



Go For Broke BULLETIN

442nd VETERANS CLUB



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A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



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Go For Broke

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Cover:

Top: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl (Mayor's Memorial Service)

Bottom: Takamori Miyagi (left) and Noboru Kawamoto (veterans of Regt. HQ) represent the 442nd at the Governor's Memorial Service, Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery

Photos: Wayne Iha

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Go For Broke is the official bulletin of the 442nd Veterans Club. Contributors may submit reports to: Editor, Go For Broke Bulletin, 933 Wiliwili Street, Honolulu, HI 96826; e-mail: 442veterans@hawaiiintel.net. Please submit reports on CD (saved in MS Word in Windows format) or email to 442 office. For more information, contact (808) 949-7997. Deadlines for 2012 submissions: April 2, July 2, **October 5**, January 7, 2013.

PRESIDENT'S *Report*

by Ron Oba

Gerome Villain was a 17-year-old teenager in Bruyeres, France over 70 years ago. He still remembers and emails, "We wish you a wonderful Independence Day. Have a nice day and take care." After wearing a 442 shirt at the Board of Directors meeting, I went to a store and the salesgirl immediately said, "Oh, 442nd." Every now and then we are heaped with accolades and whispers of "Thank You!!" For 236 years, the Fourth of July has reminded us of what a great country we live in and that we are all equal. Colleen Hanabusa emails that many of us think that our best days are behind us. She doesn't think so. High School teachers

invite us to speak to the students to remind and rekindle in their minds that there was a war on December 7, 1941. Their fathers, grandfathers, and uncles fought in WWII so that they can enjoy the freedom that they have. They are also reminded that Freedom is not free!! The 4th of July is known as Independence Day.

Science Magazine states that scientists have discovered through the cyclotron, the Higgs Boson or God Atom which is the genre of the beginning of humanity. What came first? The egg or the chicken or Lucy. This should be answered soon through the Higgs Boson. Discovery is scientifically tremendous but it can be scary since the past and future are essentially the same. So have a nice day!!!



Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur

The Government of France wishes to recognize all Americans who served in the liberation of France during World War II. If approved, each veteran will be named French Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honor (Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur) approved by the President of the French Republic on the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. This award was established by Napoleon in 1802.

Due to the large number of applications submitted by U.S. veterans, the processing time is between 6 months to over a year. The French Embassy in Washington, DC, the French Consulate General which has jurisdiction over your place of residence in the United States, and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris are involved in the approval process

Any 442nd veteran in Hawaii interested in applying for this French medal, please contact the 442nd Veterans Club, 933 Wiliwili Street, Honolulu, HI 96826; ph: 808-949-7997; email: 442veterans@hawaiiantel.net. A form will be sent to you to complete. You will need to attach a copy of your honorable discharge certificate and your separation paper (DD 214) to the form. Please send your completed form to the 442nd Veterans Club. If you have any questions while filling out the form, please contact the Club for assistance.

IN MEMORIAM



Deepest sympathies to the families & friends of the following:

Daida, Sadamu (Medics)	Apr. 9, 2012
Fujioka, Rikio (E Co.)	Mar. 14, 2012
Hamasaki, Haruichi James (E/HQ Co.)	Mar. 12, 2012
Hara, George A. (F Co.)	Mar. 16, 2012
Harada, Minoru (I Co.)	Apr. 13, 2012
Hisatomi, Kune (Anti-Tank)	Mar. 17, 2012
Isara, Raymond Shigeru (Cannon)	Feb. 11, 2012
Kawagoye, Dave T. (Anti-Tank)	Mar. 11, 2012
Kishimoto, Iwao (100 th D/I Co.)	Apr. 19, 2012
Konno, Frank Shigeo (G Co.)	Apr. 10, 2012
Kurihara, Frank H. (1399 th /Cannon)	Apr. 16, 2012
Kuwata, William Tadashi (3 rd HQ)	Apr. 7, 2012
Murakami, Hideo (F Co.)	Apr. 21, 2012
Nakasone, Hideo (H Co.)	Feb. 15, 2012
Nakata, Joe Hideo (F Co./MIS)	Apr. 19, 2012
Namba, Kennie (L Co.)	Mar. 5, 2012
Ota, Francis Toshinori (522A)	Apr. 2, 2012
Saito, Takeo (G Co.)	Apr. 14, 2012
Sekiya, Harry Takeki (RHQ/Service)	Mar. 17, 2012
Suenishi, Yukio (2HQ)	Mar. 12, 2012
Sugimoto, Kiyoshi "Kiyō" (H/MIS)	Feb. 27, 2012
Takeda, Tokijiro "Tonky" (Anti-Tank)	Feb. 19, 2012
Toma, Bill (Service)	Mar. 10, 2012
Tomita, Frank Norito (I Co./MIS)	Feb. 3, 2012
Tsukiji, John Suzuto (Anti-Tank)	Mar. 15, 2012
Uyemura, Richard Shigeo (M Co.)	Mar. 13, 2012
Watada, Richard S. (I Co.)	Feb. 26, 2012
Yasuda, Chester Wasuke (K Co.)	Mar. 21, 2012

Donations

Many thanks to the following for their generosity and support.

442nd Veterans Club

Anonymous	\$100
<i>(IMO recent passing of K Co. veterans)</i>	
Samuel Cluney	\$50
Waichi Kikuta	\$200
<i>(Donation for 69th Anniversary)</i>	
Toshikazu Okamoto	\$50
<i>(IMO James Oura & Robert Hirayama, K Co.)</i>	
Tamio Otsu	\$200
Yukio Shinooka	\$80
Clinton Shiraishi	\$100
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshio Teruya	\$300

Go For Broke Bulletin

Dr. Norman Ikari	\$100
Clinton Shiraishi	\$100

Scholarship Donations

William Thompson	\$100
<i>(In Memory of Johanna Gustafson)</i>	



News from the

EDITOR'S DESK

by **Oscar Tsukayama**

Nisei Legacy Center by Wes Deguchi

The time has come to create a lasting tribute to the World War II Nisei soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion (100th), 442nd Regimental Combat Team (442nd), the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion (1399th). Time is decimating their ranks and some say this effort is long overdue.

Many people have dreamed for years of a way to preserve the legacy of these World War II Americans of Japanese ancestry, more than half of whom called Hawaii home. The Nisei Legacy Center (NLC) will fulfill that dream. Six organizations – the 100th, 442nd, MIS, and 1399th Veterans Clubs, and the 100th IB Legacy Organization and the 442nd RCT Foundation – have joined forces for the Nisei Legacy Center to ensure that the veterans' sacrifices and services are never forgotten and that their stories and artifacts will be preserved and perpetuated with greater efficiency and effectiveness.

The Nisei warriors have an important story to share with America. Alongside their fellow U.S. citizens, the Nisei fought valiantly against America's enemies. At the same time, they waged

another battle against distrust, racial discrimination and prejudice. The collective wartime service of the Nisei soldiers and their loyalty, bravery and sacrifice, changed attitudes about race and citizenship in the United States and left a poignant lesson about liberty. After the war, the Nisei veterans led Hawaii's transformation from plantation paternalism to full equality and statehood. These stories deserve to endure.

Currently, each organization has its own collection of documents, artifacts and memorabilia and as the veterans pass on, these collections continue to grow. These priceless items need to be preserved to teach future generations about this important part of American history. The Nisei Legacy Center will serve as a single location where these items can be archived and made available for research.

The vision is to create a facility at the University of Hawaii West Oahu Campus. Because education and research are major drivers behind the Legacy Center, partnering with an institution of higher learning is ideal. The veterans' organizations and the university will share in use of the facility and benefit from it. Faculty, students and the general public will be able to tap the center's resources.

If you share our goal of preserving the legacy of the Nisei and wish to support the efforts of the participating veteran organizations, please provide your name, address, email address and phone number, in writing, to the 442nd Veterans Club, Attn: NLC Committee, 933 Wiliwili St., Honolulu,



HI 96826. If you have family members, relatives and friends who are interested in and support this project, please include their names on your list. Your information will be used solely for the Nisei Legacy Center. Providing it at this time does not commit you to anything beyond receiving more information about the project as it progresses.

VVV: In Their Own Words

Information for this article was obtained from "The e Torch."

Steven Itano Wasserman, a documentary filmmaker, conceived and produced a documentary which tells the story of the Varsity Victory Volunteers (VVV) which he titled "VVV: In Their Own Words." The film consists of interviews of 10 former VVV veterans contained in the Hanashi Oral History Collections of the Go For Broke National Education Center as part of their education mission. As indicated by the title, the entire story is told through the voices of the veterans which Steven Wasserman fitted together from video clips of various interviews to tell the story in a cohesive manner.

The film was premiered at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's School of Architecture Auditorium on February 23, 2012 with about 200 guests that included VVV Veterans, their family and friends and community leaders. VVV survivors who attended were: Masato Doi, Seichi "Champ" Ono, the Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, Akira Otani, Harry Tanaka, Takashi Kajihara, Saiji Zakimi and Ted Tsukiyama. Christopher Rallustian, a Junior ROTC cadet from Farrington High School, who was among the invited guests, commented, "That was powerful," after viewing the film.

Following the viewing, VVV veterans were panelists in a lively question and answer session with the audience that was moderated by Brian Niiya. Serving on the panel were: attorney, Ted Tsukiyama; former Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge, Harry Tanaka; former Circuit Court Judge, Masato Doi and former Hongwanji Bishop, the Reverend Yoshiaki Fujitani.

UH-Manoa Chancellor, Virginia Hinshaw said, "I am in awe of the grit and courage of Japanese American membership of the UH ROTC who were called to action after the attack on Pearl



VVV Veterans (beginning second from left): Masato Doi, Seichi "Champ" Ono, Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, Akira Otani, Harry Tanaka, Takashi Kajihara, Saiji Zakimi, Ted Tsukiyama

At left is retired Air Force Reserve Lt. Col. Wally Hirai who was co-chair of the VVV Planning Committee and Master of Ceremonies for the evening's program

Photo: Wayne Iha

Harbor to protect our community and soon afterward discharged, disarmed and called enemy aliens. They fought to form a labor unit – the VVV – and then fought their way into the army as the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and then fought with great bravery throughout Europe and earned their way into our history books.”

