



Go For Broke Bulletin

442nd Veterans Club • A Quarterly Publication

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Go For Broke

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Cover:

TOP: WWII AJA veterans ride a trolley in the Welcome Home Parade, May 22, 2010

BOTTOM: Piper Alan Miyamura and veterans in front of 'Brothers In Valor' Monument, Waikiki



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The Go For Broke Bulletin is the official bulletin of the 442nd Veterans Club. It is published quarterly. Contributors may submit reports to the Editor, Go For Broke Bulletin, 933 Wiliwili St., Honolulu, HI 96826 or via email to: 442veterans@hawaiiintel.net. Preferably, reports should be submitted on computer disk or e-mail. Please save files on MS Word in Windows format. Deadlines for chapter reports for 2010 are: April 9, July 9, Oct 8 and Jan 7, 2011.

PRESIDENT'S *Report*



by Bill Thompson, President

In May, the veterans were invited to participate in a military parade through Waikiki. Veterans of the 100th Inf Battalion and 442nd RCT were seated in a trolley which led the procession from Ft. DeRussy to Kapiolani Park.

The 6th graders of Mililani Middle School invited veterans of the 100th Inf Battalion and the 442nd to be interviewed. It was a lively exchange between the students and the old WWII veterans.

It is heartening to find our youngsters today interested in the experiences of former soldiers as our Nation is presently engaged in battles in Iraq and Afghanistan. We encouraged support of today's soldiers by telling how letters from home cheers those who are overseas.

In June, the Friends of Iolani Palace sponsored an event honoring the Kanyaku Imin. The arrival of laborers from Japan in the late 1800's contributed to the Island heritage we enjoy today. A highlight of the event was a tribute to the WWII Nisei generation who brought honor to the Nikkei community by their outstanding performance in Europe and Asia.

Eric Saul, noted historian, was in town meeting with the veterans collecting material for the Ellis Island exhibit which will include the WWII Nisei wartime souvenirs and photos. This exhibit will be opened sometime this year,

An interesting dialogue between the Nikkei community and the Texas School Board of Education took place recently. There was an attempt by the Texas SBOE to state in their history books that the forced mass evacuation of those of Japanese ancestry during WWII was not motivated by racism. This, of course, downplays the suffering inflicted upon those on the West Coast who were herded under armed guns to transport them to prison camps which were labeled "relocation

centers." The order to evacuate was based on racism with the Japanese community being the scapegoat for the debacle at Pearl Harbor.

A delegation, including Sandra Tanamachi, appeared in person before the TSBOE to lend credence to the numerous letters sent to the TSBOE. They were successful in having the TSBOE rescind their attempt to re-write history.

Our dispute with the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) still remains unsettled. Recently, the JACL took under advisement the recommendation of the CSAC to have a commemorative stamp featuring the crane monument of the NJAMF for the WWII Nisei. We joined with others in protesting this. The monument which features a crane entangled in barbed-wire portrays the imprisonment and suffering caused by forced mass evacuation of those of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast and is unacceptable to reflect the outstanding performance of the WWII Nisei. Happily, the national body of the JACL voted down the CSAC proposal.

At present, we are all eagerly awaiting the decision by Congress regarding the issuance of the Congressional Gold Medal to the WWII Nisei warriors. The National Veterans Network (NVN) is at the forefront of this project. It would be the final accolade to our wartime service. A head count of living veterans of the 100th and 442nd is underway in conjunction with this CGM effort.

Edward Kanaya of our 232nd/Band Chapter was honored recently by the Washington Middle School for his long service in enriching the lives of the students through the beauty of music. The Band room is now named after him. We extend our congratulations to "Mr. Music Man" – Ed Kanaya.

We recently attended the celebration for the 68th anniversary of the 100th Inf Battalion. The 100th Inf Battalion veterans and families are now engaged in developing their education center.

And speaking of anniversary, Mits Honda is the Chairman for our 68th anniversary which will be held on March 27, next year.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

- Akutagawa, Thomas K. (232nd Engr.)..... May 22, 2010
- Altesman, Albert (G Co. Capt).....Sep. 17, 2009
- Aoki, Tom B. (I Co.).....May 9, 2010
- Eyerly, Roger (522C Capt).....Oct. 7, 2009
- Fujishin, Kay K. (I Co.)..... May 31, 2010
- Ganeko, James S. (H Co.).....Mar. 1, 2010
- Hamada, George (G Co.)..... Apr. 26, 2010
- Hiraoka, Norman I. (K Co.).....Mar. 10, 2010
- Ishida, Yukio (Cannon)..... June 19, 2010
- Iwano, Henry I. (K Co.).....Mar. 20, 2010
- Kanayama, Richard T. (I Co.).....June 8, 2010
- Katahira, Ken K. (M Co.).....Apr. 16, 2010
- Kato, Lester T. (522B)..... May 9, 2010
- Kawate, Kenneth K. (522 HQ).....June 27, 2010
- Kokubun, Edwin H. (Anti-Tank).....Feb. 23, 2010
- Kurimura, Terry M. (522A)..... Mar. 17, 2010
- Kusatsu, Matsuichi "Mutt" (Cannon/F Co.) May 19, 2010
- Matsumura, Stanley S. (F Co.).....Apr. 24, 2010
- Matsuoka, Toru (I Co.).....June 5, 2010
- Mitsuda, Satoshi (3HQ).....Feb. 8, 2010
- Mizukami, Robert (H Co.)..... Apr. 24, 2010
- Momoda, Takashi (Medics)..... June 22, 2010
- Morikado, Hayato (522 HQ).....May 17, 2010
- Motobu, Kazuo (G Co.)..... June 16, 2010
- Muramoto, Melvin M. (E Co.).....Mar. 30, 2010
- Nakama, Jiei (E Co.)..... Feb. 9, 2010
- Omura, Hiromi (M Co.)..... Apr. 9, 2010
- Oshiro, Hideo.....Apr. 30, 2010
- Sakumoto, Tsugito Norman (Medics).....May 5, 2010
- Shigemoto, Tamotsu "Tony" (522C).....Apr. 22, 2010
- Shimamoto, Kunio (E Co.)..... May 29, 2010
- Shinto, Richard U. (I Co.)..... Apr. 21, 2010
- Sorakubo, Shigeo (M Co.)..... Apr. 18, 2010
- Sueda, Minoru (232nd Eng.)..... Nov. 18, 2009
- Sugino, Yoshimasa (I Co.)..... May 2, 2010
- Tamayei, Masao (F Co.).....June 7, 2010
- Ushiro, Russell K. (522A)..... May 9, 2010
- Yagi, Humio (F Co.).....Apr. 25, 2010
- Yamashiroya, Aichi (RHQ).....Feb. 21, 2010
- Yokoyama, Steve M. (522FA).....Mar. 28, 2010



CLUB DONATIONS

Thank you to the following for their generous donation to the 442nd Veterans Club:

- Edgar Hamasu – \$100
- Cullen Ikehara – \$21
- Edward Kanno – \$26
- Edward Kanno – \$10
- Grace Nakamura – \$250

In memory of Katsuji Nakamura

GFB BULLETIN DONATIONS

We thank you sincerely for your generosity and support.

- Toshi Kadowaki – \$15
- George Kanatani – \$35
- Fred Matsumura – \$75
- Grace Nakamura – \$100

In memory of Katsuji Nakamura

- Michael Sorakubo – \$100

In memory of Shigeo Sorakubo

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

We thank you sincerely for your generosity and support.

- 2nd HQ – \$100
- 232nd Engineers/Band – \$100
- Fox Chapter – \$100
- George Chapter – \$100
- Service Chapter – \$100
- William Thompson – \$1,000
- Noboru Togioka – \$100



News from the

EDITOR'S DESK

by Oscar Tsukayama

Washington Middle School Honors Edward T. Kanaya

On Saturday April 24, 2010, the Washington Middle School held a dedicatory band concert to name its band room the “Edward T. Kanaya Band Room.” Ed Kanaya who was a member of the 206th Army Band, 442nd RCT, is an alumnus of Washington Middle School who nurtured the school’s band program for 25 years from 1954 to 1979.

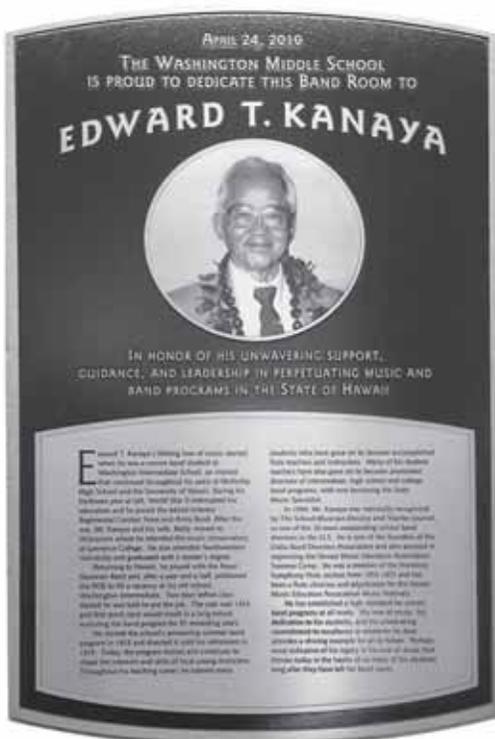
In addition to the dedicatory speeches, the ceremony consisted of a number of band pieces by various conductors, most of whom were Washington alumni and were students of Ed Kanaya and are now serving as band directors for various schools on Oahu. The highlight of the event was when Edward Kanaya, Washington Intermediate School Band Director, Emeritus, led the band in a number titled, “The Flight of the Flutes” as guest conductor. (The school was named Washington Intermediate during Ed’s tenure).

A large sign which says “Welcome to the Edward T. Kanaya Band Room” is placed over the entrance to the band room and at eye-level is a plaque which reads “The Washington Middle School Is Proud To Dedicate This Band Room To Edward T. Kanaya In Honor Of His Unwavering Support, Guidance And Leadership In Perpetuating Music And Band Programs

In The State Of Hawaii.” It continues on to list his achievements and his contributions in music to Washington Middle School and the State of Hawaii.

Ed’s love of music started as a novice band member at Washington Intermediate School and continued throughout his years at Mckinley High School and the University of Hawaii. His studies at the University were interrupted by World War II when he volunteered for the 442nd RCT and served with the 206th Army Band. After the war, he moved to Wisconsin with his wife where he attended the Music Conservatory at Lawrence College and later attended Northwestern University where he received his Masters Degree.

Returning to Hawaii, he played with the Royal Hawaiian Band and in 1954 started his long tenure with the Washington Intermediate School band program. He started the school’s summer band program which continues to today and throughout his teaching career, tutored many students who have gone on to become accomplished flute teachers and instructors. Many of his students also have become prominent directors of intermediate, high school and college level band programs with one becoming the State Music Specialist. In 1968, he was recognized as one of 10 outstanding school band directors in the United States. He was a member of the Honolulu Symphony



Ed Kanaya’s Dedication Plaque

flute section and has been a clinician and adjudicator for the Hawaii Music Educators Association.

His citation ends with “He has established a high standard for school band programs at all levels. His love of music, his dedication to his students and his unwavering commitment to excellence in whatever he does, provides a shining example for all to follow. Perhaps most indicative of his legacy is his love of music that thrives today in the hearts of so many of his students long after they have left his band room.

Ed and his wife Betty are active members of the 232nd/Band Chapter and he has provided flute renditions and his expertise on music for many of 442nd Veterans Club events. We salute Ed for his much deserved honor; congratulate him on his many achievements and commend him for his contributions to his Alma Mater, his community and to the State of Hawaii. Kudos, too, to Washington Middle School officials who have decided to recognize his dedication and contributions after many years and honoring him by naming its band room the Edward T. Kanaya Band Room.

Giving Back to Vets

President Obama, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki and Congress have expanded veterans’ benefits and eased eligibility standards in recent years but it appears that many veterans are not aware of these changes and are not receiving the benefits that they are entitled to. Listed below are some of the recent changes.

