



Go For Broke BULLETIN

442nd VETERANS CLUB



VOL 65, No 1, OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2012

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



September 7, 1924 - December 17, 2012

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Go For Broke

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Cover:

A floral tribute adorns the entrance to the 442nd Veterans Club to honor and say ALOHA to the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye

Photo: 442nd Veterans Club Archives

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTRIBUTORS	Page
President's Report	2
Taps	2
Donations	3
Editor's Report Oscar Tsukayama	4
Feature Story	6
Regimental HQ Henry Kuniyuki	10
AT Committee of Three	No News
Cannon John Mikasa	11
Medics Oscar Tsukayama	12
Service	No News
HQ2 Mae Isonaga	13
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Fox Ron Oba	16
George Ann Kabasawa	17
Howe Yutaka Yoshida	17
HQ3 Satoru & Jane Shikasho	18
Item Ed Yamasaki	19
King Eichi Oki	23
Love Genro & Muriel Kashiwa	25
Mike Shiro Aoki	28
522 Able	No News
522 Baker Ted & Fuku Tsukiyama	29
522 Charlie	No News
232 Eng/Band Fujio Matsuda	31
Kauai News	No News
Maui News	No News
Sons & Daughters Gail Nishimura	32
Other News	34
Announcements	43

Go For Broke is the official bulletin of the 442nd Veterans Club. Contributors may submit reports to: Editor, Go For Broke Bulletin, 933 Wiliwili Street, Honolulu, HI 96826; e-mail: 442veterans@hawaiiintel.net. Please submit reports on CD (saved in MS Word in Windows format) or email to 442 office. For more information, contact (808) 949-7997. Deadlines for 2013 submissions: April 5, July 5, October 4 and January 6, 2014.

As we reach the end of the year, we are once again reminded of our valor, courage and ongoing reputation as loyal “Go For Broke” fightingest American soldiers who fought in Italy, France and Germany.

Thus the Congressional Gold Medal, which is the highest civilian award given by Congress was bestowed upon us. To date, it has been awarded only to President George Washington, Ulysses S. Grant, Harry Truman, General Douglas McArthur,

Tuskegee Airmen, Dalai Lama, Jackie Robinson, Pope John Paul II, Dr. Martin Luther King, the Navajo Code Talkers, and the 100th, 442nd and MIS.

The good news is that the Sons & Daughters can now carry on the legacy of the 442nd veterans. The veterans on the other hand are getting into their late 80s and early 90s and need aids like canes, hearing aids and walkers. However they still meet regularly every month to reminisce the past and talk story.



IN MEMORIAM



Deepest sympathies to the families & friends of the following:

Bertrand, James I. (522B)	Nov. 24, 2012	Miyoshi, Richard “Dick” T. (G Co.)	Oct. 16, 2012
Enomoto, Joseph Morita (M Co.)	Dec. 22, 2012	Mizuki, Hiroshi (F Co.)	Nov. 7, 2012
(Served as Shinji J. Morita)		Murakami, Howard M. (442nd HQ)	Dec. 14, 2012
Furuta, George Isami (K Co.)	Sept. 29, 2012	Nagata, Robert Masaharu (K Co.)	Sept. 27, 2012
Hashimoto, John Kazuo (F Co.)	Dec. 3, 2012	Numamoto, Kazuo Dick (Medic)	Oct. 18, 2012
Higa, Masaki (442nd HQ)	Aug. 18, 2012	Ogata, Gilbert T. “Pops” Sr. (F Co.)	Sept. 29, 2012
Hirasaki, Manabi (522C)	July 26, 2012	Okamoto, George Takeo (I Co.)	Oct. 7, 2012
Hirata, Hideo (522C)	Nov. 30, 2012	Okano, Keiji (522 HQ)	Aug. 6, 2012
Hirata, William Toshiyuki (522 HQ)	Oct. 29, 2012	Okumoto, Walter T. (I Co.)	Oct. 3, 2012
Hiromura, Kozo (L Co.)	Sept. 8, 2012	Shirakawa, Takumi (H Co.)	Sept. 4, 2012
Inouye, Daniel Ken (E Co.)	Dec. 17, 2012	Suemori, Tadao (H Co.)	Sept. 5, 2012
Iwasaki, Shigetoshi (E Co.)	Apr. 17, 2012	Takaezu, Paul M. (RHQ/M Co.)	Oct. 12, 2012
Kamiya, James Kenichi (522 HQ)	Sept. 16, 2012	Takamori, Gilbert Kinya (522A)	Oct. 8, 2012
Kawashima, Seige (H Co.)	Oct. 11, 2012	Takeuchi, Yukio (I Co.)	Sept. 11, 2012
Kenmotsu, Jack M. (100D/I Co.)	Nov. 4, 2012	Tomita, Jack (232nd Eng/Cannon)	Sept. 20, 2012
Matayoshi, Lewis Shoki (3rd HQ)	Sept. 2, 2012	Uyehara, Takashi (M Co.)	Nov. 29, 2012
Minaga, Yuki “Uke” (522C)	Nov. 11, 2012	Yagura, Mitsura (I Co.)	Sept. 23, 2012
Miyake, Ocean Yoshinao (F Co.)	Sept. 26, 2012	Yamashita, Paul Yutaka (F Co.)	Oct. 18, 2012
Miyasato, Shinsei (3rd HQ)	Oct. 2, 2012	Yamashita, Shuichi “Fred” (522A)	Aug. 25, 2012
		Yokota, Sam (L Co.)	Nov. 29, 2012