She topped off the evening by announcing that the University of Hawaii will be conferring posthumous degrees to seven VVV members who went on to serve with the 442nd but were killed in the line of duty and never had the opportunity complete their education to earn their degrees. The degrees will be presented to their next of kin. She said that, one of the goals of an educational institution is for the students to enter to learn and go forth to serve. The individuals may not have completed their UH studies but they earned their degrees in full by serving our nation with distinction and paying the ultimate sacrifice. During ceremonies on May 14, 2012, in conjunction with the annual commissioning ceremony for the ROTC, the seven VVV members were honored with the award of posthumous degrees to their next of kin. They were: Daniel Betsui- Hanapepe Kauai; Jenhatsu Chinen- Ewa, Oahu; Robert S. Murata- Honolulu, Oahu; Grover Nagaji- Waipahu, Oahu; Akio Nishikawa-Paia, Maui; Horoichi Tomita-Wailuku, Maui; and Howard Urabe-Kapaa, Kauai.

Los Angeles Regional Congressional Gold Medal Celebration

Information for this article was obtained from the “The e Torch”

A deep layer of clouds provided the perfect sunshade as almost 1,800 veterans, their families, dignitaries and well-wishers gathered at the Go For Broke Monument on June 9, 2012 for the Los Angeles Regional Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony. Bronze Star Medals were presented to 29 veterans and next of kin, and Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) replicas were presented to 160 veterans

and 139 widows and next of kin of Nisei soldiers who were killed in action.

Go For Broke National Education Center president, George Nose, welcomed everyone noting that, “Being a Sansei who greatly benefited from their sacrifices, I am elated to see multiple generations of family and friends who are paying tribute to these men today.”

In his keynote address, Major General (Ret.) Rodney Kobayashi noted, “I personally want to thank the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service for your sacrifice, your distinguished service, your valor and your courage. As you accept our appreciation for your service, you represent every soldier who served in your distinguished unit, especially those who are no longer with us. You have set the bar for me and all the generations to follow; you are my heroes.”

Congressman Adam Schiff who introduced legislation to nominate the Nisei soldiers for the CGM recognition in 2008 and worked tirelessly to see that the legislation came to fruition was on hand to assist in the presentation of the CGM replicas to veterans. “I knew their story,” he said, “But it’s one thing to know their story and yet another to meet these men – to get to know their quiet heroism, the self-effacing humor, their wonderful genial personalities. To get to know them, convinced me that this was a story that needed to be told and retold, and it needed to be impressed upon a new generation of Americans.” He was joined by Representative Judy Chu, Maxine Waters and Lucille Roybala-Allard, as well as Los Angeles Council member Jan Perry as they handed each veteran or surviving family member a bronze replica of the Congressional Gold Medal.

Terry Shima Retires as JAVA Executive Director

Terry Shima has announced his retirement as Executive Director of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA). In his letter of retirement, Shima said, eight years as Executive Director of JAVA and at age 89, I have decided it is time to relinquish my position and give another

person a chance to take JAVA to a higher level. JAVA president, Gerald Yamada, in reluctantly accepting his resignation, said, it comes as a sad realization to know that Terry will no longer be our Executive Director. He announced that Terry will remain as a member of the Executive Council and that he has agreed to chair the Education Committee and to help JAVA's digitalization project to the JAVA website. Terry continued as Executive Director until June 30, 2012 to help with the transition to a new executive director.

Among his many accomplishments, Yamada pointed to Shima's leadership in establishing an education out-reach program with DC area school districts, the community and with government entities; assisting in organizing the digitalization program to copy the military records of 26,000 Nisei soldiers that are stored in the National Archives and Records Administration; being a critical contributor in securing the Congressional Gold Medal Award and US Army Bronze Star Awards for Nisei soldiers; fostering a viable relationship with the Department of Veterans Affairs which requested JAVA to represent Asia Pacific veterans; and helping to transition JAVA from a World War II Nisei Veterans organization to one with war veterans from World War II to the present.

In the announcement that JAVA issued of his retirement, Terry Shima wrote: "I wish to thank JAVA presidents and Executive Council members for their confidence, vision and support; the many volunteers for their long hours, use of personal resources and dedication to get the job done; and the members at large for their dedication and support including financial." He also stated that he will cherish the strong bonds of friendship with officials of various veterans organizations, government entities and academia, as well as with the editors of national, local and Asian press. He concludes with, "JAVA would not be where we are today without your unqualified support and good will - It has been a great ride."

A Retirement Luncheon to honor Terry Shima was held at the China Gardens Restaurant in Rosslyn, VA on July 25, 2012.

Volunteers Needed for Talk Story Sessions With Members of the Community

President Ron Oba made an urgent request for volunteers to give presentations, conduct question and answer sessions or both to members of the community to convey information about the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He says, he receives frequent requests from schools, organization and various community groups for such sessions so they can learn more about the 442nd, but says, he cannot accommodate all requests because he is about the only one left to conduct these sessions. There is an urgent need for volunteers and says he will conduct a workshop so volunteers may receive training on subjects to be covered, training aids needed, etc. Please contact the 442nd Veterans Club, (949-7997), if you are able to help in this worthy project.

442nd Veterans Whose Company of Assignment is Not Known

Roger Eaton, JA Living Legacy, who has the momentous job of maintaining the 100th, 442nd and MIS roster has sent us a list of 442nd veterans whose company of assignment is not known. He has requested that all veterans review the list to see if they know any of them and know what company they were assigned to. If you do, please furnish information to the 442nd Veterans Club who in turn will forward to Roger. (See page 8.)

NAME	HOMETOWN	RANK	DOB	DOD	WHERE	NOTES
Akiyama, Henry I. (Dr.)	OR, Hood River	Pvt	18-Apr-27	9-Apr-10	AK, Juneau	Ret. Sgt. 1948, Brother of Geo and Saburo
Isogawa, Hiroshi	MI, Wayne Co.	Sgt	23-Nov-25			Fresno Cadre Cp Shelby
Kiyomura, Takashi	CA, Wilmington	S/Sgt	13-Oct-17	28-Feb-09	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Nishimura, James Susumu	HI, Honolulu	Pvt	29-Jun-22	12-Jan-95	HI, Kailua	Hi St Vets Cem; VVV member
Abe, George Shigeo Aka, Yoshimori Roy	WA, Seattle Waikapu, Maui	LtCol	13-Dec-16 18-Apr-22	7-Aug-04	WA, Seattle OH, Cincinnati	Minidoka, ID Bro. Ray in 442
Aoyama, Isami Sam	WA, Bellevue		2-Apr-23	1-Oct-98	WA, Spokane	Tule Lake, CA
Arashiro, Matsuki	HI, Kauai	T/Sgt	8-Feb-13	18-Jan-86	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI Cadre Shelby
Chinen, Hohan John	HI, Wahiawa	Pfc	9-Sep-22	13-Feb-99	HI, Wahiawa	Mililani Pk
Doi, Jerry Shizuo	HI, Honolulu	Pfc	19-Nov-21	14-Jun-00	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Hirose, Saboru Sam	CA, Sacramento		22-Jul-16	5-Nov-95	CA, Walnut Grove	
Ito, Koji	HI, Wahiawa		17-Jan-23	26-Jun-10	HI, Wahiawa	
Kondo, Kiyoshi	HI, Honolulu	T/Sgt	23-Feb-23	9-Sep-95	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Kono, Hideto	HI, Kaūmana	Tec/3	11-May-22	2-Oct-04	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Mihara, Kazuo	HI, Hilo	Pvt	20-Aug-17	7-Aug-08	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Miyake, Richard Kiyoto	HI, Pa'auilo, HI	Tec/5	22-Dec-18	3-Sep-98	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Mori, Alfred	HI, Kapa'a, Kauai	S/Sgt	26-Feb-20	2-Apr-10	HI, Kapa'a, Kauai	
Nozawa, William K.	HI	Pfc	10-May-05	6-Sep-97	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Ohta, Kenneth Hiroshi	MT, Park Co.	T/Sgt	22-Oct-22	20-Apr-87	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Onuma, Norman Hisao "Slim"	HI, Hilo		20-Sep-24	11-Sep-09	HI, Hilo	
Sugawara, Louie K.	IL, Chicago		21-Mar-21	26-Aug-06	CA, Sacramento	
Suyehiro, Masato James	CA, Chico		19-Jan-24	22-Aug-07	CA, San Francisco	
Tanaka, Katsuto River, MN 55330	HI	Pfc	2-Sep-15	14-Mar-94	Jpn, Tokyo	PB, HI; Elk
Tanda, Henry Hisao	CA, Salinas		21-Oct-06	21-Dec-04	CA, Salinas	Poston, AZ; enl. Ft Sheridan, IL
Teramoto, Charles Toshio	HI	Tec/5	18-Jan-16	27-Nov-78	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Ujifusa, Howell "Howie"	WY, Greybull		26-May-25	7-Jul-06	UT, Salt Lake City	
Yamaji, Hiroshi	HI	Pfc	1-Jul-21	16-Aug-49	HI	Punchbowl, HI
Yamashita, Yuji	Terr. of Hawaii	Pfc	13-Oct-21	26-Aug-88	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI
Yoshinaga, James Y.	HI, Honolulu	Cpl	26-Aug-21	18-Mar-98	HI, Honolulu	Punchbowl, HI

Note: All have passed postwar except for Aka, Yoshimori Roy and Isogawa, Hiroshi who are assumed living.

Feature Story

by Bill Thompson

Seven 442nd Soldiers Awarded Honorary Degrees by University of Hawaii, Manoa

On May 14, 2012, the University of Hawaii awarded Honorary Degrees to seven 442nd combat soldiers who died on the bloody battlefields of Europe. These seven were:

Staff Sergeant Grover K. Nakaji was with Company B of the 100th Battalion. He died in the action to destroy an enemy tank when the 100th Battalion captured the village of Suvereto in the province of Tuscany, Italy, on June 26, 1944. Nakaji had trained with the 442nd in Camp Shelby and volunteered with the first group of volunteers as replacement to the 100th Battalion.