Disability Compensation: There are some misconceptions about this program. First of all, a service-connected disability need not be combat-related. Any injury incurred while in uniform can be considered. Second, compensation payments are not related to income and they are also available to surviving spouses at a reduced level. Monthly payments are based on the degree of disability which can range from 10% to 100% as determined by a doctor and subject to appeal. Currently, a 30% disability merits \$376 per month if single-\$421 if married. A 100% disability receives \$2,673 per month

if single-\$2,823 if married. Representative John Hall (D-New York) who chairs the House Committee on Veteran Affairs says the VA has a new attitude regarding disabilities. In the past, VA evaluators were encouraged to reject all but the most serious cases.

Today, led by Eric Shinseki, the VA is reaching out to vets with disabilities. This means, says Representative John Hall, veterans who have been turned down before should reapply, especially, because the department is now much more aware of and sympathetic to service connected illnesses such as PTSD and ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Pensions for War Veterans: Although pensions are designed to help low income veterans, what is not known is how much veterans are allowed to deduct from income to determine if they meet the qualification criteria. Veterans may subtract all care-related costs, including costs of assistance with activities of daily living, nursing home care and Medicare premiums. If the net income at this point is below \$11,830 if single-\$15,493 if married, the VA will provide a pension. A common misconception is that pensions go only to people who served in wars overseas. In fact, pensions are available to anyone, other than those who are dishonorably discharged, who served even a day during wartime even if the service was stateside. Widowed spouses may also be entitled to pensions even if they later remarry.

Health Care: Eligibility to receive care at any of the VA’s 1,400 hospitals, clinics and care centers is based on an income test except for veterans who have service-connected disabilities and it is not limited to veterans who served during wartime. The current income cap is \$32,342 for a single veteran and \$38,812 for a married veteran. These figures, however, can be adjusted for higher cost regions. In this case also, medical and health care expenses including Medicare premiums are deducted in calculating income. Veterans with disability ratings of 50% or higher receive free care from the VA.

In-Home Care: Limited homemaking services and assistance with basic health needs provided by companies contracted by the VA are available to all

veterans who need home care and who meet the income test subject to availability in the area where you live. Single veterans with an income above \$29,402 (\$35,285 if married) may be assessed a \$15 co-pay. Also available is Respite Care to provide a break for a spouse or family member providing health care to an eligible veteran. Depending on income, co-pay in this instance may range from \$0 to \$90 per day.

Assisted Living: Veterans and their spouses who reside in an assisted living facility may qualify for an aid and attendance pension/allowance to help pay for the cost of additional care. This benefit is based on the level of disability. The income thresholds for eligibility are \$19,736 for a single vet or \$23,396 for a couple after all allowable deductions.

Prescription Drugs: All drugs are provided free or for \$8 co-pay depending on income. This means that veterans may not need the Part D plan under Medicare. Additionally, pension recipients are exempt from co-pay for VA health services including drugs.

Nursing Home Care: The VA owns and runs 132 nursing home facilities and contracts with another 2,500 private homes in locations where it doesn't own one. VA is mandated by Congress to provide a place for veterans with disability ratings of 70% or higher. Veterans with lower disability ratings may be placed on a waiting list.

The above are some of the changes implemented in recent years. As stated above, VA's attitude toward providing care for veterans is changing. You are encouraged to contact the VA office in your region, even if you were rejected previously, if you feel that you may be eligible under the new guidelines.

New Option For Marking Veterans Graves in Private Cemeteries

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki recently announced that the VA is now offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers signifying a

deceased status as a veteran. Under federal law, eligible veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government-furnished grave marker or the new medallion but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state veterans cemetery receive a government headstone or marker of standard design. The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for veterans whose death occurred after November 1, 1990 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1-1/2 inches in width. Each medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels and is inscribed with the word "Veteran" on top and the branch of service at the bottom. Next of kin will receive the medallion along with a kit that will allow the family or the cemetery staff to affix it to the headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium cover.



Japanese American Soldiers Exhibit To Open In Ellis Island

The exhibit, "Go For Broke: Japanese American Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts," created by the Japanese American Wartime History Project, will be opened to the public on Monday July 5, 2010, at the Ellis Island National Historic Site Museum. Eric Saul, former director of the Presidio Army Museum will serve as curator. The exhibit will open in conjunction with the 125th anniversary celebration of Japanese in America.

The exhibit chronicles the history of the Japanese American soldier in World War II. It includes the story of the Nisei soldiers of the 100th Infantry

Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 522nd Field Artillery and the Military Intelligence Service. It is comprised of 150 rare photos from a number of important archives and private collections, including the National Japanese American Historical Society, the Hawaii State Archives, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the Club 100 Archives and 442nd Archives. Many private photos taken by the veterans themselves during the war are also featured. The exhibit will also feature the history of early Japanese immigration to America in photographs and documents. Commemorative ceremonies and educational programs with prominent Japanese Americans and veterans are planned for August 2010.

The exhibit will be shown to a wide general audience and it is particularly important that it will be held at the museum where immigration to America is documented. It will be open 7 days per week throughout the summer and it is expected that about 7,000 visitors will view the exhibit daily. The exhibit is scheduled to travel to numerous locations after its showing at Ellis Island closes at the end of summer.

Did You Know?

In 1943, while the 100th Battalion was training in Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, the U.S. Army decided to censor the personal mail of the Japanese American soldiers to determine their loyalty to the United States. What they found, was sincere patriotism, an urgent need to prove their loyalty to the United States and an ardent desire to be of credit to Hawaii.

One soldier wrote, *“Us soldiers are different from the others. We have our goal to look for, and each of us must sacrifice to show the rest of the Americans that we are as loyal as any of them.”*

Another tells his sister, *“You will put your chin up and do your best for old Uncle Sam. For my part, I’m the same as usual, putting my heart and soul for him and you folks at home. Let it be known that we’ll make Hawaii proud of its own.”*

Another soldier proclaims, *“The chief aim*

of the 100th Infantry is defined. Wherever we go whatever we do, always uppermost in our minds is—we must prove ourselves of credit to our friends and the folks back home.”

Another wrote, *“When you come down to cold facts, I think the eagerness to serve our country in time of need is the only way of showing the rest of the Americans that we too can be trusted and be depended upon to defend America from all enemies.”*

In a letter to his mother, one soldier wrote, *“As you have said to me long before this war ever started, {this is your country so when it needs your service, serve it well}. Now, being this far away from home these words are always my only guiding words.”*

Another soldier summed it up this way: *“I certainly will give all I’ve got for my country and it is not for no emperor or a sun goddess but for God and my country.”*

On October 2, 1943, the US Army Inspector General issued a report classified CONFIDENTIAL of its censorship project. It summarized the results of the review stating that the soldiers are aware of the distrust of their group because of their ancestry but their reaction is not one of resentment, rather it prompts expressions of loyalty and pledges to prove themselves true Americans. Most of them are anxious for overseas actions and consider it the best way to prove their worth. Their letters express sincere loyalty and patriotism.



Bill Thompson and Robert Arakaki present wreath at Memorial Day service at Punchbowl

Photo Courtesy: Wayne Iha



The following article appeared in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, April 25, 2010.

In Praise of Cheerful Men by George Will

WASHINGTON – Hearing about a shortage of farm laborers in California, the couple who would become Susumu Ito’s parents moved from Hiroshima to become sharecroppers near Stockton. Thus began a saga that recently brought Ito, 91, to the Holocaust Memorial Museum here, where he and 119 former comrades in arms were honored, during the annual Days of Remembrance, as liberators of Nazi concentration camps. While his Japanese-American Army unit was succoring survivors of Dachau, near Munich, his parents and two sisters were interned in a camp in Arkansas.

Ito attended one-room schools, graduated from high school at 16 and was accepted at Berkeley. His parents, however, believed Japanese-Americans could not rise in the professions – even the civil service – for which the university would prepare him. So he attended community college, studying auto mechanics, although he could not join the mechanics union.

In 1940, Congress passed conscription and Ito was content to be drafted, thinking the military would be an adventure. He got that right.

Although nearsighted and “my feet were flat as boards,” he and five other Japanese-Americans from around Stockton were inducted in February 1941. Because “Japanese revered their sons being in the military,” the Japanese-American community threw a farewell banquet for them, and gave each \$35. After Pearl Harbor, the Army

“took our rifles away.”

Soon, while he was in training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, his parents and sisters were interned as security threats, first at a California race track where they slept in horse stalls on straw mattresses, later in Arkansas. Bored by life as a military mechanic and “gung ho about going to war,” he volunteered to be a forward spotter seeking targets for the artillery, a job with a high casualty rate and a short life expectancy. Soon he was in Mississippi, from where he, wearing his country’s uniform, could occasionally visit his family behind barbed wire in Arkansas.



Susumu Ito

In Mississippi, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, composed of Japanese-Americans, trained before being shipped to Europe. It included Daniel Inouye, now 85, who lost an arm while winning a Medal of Honor. He is now in his eighth term as a U.S. senator.

After experiencing combat in Italy, the unit moved up through France and to the famous rescue of the “lost battalion” of the 36th Texas Division, which was cut off by Germans. The 442nd, which suffered 1,000 casualties rescuing 175 surviving Texans, became the most decorated unit for its size in American history.

By March 1945, the 442nd was in southern Germany. Soon it was at Dachau. Eddie Ichiyama of Santa Clara, Calif., who also was here recently, says that “even right now” he can smell the stench. The ovens were still warm. On a nearby railroad flatbed car, what looked to be a supply of cord wood was actually stacked corpses.

Nelson Akagi of Salt Lake City remembers an officer “adopting” Larry Lubetzky, a liberated



Nelson Akagi

Lithuanian Jew, as an interpreter. After the war, prisoner number 82123 went from Germany to Jerusalem to Canada to Mexico City, from where Akagi received a call in 1992. Akagi will search the Holocaust Memorial Museum archives for fresh information about Lubetzky.

After the war, Ito rejoined his loved ones, who had lost everything. He became a professor of cell biology and anatomy at Harvard Medical School. He retired in 1990 but still goes to the lab several days a week. Such cheerful men, who helped to lop 988

years off the Thousand Year Reich, are serene reproaches to a nation now simmering with grievance groups that nurse their cherished resentments. The culture of complaint gets no nourishment from men like these who served their country so well while it was treating their families so ignobly. Yet it is a high tribute to this country that it is so loved by men such as these.

The Holocaust museum draws almost 2 million visitors a year, four times more than were anticipated when it opened 17 years ago. A museum official says dryly, “Human nature has been an enormous help.” She means that atrocious behavior, a constant component of the human story, continually reminds people of the museum’s relevance. It is, therefore, grand that the museum also honors those, like Ito, Akagi and Ichiyama, who exemplify the rest, and best, of that story.



COL Bert Nishimura (US Army, Ret) once again leads the 442nd on the grounds of Iolani Palace, recreating the famous image taken in 1943.

Photo Courtesy: Wade Wasano



by Henry Kuniyuki

Kameo “Chop” Sugioka’s 90th Birthday

“To laugh often and to live much... to find the best in others; to give of oneself; to leave the world a bit better; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived – this is to have succeeded.” This quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson personifies the fine character of our Regimental Headquarters Chapter's good buddy, Kameo “Chop” Sugioka.

Chop Sugioka was honored with a 90th birthday celebration party at Makino Chaya on Saturday, May 29th. This totally surprise gathering of ninety-three guests was sponsored and planned by his two grandnieces, Cheryl Yoshimura and Alice Sugioka. RHQ Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto reported the following Chapter members participating: Susan Takara; Takamori Miyagi; Yoshikatsu, Katie and Patsy Maruo; Jitsuo, Ruby and Alvin Kawada; Noboru and grandson Andrew. Henry and Emi Kuniyuki were unable to be present due to health reason. The honoree was presented with a

beautiful silk lei made by Susan Takara. Chapter President Noboru gave a very brief congratulatory speech. Susan Takara, Takamori Miyagi and Jitsuo Kawada were the recipients of lucky-number cash prizes. Party favors included giant *senbei* and a gallon-size pail of delicious *senbei*.

Kameo “Chop” Sugioka’s civilian and military life experiences have been covered by several previous Go-for-Broke Chapter articles. All the guests thoroughly enjoyed the traditional lion dance which started the memorable surprise 90th festivity.