Donations

Many thanks to the following for their generosity and support.

442nd Veterans Club

Family of Jack Andrews	\$ 100
<i>IMO Mrs. Sus(Minne) Ito</i>	
Mrs. Gail Cosgrove	\$ 200
<i>IMO Shigeo Tanada (F Co)</i>	
Gerald A. Gustafson	\$ 100
<i>IMO deceased Cannoneers</i>	
Mrs. Mariko Hanami	\$ 100
<i>IMO Takeshi Hanami (Cannon)</i>	
Senator Daniel K. Inouye	\$ 203
<i>(Residuals from the "Next Karate Kid")</i>	
Benjamin Kodama	\$ 400
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	
Benjamin Kodama (to 442 Archives)	\$ 300
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	
Ben Kodama Orchid Nursery, Inc.	\$ 200
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	
Mr. Harold Kudo	\$ 100
Ronald Oba	\$ 100
<i>IMO P.K. Matsumoto (L Co)</i>	
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ogata	\$ 20
Hisashi Okamoto	\$ 100
Mrs. Chikako Shimada	\$ 30
<i>IMO Paul Yamashita (F Co)</i>	
Mrs. Teruko Tabata	\$ 50
<i>IMO Henry Hayashida (Medic)</i>	
Louise Kashino Takisaki	\$ 100
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	
Mr. Harold Watase	\$ 100
<i>IMO Walter Joe Okumoto (I Co)</i>	
Mr. Harold Watase	\$ 100
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	
Jeanne Omaye/Gail Kawahara	\$1,000
<i>IMO father - Hideo Nimori, (Service Co)</i>	
Wanda Watanabe	\$ 20
<i>IMO Senator Daniel Inouye (E Co)</i>	

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Anonymous	\$ 75
Gerald A. Gustafson	\$ 50
<i>IMO 1st Lt. Sam Yoshinari (Cannon)</i>	
Mr. Harold Kudo	\$100
Mrs. Yoshiko Muto	\$ 50
Mr. Hisashi Okamoto	\$100
Mr. Akira Okamoto	\$100
Glen & Lynne Tapanila	\$200
<i>IMO of Lincoln Yoshimasu (Anti-Tank)</i>	

Scholarship Donations

Gerald A. Gustafson	\$ 50
<i>IMO 1st Lt. "Moe" Yonemura</i>	
Akira Okamoto	\$200



News from the

EDITOR'S DESK

by Oscar Tsukayama

442nd Veterans Club Officers for CY 2013

As we say "THANK YOU" to Ron Oba and his staff for their able leadership in CY 2012, we welcome aboard a new slate of officers for CY 2013. They are: President - Bill Thompson (2nd HQ), 1st Vice President - Frank Takao (171st), 2nd Vice President - Ralph Chinaka (Service Co.), 3rd Vice President - Wade Wasano (S&D), Secretary - Esther Umeda (Cannon Co.), Treasurer - Takashi Shikasho (232nd/Band), Executive Secretary - Shirley Igarashi.

We congratulate each of you for your resolve to serve as we pledge our full support and look forward to another successful year.

442nd Loses a Stalwart

Members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team lost its most revered comrade when Daniel Ken Inouye was summoned by his maker on December 17, 2012. His untimely passing will leave a big void not only in our hearts but also in the hearts of the people of Hawaii and the nation, as well, as his contributions impacted a wide range of people throughout the nation. I say untimely because we all expected and hoped that he would live forever and continue to do all the good things he kept doing for Hawaii and the United States of America.