Sergeant Howard M. Urabe of Company G, 2nd Battalion. On July 4, 1944, during the fierce battle at Hill 140, Urabe crawled through a bushy area and destroyed a machine gun nest with a rifle grenade. He then cut down two enemy soldiers who sought to escape. Another machine gun turned its gun on Urabe. He silenced the machine gun nest by firing another rifle grenade. As he sought to continue his attack on the enemy, a sniper brought him down. Urabe was awarded a Silver Star, posthumously, for his bravery.

Sergeant Jenhatsu Chinen of Company E, 2nd Battalion, was killed by enemy artillery fire on July 5, 1944, as the battle for Hill 140 raged on. The 442nd fought the enemy in the Apennine mountain range of Tuscany with the goal of capturing Livorno, a major Italian sea port on the Ligurian Sea.

Pfc Akio Nishikawa was a medic with Company E, 2nd Battalion. The fight continued beyond Hill 140 and headed north towards the Arno River. On July 11, 1944, at an observation post-nicknamed the Pink OP – Pfc Nishikawa went to the aid of his wounded comrades despite

the artillery shelling. His comrades, according to Robert Nishikawa of E Company who was wounded, yelled to him to stay put as the enemy artillery kept falling in the area. With the words “Got to go,” Nishikawa rushed to aid the wounded. Shrapnel from an 88-mm artillery shell struck Nishikawa in his stomach ending his life. For this action, Nishikawa received a Silver Star. Earlier during the battle at Hill 140, Nishikawa earned a Bronze Star. Both medals were posthumously awarded.

Pfc Hiroichi Tomita was with F Company, 2nd Battalion. The battle surrounding the Pink OP continued. On July 12, Tomita was a runner for his platoon and had come to the Pink OP with canteens to be filled with water for his comrades on the frontline. Several F Company men had sought shelter in the Pink OP. Suddenly, an 88-mm shell, possibly from an SP weapon, crashed into the Pink OP. Tomita and his buddy, Sgt. Iriguchi, were instantly killed. The canteens which Tomita was carrying were scattered and witnessed by his buddies when they came back front the front.

Sergeant Daniel D. Betsui of the 232nd Combat Engineers Company was attending a training session on the characteristics of the German mines on August 2, 1944. The 442nd had pushed the enemy back across the Arno River, a distance of about 50 miles in a month. The 442nd was gearing up for its next assignment – France and the Vosges. Unexpectedly, most likely due to mislaying the detonators, a horrific explosion occurred. Nearly a ton of explosives went off killing 10 men instantly, one died later of wounds. Sergeant Betsui was one of the two 232nd men who vanished in the inferno of explosion.

Sergeant Robert S. Murata belonged to L Company of the 3rd Battalion. In October of 1944, the 442nd was attached to the 36th Texas Division. On October 15, the 442nd was given the task of driving the enemy out of Bruyeres, a key transportation center in the Vosges Mountains of northeastern France. This hard-fought battle was

won in a bitter cold and wet weather in the forests of the Vosges. The 3rd and 100th Battalions were given a rest period which was cut short as the 1st Battalion of the 141st Alamo Regiment was trapped in the mountains above the village of La Houssiere. The 100th and the 3rd were ordered to rescue the trapped “Lost Battalion” as it was now called. They begun the task on October 25, 1944, and after a do-or-die effort, the 442nd reached the trapped “Lost Battalion.” On October 29, Murata loss his life as tree bursts from artillery shells rained shrapnel on those in the forest. He was mortally wounded and was evacuated to the field hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. One day later, October 30, the 442nd reached the “Lost Battalion” and completed the rescue efforts. Murata had a brother, in I Company, 3rd Battalion, who unfortunately also fell to enemy fire on November 5, 1944. There is an interesting note to these two brothers who fell in battle. Their mother was honored when the 442nd Veterans Club dedicated their Clubhouse on Saturday, July 23, 1949.

At the ROTC ceremony held on May 14, 2012, at Kennedy Theater on the University of Hawaii campus, the honorary degrees were presented to family members of the seven 442nd who fell in battle:

Michael Nakaji, nephew, accepted for Grover Nakaji; Elaine Tamura, sister, accepted for Howard Urabe; Bert Kami, nephew, accepted for Jenhatsu Chinen; Alvin Abe, nephew, accepted for Akio Nishikawa; Lillian Matayoshi, sister, accepted for Hiroichi Tomita; Lani Stevens, niece, accepted for Daniel Betsui; and Sunao Murata, brother, accepted for Robert Murata.

Dr. Reed Dasenbrock, Vice Chancellor for academic affairs at the UH Manoa campus presented the honorary degrees on behalf of the University. Major General Michael J. Terry was the guest speaker. LTC Kevin R, McKay, Professor of Military Science and head of the UH ROTC program, praised the former ROTC cadets for their patriotic efforts. It was mentioned that thanks to the ROTC cadets who answered the call to duty on December 7, 1941, the UH ROTC is the only ROTC unit in nation to have a battle streamer on its guidon.

This story of the seven 442nd soldiers began on December 7, 1941, when Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese naval forces. As members of the ROTC program they were called out for duty and subsequently mobilized in the Hawaii Territorial Guard. After six weeks, they and all others of Japanese ancestry were “booted out” from



Family members on stage to accept honorary degrees for VVV who died in WWII Photo: David Sullivan, UH ROTC, Photographer/Administrator

the Guard with the explanation they were “Enemy Aliens” as they were of Japanese ancestry. Too late to finish their first semester and too late to enroll in the second semester, the former Nisei ROTC cadets sought counsel from key figures in the Territorial Morale Committee – Hung Wai Ching and Shigeo Yoshida. They then petitioned the Military Governor who accepted them on a para-military basis – no weapons – just as laborers. They became the Varsity Victory Volunteers (VVV). A year later, the Nation’s mood toward the Japanese populace softened and they were now accepted for military service in the newly authorized 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Following the end of the war, the veterans returned home. John Tsukano wrote about the

VVV’s service in WWII in 1985. In 1991, testimony was given to the State Legislature on the accomplishment of the VVV. Representative David Ige took the lead in marshalling House Concurrent Resolution No. 193 through the Sixteenth Legislature. This Resolution requested the University of Hawaii to honor the VVV with a commemorative marker. Bumpei Akaji, a 442nd veteran received a commission to design the principal commemorative artwork honoring the VVV. This was completed and dedicated on February 24, 1995.

Our thanks go to the two persons who pushed this honorary degree convocation forward – Allen Hoe, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army and retired COL Ed Gayagas, president of the UH Army ROTC Alumni Association.



VVV Memorial artwork at University of Hawaii, Manoa



VVV report for duty at Schofield Barracks



VVV at work at Schofield Barracks



by Henry Kuniyuki

Kenneth Noboru Miyamoto's 100th



*"Adventurous Soul
Seeking life's guarded secrets
Finds fountain of youth"*

This quotation commemorates Kenneth Miyamoto's attaining the glorious 100th birthday! It was originally

penned by Dr. Andrew Hiroshi Kuniyuki upon his Grandfather Tsuneji Takami's similar 100th birthday.

Kenneth Miyamoto's son and daughter, Bryan and Jessica hosted a grand birthday party for him on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at Tree Tops Restaurant, located at upper Manoa Valley. Seventy-three guests

participated at the gala affair. Chapter Historian, Henry Kuniyuki, served as the Master of Ceremony. The buffet dining began with the traditional invocation of "ITADAKI MASU." The formal party began with Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto, assisted by Susan Takara, singing the Happy Birthday song with the entire audience participating. President Kawamoto then led the Chapter members and spouses with three BANZAI cheers. MC Kuniyuki then led all with the RAIHIN SHOKUN BANZAI FOR ALL THE GUESTS. Jessica Kozaki thanked all the guests for their participation. The party ended after a group picture was taken by Jessica.

For the record, Kenneth Miyamoto's life story has been published previously in the Go-for-Broke Bulletin's October-December issue of 1998 and April-June 2005. RHQ Chapter honored Kenneth with a \$100 birthday gift.

"The greatest truths are the simplest and so are the greatest men." This profound quotation personifies Kenneth Miyamoto. Ruby Kawada contributed this quotation by an unknown author. Mahalo Ruby!

Arrivederci!



Photo: Jessica Kozaki



by John Mikasa

Cannon chapter held a meeting at the usual Zippy's Restaurant on June 20. Attendees were: Akira, Betty and Mark Takahashi; Mitsuo and Esther Umeda; Harold Nakasone; Akira Okamoto; John and Mary Mikasa; and May Koike. Yukisada Oshiro had a conflicting schedule. It was a pleasure to see May Koike, after her absence of several months, looking so well.

Esther distributed the individual photos taken a couple of months ago at the 442nd Hq. She also indicated that those Cannoneers who missed having their photos taken may still have an opportunity to get them, pending more information.

Also on the agenda was a small, early booklet of the 442nd RCT, sent by Lillian Ito, widow of Cannoneer Bill Ito, who recently passed away. This booklet is unique in that it has the signatures of many Cannoneers, taken overseas almost seven decades ago. It must have been a prized memento of Bill, who was a close friend of John Mikasa. It was decided that this booklet be forwarded to the 442nd RCT Hq for its decision on its settlement, as it contains the original autographs of many Cannoneers who are no longer here.

Cannon Company Reunion

Roger Yoshinari, our principal mainland contact, provided the following on our annual Las Vegas Reunion held in May.

The Annual Cannon Company Reunion was held from May 3 to May 6 at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas. A total of 64 attended to continue the tradition that the Cannon Company has upheld for over 6 decades. Tsuka Murakami of Kauai, Tsutomu Okabayashi of Houston and Frank Sugihara of Tustin (California) were the honored guests. They were joined by Yukie Murakami, Sumi



*Seated L-R: Alice Ugai, May Nitta and Tsuka Murakami
Standing L-R: Sumi Sugihara, Tsutomu Okabayashi, Frank Sugihara, Yukie Murakami*

Sugihara, May Nitta, Alice Ugai and Yoshiko Yamagata.

During the Reunion, there were 3 birthdays and a surprise party was held in the evening of Saturday, May 5. The cake and candles were for: May Nitta (May 6), Judi Murakami (May 4) and Manny Kitagawa, Jr. (May 3). It was a fortunate coincidence for the Reunion to be held at a time when these birthdays could be celebrated together.