Alice and ‘Chop’ Sugioka

RHQ Chapter Potpourri

Chapter Vice President Yoshikatsu and Katie Maruo presented a one-hundred-dollar donation to the Chapter to cover some of the annual “Ladies Appreciation” luncheon expenses. Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto dispatched a letter of appreciation to

both. The Ladies Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 10, 2010, starting at 10:00 AM. It will be at Tree Tops Restaurant.

Five RHQ Chapter members: Noboru Kawamoto, Yoshikatsu Maruo, Takamori Miyagi, Susan Takara and Henry Kuniyuki reported for

docent duty at the National Cemetery of the Pacific on Saturday, June 26th. Chapter Treasury provided the delicious snacks and lunches. Chapter President Noboru invites other Chapter members to volunteer for this civic duty at Punchbowl.

Before reporting for docent duty at Punchbowl, Noboru Kawamoto and Takamori Miyagi participated at the Hawaii State Memorial Service at Kaneohe. Chapter President, representing the 442nd Veterans Club, presented the beautiful leis at the ceremony. Likewise, Chapter Secretary Miyagi did the honors, representing Club 100. The 2010 Governor's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 31, 2010 was held at the Memorial Plaza, Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery. Governor Linda Lingle gave the Memorial Day address.

Takamori Miyagi was also present at the Change of Command Ceremony of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team on May 22, 2010 - 1100 hours. He had the privilege of having his

picture taken with the City & County of Honolulu Bandmaster Michael Nakasone after partaking luncheon thereat.

At a recent monthly RHQ Chapter luncheon meeting at Gyotaku Restaurant, Chapter President proudly showed his great-granddaughter Alice's snapshot. Alice's dad is of Polish, Irish and German origin, and her mom is of Japanese, Norwegian, English and Scottish ancestry. Thus this beautiful youngster is truly a child of the League of Nations. Alice resides in Seattle with her parents. They all visited Noboru and Elaine from May 6 to the 10th of this year in Kaneohe, Hawaii. Adrian Prokop is Alice's dad name.

Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto urges all RHQ Chapter members to attend the monthly luncheon meeting at Gyotaku Restaurant to "talk story." "We do look forward to a continuing long and happy relationship with our fellow members."

Arrivederci!



by John Mikasa

The Hawaii Cannon Chapter had a leisure time as a group. Individually, trips to Europe, to school graduation exercises and sight-seeing tours were enjoyed. The main activity was the Reunion held in Las Vegas during June 24-28. Reports of that reunion written primarily by Roger Yoshinari, son of Sam, and Judi Murakami, daughter of Tsuka Murakami, follows:

2010 Cannon Company Reunion June 24-28, 2010

This year's Cannon Company Reunion was a great success. There were seven Cannon Company Veterans in attendance this year; Arthur Doi, Jerry 'Gus' Gustafson, John Kashiki, Manny Kitagawa, Tsuka Murakami, Tsutomu Okabayashi and Frank Sugihara. They were accompanied by about 85

additional family members and friends who turned out to support the Veterans. It was held at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas.

The planning committee, composed of Roger Yoshinari (Sam Yoshinari's son), Alan Ugai (Norman Ugai's son), Shirley Cassell (Tsutomu Okabayashi's daughter) and Judi Murakami (Tsukasa Murakami's daughter) were determined to carry on this

annual event. to honor our Veteran Parents, their spouses and their families.

The first day, Thursday, June 24th, was spent reconnecting with old friends and family in the Hospitality Suite. As always, there was an abundance of delicious food specialties and fresh fruit.

Alan Ugai and Judi Murakami spent most of the day welcoming our guest Veterans and their families and receiving the edible delights that they brought to share. Shirley Cassell and Roger Yoshinari arrived in the early afternoon to help decorate the 'suite' with photos from the past. It was wonderful to have Jerry 'Gus' Gustafson spend time with us, reminiscing about the old war days and going through his treasured photo albums from past. The majority of our guests arrived throughout the day and night.

Throughout the reunion, a slide show created by Shirley Cassell and Donica Ida (Tsuka Murakami's granddaughter) was played. Thanks to everyone who contributed their photos, the team was able to assemble the slideshow and added the

background music of Manoa DNA, who are from Oahu and are the son and grandsons of Keiji Kawakami, also a Cannoneer.

Photo-taking sessions were scheduled for Friday, June 25th. Photos were taken of the Veterans and their families. Copies were made and presented to each Veteran at the reunion the following day (Saturday) as they were individually recognized

and each received a hand-crafted lei in their honor. The leis were made by Aimee Ida and Judi Murakami. Fred Fujioka (Willie Fujioka's son) delivered a personal tribute to the 442nd.

A DVD video along with a history CD of the 442nd was provided to each Veteran by Susan Uyemura of the Japanese American Living Legacy Foundation. A

moment of silence was observed to remember the Cannon Company members who were killed in action and to all those who have passed away since.

Throughout the Reunion, the Hospitality Suite remained busy from early morning until late at night. The Sons and Daughters 'manned' the Suite according to their Hosting Schedule and made sure that our guests felt welcomed and refreshed. Everyone came to spend time to 'talk-story', grab a snack or beverage or just to mingle with other Cannoneers. During the later evening hours, several 442 related movies were enjoyed by a full room of guests.

We had such a good time, it was decided that there will be a Cannon Company Reunion next year ~ 2011. A date has not been set, but the



Standing (l-r): **Tsutomu Okabayashi, Jerry Gustafson, Frank Sugihara, Art Doi**
 Seated (l-r): **John Kashiki, Manuel Kitagawa, Tsuka Murakami**



(l-r): Donna Cole, Sandra Tanamachi, Glen Gondo, Dr. Abbie Grubb and Linda Toyota

Fremont Hotel has available dates earlier in the year, perhaps sometime in late April or early May. As more ‘Sons and Daughters and Grandchildren’ join our efforts and get more involved, the Annual Cannon Company Reunion will continue.

Linda Toyota (daughter of the late Cannon Company member, Yoshio Toyota) and four fellow Texas residents - Donna Cole, Glen Gondo, Dr. Abbie Grubb, and Sandra Tanamachi - appeared before the Texas State Board of Education on May 19, 2010.

The purpose of their testimony was to petition for inclusion of educational content covering Executive Order 9066 (which resulted in the Relocation) and the accomplishments of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It is ironic that the “Lost Battalion”, which was rescued by the 442nd was part of the Texas National Guard’s 141st Regiment. In 1963, Governor John Connally (Texas) declared all 442nd members “Honorary Texans”.

Linda Toyota specifically testified about her father’s participation in the 442nd and the rescue of the Lost Battalion. She also quoted from the Japanese American Creed, which all Americans

can adopt to express their patriotism.

As a result of their presentations, the Board unanimously voted to add the history of the Relocation and the 442nd to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) curriculum standards.

Our thanks go to Linda and her colleagues.

We have received sad news that a pair of Cannoneers have passed away recently

Matsuichi “Mutt” Kusatsu was born in Lihue, Kauai on June 6, 1923 to parents Kiichi Kusatsu and Asano Matsumura Kusatsu. He passed away May 19, 2010 at age 86 in Honolulu. A service for him was held on June 14th at the Punchbowl, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific where he was interred.

Yukio Ishida, age 90, passed away on June 19, 2010. To celebrate his life a private family service was held on Friday, June 25 at West Covina Christian Church.

We extend our deep condolence to the families and friends of our fellow Cannoneers.



MEDICS

Reports



by Oscar Tsukayama

Hello All

I have the sad duty of reporting the passing of Takashi (Tak) Momoda of Mercer Island, WA as the top story for my report. Tak, as we fondly called him, was an original member of the Medical Detachment, 442nd RCT, a Senpai (a senior or elder), a leader and a compassionate and loyal friend. He made several trips to Hawaii for reunions with the boys and was an ardent supporter of the Medics Chapter with frequent donations to our chapter. He, along with Jimmie Kanaya and Tosh Yasutake, continued to send news about the Medics, the 442nd and the Nikkeis in general; these guys were my “go to guys” for news from the Mainland for my Medics report and the Go For Broke Bulletin.

He was diagnosed with 4th stage lung cancer only a few months ago and when told that the available treatment regimens would result in serious side effects, opted to let nature take its course. He would have been 90 years old on June 30 and had expressed hopes that he would live to be 90 but his wish was not to be realized as he passed away on 22 June 2010.

He owned and operated Crown Furniture from 1946 to 1982 with his brother Shigeru and in his retired life enjoyed travelling around the world, playing tennis, tending to his yard and watching six grandchildren grow up with his wife Kimi. He was a devoted family man with simple needs and was an active member of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC). He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Kimiko and their three children; Linda Ishimitsu, Diane Madison (Stephen) and Martin Momoda; grandchildren, Mitchell and Mark

Ishimitsu; Kayla, Ross, Nina and Lucas Madison; brothers Shigeru (June), Mason (Yori) and George Momoda. He was preceded in death by brother Richard Momoda (Yone).

The family will hold a Remembrance Open House on Saturday July 10, 2010 at Tak and Kimi’s Mercer Island home of 50 years. Remembrance to his life may be made to the Nisei Veterans Committee.

The last meeting of the Medics Chapter was held on May 12, 2010 with Howard Kozuma, John Masunaga, Tak Nakamura, Toshiaki Tanaka, Kazu Tomasa, Jack and Marian Yamashiro and Oscar Tsukayama in attendance. Jerry Ogawa was off to Las Vegas and Noboru Ogami is still in a nursing home recovering from his fall. The gang enjoyed coffee and malasadas (i.e. those who weren’t on a diet) while notes from the board of directors meeting was announced and discussed and news of Medics members who have fallen ill or are otherwise physically incapacitated or have died were discussed.

Under new business, Kazu Tomasa agreed to serve as Medics’ representative to the 68th Anniversary Committee which will be comprised of special company members, AT, Cannon, 232/Band. Medics, Service, RHQ and 171st.

It was good to see Howard Kozuma who has been missing from several of our recent events. His excuse – busy picking up and delivering grandkids to and from school and their extra-curricular activities. Particularly, in the case of grandson Cory who golfs with the varsity team at Iolani School, Howard has been quite busy with all

the practices, tournaments and matches Cory needs to attend. On top of that, Cory now drives so he takes Howard's car at times, leaving Howard without wheels. But it's nice to have talented grandkids. John Masunaga recently suffered a light stroke which affected his vision. Not knowing that he had a stroke, he went to his doctor to check on his eyesight and was told that it was the result of a stroke. He says he feels okay otherwise, but the loss in his vision is serious enough to prevent him from driving. Tak Nakamura is his usual *genki* and cheerful self; I think he is the most popular guy in Kahala Nui. Back problems continue to plague him; you won't hear him complaining, *but* you can see that he does feel pain and stiffness now and then.

Toshiaki's Boulevard Saimin is scheduled to move to the Weyhauser building in Iwilei but renovation of the building is taking longer than expected. The move was initially scheduled for March, then May, then July and now it sounds like WHENEVAH.....

The Honolulu rail system is expected to pass over his current location. We look forward to his new location as a venue for Medics luncheon meetings when completed. Kazu Tomasa had just returned from Vegas and cheerfully talked about how everyone around him was hitting royal flushes and four of a kind but did not elaborate on how he fared. Judging from his bright disposition, we assume that he did well or at least had a lot of fun. Jack Yamashiro walks slowly and is always making sure that he knows where the restrooms are

(just like the rest of us) but he is full of energy and never misses any of our meetings or events. Oscar golfs twice a week (if you can call it that) and will be going on an Alaska cruise in July. He will be meeting with Kimi Momoda, Jimmie and Lynn Kanaya and Tosh and Fumi Yasutake while in Seattle.

On our sick call list, we haven't seen Wilfred Taira for some time but wife Tsutoe reports that he is doing okay with a mix of good days and bad days—mostly good. She says he has his stubborn streaks which we consider a sign of good health. Noboru Ogami appears to be recuperating very slowly from his fall; he is now in a nursing home

still not able to do most of the rehab exercises which he must be able to do to be discharged. Jimmie Kanaya is working very hard at getting well and seems to be doing great. He says he has regained 15 of the 25 pounds he had lost, thanks to Lynn who experimented with various recipes which she thought his taste buds would accept.



The Kanayas and Yasutakes visit with Tak and Kimi. This was their last visit with Tak.

gambare, Guys!

