ESSENTIAL OIL MIXER

✨ \*Mix. Sniff. Repeat.\* ✨

**Sunday, April 12, 2025, 1:00 PM**  
**100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion**  
**520 Kamoku Street**

Experience the art of creating two of your own custom blends!

At our **\*\*Essential Oil Mixer\*\***, you'll explore a variety of aromas and create blends that are uniquely yours.

To keep things sustainable, we'll be recycling Jan's essential oil bottles—many of which still carry a subtle trace of their original oils, giving your new blend a little extra character. You can also opt to bring your own 5ml or 15 ml bottles.

This time around we'll be talking about how oils can affect your mood and how oils are also associated with colours!



*Join us for a fun couple of hours and take home a unique aroma that's all you.*

## “Oil Be There”, will you?

👉 **Please RSVP by Monday, April 6, 2026**

Register here:

**<https://elkqr.link/vbvX2HVt>** or scan the QR Link:



💰 Suggested donation: \$0 for members, \$5 for non members

🍷 Refreshments & snacks appreciated

Questions? (Or, if you can't access the online form but would like to attend)

Contact **Jan Nadamoto** at: ✉️ [jannadamoto@gmail.com](mailto:jannadamoto@gmail.com) 📞 808-347-3127

**DOG CHAPTER NEWS**

By Joyce Chinen [*daughter of Wallace Seiko Chinen (D)*], Dog Chapter President

Thank you once again to everyone who helped to plan and/or attended the 2025 Dog Chapter Christmas party on Dec. 14. It was great to see so many families — and especially the children, all of whom were very well-behaved. I think they were better behaved than we were at their age. I hope their parents and grandparents will bring them to other Club 100 events so they will come to understand what the clubhouse meant to their great-grandfathers who fought for America in World War II.

The “Year of the Horse” finds some of our Dog Chapter members involved in the business and activities of Club 100.

- Mary Tsukayama, daughter-in-law of **Conrad Tsukayama (D)**, represents Dog Chapter at the club’s monthly board meetings. Mary also chairs the Scholarship Committee, which awards scholarships to graduating seniors from the club every year.

- Greg Kuwazaki, son of **Eddie Kuwazaki (D)**, is a member of the Events Committee, which plans a variety of activities for club members during the year, from a New Year’s *mochitsuki* (mochi pounding) to historical or self-care talks. There’s always a myriad of logistical details that need to be tended to and Greg is always willing to help with these.

- Karleen Chinen, daughter of **Wallace Seiko Chinen (D)**, is a member of the 100th Infantry Battalion committee working with Manoa Valley Theatre on the recently launched “Voices to Courage: Hawai‘i’s One Puka Puka Heroes” student production on the 100th Infantry Battalion. The performance will premiere this July at Manoa Valley Theatre. (See page 2 of this issue for details.)

- Joyce Chinen, eldest daughter of **Wallace Seiko Chinen (D)**, will support the club’s Nominations Committee, assisting with the club’s Executive Board of Directors election planned for later this year.

If you would like to participate in any Club 100 activities, feel free to email us at [club100dogchapter@gmail.com](mailto:club100dogchapter@gmail.com) and we’ll put you in touch with the committee.

Due to our reporting on the Christmas party in the

last issue, we did not identify the Dog Chapter soldiers in our December “Who is This?” photo. We’re republishing the photo to refresh your memory and so that you can see the soldiers’ faces. From



December “Who is This?” photo.

left, they are: **Ben Tamashiro (D)**, **Sgt. Herman Teruya (D)**, **Kazuso Yoshioka (D)** and **Tadashi Kashiwabara (D)**. We don’t know when or where the photo was taken. What we do know is that it was taken sometime before Jan. 25, 1944, the date, Sgt. Herman Teruya was killed in action near Cassino. The 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), then attached to the 34th Red Bull Division, had entered combat at Salerno, Italy, only four months earlier, in September of 1943. Sgt. Teruya’s older brother, **Wallace Teruya**, a 100th Battalion soldier assigned to Headquarters Company, said he learned of his brother’s death from

Dog Company member **Kenneth Mitsunaga**.

Finally, we have a new “Who is This?” photo for February. Can you guess who this is? If you think you recognize our mystery Dog Company soldier, send



“Who is This?”

your guess to [club100dogchapter@gmail.com](mailto:club100dogchapter@gmail.com)

The next Dog Chapter meeting is **Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m.** at the clubhouse. Please join us. 🍷

## CLUBHOUSE OFFICE UPDATE

By Amy Kwong [*granddaughter of Eugene Kawakami (A)*], Office Manager;  
100th IBV BOD - Director, Able Chapter; 100th IBV Communications & Membership Chair; *Puka Puka Parade* Editor

Welcome to our newest 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100) members, Brysson Nikaido [*grandnephew of Thomas T. Nikaido (Dog)*], Devin Otagaki [*granddaughter of Kengo Otagaki (HQ)*], Clyde Nakahara [*son of Toshikatsu Nakahara (B)*], Curtis Tsuda [*son of Rikio Tsuda (B)*], and Loraine Cross [*daughter of James S. Oshiro (C)*]. We look forward to seeing you all at the Clubhouse.