One of the highlights was a "field trip" for a sushi lunch at the Makino restaurant located in the Las Vegas Outlet Mall just over a mile from the Fremont. After an exceptionally delicious meal, almost everyone took their time shopping for "souvenirs" at the wide range of shops in the mall.

We had a special guest this year. Bryan Yagi, who was in charge of the San Francisco Gold Medal ceremony came to the reunion to rest after putting in many long hours of preparation for the event held on April 22. Bryan was invited by Jerry Gustafson after both of them visited for a couple of days last fall recording Jerry's account of his WWII experiences.

Thanks to Frank Sugihara and the family of Chuck Mayeda, we were able to select photos from their collections to create a photo gallery in the Hospitality Suite.

Special thanks to the volunteers who helped

make this reunion another success. They are: Alan Ugai (Norman Ugai's son) for serving as treasurer and taking care of so many details in Las Vegas, before, during and after the reunion; Judi Murakami (Tuska & Yukie's daughter) for her long distance planning and for bringing the ripe Kauai pineapples that all of us enjoyed; Shirley Cassell (Tsutomu Okabayashi's daughter) for bringing her new camera and taking so many fine pictures and organizing the family photos; Iris Yamagata (Gichi & Yoshiko Yamagata's daughter) for being the Refreshment Coordinator and organizing the wide variety of snacks for the hospitality suite; Jesse

Kitagawa (Manny Kitagawa's son) for scheduling the hosts and hostesses for the hospitality suite and making sure that someone was in charge while the hospitality suite was open; Chuck Mayeda, Jr. (Chuck Mayeda's son) for following up on the RSVPs and maintaining the guest list. We also thank Chuck and his wife Donna for researching the activities in Las Vegas and helping us find the best "deals"; Vincent Kitagawa (Manny Kitagawa's grandson) and Elaine Enomoto (Mas Enomoto's daughter) for serving as carpool coordinators to make sure that everyone had transportation for our field trip to the Makino restaurant. It's due to



In front L to R: Donna Mayeda, Aleska Tarin, Lianna Padilla, Katrina Kitagawa and Alicia Kitagawa

Kneeling: Alan Ugai and Chuck Mayeda

Seated L to R: May Nitta, Yukie Murakami, Tsuka Murakami, Tsutomu Okabayashi, Frank Sugihara, Sumi Sugihara, Alice Ugai, Xavier Tarin

Standing L to R: Bryan Yagi, Matt Nitta, Roger Yoshinari, Jackie Yoshinari, Anicia Kitagawa, Manuel Anthony Kitagawa, Judi Murakami, Manny Kitagawa, Jr., Elaine Enomoto, Vincent Kitagawa, Rosie Ikeda, Mike Territo, Bryan Ugai, Joan Nealon, Susan Ugai, Jack Nealon, Marlena Hazelitt, Charles Romero, Vickie Smollen, James Hazelitt, Mary Romero, Juliana Kitagawa, Jesse Kitagawa, Hope Hazelitt, Kazmere Hazelitt, Manuel Tarin (hidden), Kajha Hazelitt, Virginia Kitagawa, Alma Kitagawa, Shirley Cassell, Jimmy Kitagawa, Jonnie Walker and Jesse Kitagawa, Jr. (missing: Yoshiko Yamagata, Iris Yamagata)

everyone's support and cooperation that we are able to continue the Cannon Company Reunion year after year.

Sadly the death of Jerry Gustafson's wife, Johanna, a week before the Reunion prevented him from being with us. As the Reunion began, we received news that Bill Ito of Pasadena had passed away a week earlier. Our deepest sympathies go to the Gustafson and Ito families.

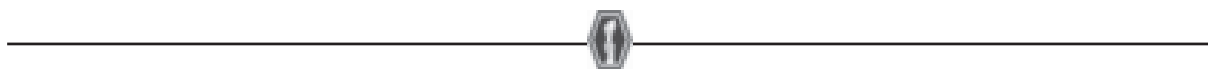
Kauai CGM Ceremony

On May 30, 2012, the WWII veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service who live on

Kauai were honored at a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony. The event, which included a luncheon, was held at the Kauai Veterans Center in Lihue.

About 400 attended the ceremony and about 100 veterans and next of kin received the medal. Senator Daniel Inouye and Senator Daniel Akaka were also in attendance.

Many thanks to Turk Tokita for providing this information.



by Oscar Tsukayama

Iris Fukui is Named Distinguished Alumna

During its annual membership meeting on June 1, 2012, the UH College of Education Alumni Association (COEAA) honored Iris Fukui, widow of Medic Rodney Fukui, by presenting her with the 2012 Distinguished Alumna Award. Iris was adorned with leis and floral gifts as family members, relatives and friends offered messages of congratulations. In her acceptance speech, Iris thanked her professors, her mentors and her many supporters throughout her period of education and training and during her career as an educator. The award consists of a replica of an apple embedded in a glass ball. It is said that when you slice an apple in half, you will find a star in its core and recipients of this award are the stars in the apple.

Iris received her Bachelor of Education, her fifth year diploma and her Masters of Education from the University of Hawaii. She served as an elementary school teacher and secondary school teacher and also served as an intern supervisor in

the Hawaii public schools system. Her experiences also included serving as a visiting Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Hawaii and also as a mathematics instructor at the Honolulu Community College. To round out her 30 years of valuable service to Hawaii's educational system she served for three years as Assistant Dean of Instruction for Social Sciences, Auto Body, Automotive, Baking, Aviation, Carpentry, Electronics, Sheet Metal and Plastics, Welding and Apprenticeship Training at Honolulu Community College, and in her final year prior to retirement, served as Dean for Educational Services at Windward Community College.

Iris has received numerous awards and recognition which include: the National Science Foundation Academic Year Scholar, the James Bryant Award for Excellence in High School Chemistry Teaching and the Stanford University Shell Merit Fellowship. She was also actively involved in club, community and service activities. She served as the first president of the Hawaii Science Teachers' Association; served as Chairperson of the Honolulu Community College Faculty Senate and after her retirement served as a volunteer for the Palliative Care Program, visiting and caring for patients who were confined at home.

In making the presentation, the president of COEAA commented that a person's worth is measured not in terms of his/her stature in society or wealth accumulated; rather it is measured in terms of his/her contributions to society and the impact he/she has had on those he/she comes in contact with. Her contributions to Hawaii's educational system and her services to the community certainly exemplify her true worth. Our Heartiest Congratulations to Iris.



Iris with coveted award



Grandson Mark Fukui congratulates grandma



Iris gives acceptance speech

Gateball at Kohala, Big Island

June 9 & 10, 2012

by Millie Nakasone

The Hawaii members were very fortunate to have been invited to a friendly Gateball Tournament by the Kohala Gateball Club. There were players from Hilo, Kauai and eleven players from Honolulu. It was a great turnout. We were all winners, but the prize winners of the tournament were: Hilo, #1; Ala Moana, Honolulu, #2; Kauai #3.

We left Honolulu on the first flight out on Hawaiian Air to Kona, and then had a very long drive to Kohala. I kept thinking, "Will we ever get there!" Fortunately, the one long straight road with lava fields on both sides was very smooth; straight with no bumps at all, so it was a pleasant ride.

The playing field was terrific, well-tended with nice thick grass, unlike our, hardly any grass court, at home. It took some adjusting on our hitting the ball. This was once just a piece of property, unused, with nothing but weeds and shrubs. After much negotiating with the Mayors and officials of the Big Island, led by Lucina, Gerritt Pasco and the members of the Kohala Gateball Club, the corner piece of the park at the County of Kohala was given to the Club. They worked hard and turned it into a beautiful two-court playing field, surrounded by tall pine trees. The field was dedicated in Memory of Gerritt Pasco, who has, unfortunately, passed away after a short-sudden illness. Right next is the Kohala Makule Softball field and the ocean beyond. Such a nice peaceful place.

The original statue of King Kamehameha is in Kohala. How impressive it is, no matter how many time you see it! Let's all stand tall like the King!

The people were ever so warm, great hospitality; we felt welcomed. They kept feeding us and at one point, I asked myself, am I here to play or eat.

Editor's Note: Thank you Millie for your contribution to Medics Reports. Look forward to contributions from other members.

Tosh & Fumi Yasutake Opt for Full Retirement

Tosh wrote to say, "I'll be 90 soon. It is time to complete my projects at the lab and experience full retirement." Besides, he says, both Fumi and

I are beginning to feel the aches and pains of aging, and, housework, cooking, yard work and maintaining a home is getting to be a chore. So, he says, we have decided to move into a retirement community in Seattle.

They have been going through all the memorabilia and sentimental belongings they have accumulated over the years; he says deciding what to keep and what to let go of is a painful and time-consuming process. Target date for their move was June 15, 2012.

We hope to hear from them soon on what life is like in a retirement community.

Donations

The Medics Chapter received a very generous donation from Mrs. Tsutoe Taira in memory of her husband, Wilfred Taira. We thank you very sincerely, Tsutoe, and look forward to your continuing active participation in Medics Chapter activities.

Rest in Peace

Sadamu Daida of Lawai, Kauai died on April 9, 2012 at age 94. He was assigned to the 100th Infantry Battalion as a medic. He is survived by two sons, Bruce Daida and Barry (Merle) Daida; four daughters, Gloria (Robert) Camp, Darlene (Richard) Daida-Martin, Joy (Keith) Faufata and Sherry (Michael) Andrade; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Chiyoko Oguri Miyabara, widow of Medic Carl Miyabara and sister of Medic Toyokichi Oguri passed away on February 6, 2012 at age 88 in Kailua, Oahu. She retired as a lab technician with Hawaii Marine Biology and Kuakini Hospital. She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and is survived by son Tetsuo, a grandson and two sisters, Nanako Oguri and Teruko Kurashige. Chiyo was under full-time caregiver assistance for the last few years.

As we were ready to go to press, we learned that Ben Shizuo Yamanaka (E Co. Medic) passed away on July 14, 2012. More information will be furnished in the next issue.