On our Rest In Peace list are Takashi (Tak) Momoda-see article above) and Tsugito Norman (Handsome) Sakumoto of Honolulu Hawaii. Tsugito passed away on May 5, 2010 at age 88 and is survived by his wife Grace; sons, Stan and Miles; brother, Bert; sisters, Dorothy Taga, Ethel Nitta, Doris Nakamura, Sadae Nakasone and Winifred Fujimoto and four grandchildren.

Ciao.



by Okemura, et.al.

Tamio Otsu: Tamio has come home! At our June 11 meeting, we were glad to see Tamio Otsu join us for lunch at Gyotaku Restaurant. He signed up as a life member of the Club. He was welcomed by Toshi/Grace Hayama, Richard/Margie Nakamura, Robert/Hisako Uyeda, Jimmy/Mitsue Sakamoto, Sue Isonaga, Yasunobu Shoho, Bill Thompson, Moriso Teraoka and Takashi Okemura. Like many of us, Tamio enrolled at the University of Hawaii, Manoa under the G.I. Bill of Rights. He majored in Marine biology and led an interesting career. He lives across the Pali. Tamio was with our I&R section and spent a lot of time with Bert Nishimura when Bert was the Battalion I&R officer.

Kiyoharu "Skully" Shimizu: His son brought a box full of WWII souvenirs collected by Skully. He died in April 2004. He was an active member of our chapter and joined us on trips to the neighbor islands. Rather than discard Skully's collection, his son brought them to the Clubhouse. Yes, our archives welcome the WWII souvenirs and photos of the veterans. We hope the family members of other deceased veterans will not discard the WWII souvenirs, but allow us to add to our inventory of WWII memorabilia. Skully's collection included several early 442nd books/brochures and wartime medals.

Nob Togioka: We're happy to say that Nob, our retired farmer who lives in Clovis, CA, is doing well. Of course, he needs a cane to help him walk. He is active in the VFW chapter there.

Takumi Sawamoto: Regretfully, we learned that Takumi died on June 16, 2010. He was with the Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn, and part of the communication platoon. His son brought a poster-size board pasted with Takumi's photos, military records, and other WWII mementos for

us to view. It was a very impressive collection. We, of course, are glad to see Takumi's WWII records and souvenirs still being maintained by the family.

Col. Bert Nishimura: If the mountain will not come to Mohammed, then Mohammed will go to the mountain. This happened in May. With our Colonel Bert hampered by illness, he ordered a Chinese luncheon for us Hq2ndBn Chapter folks at Kahala Nui. Now, he could share one of our monthly Chapter luncheons which he has missed lately. Andy Ono and Beryl Chun did the ordering. Besides Andy and Beryl, there were 11 of us enjoying lunch and talking stories.

Head Count: What a chilling feeling making a head count of the surviving veterans of Headquarter Company, 2nd Battalion; so many of the boys are gone. Several of the veterans never took part in the Club events nor participated in the Chapter activities. We particularly have a difficult time with the neighbor islands contingent. We lost contact many years ago with some of the veterans but hope that the news of the Congressional Gold Medal award will have them calling us.



2HQ members prepare to lay flowers at the gravesites of their comrades at Punchbowl on Memorial Day.



Extra



by Shigeyuki Yoshitake

Beiju ~ a once sought celebration has become an attainable event. Eighty-eight years of being alive on this earth.

Many of the Easy Chapter active members have reached this point, which was a rare event in the time of our parents, who had come to Hawaii as immigrants to work on the sugar plantation.

Those Chapter members that have come together monthly if at all possible are: Don Masuda, Neka Matoi, Glenn Nakasone, Yoshio Yamaki, Tadao Yoshimoto, and those who were born in 1922 and have reached this age up to this point or will be are: Masami Doi, Thomas Ooka, Shige Yoshitake.

So who are the young ones still waiting

to reach this age? Our two most active members we cannot forget – Maui Okamura, who keeps the group alive, and our U.S. Senator Dan Inouye, who will run for re-election in November.

Good things are still to come. The reason for this article: The writer and his family in May celebrated this occasion by going to an unrecognized, small Chinese restaurant selected by one of the grandsons, and occupied one table enjoying everyday Hawaiian-style Chinese food.

Beiju ends but...other things continued as the writer suffered some setbacks causing a delay in this article. The writer entered two medical facilities then ended up in a ‘Foster Home Care’ in Waipahu. More in the months to come.



Fables



by Ron Oba

*If you don't wake up
Hurting in every joint
You're probably dead!*

Are you a LUCY or just a Neanderthal man? Genome professors sequenced DNAs (DeoxyriboNucleic Acid – Mcilwain’s input) in all of us that traces back from 400,000 to as late

as 30,000 years ago. In other words, the DNA of the Neanderthals live on in some of us!! “Most humans are a little bit of cavemen among us Asians and Europeans!” Wow, this brings up the question of immortality since DNA progeny carries on infinitely. Most of us don’t know that someday we will die, said the Rev. Richard Tennes at the Memorial Service at the Honpa Hongwanji. He

talked so long that we lost track of when we should die!! So much for that. Thank God it's Mother's Day today so give Mother the limelight.

Mother's Day Luncheon

Nathalie Oda-Lee again outdid herself in hosting the members to a hearty steak luncheon at the Mid-Pacific Country Club. Of course, George and I had to have our appetizer first – Bud and Coors Lite. It is a wonderful venue if you like to watch the golfers like Kristina Merkle hack their way to the 18th hole with a birdie at the Mid-Pacific Open. The chef cooks the most succulent steak accompanied by a heaping dish of lettuce and fresh spinach tossed in wine and virgin olive oil; our guinea pigs would love this. The hot sourdough bread was the best!! We never tire of this delectable fare even tho some get lost driving to the Golf Course. Since I lived in Kailua for 20 years, here's the tip. Those who had the GPS came on time. Just go straight down Kailua Road to the end of the road but don't go into President Obama's sequestered beach home; then turn right on Kalaheo Avenue till you pass the defunct lighthouse and finally turn right on the first road at the hidden sign, "Mid-Pacific Country Club." If you find it, you'll get the handicap parking and enjoy the rest of the luncheon.

Fred Okada again donated a box of frozen shrimps as a way of participating since he cannot attend our activities. Michi divided the shrimps into four zip bags and those who picked them up for door prizes were happy. Dorothy again called out the lucky numbers. Thanks, Fred and the Okada Fish Wholesalers. Incidentally, Yoshino, his wife, suffered a stroke and is now confined at the Leahi Long Term Care Facility. We hope Yoshino will recover soon.

Sin City or Throve Of Treasures

Every April we anticipate meeting with our good friends from Ohio, Chicago, L.A. and around the USA. Unfortunately the Shintani twelve

did not come with their Purple T-shirts. Susan Hardwick and Janet Brown inquired about Munro.

The reunion started off with an auspicious hospitality room with supplies brought in by John Wakamatsu who brought the rest of the gang of Ocean, Monica, and Margie. Emi Takusagawa and daughters flew in. Besides, Emi brought over the Doyles, Yamanishis and Karin; Toshi Kadowaki with Kathy Tashima and Janet Brothers.

Enoch Kanaya whose brother Jimmie was more famous as a POW; James Mita the 18th reunion authority; Ocean Miyake, 98 years and still going for broke; Frank Mizufuka – thanks for manning the bar at the hospitality room and enticing.

Franz Steidl to come and impart his knowledge of the Lost Battalion book; Richard Murashige, the all-purpose guy; Richard and Shirley Nakagawa; George (chair) and Myrtle Nakasato; Ron and Michiko Oba, who likes to gamble rather than be at the hospitality room; Yoshio with his inseparable cane; and Clara Shibuya, Steve and Dorothy Shimizu, this time without his two sons, Russell Shoho and CRASHER, Susan Uyemura and Shinako Takata whose flying fingers usually wins the Slot Tournament.

Howard Hodges, nephew of Howard Clifford Hana who was killed in Italy, Helen Horikawa, David Katagiri and Adalita -- David still corresponds with his Italian friends (he should write a book about the Gothic Line and his Pietrasanta friends), Wataru Kohashi of the low sugar (hypoglycemic) episode with an in and out of hospitalization at Hilo Hospital, Mas Masuda, brother of Kazuo, Roy Matsuda with his Dungeness Crabs and his friend Ken Omoto, Ben Hiraga with Sue and Louis Rodrigues (Ben's son-in-law), Donald Wakida – Go Navy!; Judge Bryan Yagi whom we met in Houston's "Lost Battalion GALA"; Richard and Shirley Nakagawa, Professor James McIlwain a neuroscientist who embraced the 442nd soldiers since Camp Shelby days (he lived a "stone's throw" from Hattiesburg, MS); Keynote speaker Franz Steidl and Father-in-law Sam Sakamoto, and Roger

Eaton researcher, Frank and Nami Fukuzawa did not show up although they signed up. We were told that Shirley was a caregiver for Richard's wife and when she passed away, Shirley married Richard and is now his caregiver. What a wonderful story!!

Aloha Reception: Everyone headed straight for their friends in the NAME BINGO game which was supposed to introduce new friends and sign the bingo cards to acquaint people to people -- this is called bonding, not insular. Ron gave the invocation – which Sue asked for a copy – emulating the bonding of veterans and wives. Everyone was asked to identify some old photos of Fox Veterans as a contest. Jim said, “This is before my time.” Jr. Uranaka, a rabid photographer, was able to identify 9 people out of 15 and won the first prize; Shinako took second and David and Jim co-tied for third place. Who’s Frank Sotelo? Was he in F Company? He was wearing WWI leggings. Everyone knew 1st Sgt. Jack Wakamatsu and Lefty Ichihara, our radio man.

Slot Tournament: Frenetic-fingered Sue Rodrigues as a first timer won 1st place, followed by Myrtle and 3rd went to Sam Sakamoto. They all must have hit the jack-pot several times during the 20 minutes of the turning of the wheels. And last but not least was Teri Takusagawa. Slow-pokies tries to be last to assure themselves of a last place prize – but Teri tried very hard to be first. My cooking buddy, Mas Yoshida, last year’s champ was not there to give Teri a run for the title.

Sayonara Banquet: Once again we started with the invocation by George and the Role of Honor for those who died since last year with a 21 Gun Salute of Red, White and Blue balloons. The volley went as expected; impatient fingers blew their Blue balloons “BOOM” (guns) first -- before the Red, and White balloons. Auwe, they blew it before the order to “Fire!!” Same, same like every year!! Next year we should ring some Dumbbells.

Followed by the TAPS: Jim Mita read the Honor Roll: Mas Chomori, Minoru Hatada, Isamu Hirata, Masatoshi Hokama, Mutsuo Miyabara, Kuni Miyake, Sam Musashi, Masaru Nakamoto, Katsuji Nakamura, Kenneth Nunogawa, Frank Ogata, Munro Shintani, Harold Tabata, and Frank Mas Yoshida. May they rest in peace!

Life Achievers: The Nonagenarians – Ocean Miyake, 98; Tadashi Tamagawa, 91 and Richard Nakagawa, 91 were honored and they’re still standing tall. Fred Okada, 91 yrs, was unable to attend.

Talk Story Time: Franz Steidl wrote a book, “The Lost Battalion” and proceeded to emulate his writings with a Powerpoint display of the Signal Corps movie. I read the book but it was difficult to jump from the German side of the story to the American side simultaneously for most of the same episodes. Although I took up German at UH Manoa, it is difficult to read German with its umlaut. All I remember is. “*Achtung, land mines!*”

Accolades go to Richard and George and John with Frank helping out at the hospitality room. Wives Myrtle, Dorothy and Michi also deserve our praise during the planning aspects of the reunion.

Sayonara and Good-bye: The departure schedule by Vacations Hawaii was more humane this time with bags at the door by 7 A.M. instead of sleepwalking with the luggage at 5 A.M. Overall it was another excellent reunion. Every six months, Ocean? How’s about next year about April 17 or later. However, George and Karen of the catering service are having a difficult time arranging an equitable date which is hard to reserve because all the crazy ubiquitous Hawaiians all go to California Hotel for reunions. Don’t they know that Fremont has better breakfast? Next time, we’ll reserve two years in advance, then we can celebrate Ocean’s 100th birthday. George and Myrtle went to their grandchildren’s graduation and will stop by at the

California to finalize next year's reunion dates.