Please be advised that the **Clubhouse building, including the office will be CLOSED from 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 1, through 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2026**, due to scheduled termite fumigation. Club 100 1st VP Avin Oshiro [*son of Seie Oshiro (A)*] will be the point of contact for this project, and will be preparing the clubhouse prior to the tenting. Please refrain from leaving any food items at the Clubhouse prior to the scheduled work. All food items that are not factory-sealed in glass or metal, including all refrigerator and freezer contents, must be removed by March 1. Please contact our office at [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org) with any questions. Thank you to Jason Sahara, owner of Menehune Pest Management, for the discount on this service in honor of the 100th Infantry Battalion.

On January 13, we were pleased to welcome back Mr. John Bickel and his 'Iolani School *War in the 20th Century* class for the third consecutive year. The students visited the Clubhouse to learn about the 100th Infantry Battalion and complete a service project for Club 100, creating personalized photo posters for our known living veterans. The handwritten messages were mailed to the veterans, who greatly appreciate receiving them. Mahalo to



Jan Sakoda [*daughter of Gary Uchida (HQ)*] on left, and Mr. Bickel on right, with 'Iolani School's *War in the 20th Century* students. (Photo by: *Kathi Hayashi* [*daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)*])

Mr. Bickel and his class for their continued support.

2026 is starting off to be an exciting and productive year for the Club 100. Legacy2Action is now in its fifth year of encouraging student participants to identify issues in our communities and develop solutions by learning from the history and incorporating the values of the 100th. We have also formed a new partnership with Mānoa Valley Theatre with "Voices to Courage: Hawai'i's One Puka Puka Heroes," as posted on our [website](https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-youth-theatre) (<https://www.100thibv.org/post/one-puka-puka-youth-theatre>). I have enjoyed assisting with this initiative by helping identify soldier stories to highlight and providing resources as needed. It was also meaningful to support 100th IBV President Kathi Hayashi [*daughter of Tokuichi Hayashi (A)*] with preparing written testimony and submitting it on behalf of Club 100 in strong support of Senate Bill 2687, which proposes requiring the Hawai'i Department of Education to incorporate the history of the 100th into the statewide public high school social studies curriculum and establish a pilot curriculum program in select schools. I appreciate that I had the opportunity to watch her testify in-person through the live-streamed hearing.

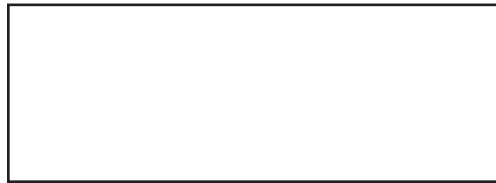
It is inspiring to see such strong interest in preserving the legacy of the 100th and the growing momentum behind these initiatives, reflecting our community's commitment to ensuring that the sacrifices and accomplishments of our 100th soldiers will never be forgotten. It is exciting to see so much enthusiasm for passing this history on to the younger generation, as education is one of the most powerful ways we can keep the story of the 100th alive.

As these initiatives move forward, our 100th IBV Education Center soldier biographies, photo collections, and personal stories will be essential in helping students connect to this history in meaningful ways — transforming it from dates and facts into relatable, lived experiences. Please consider contributing a biography for your 100th soldier if your family has not already done so, and thank you for supporting Club 100 in ensuring the legacy of the 100th remains alive for generations to come. 🇺🇸

100th Infantry Battalion Veterans  
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETINGS (2026)

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

- Feb. 21 (SAT)** Banquet Committee Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- Feb. 28 (SAT)** Charlie Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- Mar. 01 - 05** **Clubhouse Closed for Termite Fumigation.** No Entry to Clubhouse from 3/01 (SUN) 6 p.m. to 3/05 (THU) 9:30 a.m.
- Mar. 05 (THU)** **B.Y.O.Bento.** 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse. All members welcome.
- Mar. 07 (SAT)** Baker Chapter Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse and on Zoom.  
Dog Chapter Meeting. 10:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- Mar. 14 (SAT) - Mar. 15 (SUN)** **Able Chapter Rummage Sale.** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Clubhouse. All members and guests welcome.
- Mar. 21 (SAT)** 100th IBV Board of Directors Meeting. 9 a.m. at the Clubhouse.  
Banquet Committee Meeting. 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse.
- Mar. 22 (SUN)** **Genealogy Class.** 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse. (RSVP on p. 9)
- Mar. 25 (WED)** HQ/Medics Chapter Meeting. 9:30 a.m. (Clubhouse and Zoom)
- Mar. 26 (THU)** **Office Closed** in observance of Prince Kūhiō Day.
- Mar. 28 (SAT)** **Scam Prevention & CPR/AED Training.** 11 a.m./1:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse. (RSVP on p. 10)
- Apr. 11 (SAT)** Able Chapter Meeting. 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse and on Zoom.



100th Infantry Battalion Veterans (Club 100)

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

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

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

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Education Center: [www.100thbattalion.org](http://www.100thbattalion.org)

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
In-person assistance at the Clubhouse Office is available **by appointment only**. Please contact us at [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org) or (808) 946-0272, to schedule an appointment. An Office Assistant will be on-site on Tuesdays and Thursdays (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) to handle office tasks.

To ensure delivery of the *Puka Puka Parade* to your inbox, please add [info@100thibv.org](mailto:info@100thibv.org) to your Contacts.  
Mahalo!