Our Deepest Sympathy to the Daida, Miyabara and Yamanaka families.



by Okemura, et al

Our Communications Officer, retired Capt Walter Mackey, wrote us that the Houston (Texas) Gold Medal Ceremony officials sent him the bronze replica of the Congressional Gold Medal and a DVD of the event. The Houston CGM ceremony was held on February 19, 2012, at the Intercontinental Hotel and included a dinner. Thanks to Gary Nakamura, President of the Houston JACL, arrangements were made to accommodate Mackey's request for the CGM by mail as Mackey is unable to travel and has no immediate family members in the vicinity to represent him. Gary Nakamura asked Mackey for photos to be displayed at the event and promised him that he would be recognized for his role in the 442nd RCT. We offer our thanks to the Houston JACL for their thoughtful and generous recognition of Mackey and the veterans of the 442nd.

Mackey wrote us that viewing the DVD made it seem as though he and Winnie were at the CGM ceremony. As a footnote, Mackey wrote that former Congressman Arney, a power in the House, presented him with an American flag that was flown over the US Capitol in recognition of Mackey's role with the 442nd.

We apologize for not reporting on the passing of Richard T. Nakamura in the excitement over the December 17, CGM ceremony held at the Hawaii Convention Center. Richard passed away on January 3, 2012. Richard, our popular mail clerk, could kindle spirits high when he would announce "Mail Call!" How we all looked forward to receiving letters and packages from home. Richard has the distinction of capturing a German soldier – who else in our headquarters company could make that statement? It was in Italy during a trip between our headquarters and the regimental headquarters that Richard encountered a solitary German soldier and turned him in to our staff officers. Many of us remember

asking Richard, as our talented mail clerk, to send home to us souvenirs we couldn't carry home.

Richard was a most nonchalant person – he took everything in stride seemingly without a care. He had a penchant for wandering off. On visits to cities we had captured, he would stroll off on his own much to the dismay of his buddies. This habit or addiction seemed to carry on after he was discharged. On trips to the neighbor islands or at veteran functions, he would wander-off much to the anxiety of his buddies.

Everyone would spend time searching for him. At our 2011 Mother's Day luncheon, we knew that someone would pick him up after lunch. What a surprise when we got phone calls 4 hours later asking if we knew where he went. Ah yes, that was Richard – just strolling off without a care in the world.

Richard and Margie would spend much of their time baby-sitting. No wonder their grandchildren revere his memory. We offer our sincere wishes of sympathy to Margie and family.



*Memorial Day
Puowaina, Punchbowl
Veterans interred*

Our venue for the Friday meeting was at the Likelike Drive Inn since we were preempted by Zippy's. The crispy Belgian Waffle was just the breakfast I needed. This time the waitress did not place a heaping scoop of ice cream and strawberries on the waffle. No matter, it was delicious with lots of butter. George called the meeting to order and commented on the Memorial Day service at the National Cemetery of the Pacific of "Puowaina," the Hill of Sacrifice. Do you remember that Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day? Richard does a good job in notifying everyone of our change of venue; otherwise we will be attending meetings on the wrong days like someone I used to know.

The four units: 100/442/MIS/1399, presented the wreath carried by a cemetery worker. We should have been the ones carrying the wreath like in the past. We just followed the cemetery worker with the wreath. No make sense!! In the past we had a Speakers Guild where veterans

volunteered to speak at venues like schools, associations and clubs. Ed Ichiyama and Don Shimazu were a few of them but the veterans are diminishing and it is getting harder to find someone willing to go to schools and impart our wartime stories, especially to the young children. So I went to Schofield Barracks to talk to 300 soldiers who were interested in the exploits of the 442nd during WWII. The soldiers asked several questions regarding Niseis as American Soldiers fighting in Italy and France. They were surprised that we not only overcame prejudice and proved our loyalty, but fought as brave, courageous soldiers as any other American soldier.

Yesterday I got a call from Barbara Watanabe to speak at the Pearl City High School – so again, I will talk with the students. I wish someone else with a new perspective would go and talk with the students. Herb Yanamura gives a good speech, he should go.

Yes, I can see well but not better than before. I had an eye surgery for a scar tissue on my retina and a hole through my eyeball and through the Aqueous Humor. I asked the Doc how come a scar on my retina and he said it was just "old age." Ha! My friend, Ken Nakada, ganbare, is celebrating his 93rd birthday and still golfs at the Moanalua Country Club. Michi and I also golf every Tuesday. What a life. Golf, eat, s— and

sleep every day. There are only two things that are constant – taxes and death. Everyone needs a little exercise to keep fit. Another S&D, Wade Wasano, had a heart attack with three clogged arteries. Maybe open heart surgery. Today, doctors perform miracles to keep you alive!! Take aspirin 81 mg., cholesterol pill and high blood pressure pill to keep you healthy. Don't tell the doctor how to prescribe!!

Michi went to Japan for 2 weeks and left me cooking my own meals. But no matter, I buy my foods at the Dim Sum Chinese restaurant. The Bamboo Restaurant where they serve spicy tuna is the best. Junior and family were there when our family arrived for their spicy tuna, sashimi and kal bi. Ruth still does tax returns for the Chinese business firms in Chinatown. She is a valuable asset and the Chinese owners don't want her to leave. Can she speak Chinese? I think not. Ruth also volunteers at Pali Momi Hospital every Wednesday. Wow, when does she find time to herself? And Junior? He does the driving and takes his son for therapy and a relative for bi-weekly dialysis.

Well, I guess I shall visit Dr. Atebara (potato chips factory in Hilo) for my final visit since the swelling of my eyeball is shrinking. My three Rx eye drops are almost gone and they come from the mainland and not Hawaii. Weird.

Christine Sato-Yamazaki is coming to the Bishop Museum for the tour of the Congressional Gold Medal celebration. I don't know about you but we already had a big celebration at the Hawaii Convention Center where about 600 veterans and families attended. Veterans who raised their hands were given a replica of the 3-inch Congressional Gold Medal in a case. These CGM were solicited by Mrs. Tammy Kubo, Adj. Gen. Robert GF Lee, Barbara Tanabe and others. Christine also assumes that the 442 is a member of the NVN but Bill Thompson, past president, and I do not recall ever joining the NVN as members. The trip to Hawaii will cost at least \$5,000. Who's going to pay for

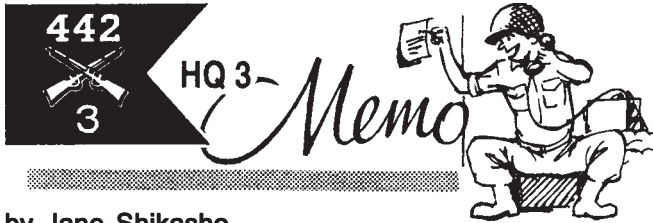
it? I signed a letter that Bill wrote stating that we are not members of the NVN.

Mr. Kazuhiro Tanabe of the Japan High School Baseball Federation came on June 14, 15 for a visit and *omairi* at the National Cemetery of the Pacific. The 442 was the lead organization for the Japan-Hawaii All-Star baseball series. However, we couldn't get enough 442 members to be Home Stay families so the Oahu Athletic Directors of our high schools took over and Mrs. Lillian Yonamine (Masa) coordinated the home and home events with Mr. Tanabe. Because of the Japan earthquake and subsequent tsunami, Mr. Tanabe was hesitant in coming. I spoke with the Ueda Nishi all-girls High School from Japan that came in November of each year and they also did not come. The Japanese as a whole maintains its National creed of sticking together – gummy – therefore; other prominent dignitaries will not celebrate an event. The Japan Consul General of Hawaii declined to attend our Anniversary Banquet in March because of the disaster. However, Ken Nakada invited Michi and me to celebrate his 93rd birthday, Ganbare, on June 16, 2012 in Manoa at a gated facility. Ocean Miyake made 100 years. Dr. Yutaka Yoshida who is 99 years old is trying to catch up with Ocean. How fast do you have to go to catch up? Faster than sound? No, light at 186,000 (in vacuum) miles per second (Thanks, Jim).

We will be back at Zippy's for our monthly meetings on June 15 but I will leave early to pick up Michi at JAL from Japan. Wow, it will be good to have somebody else cook my meals.

Sick Call

The Shimogakis informed us that their cousin, Paul Yamashita, is now in a hospice facility.



by Jane Shikasho

Sam and Harumi Furuya recently traveled to attend the graduation of their granddaughter from the Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon.

We are glad to hear that Janet Matsuda is recovering nicely from her second hip surgery at Straub Hospital and a brief stay at the Maunalani Rehab Center. We hope to see her soon at our meetings.

Our Chapter lost another member, William Tadashi Kuwata, who passed away on April 7, 2012. He was 90 years old. Services were held at the Honpa Hongwanji Church on April 27, 2012. He is survived by his wife Yaeko, 3 sons – Wayne, Stacy and Clive, 8 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Bill was confined in a care home for over 3 years after suffering from a fall at home, but was last seen at the Gold Medal presentation banquet in December in a wheelchair. He was with the 3rd Headquarters A&P Platoon.



by Ed Yamasaki

Norwest by Louise Kashino-Takisaki

While the rest of the country was suffering from three-digit temperatures, floods and raging wildfires, we've been blessed with perfect weather in Seattle, just in time to greet the delegates coming to the National JAACL convention in our beautiful city. Our summer took a long, long time coming, but one day of a perfect Seattle day is equivalent to a month of "not so perfect."

Don't have much news about the I Co. boys in the Seattle area, so maybe I should share some news of what is going on at our NVC/NVCF club. At the end of March, we hosted Dan Inouye and his wife, Irene Hirano, for an informal luncheon at the clubhouse. We had promised to keep it to a limited audience and was glad to see Dan relax while meeting with some key members. One thing which impressed us was the security that is with him wherever he travels. We have to really feel

honored to get some time with such a prominent senator who is one of our own.

In May, I went on a trip to Japan with my daughter, Bev. She works for the YMCA and was one of a team for a Goodwill trip to visit the Japan YMCAs, so she invited me to join the group. Figuring this may be my last opportunity to take an international trip, it didn't take me long to consider the offer. I sure found out that I'm out of condition, or is it my age? Anyhow, we visited Tokyo, Kobe and Kyoto, where we stayed at a ryokan. That was the most impressive highlight for Bev, I think. The best part of my trip was having the opportunity to see all of my cousins; one came all the way from Shodo-shima to be with us. We have been fortunate enough to stay in touch, and they love coming to America.