Thanks, You All: There were so many donations that went for Bingo and door prizes that we would like to thank all of you, especially, the George Ogatas, Sam Musashi, Enoch Kanaya, Tommy Tamagawa and Ron Oba (their winnings), John Wakamatsu, Emi Takusagawa, the Los Angeles Chapter and foremost the Honolulu Fox Chapter of George (chair), Richard, Ron and their wives with the Chapter donating prizes of the 442nd lapel logo pins and all the drinks and arranging the reunion for your enjoyment. Thanks to those who brought pupus. This made our reunion a moneyable event that went for door prizes. Margie didn't know what the black and orange chip was. When told it was \$100, she was flabbergasted.

The Camaraderie is still very strong. Grace Nakamura says that Kats instructed her to donate \$200 to Fox Chapter in his memory. Thanks to all of you.

Channel 3 Highlights Mineo Inuzuka

Mineo was televised on Channel 3 with his "Go For Broke" Cutter which was about to bid good-bye at Kewalo Basin and sail to Morro Bay, a stone's throw from Hearst Castle, California with Ian Washburn sailing it to Morro Bay on May 31 for the new owner. Mineo and his Cutter "Go For Broke," publicized the 442nd veterans to the whole state of Hawaii.

Memorial Day at Punchbowl

The National Cemetery of the Pacific rests on the hallowed grounds of Puowaina or "Hill of Sacrifice." The Mayor's observance on Memorial Day, May 30 on Monday at 9 AM assembled all veterans organizations from every war.

The 100th/442nd wreath was placed by the Presidents of both units. Ron was assigned to the Honpa Hongwanji to represent the 442nd Veterans Club. Eileen Sakai represented the Sons & Daughters.

In Memoriam

Stanley Shigeru Matsumura, 85, died April 24, 2010 after suffering a stroke. Retired St. Louis Chevron Owner, F Company veteran. Survived by wife, Judy, son Randal, daughters Jodi Matsumura-Lam and Patti. Memorial service at Hosoi Garden Mortuary on May 14, Friday at 6 pm. The Military Guards presented the ceremonial American flag to Judy as a token of his military service. George Nakasato presented the F Co. guidon as Ron Oba did the Offering of Incense for the F Co. veterans who were all there to offer their condolences. Stanley tenderly nourished Bonsai as a hobby.

Mas Tamayei died June 6, 2010 from a fall. Mas was in F Co., 442 in the first skirmish against the German infantry. He was shot through his mouth and jaw that disfigured his face, however, he was an excellent karaoke singer who entertained us at every reunion by singing popular Japanese songs. He is survived by wife Thelma and son Brian.



Mas Tamayei

Mutt Matsuichi Kusatsu died on May 19, 2010. Preceded in death by his wife, Emiko. He is survived by his son Clyde, daughter-in-law Gayle Shuffler, grandson, and sister Grace Tsuru of Evanston, Ill. He was born in Lihue, Kauai and was a Life Member of the 442nd Veterans Club. He received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal. He had a quiet and intimate service at Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific

Il fin.



GEORGE Gossips



by Fred Ida

Here is good news early!!! Instead of the many phone calls I received last year asking if we were going to have a reunion, this year all the phone calls I have been receiving are expressions of happiness that our reunion dates have been set by Ann Kabasawa as March 8-9, 2011. This now gives you plenty of time to plan. God willing, we will have as many as we had in attendance earlier this year.

Lynnette Uyesato announced at our last reunion that she is putting together a G Co. cookbook. She needs your help in submitting recipes. Please call her or Ann for forms.

G Co. recently lost two of our members. Kazuo Motobu passed away on June 16 after a bad fall in the kitchen. Kiyomi and Emily Yamamoto, Dolores and Fred Ida attended the funeral service

at Honpa Hongwanji. According to Chiyoko, wife of George Hamada, George passed away on April 26, 2010. Services were strictly private, with no announcement in the obituary column. Our hearts go out to both families along with our sympathies and condolences.

Raymond Handa recently broke his Achilles tendon which hampers his ability to get around including driving and his ability to travel to Las Vegas.

Your G Co. donated \$100 to the 442nd scholarship fund.

I have not forgotten about writing that article on my experience with cancer. As soon as I recover from the loss of my taste buds, we will all get together for lunch.

'Til then, take good care of yourselves.



100th Infantry Battalion 68th Anniversary • June 27, 2010

Photo Courtesy Roger Honda



by Ann Yoshida

Hello Everyone,

I decided that I would write this month's report because my dad, my brother and I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to all of you for making the super-secret 98th birthday party such a success. My only hesitation in writing this is that I can't thank every person who contributed to the party in some way because so many of you added extra touches and I know I'd miss some of you.

I can say mahalo to the organizers (they are so sneaky) Dorothy Nakagawa and Alberta Yamada – two of the best friends a person could ever have.

I also know that Tak Okuhara got the guest list lined up. So many others of you provided wine, cake, food, some of the most beautiful centerpieces I've ever seen, and leis (some of which now adorn my mom's picture in our home). Best of all, you were there for my dad's celebration, which meant so much to us. He really loves you all. Thanks for giving our family such a wonderful day! We'll never forget it.

Love & mahalo nui loa to all,
Ann Yoshida





by Jane Shikasho

Irene Nakamura continued a family tradition recently of attending the graduation exercise of every grandchild by attending the graduation of a grandchild from elementary school in Palo Alto, California.

A speedy recovery message was sent to Janet Matsuda who fell at her front door as she was hurriedly leaving and fractured her hip which required hip replacement surgery. Just when she

needed help, there was no car passing by, her cell phone was in her purse in the car, and her life-line alert was left in the house as per instruction. Luckily she was able to crawl back into her house to call the ambulance. Thanks to her many neighbors, friends and relatives who have been helping her and with therapy, she is now able to move around with a walker. We are hoping she will be able to join us soon at the monthly meetings.



by Eddie Yamasaki

Norwest by Louise Kashino Takisaki

Oh where, oh where did the Spring of 2010 go? Somehow, we lost it in between the rain and chilly weather as it is already past the start of Summer! However, reading about the hurricanes, flash floods, tornadoes, the BP oil spill, and other unusual devastations around the country, we can't be complaining here in the Pacific Northwest.

During the last weekend of June, Debbie and I went on the Minidoka Pilgrimage which proved to be an interesting experience for both of us. I left "Camp" in June of 1943 and hadn't been back since. Each year the momentum has been building for the increasing number of visitors who

have been attending these pilgrimages as the third and fourth generations are becoming more interested.

During the weekend, besides visiting the original barracks we lived in and tours of the Minidoka National Historic Site, we attended a Civil Liberties Symposium exploring the periods of conflict over civil liberties which utilized several perspectives, including the long and continuing struggle for our rights. We rode a Greyhound bus to re-experience the *kuro* we went through riding a train for two days to reach Minidoka from our temporary assembly center at Puyallup, WA. Because the trains of that period were fueled by

coal, we arrived at our destination with soot-streaked faces and sore muscles from sitting upright for that length of time.

The twelve-hour, round-trip bus ride will be an excruciating experience to those who have enjoyed airline travel as a mode of transportation in recent years. Going to the Minidoka historical site was truly an emotional experience for us, but we already are looking forward to going next year.

Understand that Lawson Sakai's FFNV gathering in Las Vegas will be the last one, so Jane Okada is encouraging me to attend. In the past, we have enjoyed the four-day visits to Las Vegas and the camaraderie enjoyed by the veterans was a good opportunity for the boys to meet and greet their fellow comrades. Although so many of our Nisei generation are passing on, it is my hope that we can meet with as many as possible.

California by Marian Yamashita

Again, a little bit of news from Southern California and Frank Shimada from the Bay Area.

During the Memorial Day weekend, many of us attended the service on the grounds of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center where the KIA memorials for the WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War and the current Iraq war are erected. Because many don't drive any distance anymore, younger friends always offer car service. As we all grow older, our group is dwindling down to just a handful.

After the impressive service put on by the Japanese-American Korean War veterans, I Company and friends spent couple of hours enjoying lunch and visiting at the Ebisu Restaurant nearby. The gathering was sort of a Mother's and Father's Day event.

Tomiko Yamaguchi, widow of Eddie, is now living with son Glenn in Gardena, bringing her closer to her boys. She took a tumble at home a couple of weeks ago, broke her wrist, and expects it to be in a cast for six-plus weeks. As she says, "It sure is tough to get old."

Frank Shimada: After all the years of golfing, he suffered a hit on the head by a ball, resulting in a big *tankobu*. Better duck faster next time, Frank

Frank plays the ponies and periodically "trucks" down to Santa Anita race track in his 30-year-old Mazda pickup. On the June 27th weekend, he took the six-hour round-trip drive to San Jose. At ninety-one, he's still going strong. By the way, he didn't brag about winning, so I think he went home empty.

Jim continues to make progress after his loss of balance eighteen months ago. Although progress is very slow, every day is a plus and hopefully, he will be back to normal someday soon.

Maui by Harold H. Nishida, Jr.

Aloha everyone!

It has been over two years since I began contributing inputs for Maui Item Company to this publication. How quickly time has flown by and so many things have changed. The Maui 442 Veterans Club held an election for Club Council officers on June 19th, and I was fortunate to be elected as Council Secretary. Out-going President Stan Izumigawa has generously passed the baton of his "Maui Matters" section of this publication to me with the blessing of in-coming President, Kazuichi Hamasaki. I know that it's a very big shoe to fill because Stan has been doing such an excellent job for so long. My humble thanks to Stan for this opportunity. I shall do my best to continue in his footsteps.

In view of this change, beginning with the fall *Bulletin* issue, I will be focusing on the bigger picture of all Maui 442 vets, including Itemites, under "Maui Matters." So here is my final report for "Item Items."

The Maui Item Ohana send their best regards to all. Those who are still "Going for Broke" are Jotoku Asato, Jane Nakama, Mary [Mike] Nakamura, Kiyoki Koki, Ellen [Tsuneo] Shiigi, Winifred [Akira] Shishido, Motoshi and

Edna Tokunaga, Hiroshi and Sadie Uyeno, Shigeo and Janet Wakayama. Although we have been fortunate not to have lost any members this year, we have seen a decline in attendance of some regular Item members at our social activities due to age-related health issues. Amongst these are Florence Hashimura (Sadao), Ben and Esther Nakamura, and Stanford and Akie Sakumoto. Our prayers go out to them.

Other Item Ohana members have not been so fortunate and we want to convey our deepest condolences to those families who have suffered the loss of a loved one this year.

On a personal note, I would like to acknowledge the passing of a dear friend and hero, Melvin Muramoto, original member of “E” Company, who died on March 31st of this year after a long illness. He and his wife Janet became our (my wife and I) close and personal friends since meeting them during our “Operation Last Chance” drive at the FFINV Las Vegas Reunion in 2006. For us, he lived the meaning of the words, “Go For Broke.” In April he was finally laid to rest with full military honors at the Veterans Cemetery in Dixon, CA. We will sorely miss him and forever be grateful for his service to our nation and for his loving friendship and the cherished memories he left with us.

In closing, my humble thanks to Item members Motoshi Tokunaga, Eddie and Bea Yamasaki for their much appreciated and continuing support.

[Ed. Note: Mutt, Bea, Eddie and all Itemites extend mahalo nui loa to Harold for his having served as Item’s Maui reporter in such a steadfast manner and for accepting the position of reporter on happenings on the Valley Isle under “Maui Matters.”]

Honolulu by Eddie Yamasaki Item Chapter Hawaii

Mother Club has asked each chapter to submit the Hawaii count of surviving veterans in

support of efforts to get approval of the Congressional Gold Medal for 100th/442nd. The following represents Item’s count by island, based on Jim’s 2010 Directory: Molokai, 1; Kauai, 3; Maui, 7; Hawaii, 10; Oahu, 27 – TOTAL 48.

We look forward to learning the answer to that frequently asked question: “How many 442nd Combat Team members are there in our state today?”

Higher Education Time

Alisha, granddaughter of Masa and Helen Nakamura, graduated from Mitty High School, Sunnyville, CA and next attends University of San Francisco, where her mother Charlene got her degree.

Incidentally, Alisha, an accomplished hula dancer, visited Kona this summer with her *halau* and managed to spend couple nights with Masa and Helen. Mom Charlene is a well-established CPA.

Masa and Helen, who attended Alisha’s graduation ceremony, are understandably happy that their children and grandchildren are doing so well. We are sure others in the Item Ohana are celebrating their children’s and/or grandchildren’s academic progress. Congratulations to all!

[Ed. Note: Please share with all Item reporters news of happenings along these or other lines.]

Eddie’s Trip Report

I left for Japan soon after the 67th Anniversary celebration, arriving on April 1 (no fooling!) and returned June 29, under the wire to keep my three-month JAL discount ticket intact; i.e., no penalties!

And what a journey it was: Reunions in Kyoto and Tokyo with my former Doshisha University students; lunches with former Tokyo business associates; April/May “happy birthdays” for granddaughter Aina, grandson Hoku and myself; visit to son Ted’s Tokyo office; and *takusan oishii*

kakau that made me come home “fat and sassy.” Yes, I do count my blessings.

Those on the internet can check out www.wktokyo.jp/blog/?p=2621 for a blog – a write-up and photos on my visit to Ted’s office.

Important: You all are invited to Item's summer special - our Ohaha Luncheon scheduled for regular chapter meeting date, second Thursday of September, the 9th. While Terry is mailing out invitations in August, if you can join us, please phone Eddie, 523-8454 or Terry, 373-4895 to sign up. See ya!

Sad News

Mary Masumi Yamashita

Died on April 18, 2010

Mary, 83, left us to join Danny who died in July of 2007. She was a retired Maunawili Elementary School teacher.

Just a year ago, we reported that Mary was “high-spirited as usual” after having overcome “two light bouts with pneumonia” and dropping “chemotherapy treatment for lung cancer nine months ago.”

She was with us in spirit at the 67th Anniversary reunion, having shared in the banquet through her generous donation to our chapter. Mary was just like Danny in her love for and loyalty to Item, expressed in so many ways. Both touched many of us deeply. She is survived by sons Bryan and Scott, daughter Amy, and four grandchildren.

Richard Utaka Shinto

April 28, 1924 - April 21-2010

Marian Yamashita wrote: “With very heavy heart, I must report the passing of a good friend and fellow veteran Richard Shinto, in the middle of April just a few days before his 86th birthday. Dick was born in Gallup, NM and was the oldest of four boys. He was a real example of a good Christian, teaching Sunday school and volunteering at the Keiro Nursing Home whenever he had a few

hours to spare. Also he was very handy with woodwork, and surely many have a piece or two of his work in their home. Ironically his youngest brother passed away just a few weeks after Dick.”

He is survived by wife Louise; children, Dr. Rick (Patee) Shinto, Sharon (Ron) Imada, and Dr. Paul (Vicki) Shinto; seven grandchildren; two brothers; nieces and nephews.

Yoshimasa Sugino

Died on May 2, 2010

Yoshimasa, 88, of Waipahu and previously of Papaikou, passed away at Pearl City Nursing Home. Born in Honohina, he was a retired plasterer for the Masons and Plasters Union.

He is survived by sons, Eric Sugino of Honolulu, Howard (Cindy) Sugino, of San Jose; daughter, Janice (Del) Gandia of Waipahu; brother, Shunichi Sugino of Pepeekeo; sisters, Mieko Soken of Pepeekeo, Yaeko Otake of Los Angeles; four grandchildren, one great-grandchild; nieces and nephews.

Tom Bunkichi Aoki

September 27, 1917 - May 9, 2010

Tom, born in Waimanalo, was drafted into the army in 1941 and volunteered to join 442nd in March 1943. From Camp Shelby, he volunteered for the 100th, joining A Company in Italy. *And Then There Were Eight* has his story; it includes his battle antics that earned him a Silver Star plus Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

He is survived by nieces and nephews.

Kay Kiyomi Fujishin of Sunnyvale, CA March 3, 1923 - May 31, 2010

Kay was born in Bearcreek, MT. Interned at Tule Lake, he was drafted in May 1944 and served in southern France and in the last campaign in northern Italy during which he was wounded.

Surviving are his wife, Betty; daughters Marcy (John) Mayer and Shelley (Doug) Uyeda; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Toru Matsuoka

June 11, 1925 - June 5, 2010

From Lou Takisaki, with supplements from Jim Yamashita in brackets: “I spoke too soon in the last quarterly report. Toru Matsuoka who had stomach cancer surgery last year and was reported to be doing well, had a sudden turn for the worse and passed away on June 5. [He spent his final days surrounded by family, friends and family pet “Komai.”] He leaves his wife Shizue; daughters Joyce, Patty and Donna (and their spouses); and brothers Jobu and George (and their spouses); grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He volunteered into the Army from the Minidoka Camp in Idaho, after lying about his age at 17. He trained at Camp Shelby and joined I Co. in France and Italy as a replacement, receiving several medals. Toru grew up in Seattle and attended business college after high school, and worked as an accountant all his life until retirement. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, clamming, mushroom hunting, gardening and most of all, golfing in the past many decades.

Toru will surely be missed by his family and many friends.” [We will miss his quiet, but commanding presence in our lives; his generosity, love of nature’s wonders and an ultimate commitment to people and issues he believed in.]

Richard Takeshi Kanayama

November 2, 1924 - June 8, 2010

Richard, born in Pepeekeo, lived in Hilo as a retired maintenance supervisor for the Hawaii County Department of Parks and Recreation. He was a member of the Hilo Meisho-in Mission and Disabled American Veterans. He passed away at Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home.

He is survived by wife Setsuko; daughters June (Lance) Niimi and Marcia (Michael) Matsui; brothers Robert (Florence) Kanayama and Earl (Henrietta) Kanayama); sisters Kazue Unebasami, Michiko Okahara, Karie Wakida and Ruth Tanaka; and four grandchildren.

Dorothy Tsuneko Suzumoto

Died on July 3, 2010

Dorothy, 82, widow of Mino, passed away peacefully; leaving behind Arnold and Laura, sisters Grace Yasutake and Jean Sawamura. She was born in Lahaina. For some time, her back bothered her and she had to give up attending the 67th Anniversary celebration with dear friend, Barbara Kameda.

Active in chapter affairs during our heyday, she will be missed by many. She was the behind-the-scenes “strength” of Mino, who contributed in major ways to Mother Club and our chapter until his death in May of 1994.

We extend *Aloha Pumehana* to the families and friends of the above members of the Item Ohana.

* * *



Takamori Miyagi and Noboru Kawamoto of RHQ at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day event.



by Allen Nakamura

Kanyaku Imin Celebration – Iolani Palace.

Please read articles by President Bill Thompson and/or Editor Oscar Tsukayama. I couldn't be there to record the event for health reasons.

I thank Paul Matsumoto for his endurance on the computer, emailing me information, articles and beautiful pictures worldwide. I can't do that as I tire out easily these days.

NORCAL L Co.

I believe Joey Ishihara is the secretary-treasurer for the Northern Cal group who is in communication with Paul Matsumoto. Joey's information: The group had their semi-annual April "L" Company meeting in Sacramento. The attendance is very small since many are having problems and most are unable to even drive short distances.

Howe Hanamura is having his physical problems along with Mary who drives but was injured. Ken Nihei does not drive anymore. (After reading the email Allen Nakamura called Mary on the injury. She fell down on the walk way outside and hurt her hip. The injury wasn't that serious. Having arthritis on her foot, she's much more careful now. Howe is fine after receiving a pacemaker. Ken Nihei's eyesight is very bad that he barely can see. Fortunately, his son lives next door.) Jiro Sugidono, who lives in faraway Watsonville can't drive. Feb Yokoi is now unable to recognize people. Shig Yokote has driving and same health problems of men of old age. Rest of us are associate members with similar illnesses.

I don't know of any other "L" Company guys who are still alive. Dag Nakatogawa sends meeting reminders to others, but many don't respond.

The meeting attendees: Ray Orite, Dag Nakatogawa, Joe Mori, Babara Takai, Joe Tominaga (Albany) and Joey Ishihara. I keep trying to get an end to the meetings and figure out the distribution of the bank account. However, no one seems to be unable to face the fact that one day it's coming (it's already here). I believe the real "L" Company members should decide. Even though there's so few left, it's your organization. What do you think? "

Joey, as I remembered correctly it's true that the "L" Company guys were the core of the organization in Sacramento that was opened to all Nisei veterans in the Norcal area. We enjoyed your hospitality and friendship when we went over to your place. I might add that I think you guys went overboard on your hospitality especially at the San Francisco hotel long time ago. I know how much was funded for the occasion in my conversation with Howe at the hotel.

We opened our arms and greeted you guys at the reunion whenever you guys came. We accepted all of you as our comrades. In great part for many years I think you guys held up the organization. Hang on Joey—treasure your comradeship! The problem is all the same elsewhere as we age.

Our once large chapter has dwindled to 7 or 8 regular guys that meet once every 2nd Wednesday. June 9, 2010 meeting attendees: President Joe Oshiro, Treasurer Isa Takiyama,

Paul Matsumoto, *Wally Kawamura, *Genro Kashiwa, *Hide Nakayama, Kila Haraguchi, *Allen Nakamura. Guys with asterisk, Paul pick them up as they don't drive anymore. Kazuma Ogata makes occasional appearance when golfing permits. Currently he's nursing back pain.

SO California

Info from Sumi Seki, one of her favorite vegetable is asparagus. "L" Company had a meeting April 15, 2010 at Bob's Okazuya restaurant in Gardena. Tom Mori, Hiro/Betty Nishikubo, Mrs. Shinobu Yonaki, Tak Wada, Don & Sumi. That's all. Nothing new! Too many funerals over here! We are all of that age! Take care and regards to all, from all.

The Shojis

Congratulations to David, Kawika & Eric Shoji on their volleyball achievements. David named to the AVCA Hall of Fame. Kawika as the Nation's top player & Eric named to the All American Team. Much has been written on the Shoji's achievements in my articles. But the achievements were so great, they were all national achievements, how can it not be recognized in the GFB Bulletin. How proud and thrilled the late Kobe & Chiz must be. It seems so cruel and sad that they passed away before learning of the achievements after following their volleyball progress throughout the years

David credit his son's Kawika and Eric's progress to Kobe's athleticism. Kobe was a star athlete at UCLA. When we moved to Aina Haina, circa 1953, Kobe asked me to help coach the KAC Little League team. I quickly saw in David's athleticism as the team took the championship. It's interesting to note that David's teammate included Vincent Goo as the centerfielder and Calvin Lee catcher while David was the shortstop & pitcher. Besides David as the acclaimed coach of the Wahine Rainbow VB team, Vincent is the former coach of the Rainbow Wahine Basketball

team. Calvin was the "winningest" High School Football coach at St. Louis High later to join the Warriors Football team as Associate Coach. Volleyball at the time was not a high profile sport.

David Fink

Our former associate member the late Arthur "Kazuo" Fink would have been happy to learn of grandson's David winning the coveted Manoa Cup. David is the son of John Fink General Manager of K5-KFVE. For many years Kazuo & John were the benefactor of our *Shinnen Enkai* with their donations of auction items. Congratulations to the Fink family.

* * *



U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hanneman and U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka Memorial Day, Punchbowl

Photo Courtesy Wayne Iha



by Shiro Aoki



June Morimatsu (daughter of Alice & Ralph Tomei) received an interesting E-mail from her friend on the mainland and has magnanimously agreed to share it with us Mikers. It was a letter written by Janet and Susan Hardwick, daughters of William Hardwick of the Texas 36th Division.

The Texas Lost Battalion

To The Honorable Barbara Boxer,

In the winter of 1944, our father, Sgt. William Hardwick, was fighting in WWII in Eastern France. After fighting and slogging through the French countryside, he found himself in the vast foothills of the Vosges Mountains. His unit would be ordered to follow the fleeing Germans into the Vosges and “chase them all the way back to Germany” – the officers commanding his unit would argue unsuccessfully that without waiting for the rest of the Battalion would mean that they would most certainly be cut off, their concerns brushed aside, the men entered the Vosges, and they were, as predicted, cut off.