In June, I went on a Minidoka Pilgrimage to southern Idaho, the location where we were incarcerated after the start of WWII. With grants from the National Parks Department, they have slowly tried to add replicas of the original barracks. Last year they had re-created the Honor Roll bulletin board which lists all those who had gone into the Army from Minidoka, including my husband Shiro. It is emotional to look at the list since so many of the boys did not come back.

They always have a symposium at the Southern Idaho University for teachers and students, as well as those participating in the Pilgrimage. This year the theme was “Children of the Camps,” which dealt with how the evacuation affected the children. It sure gives you food for thought.

On July 4th, we were honored to have the Japan ambassador to Washington, D.C. tour our Nisei Veterans Committee facility. Ambassador Fujisaki, en route to Japan, stopped in Seattle to address the delegates at the National JACL convention, as well as to visit the NVC. His Honor seemed to have enjoyed his conversations with the elderly veterans and attempted to answer some tough questions the boys shot at him. During the convention, NVC and NVCF were presented the Japanese American Biennium Award which was quite a recognition and honor for our club.

Kim Muromoto was at the Ambassador’s reception and is looking well as ever. George Murakami is also faring quite well, and we will be looking forward to the corn he usually shares during the summer.

As our health becomes more fragile, please be careful and take extra care of yourselves. Till the next time....

Socal by Marian Yamashita

Greetings from Southern California! I Company Club here has not held many events this year—mainly because of old age and many being unable to go any distance anymore. But we manage to keep in touch.

On May 18th, jointly with JA Living Legacy, I Company members celebrated Mother’s and Father’s Day at a luncheon held at the Loft Restaurant in Torrance. Attending were: Dorothy Davenport with her children, Danny & Marla; Rose Ikuta with daughter Elaine Tominaga; Bea Matsumura; Richard and Sumi Tochihara; Jim and Marian Yamashita with grandkids, Ashley Yamashita, Kate Hawkins, Derek Hawkins and his guest Briana Bejarano.

Attending from JA Living Legacy were: Russell and Barbara Shoho, Ray and Susan Uyemura, Lance Shoho, Natalia Yamashiro

Chogyoji, Sharon Tani and guest Kristen Schlosser. Other guests included Peggy Mizumoto, Aileen Kozaki, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Yoshinari (Cannon Company).

We were pleased to have Art/Teri Iwasaki Scholarship recipient, Michael Moriyama, and mother Kari Lynn present. He was very friendly and appreciative of the scholarship and will be entering Cal Poly, Pomona in the fall. And we were honored by the presence of Judge Vincent Okamoto, highest decorated JA veteran of the Vietnam War.

Featured during the event was the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to those I Co. veterans, widows and representatives of I Co. veterans who were not able to attend the D.C. presentation ceremony. The medals were made available through our friend Ron Yamada.

As in other regions, the CGM presentation was a big and moving event for us here in LA. It was held outdoors at the site of the Go For Broke Monument. The weather was perfect and the program was very impressive with thousands in attendance. Hats off to all who were involved in planning and presenting the event!

Recently, a book called *Proud To Serve* was published by *Rafu Shimpo* and Japanese American Living Legacy. The book lists the names of those who served in 100th, 442nd, MIS and other units of WWII, as compiled by the Echoes of Silence project of AJA WWII Memorial Alliance. The book is very comprehensive, with never-told-before stories—a “must-have” for every household of Japanese descent!

The timing of the book publication was such that Jim and Marian were able to hand-deliver the copies ordered by Masa and Helen Nakamura of Honolulu. They were attending the graduation of their grandson, Evan, from nearby Cal Poly, Pomona. Since Evan plans to seek employment in Southern California, it is likely that we will be seeing him again. Masa and Helen looked very healthy and well enough to work in their nursery. Accompanying them were their daughter, Charlene Leong and her husband. They also have a daughter,

Alisha, attending a college in San Francisco, closer to their residence in Sunnyvale.

Jim and Marian have two granddaughters who graduated from University of California, Irvine in June. Ashley Yamashita, recently orphaned with the loss of her father, our son Glen, has applied for internship at the University Of California Hospital in Orange; her cousin, Kate Hawkins will be winging her way to China to pursue her master's degree while teaching English to Chinese students. Currently, she is taking a crash course with others with similar goals. Although her family and we as grandparents will miss her a lot, it will be an invaluable experience for her, and she will come back with many wonderful memories and hopefully a masters degree.

Had a note from Frank Shimada stating that he is doing OK for "an old man," but he found out that Shig Doi had a mild heart attack as he and Yoshiko were making plans to go to Japan with their daughter and son-in-law. With the approval of Shig's cardiologist, they were able to take the trip as planned. Although everything was expensive, the trip was very enjoyable. Shig hopes he can do it again.

Honolulu by Eddie Yamasaki

Mits Oshiro, who is doing well (still drives) in Waipahu, credits his good health at 92 to twenty minutes of daily exercise at home. He started this routine on advice of rehab trainers who helped him recover from a left kneecap replacement. Mits says that these daily workouts relieved him of sleepless nights caused by his painful knee.

Mits noted that the count of I Company vets living in the Oahu countryside has gotten so low; missed are the likes of the "rural gang," such as Kazuma Oyama, Kiyoshi Nakagawa, Seiji Nakahara, Larry Ishikawa, Koppe Yamamoto, all of Wahiawa; Walter Watanabe and Mutt Sakumoto of Waialua; Alan Tanaka of Mililani; and Blackie Shinozawa of Waipahu.

Dane Sakaida has gone through some major surgeries: right hip replacement two years ago, a back nerve operation a few months ago, and left

hip replacement in June. We pray for his early return to a sense of normalcy.

Your chapter reporter spent nearly two months in Japan, visiting and being completely spoiled by his son, with wife and their kids in Tokyo, and by his daughter, with husband and their two kids in Nagasaki. The latter is a pleasant city of 400,000, set in the midst of small, verdant hills. An unforgettable experience was a moving, sobering visit to the Peace Park, a large circular expanse of grass, at the center of which is a monument, located at the hypocenter of the atomic bomb.

Another highlight was a reunion luncheon in Tokyo with seven Doshisha University graduates who were under my wing in 1951.

Sad News

Iwao Kishimoto of Honolulu

Died on April 18, 2012

Iwao's wife, Yaeko, says that retired general contractor Iwao, 89, had a heart by-pass operation ten years ago and had since lived with a pacemaker.

Kainalu-born Iwao joined I Company in time for the final Po Valley campaign, as a member of the last replacement group. Active Item Chapter members have no recollection of his having joined in any of our activities.

Married to Iwao for 61 years, Yaeko now expects to live alone in her home, taking comfort in having daughter Carol Ogawawara as a next-door neighbor.

Besides Yaeko and Carol, Iwao leaves behind sons, Alvin and Walter, another daughter Linda Nakayama, brothers Hideyoshi, Toshiyasu, and Charles, and seven grandchildren.

Esther Yurie Hajiro of Waipahu, Oahu

Died on May 12, 2012 at age 92.

As in the case of his father Barney, Glenn spent most of the last few days of Esther's life at her bedside. She experienced discomfort with inability to keep her throat clear of phlegm; she even lost her speaking ability. She was diagnosed as having liver cancer and e-coli infection.

Esther will be remembered as the ever-cheerful wahine who oozed contentment with life. “Never a discouraging word” came from her. As her grandson Ian said at the celebration of her life, “She would even hold up her hands, saying, ‘I have good energy.’” She also liked the word *ki*, as well as saying, “Going to live to be 100.”

During her last two years at Palolo Chinese Home, an assisted living facility, and her last two years at a private care home in Pearl City, she welcomed visitors, often showing and giving away her handiwork, such as bead bracelets or papers with crayon colorings of images of nature and/or geometric designs.

Esther is survived by son Glenn and his wife, Frieda, and grandson Ian; three sisters: Suzie Hara, Judith Tateishi, and Lorraine Davis; and two brothers: Kenji and Stanley Yamada.

We are unhappy to report that Frieda suffered a stroke in early June. Fortunately, it was a mild one: her right side was partially paralyzed and her speech somewhat impaired. Rehab therapy is expected to improve her condition.

We pray for a rapid return to normalcy.

Nick Yasumitsu Nakano of Gardena, CA

November 25, 1923 - June 10, 2012

I Company’s *And Then There Were Eight* book shows Nick received the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, likely for participating in the final Po Valley campaign.

He is survived by his wife, Etsuko; children, Arleen Miya, and Gary (Sheri), David (Lori), Patsy and Dr. Mark (Julie) Nakano; 10 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; siblings, Haruye Nagatoishi, Jack (Vicki) Nakano, Louise Taketaya, and Henry (Yaeko) Nakano; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Henry “Hank” Hashiguchi of La Mesa, CA

March 21, 1923 - June 26, 2012

The following was excerpted from the Socal report:

“Those remembering Hank Hashiguchi as having survived a bullet wound through his neck during the last push in Italy will be shocked to

learn that he was killed by a runaway car when it crashed into the nursing home where he was staying. Such a horrible way to go – our thoughts and sympathies go to the surviving children.”

Hank, having volunteered for the 442 RCT out of Poston, AZ Internment Camp, served as a rifleman. He first received shrapnel wounds during a battle in France in October 1944 and then the above-mentioned bullet wound.

Upon return to San Diego from the European war, he married Mollie Uyeji, with whom he had two children. He worked as a mechanical engineer for Solar Turbines.

His daughter, Donna West of Boulder, CO, spoke of how “proud” he was “of all the Japanese-Americans, how hard they fought.” She believed that “... the happiest day of his life was when he received the Congressional Gold Medal” at the award ceremony recently held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley. “He kept saying, ‘I can’t believe it, it’s so wonderful.’ He was so proud to be an American.”

Shuji Taketomo of Gardena, CA

December 16, 1916 - July 8, 2012

More on Shuji in the next *Bulletin*. Please read his detailed account of army life in *And Then There Were Eight*.