Being low on ammo, rations and supplies, “The Lost Battalion” successfully repelled each assault made by German soldiers who were tasked to carry out Hitler’s personal orders: “Take no prisoners.” They would observe over the next few days as unit after unit of American soldiers would try to rescue them, none successfully. Our father would later talk about how suddenly, from out of nowhere he could see AND HEAR FIERCE FIGHTING. He could catch glimpses of men battling to reach him – after hours and days and

days of indescribably vicious combat, some of it hand-to-hand, these amazing rescuers stepped across the threshold of his parameter and finally the overpowering realization that his certain death had been averted by these incredibly courageous men – the men of the 442nd “Go For Broke” RCT.

The “little Iron Men” had done what no one else could do – they had successfully rescued “The Lost Battalion” – our father and 210 other men. Their personal sacrifices were amazing in their depth and totality.

Three years ago, my sister and I began a journey to find and thank these amazing men for the gift of our father’s safe return, the enormity of which is still difficult to put into words. Along the way, we have learned that the rescue of the “Lost Battalion” is but one accomplishment of these incredible men, as evidenced by the medals they wear: out of a group of roughly 10,000 men, they wear 4,000 Bronze Stars (1200 with Oak Leaf Clusters); 15 Soldiers Medals; 22 Legions of Merit; 560 Silver Stars (28 with Oak Leaf Clusters); 29 Distinguished Service Crosses; and 21 Medals of Honor. They served in combat units, MIS, Engineers – whatever was asked of them, they successfully undertook without complaint and with dedication and loyalty. To a man, they will tell you without hesitation that they wear their medals in honor of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice – their friends, their brothers, their fellow soldiers.

They did not ask for money – they did not ask for glory – they did not ask for handouts – all they asked for was the right to prove their loyalty

– to be regarded as faithful and trustworthy American citizens – all this while many of their family members were interned in camps across this country – their country. Upon their return home, they went about the business of trying to recover their families from these camps, rebuilding businesses and homes, and serving their communities with the same loyal service that had hallmarked their duty in the military. They became doctors, lawyers, engineers, civil servants, farmers, gardeners, college professors and politicians. To this day, they speak of those defining days without a hint of bitterness or bodacious bragging – they simply say: “we were given a job to do and we did it.” Humble – Kind – Loyal.

The Senate is considering a bill – S-1055 – that would give the men of the 100th and 442nd RCT the Congressional Gold Medal. It is with great urgency that I ask you to please support this effort for I can think of no other men who deserve it more than these Gentle Giants. I would never have known my father, but for them – my children would never have known their grandfather, but for them – their own children would not have been able to walk our streets with dignity and

resolve, but for them. They set about to prove their loyalty to this country and in so doing, saved the lives of hundreds of men, liberated countless villages throughout France and Italy leaving their inhabitants with renewed love and respect for the American soldier and brought honor to this country, themselves and their families. Their lessons in loyalty, humbleness, courage and resolve still resonate in our society today. It is a vote that you will be proud to make for them – for us all. It is, after all, the right thing to do.

Janet Hardwick Brown

Susan Hardwick

Proud daughters of Sgt. William Hardwick,
36th Division, 141st Regiment, “The Lost Battalion”

Tis the End of an Era

Or whatever you may want to call it. I have been your Mike Chapter reporter for seventeen years now and the time has come for me to call it quits. It was an enjoyable journey, thanks to all of you good people. Due to circumstances, I find it difficult to continue so I must say *adieu*.

**GOOD LUCK AND GOOD HEALTH TO
YOU ALL!**



BAE Systems in Welcome Home Parade

Photo Courtesy Bill Thompson



BAKER

Bilines



by Fuku & Ted Tsukiyama

522 Baker Chapter members had no news to share, so this 522B chapter column for this issue will necessarily be limited to obituaries and golf scores.

Kenneth Kazuyuki “Cannonball” Kawate, died June 27, 2010 in Honolulu at age 87. “Cannonball” as he was popularly known as was a native of Hanapepe, Kauai. After graduating from Waimea High School in 1941, he enrolled at the University of Hawaii to study agriculture and was one of the ROTC cadets called out on the morning of the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941. He subsequently served in the Hawaii Territorial Guard, the Varsity Victory Volunteers, and volunteered for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team where he was assigned to and served for the duration of the war with Headquarters Battery, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion. During his VVV days he distinguished himself as a lightweight boxing champ of Schofield Barracks and as the star fullback on the VVV 130-pound barefoot football team. After the war, he completed his education and served in the Department of Education as a teacher at Waimea High School and Leilehua High School for 37 years. Memorial services for Kenneth Kawate were held on July 8, 2010 at Hosoi Garden Mortuary. He was survived by two children, son Michael and daughter Susan Yadao and three grandchildren.

Fred Hirayama received news from the mainland of the death of Hayato Morikado on May 17, 2010 in Chicago, Illinois at the age of 91. Morikado was one of the mainland cadres assigned to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in February

1943 and was assigned to Headquarters Battery, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion where he first served as a cook and then promoted to Mess Sergeant of Headquarters Battery. Morikado is survived by his widow Toki Morikado and three daughters.

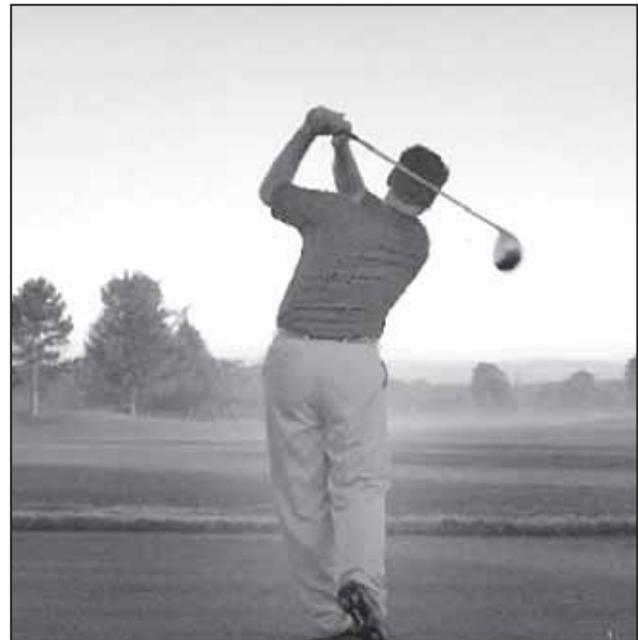
Also from the mainland came news of the passing of Joseph “Joe” Ichiuji who died July 3, 2010 at Rockville, Maryland at age 91. Joe Ichiuji was a native of Salinas, California and was inducted into the army in 1941 but was soon discharged after the Pearl Harbor attack because of his Japanese ancestry. He was interned with his family at the Poston Arizona Relocation Camp, from where he volunteered for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He was assigned to Battery “A” 522nd Field Artillery Battalion in which he served for the duration of the war. After the war, he entered Federal Civil Service where he served for 37 years, mostly with the U.S. Agency for International Development. He retired in Washington D.C. where he became an active member of many organizations such as the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and the Go For Broke National Veterans Association. In recent years, Ichiuji was most active as coordinator of the JAVA National Archives Research Project which scanned military records of the 100th, 442nd RCT and MIS for the JAVA and Hawaii 442nd Archive websites. Memorial services for Joe Ichiuji were held on July 10, 2010 in Potomac, Maryland where it was noted that any memorial contributions may be

made to the “JAVA Joe Ichiuji Scholarship Fund,” care of Treasurer Earl Takiguchi, 7201 White House Drive, Springfield, VA, 22153.

The 522 golf news will cover the past three unreported monthly tournaments with the net scores reported in the spreadsheet format (with the top six winners noted in parentheses) as follows:

PLAYERS			
DATES	4/12/10	5/17/10	6/21/10
Masami Doi	--	--	69 (4)
Roy Fujii	71 (6)	64 (1)	71
Richard Furuta	81	67 (3)	70 (5)
Boyan Higa	75	71 (4)	75
Mits Honda	*114 (gross score)		
Mits Kunihiro	66 (1)	85	67 (1)
George Muramaru	69(3)	74	81
Rocky Tanna	75	65 (2)	70 (5)
Ted Tsukiyama	69 (3)	--	--
Harold Ueoka	68 (3)	72 (6)	68 (2)
Flint Yonashiro	66 (1)	71 (4)	68 (2)

Only the gross score was reported for Mits Honda because this was his first participation and he had not yet established a handicap with this golf club. Other 442nd members who play golf are welcomed to join the 522B Golf group anytime by calling Rocky Tanna at telephone: 737-5837.



by M. Honda

Hello, everyone!! Everyone means all those Engineers and two Bandsmen and their Families who try to make sense of my crazy ramblings. Yeah, I guess about six or seven people read this stuff that I work so hard to make interesting. I hope you six or seven people don't lose your eyesight or go into deep sleep anytime soon. Thanks for staying with me. My lady tells

me that I shouldn't have taken the job and let Charley do it, he's younger and has more energy.

Speaking of Charley, some of us were lucky to be invited to Punana Loop for a private get together to partake of his new recipe for Cioppino. The Cioppino was so good that even Doc, who eats very sparingly went for seconds.

Needless to say, we all went for it. Of course, there were other grassy stuff which were very good also. In fact we were all told to eat the salad first or no mo food.

As I said before, this Chas is a multi-talented guy. As a cook, he could probably be in the same lineup as Chai, Alan and that guy Kodama. There's another thing that he is outstanding in and that's as a horticulturist. His yard doesn't have any grass because it's covered with plants. This trip, his orchids were in full bloom and there were so many varieties that I never saw before. His Honohono on one side of his backyard were in full bloom. There must have been about ten of them hanging proudly down from their perches about six feet up on a crossbar of 1/2 inch pipe. His plants and flowers could be a Tourist attraction for those busloads of Japanese visitors who would marvel at his skill. His green eggplants are the best in Hawaii. A few of us have *keiki* from his eggplant and mine especially come out all bent and bruised. Even Fuj took home a couple of plants that he was going to plant in tubs to grow on his balcony.

Before going any further, I have to correct something that I missed doing at the end of last year, 2009, an act of omission, I must admit. I got an email from Roger Eaton saying that in checking his old GFB Bulletin copies he found no mention of the passing of our old friend Min Sueda on Nov 18th, 2009.

Ms. Yae Sueda, I apologize for not mentioning the passing of your beloved husband at all any where in this bulletin or at the Board meeting here in Honolulu. We all loved and respected Min as the Motor pool Sergeant in charge of all those trucks and Jeeps in his care. I don't know how many men he commanded in the Motor Pool, but they all came out better men after being in contact with him for 33 months.

Min was a stalwart of the 232nd Band Chapter in Los Angeles and even here in Hawaii. Min and Yae attended every reunion that we had

in LA or in Honolulu no matter when it was held.

We here in Hawaii extend our deepest condolence to Yayoi Sueda and her son, daughter, grandchildren and other relatives. We will miss you very much, Minoru Sueda. May God be with You. Aloha!

Apparently, there were not very many Engrs around and the two Band people must have been away, too because the June meeting was canceled for lack of warm bodies to hold a meeting. It was not a "HAJI!!" as someone once famously called a cancellation by a president who will not be called to duty again in the near future, but a lack of bodies to hold a meeting. We should come to the 11th July meeting with a renewed energy after the rest in June.

My Lady and I missed the June meeting because of a graduation from College in the family. My grandson Daniel made it out of Santa Clara University in June and it was an ordeal. No, it wasn't his time spent in school but the ceremony in the hot midmorning sun. My Lady and I were wasted completely after four and a half hours of waiting for his name to be called. When his name was finally called, no one heard because we had stopped listening for his name and were just trying to survive. Dan is happily attending a six-month seminar for Grads to get them ready for their foray into the real world. Good luck to him.

Arrivederci and Aloha! Io Finito.

* * *

REMINDER:
Chapter Reports for the next issue are
due on October 8, 2010

442

MAUI
Matters

by Harold Nishida

*The following was contributed by
 Charlie Takahashi.*

The Maui 442 Veterans Club held an election for Club Council officers on June 19th. The new officers for the remainder of year 2010 are: President-Kazuichi Hamasaki (G), Vice President-Charles Takahashi (I), Secretary-Harold Nishida (I), and Treasurer-Kaoru Muraoka (Service).