We had understood that he and Chiye were having some health problems. We are saddened by Shuji’s passing; we pray for Chiye’s well-being.

To the family and friends of Item vets, Iwao, Nick, Hank, and Shuji, and of widow Esther, we extend our *Aloha Pumehana*.



by Ted & Fuku Tsukiyama

The 522B Chapter meeting on June 20, 2012 featured UH Professor Kevin Kawamoto, a gerontology specialist, who spoke on ageing and the problems of ageing, followed up with a written article on the subject which should be of interest to the general 442nd membership.

Nisei Veterans Still Come Together for Fellowship

by Kevin Kawamoto

I had the privilege of giving a talk to a group of World War II veterans of the 522nd Field Artillery unit, their spouses (and in some cases widows) as well as a few caregivers on June 20 when this distinguished group gathered for one of their regular luncheons at the Tree Tops Restaurant in Manoa Valley.

It is always great to see older veterans continuing to socialize with their old buddies, and having their family members join them when possible. Research in gerontology frequently proclaims the importance of remaining socially engaged as we grow older. World War II American veterans of Japanese ancestry have been particularly good about setting up clubs and organizations to ensure long-term association with each other. The fact that some of these clubs and organizations are still meeting 67 years after the end of World War II is a testament to the bonds of friendship and mutual caring forged in times of war and its aftermath. Some researchers have suggested that the strong post-war camaraderie of World War II veterans has helped them readjust in a healthy way to civilian life.

AJA veterans of World War II have left an indelible mark on the history of Hawaii and of the United States in general. The veterans don't call attention to themselves, but fortunately those

who appreciate their loyalty, patriotism and sacrifices have kept their stories alive for almost seven decades now. I hope by now the veterans know that they will always be remembered even long after they are gone. Younger generations will keep future generations informed about the heroic contributions of our Nisei soldiers during World War II and beyond, when many went on to continue to serve their communities in times of peace through public or civil service, business, law, education, culture, and in other ways.

When you look at old photos of the veterans, when they were young men serving their country, they always appear full of vitality, even when they are resting. So many of these soldiers fought in conditions that we younger folks can only imagine; you probably had to be there to really know what it was like. They saw war up close and personal, and they know that, in war, not everyone will return home alive.

But these veterans did return home, and then they reintegrated into society and became productive citizens. Many became parents and later grandparents, perhaps even great-grandparents.

I mentioned to the group that I became interested in gerontology because of the close relationship that I had with older adults when I was a child, beginning with my grandparents who lived in the same household with me. I experienced life in a multigenerational household, and saw what it means to provide care to an older person who needed help to maintain quality of life. If it weren't for our family caregivers, our support system for older adults with special care needs would collapse. The government certainly cannot provide that level of care for so many people. At the gathering, some veterans were accompanied by their caregivers. They aren't alone. Last year, an AARP report found that in Hawaii 247,000 people provide unpaid care valued at almost \$2 billion.

As anyone who has done it knows, caregiving can be extremely stressful. That's where the term "caregiver burden" comes from, and there are questionnaires that are used by health care

professionals these days that attempt to measure how much stress a caregiver is under. It's important to pay attention to caregiver stress because we know that prolonged stress can lead to mental and physical illness, or worsen existing conditions. However, it should also be noted that being a care recipient – i.e., someone who receives care – can also be stressful. The change in roles may take some adjustment and create conflict. For example, if the caregiver – e.g., an adult son or daughter – starts telling a care recipient – e.g., an aging parent – what to do all the time, as if ordering around a child, the relationship can become strained and frustrating. What the older person may hear all the time is “Don't do this!” or “Don't eat that!” or “Why did you do that?” or “Why don't you this?” That's not a pleasant living environment for anyone. An older person who has been living independently for a long time may find it very stressful to have someone trying to run his or her life, even though the caregiver may just be trying to help.

It may take a while for some family members to figure out how to be a caregiver and a care recipient in a way that is respectful of each other. Just because people need and love each other doesn't mean things will always go smoothly. But it's important, I think, not to constantly argue and say things that will be difficult to take back later. Someone has to step back and say I'm not going to argue right now, even if I know I'm right, because it's not worth escalating this conflict. I'll deal with this when things calm down. When people argue, it's like they are turning up the volume on a radio. One person turns up the volume, and then the other person turns up the volume even louder, and they keep trying to one-up the other person in terms of volume. At some point, one of them just needs to say, “I'm not going to keep turning up my volume” and then walk away for a while. It's not giving up; it's just postponing the discussion for later.

When it comes to arguing with someone who has dementia, that's another story. A person who has dementia may be confused about a lot of things – getting names, dates, places and other

information wrong. What does it matter? In the documentary film, “Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter,” the dutiful daughter finally comes to a realization that it is pointless to argue with her mother who has dementia and gets a lot of information mixed up. For example, the mother said that her daughter was her sorority sister in college. The daughter realized it was much easier not to argue and to simply change the subject. After all, her mother wasn't intentionally trying to be confusing; it was the result of her dementia. No amount of arguing was going to stop or reverse the dementia. After that, both mother and daughter were happier.

So there are things that can be done to reduce stress. We've all had to deal with ups and downs in our lives. What have we done to survive the downs? What resources or activities did we turn to during times when we've had physical, mental or even spiritual challenges? Those are our strengths, and if we can identify our “dependable strengths” from the past, we may be able to apply them to our current or future challenges. For some people a dependable strength may be spiritual in nature – turning to a higher power for consolation and hope; for others it may be meditation, music, exercise, writing, volunteering, reading, gardening, confiding in a friend, getting psychotherapy, taking care of a pet, travel, playing golf, going fishing, doing artwork or even belting out an *enka* number at a favorite karaoke spot. Whatever works!

One of the things older people often worry about is their memory. Memory lapses trigger fears about Alzheimer's disease, and most of us know someone or more than one person who has had Alzheimer's disease. But memory problems don't necessarily mean a person has Alzheimer's disease. It may be normal age-related memory decline (e.g., misplacing keys or forgetting a name of someone you haven't seen in a while), or associated with many other things such as lack of sleep, medication side effects, poor nutrition, depression and so forth. A physician can order tests to determine whether memory problems are related to dementia or something else. If there is a serious cause for

memory problems, such as Alzheimer's disease, it's best to catch it early of course.

Looking at a cohort of people around the same age range provides some insight into the notion that everyone ages differently. Some people in their 80s need a lot of assistance, while others are more independent. Regardless of what age a person is, it is always good to start planning for future long-term care needs. Know what resources are out there before you need them. The most difficult time to plan for long-term care is during a crisis.

You've probably heard of the tips for healthy aging before: Good nutrition, exercise, keep your mind active, good health care, positive attitude, manage stress well, take up enjoyable hobbies – and maintain social ties. One of the great things about veterans clubs and organizations is that they enable the maintenance of social ties. Maybe for some it's a little more difficult now to get out, but even if it's just a few times a year, that's something.

The 552nd Field Artillery unit was a part of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team. What these men did and experienced during World War II are now legendary. We also know today of the important work done by the

Military Intelligence Service, where thousands of AJAs served as linguists and helped translate, interpret and decipher in support of the U.S. war effort. We younger Americans of Japanese ancestry would not have the opportunities we enjoy today if these Nisei soldiers did not put their lives on the line at such a turbulent time in our social history. When Fuku Tsukiyama, whose husband Ted served with the MIS, asked if I would come and talk to the veterans, I considered it an honor to do.

To all our veterans, thank you (as always) for your service – during the war and afterwards. To our caregivers, both paid and unpaid: Thank you, too, for YOUR service. And to older adults who are approaching a time when you need more help, you've worked hard and given a lot to help others all your life. Now is the time to let others help you if you need it: Think of it as a return on your investment. Every historical era asks something of its young adults. In the 1940s, the nation asked you to go to war. In 2012 and beyond, the nation is asking its young adults to help build a strong economic and civic future that keeps America vital for generations to come – and that includes taking care of its elders.



by Gail Nishimura

Happy Summer! Only about 3 more weeks left for public school kids, so glad I'm retired! I just can't get over how quickly time flies. Sons and Daughters are getting ready for our summer event at the Pacific Aviation Museum on July 14th. By the time you read this we will have had it and are now working on our next project – 70th Anniversary!

Just think, 70 years ago our fathers (grandfathers, etc.) went to war... the youngest will be in their 80's now, I know my one surviving uncle will be 90 next year. He started out in 522B then went to MIS. Imagine leaving home at about 18(or younger) and going to fight in a war. My dad was one of the older ones who joined, he was almost 28! I didn't even know what I wanted to do at 18 other than try to get into college!

In May we had our General Meeting at Treetops Restaurant for Sons & Daughters. Officers for the next year were introduced and a great time was had by all. Mahalo to Carol Sullivan for making leis for all attendees.

Our new officers for the next year.



L to R: Susan Yoshitomi, Shirley Igarashi, Wade Wasano, Al Sadanaga and Wes Deguchi.

The Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, March 24, 2013 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel - Coral Ballroom. We're also working on other activities on Friday and Saturday but things haven't been finalized yet. A registration form will be sent out as soon as events confirmed.

Gwen & Clayton Fujie are the co-chairs for

the event. Other S/D are committee members but we still need LOTS of help. If you're interested, call the 442 Veterans office (808/949-7997) and leave your name and contact number or email so we can contact you. ANYTHING you can help with will assist us.

The Hilton has also offered a special rate for rooms (\$177 + taxes) if you decide you would want to stay at the Hilton. Please check out our registration flyer when it comes out.

There was a nice article in the 442 Foundation newsletter about the plans for the Nisei Legacy Center. We wrote it and tells about the possible location and plans. It will be a major fundraising project for all.

At our last meeting we discussed the upcoming Pacific Aviation Museum. We are all looking forward to hosting this event on the 14th of July. If you were able to attend, I know you had a great time.

Our good wishes and prayers go to Wade for a speedy recovery. Take care.

Hope you have a great summer and we'll be looking forward to seeing you at the 70th Anniversary in March.

Other News

Ted Tsukiyama

The following article appeared in the University of Hawaii Alumni Magazine, Spring 2012 issue.