The Maui I Company veterans, wives, widows and associates took charge of the June 19th 442 and 100th Battalion social. I Company's Jotoku Asato, Kiyoki Koki, Motoshi and Edna Tokunaga, Shigeo and Janet Wakayama, Hiroshi and Sadae Uyeno, Winifred (Andy) Shishido and associates

Charlie Takahashi, Irvin Yamada, Fred Ruge, Raphael (Guffy) Morreira, Mark Honda, Richard Minatoya, Tiffany Iida, Dr. Richard and Rose Sword, and Harold Nishida all helped to put together another very enjoyable social for the members, their families and fourteen guests.

As always, for pupus, the members were treated to the famous Pukalani Superette tako poke and their favorite foods, such as, sashimi, sushi, nishime, etc. along with Coors Light, Martini & Rossi Asti Spumante, water and Diet Coke. Everyone who played bingo won at least five prizes; some won six prizes.

The attendees were in for a big treat with the presence of Medal of Honor recipient Joe Sakato and his daughter Leslie, along with Lawson Sakai, President of E Company in California, Director Shinichi Suzuki, and Assistant Director Minako Tsuruda of the new 442 movie, 442, Live with Honor, Die with Dignity.

Thanks go to Tady Arisumi, President of



100th/442nd RCT Maui Veterans Club (Go For Broke) • June 20, 2010

Arisumi Brothers for donating tickets for this movie, which was being shown at Castle Theatre the following day. Veterans were reminded to wear their 442 and 100th Battalion shirts to the theatre.

The movie attracted 800 to 1,000 persons.

Some of the veterans attending were: Akira Ishikawa (100th), Kiyoki Koki (I), Yasu Okinaka (L), Harold Kishaba (E), Motoshi Tokunaga (I), Takashi Masuda (100th), Shigeo Iwamasa (E), Hideo (Pakala) Takahashi (E), Joe Sakato (E), Lawson Sakai (E), Hisashi (Bugsy) Yamagishi (522nd), Tom Yamada (100th), Barney Itamura (L), Richard Hashi (S), Shigeru Nakamura (Tutto), Clarence (Mutt) Matsumoto (K), Takeo (Ike) Ikeda (F), Walter Sakamoto (522nd), Hiroshi Arisumi (232nd), Jiro Koja (M), Kazuichi Hamasaki (G), Howard Murakami (Regt. Hq.), Russell Takashima (K), Kaoru Muraoka (S), Kunio Kikuta (S), Jotoku Asato (I), and Willie Goo (100th).

The movie was extremely powerful, and most of the women in the theatre were crying throughout the viewing of it. Willie Goo pointed out to me the battles he was in and the hardships

endured. In return, I showed him the battles my father fought in and how bad it was. Then, during the middle of the movie, he became silent and seemed really moved by the stories revealed by many combat veterans, including three Medal of Honor recipients, Dan Inouye, Joe Sakato, and Barney Hajiro.

At the end of the showing, the emcee asked all veterans to stand and be recognized by the audience. The veterans received a rousing ovation, lasting about two minutes.

As they exited the theatre, each of them was approached by members of the audience for a handshake and an expression of heartfelt thanks for his service. Most women were teary-eyed, and some men offered to buy the veterans drinks at the bar. A most memorable day for all, especially the guys.

This documentary film is a must see. Veterans organizations should contact Director Suzuki to arrange for its showing at their local theaters. Phone number, 1-323-469-2929; fax number, 1-323-460-7377, or website, www.442film.com.



by Gail Nishimura

Summer's here and yet almost over, as schools are getting ready for their opening in early August. How time flies...I actually got to attend a meeting in July! So nice to see new faces, actually I'm probably the new face since I don't get to many meetings. Still it was nice to meet new people. Don't forget to turn in your

membership forms, we have a lot of things coming up starting next month.

Here's Wes' memo to all:

Hi Everyone,

We had our July SD meeting on Thursday, July 1st. Another full agenda and we managed to

cover most of the topics.

First, I'd like to welcome Lynn Heirakuji to our organization. Lynn recently moved back to Honolulu from Washington DC. Her dad is from K Company.

Wade gave us an update on the status of next year's 68th Anniversary Banquet. We're still looking for a few volunteers to join the planning committee. Please let me know if you can help.

Wade also reported on the Joint Memorial Service, which will be held on September 26th. We need someone to join the committee, who will in turn be able to chair the event in 2011. As you know, we rotate this responsibility among the four SD organizations. Next year will be our turn. Please let me know if you can help.

The SD membership renewal initiative is in full swing. The applications are slowly coming in. Ann and Susan are working on updating the data base for the membership roster. Our goal is to get as many members as possible onto our email circulation list.

Laura, thank you for your work on the "Honouliuli Internment Camp" presentation. We will be hosting this event and have invited the sons and daughters of the 100th, MIS and 1399 to join us. This will be a social event with a presentation by the JCH on Honouliuli, followed by dinner. It will be a great opportunity to meet our fellow SD organizations, so mark your calendars, August 5th, and join us. Please send in your RSVP by July 23rd. Email sons-daughters@442sd.org. We would like to get a headcount as soon as possible.

The new sons and daughters website has been up and running for the past five months. It's been averaging over 10 hits per day. It's a good communication tool. We will be implementing the next phase of improvements to the website. We will be upgrading the software, which will allow us to: 1. upload and download information faster and easier; 2. have an interactive blog page; and 3. have multiple administrators. The goal is to share the responsibility of managing the website. For

example, one administrator could be in charge of "Upcoming Events," another in charge of "Past Events," etc. If you're interested in helping out as an administrator, please let me know. The new software is quite user friendly!

Many thanks also to Pam Funai, who attended our meeting and shared with us her experience with various organizations including the GFBNEC. She had a lot to say about the concept of developing a new educational center. As we move forward with our plan, we hope to continue our discussions with Pam.

Anita and Cindy reported on the Veterans Archive Program. They met with Shari Tamashiro at KCC to discuss a similar program that Shari is currently working on. The program involves digitizing photos and documenting the story of the veteran. This would become part of the 442's archive and also be placed on the web as part of the KCC collection. Thank you, Shari for sharing your ideas with us. Anita and Cindy will be developing a similar program and will present it at our September SD meeting. If anyone is interested in helping with this, please let me know.

There will be no August SD meeting. Instead, we look forward to seeing you at the August 5th get together!

All for now, Wes.

We have other upcoming events (like the annual Christmas get together) that you can join in on. Hope to meet you all one day. Don't forget about your membership forms, turn them in so Ann and Susan can update our membership lists.

For the latest news, please visit our website: www.442sd.org. The upcoming 68th Anniversary will also need lots more help, so let Wes know if you can help. Hope the rest of your summer is great. Take care.



2010 Orange County Nikkei Coordinating Council Pioneer Awards

News release dated June 30, 2010:

The Orange County, California Nikkei Coordinating Council (OCNCC) honored Mr. Jim J. Yamashita on June 24, 2010 with their “Pioneer of the Year” award during an annual banquet held at the Atrium Hotel in Orange County. Six other individuals, each representing various community organizations in Orange County were also recognized for their contributions to the community.

Jim Yamashita is a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Item Company, Fourth Platoon.

The OCNCC chose to honor Jim Yamashita for his ongoing work in educating the public about Nisei soldiers and their Caucasian officers who were killed-in-action (KIA) during World War II. Jim has been collecting data, photographs and stories since 1989 regarding the KIA from the Japanese American community. Jim then created an informative computer data disk from all of his materials.

The Americans of Japanese Ancestry World

War II Memorial Alliance encouraged Jim to create the Echoes of Silence educational CD ROM project to perpetuate the lives of the KIA. The disk contains the profiles of all of the Nisei KIAs. Jim relentlessly put years of work into the Echoes of Silence project; thousands of CDs have been distributed to the public. In early 2007, the Memorial Alliance asked JA Living Legacy to create an operational partnership to perpetuate the Echoes of Silence project through the creation of a website,

www.ajawarvets.org. The Echoes of Silence CD ROM is available to anyone or any organization free of charge.

Nikkei Writers Guild will publish a multi-volume printed version of the Echoes of Silence material by Veterans Day 2010. The first volume is dedicated to the 100th Battalion KIA. Volume II contains the profiles of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Volume III includes details about the MIS, 1399th, 522nd, 232nd, and all other supporting companies.



Marian and Jim Yamashita

Please contact Memorial Alliance / JA Living Legacy for more information or to request a complimentary CD Rom on the Nisei soldier of World War II, please visit their website www.ajawarvets.org info@jalivinglegacy.org or call us at (657) 278-4483.

A N N O U N C E M E N T

What Do We Do With Dad's Flag?

By Drusilla Tanaka

From time to time the club receives inquiries about whether we can use the large American flag that is presented to the family when a veteran passes away. Unfortunately, the flag is too large for us to use on the clubhouse flagpole. However, the National Cemetery of the Pacific makes very good use of these large flags. If you've ever been to Punchbowl for any holiday, like the 4th of July, Veterans Day, Flag Day, Memorial Day or for the AJA Joint Memorial Service, or when dignitaries are visiting, you can't help but be impressed by the all of the flags lining the entrance to the cemetery as well as the main drive to the Memorial.



These flags are all donated by families and a constant supply is needed to replace the flags that are worn out from exposure to the wind, rain and sun.

Donating the flag is simple. Take it to the cemetery office during regular business hours and fill out a form. The donor will receive a certificate of appreciation. The name of the donor and the veteran's name are engraved on a plaque which is displayed in the cemetery office.

So, keep the flag at home for as long as you wish, and when you no longer need it, there is no need to worry about how you are going to "divide" this flag for your heirs.

Put it to good use at Punchbowl.

A Heartfelt Thanks

By Stacey Hayashi

Dear 442nd Veterans,

Many, many mahalos and *doomo arigatoo gozaimashita* for your support and participation at the 125th Anniversary celebration of Kanyaku Imin on June 5th, 2010, at `Iolani Palace. The event was entitled "*Kulia I Ka Nu`u*," which was the motto of Queen Kapiolani and means "Strive for the Summit," in the same spirit of "Go For Broke." Hosted by The Friends of `Iolani Palace, it was a wonderful collaboration between the Palace and our AJA community in Hawaii which, in addition to commemorating the Japanese immigration and honoring all the WWII AJA veterans, also benefitted efforts to produce a graphic novel about the

100th/442nd for Hawaii's school kids. It was truly a special, unique event, the likes of which I am not sure Hawaii will ever see again – when else can one meet the veterans, hear their stories, participate in a "re-creation of sorts" of that famous photo of the 442 aloha ceremony at `Iolani Palace in 1943, tour the Palace, enjoy a concert with Manoa DNA and Jake Shimabukuro, and then attend a bon dance at `Iolani Palace, all in the same day? So many talented and generous people donated their services and time, and in the case of our wonderful title sponsors (Pacific Guardian Life, The Yamada Scott Family Foundation, and

Atlas Insurance), cash. Even in these tough economic times, people still remember the exemplary service of the WWII AJA veterans.

While we only had 40 days (!!) to plan the event, it was a huge success thanks to your support and participation and a hardworking planning committee and tons of volunteers. About 1000 attendees came to the Palace that day, many of them "new" supporters who have never met the AJA WWII veterans. Extra special thanks to the veterans who participated in the "talk story" session.

The crowd listened to the experiences of the veterans, including former Congressman Neil Abercrombie who sat spellbound in Mits Honda's group! Please consider doing this on a more regular basis; I know people want to hear your stories.

Due to space constraints I can't list all who supported the event, but it was so heartwarming to see the AJA (and non-AJA!) community roll up

their sleeves and pitch in. Many people were impressed by the ceremony and Major General Vern Miyagi's wonderful speech, which was only appropriate for such a decorated group.

I really hope those who attended enjoyed themselves. I will never forget being on the steps of the Palace, looking out at the crowd. Despite the heat, it really gave me chicken skin imagining the "boys" 67 years ago, marching down King Street through the Palace Gates. Though your numbers are inevitably diminishing with time, your legacy remains intact and only grows more legendary. Thank you so much for your support for our event, but way more than that, thank you for who you are, what you did, and what you continue to inspire in all of us.

Me ke aloha pumehana,
Stacey Hayashi



Photo Courtesy: Dan Kawasaki

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