Sunday, December 7, 1941, 7:55 a.m. I was awakened by what sounded like thunder. The sky was black with smoke and the radio announcer screamed, "Take cover! This is the real McCoy! We are being attacked by Japanese planes!"

I was stunned with surprise, shock, then disbelief and denial. I felt a dark foreboding of the suffering in store for us Japanese. The anger I

felt for our attackers stayed with me for the rest of the war.

I reported to the call for duty for ROTC cadets. We were handed a rifle that we had never learned to fire and five bullets and ordered to defend against enemy parachutists reported landing on St. Louis Heights. They never came, but that "campaign" made us the first and only ROTC unit in the United States to enter active war service in World War II. Later that day, we became part of the Hawai'i Territorial Guard (HTG) to protect the waterfront, utilities and banks.

Six weeks later, our unit, most of us Nisei (second generation U.S.-born Japanese), was roused at 3 a.m. by our tearful commander. All HTG guards of Japanese ancestry were ordered

discharged. It was the worst moment of my life. Our own country had repudiated us because we resembled the enemy. The bottom fell out of my world. When we parted, our fellow guardsmen cried. We cried.

Altogether 169 of us were inspired to offer our services as a labor battalion, the Varsity Victory Volunteers. We did hard labor for one year. When the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was formed, I was among the 10,000 Nisei who volunteered.

Looking back, I feel privileged and proud to have been a witness and participant in this important chapter in our country's history. The lesson I learned is that there is bigness about our country, despite its imperfections, to right itself and live up to its ideals. In my humble opinion, we taught America a lesson in social democracy that being an American is not a matter of race and ancestry, but of mind, heart and spirit.



The following is an excerpt from the JAVA press release, June 14, 2012

Ten High School Students Win Coveted JAVA Scholarships

Falls Church, Virginia. "Winning a 2012 Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) scholarship will mean much more than winning a cash prize. . . . it will also stand as a landmark in honor of my Grandpa Laverne Kurahara, who served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Italy and France" said Royce Kurahara, a resident of Sacramento, California who plans to attend University of California, Los Angeles this Fall. Kurahara, winner of the Joseph Ichiuji Scholarship, is one of ten high school graduates representing seven states who were awarded JAVA's scholarships to enroll in universities in 5 states and the District of Columbia. The announcement was made by Dr. Ray Murakami, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, at the JAVA quarterly lunch at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, Falls Church, VA on June 9, 2012. The scholarship awardees were

descendants of members of the 100th Battalion, 442nd RCT, Military Intelligence Service and of members of JAVA

Former Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, Honorary Chair of JAVA who attended the luncheon with his wife Deni, offered his congratulations to the ten winners and advised them that as they pursue their education and career they must not forget the sacrifice and courage of the men of the 100, 442, and MIS to prove their loyalty to the nation that distrusted them.

JAVA President Gerald Yamada said he is delighted with the high caliber of applicants and the diligence of the Scholarship Committee to make their selections. He said that while JAVA scholarships are not financially large the unique significance it carries is the linkage of the awardees to Nisei who "fought the enemy abroad and prejudice and discrimination at home".

The 2012 JAVA scholarship awardees are as follows.

Madeline Matsui, Brooklyn, NY, Maj. Orville and Maud Shirey Scholarship. Matsui was accepted at Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Washington, DC. She is the granddaughter of the late Victor and Teru Matsui.

Jennifer Tanji, La Crescenta, CA, Col. Phil Sunao Ishio Scholarship. She was accepted at UC Berkeley, School of Journalism, CA. She wants to fulfill her grandfather's dream to succeed academically.

Ross Seeman, Portland, OR, Douglas Ishio Scholarship. He was accepted at Pepperdine University, CA. He has specialized in Japanese history and culture, visited Japan and spent time in Selma, Alabama to study Dr. Martin Luther King's march for civil rights.

Lisa Greer, Colorado Springs, CO, Mary Kozono Scholarship. She was accepted at Ottawa University, KS. She wants to honor her grandfather who served in the MIS and an uncle who served in the 442nd RCT. She plans to study physical therapy and world ministry.

Royce Kurahara, Sacramento, CA, Joseph Ichiuji Scholarship. He was accepted at UCLA

and plans to study aerospace engineering. He wants to honor his grandfather.

Alison Takahashi, Glastonbury, CT, Ranger Grant Hirabayashi Scholarship. He was accepted at Boston College, MA, where he plans to study economics. In her high school history class she wrote about the men of the 442nd RCT and the MIS.

Kaylee Yoshii, Mission Viejo, CA, Kyoko Tsuboi Taubkin Scholarship. She was accepted at UC Berkeley. She is believed to be JAVA's first *gosei* (5th generation) JAVA scholarship award recipient. Fluent in Spanish, she received a scholarship from the Spanish Embassy for an academic and cultural journey through the Iberian Peninsula and part of South America.



Brittany Kalepa

Brittany Kalepa, Honolulu, HI, Dr. Warren Tsuneishi Scholarship. She was accepted at Cornell University, NY to study engineering. She wants to succeed in her studies to honor her grandfather, a 442nd RCT veteran.

Jenna Hashimoto, Aurora, IL, Betty Shima Scholarship. She was accepted at Bradley University, IL to study medical technology. Her father is Lt Col Robert Hashimoto, US Marine Corps Reserve.

Margaret Ginoza, Manhattan Beach, CA, Etsu Masaoka Scholarship. She was accepted at Vassar College, NY where she plans to study science and technology. Her grandfather served in the Army Air Corps as a tail gunner on a B-17.

Other highlights of the quarterly lunch were the showing of a six-minute DVD, prepared by the National Veterans Network and shown at the Congressional Gold Medal Gala dinner in Washington, DC on November 2, 2011. In addition, Ambassador John Malott, President of the Japan America Society of Washington, DC, (JASW WDC) in his remarks paid tribute to the WW II veterans and expressed appreciation for the partnership with JAVA in the annual *Sakura Matsuri* Festival held in conjunction with the National Cherry Blossom Parade.

“Proud to Serve”

by Susan Uyemura

Japanese American Living Legacy, an established nonprofit dedicated to preserving Japanese American history through oral histories, and *The Rafu Shimpo*, America's oldest and largest Nikkei daily newspaper have produced *Proud to Serve* the first comprehensive listing of Nikkei World War II veterans that also includes narratives covering major battle campaigns, personal stories, historical photos, and other features, many never before published. It will also serve as *Rafu Shimpo's* first book.

Proud to Serve uses data from the *Echoes of Silence* project created and maintained by the Americans of Japanese World War II Memorial Alliance. Educational Project Manager, Jim Yamashita, has been leading his team of all volunteers since its inception in the early 1990's.

The Rafu Shimpo is also publishing a special edition that will cover current ceremonies as well as historical reprints of news and photographs from the *Rafu Shimpo's* archives. The special edition will run in a color newspaper format.

If you wish to obtain copies of the special edition or the book, please contact *Rafu Shimpo*— (213) 629-2231 or the Japanese American Living Legacy (657)-515-5501 or www.jalivinglegacy.org for details. Hawaii residents may contact the 442nd Veterans Club (808)-949-7997; 442veterans@hawaiiintel.net for information.

Announcements

Joint Memorial Service (JMS)

Joint Memorial Service for 100th, 442nd, MIS and 1399th veterans will be held this year on Sunday Sep. 30, 2012. The MIS will be the host unit for this year's ceremony. Major General Darryll D.M. Wong, State Adjutant General, will be the keynote speaker, and Barbara Tanabe will be the MC. The AJA Council which is made up of representatives from each of the four organizations, urges all veterans, wives, family members and friends, who are able, to attend.

Save the Dates!

442nd Veterans Club 70th Anniversary Celebration March 22-24, 2012

Dear veterans,

This is a personal note to you, your partner and your loved ones including your children, and grandchildren, nieces and nephews, sisters and brothers, and friends.

Hip, hip, hooray, the 70th Anniversary is on its way! Imagine, it is almost 70 years (March 1943) since you, as very young men just starting out in life, volunteered to join the Army and fight for your country. Today, you are Congressional Gold Medal awardees and still going for broke, day by day, and step by step. You are amazing and we think that calls for a celebration!

Indeed, last year was a year of great joy and pride with the Congressional Gold Medal presentations. Gwen was there in Washington, D.C. and in Honolulu when you were honored. It was a thrill to be among you and she will never forget how much she wished her dad could have been there, too. Well, it is hard to beat last year's pomp and circumstances, however, we look forward to trying. The Sons & Daughters are using their best creative juices to put on a celebration like none other. Please let your families know so they can schedule this weekend into their busy calendars and plan to celebrate with us. To our neighbor island and mainland veterans, please make your travel plans to be here by Friday, March 22, 2012 and stay through the week or at least through the weekend.

We are planning a Meet and Greet Reception on Friday, March 22nd; an event to be announced for Saturday, March 23rd; a very special Memorial Service which will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom, in an adjoining room, immediately prior to the grand finale luncheon, on Sunday, March 24th to complete the 70th Anniversary celebrations.

The Hilton has given us a terrific room rate of \$177/night. Please contact Ray Kitsu—tel: 808-947-7836 or e mail: ray.kitsu@hilton.com for reservations and be sure to advise that you are attending the 442nd RCT 70th Anniversary celebration from 22 to 24 March 2013. Reservations must be made before 1 Mar 2013 to qualify for the reduced rate. We are already hard at work to make sure you and your family will be duly honored on this auspicious occasion and will keep you posted on the events being planned.

Your brothers in service, the 100th Infantry Battalion, 1399 Construction Engineer Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service are all invited to join in the celebrations so be sure to encourage them to save the dates as well. We look forward to seeing you and your families next year, if not sooner!

Let's Go for Broke in Celebration of your 70th Anniversary,

Clayton and Gwen Fujie

Co-Chairs

70th Anniversary of the 442nd RCT

Memorial Day

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl

May 27, 2012

Photos by Wayne Iha



l-r: Tsutomu Oi (1399), Ron Oba (442), Pauline Sato (100th Inf bn)



Memorial Day
Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery
May 27, 2012
Photos by Wayne Iha



*l-r: Takamori Miyagi (RHQ), Noboru Kawamoto (RHQ),
Harry Nakayama (100th)*



The 442nd Veterans Club
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