In his 50 years in the United States Senate, he rose to a position of power and was highly respected by his peers for his intelligence, fairness, honesty, work ethic and integrity. At the time of his passing, he was President Pro Tempore and Chairman of the prestigious Senate Appropriations Committee. But, he never forgot his roots. During his visits to Hawaii, he would always get together with the men of the 442nd, especially the boys of E Co., with whom he served. He also spent time with government, military, political and education officials and other non-government organizations; and made it a point to keep in touch with the grassroots level to feel their pulse and learn about Hawaii's needs. The billions of dollars in appropriations he sent to Hawaii

are well documented; he was a national icon. Yet to most of us, he was just Dan.

Dan was not one who sought the limelight. In his growing up days, he did not stand out as a leader; he was just a member of a group. But even in his youth, he showed signs of intelligence and the ability to assess any situation and come up with solutions that made a lot of sense. This is how he led; in a quiet and passive way.

These are the very traits, however, that earned him the respect and trust of his colleagues in the United States Senate. He dealt honestly and fairly with them; he listened to their views, made compromises, where appropriate, but in the end used his power of negotiation and ability to convince people that what he is proposing is in the best interest of the nation. The trust and respect for him by his peers is illustrated by the fact that he was designated as keynote speaker for the Democratic Convention in Chicago in 1968; serving on the Watergate and Intelligence Agency investigations committees and serving as chairman of the Iran-Contra investigation committee, all of which were highly explosive and difficult investigations. He made a name for himself by his sometimes blunt and pointed questions during these investigations.

His love and resolve to do the best he can for Hawaii, is exemplified by his reply when asked how he wants to be remembered. "I say very simply that I represented the people of Hawaii honestly and to the best of my abilities. I think I did Ok." You did more than OK, Dan, you were outstanding. "ALOHA."

Stacey Hayashi's Manga Book "Journey of Heroes" Available at Various Sites

Stacey, a strong supporter and friend of the 100th/442nd, thought long and hard for many months about how best to introduce the story and achievements of the 100th/442nd to the children of America. How can they be taught that freedom and liberty are not free and that racial discrimination is a real part of Hawaii and the United States? She felt very strongly that this story must be told and retold and that it must be a continuing endeavor. She also felt that it was important to begin telling the story to children and to reach them at an early age, which is why she came up with a Manga or Comic

format, a medium children love and enjoy.

Her book has received raving reviews from a number of sources, especially from those with young children. It is highly recommended for families or friends with young children. Copies are available at: the 442nd Veterans Club, 100th Veterans Club, Japanese Cultural Center, Hawaii Okinawa Center, Armed Forces Museum, Gecko Books and a few other places too numerous to list.

Stacey advises that the “Journey of Heroes” has received international acclaim since its debut in October 2012. Thousands of the manga have been sold to the public and donated to institutions throughout the world and the demand for more copies grows every day. Both kids and adults have proclaimed it a hit sending many letters of support. Unfortunately, the project remains under-funded and it has been difficult to realize plans for wider distribution and promotion.

More recently, the 100th/442nd manga “Journey of Heroes,” was among a select group admitted to the San Diego Comic-Con International’s Small Press area which is both a prestigious and competitive honor. The Comic-Con is a multi-genre convention held annually in the summer in San Diego, California. It is a four-day event which showcases many genres of storytelling such as science fiction, fantasy, animation, anime, manga, toys, collectibles, and card and video games. It is a huge success where tickets sell out in minutes and wait lists to the exhibits stretches to five years. It is the largest of its kind in the Americas and the third largest in the world. In 2010, it filled the San Diego Convention Center to capacity with over 130,000 attendees. Given its scope and audience reach, as well as industry exposure (lots of TV and print coverage), the San Diego Comic –Con is the perfect showcase for our manga. Participating in the Comic-Con will assure that this incredible journey continues and that the story of our veterans reaches the largest audience possible. Stacey and her staff will attend the convention this summer.

An Amazing Story

The details are a little sketchy but this is what we have been able to piece together. An Italian

whose hobby in collecting helmets, found this helmet (see picture below) somewhere in Italy. Another Italian named Salvo, whose hobby also is collecting helmets, purchased the helmet. Fortunately, Salvo is familiar with the 442nd and has been keeping in touch with 442nd organizations. He immediately contacted Susan Uyemura, JA Living Legacy, who in turn contacted Stacey Hayashi to see if Mr. Chinaka could be located. Referral of the inquiry to the 442nd Veterans Club identified Ralph Chinaka, Service Co. as the owner of the helmet. Ralph says, “Yes that is my helmet the numbers that you see on the helmet are the last four of my Army Serial Number, but he says, I don’t remember having lost my helmet.” There is 34th Division Logo on the front of the helmet which is not visible. Ralph is just taken aback by this find.



Time to Say “MAHALO” and “ALOHA”

It has been a pleasure but I think the time has come for me to relinquish my duties as editor of the Go for Broke Bulletin. The effects of aging is beginning to show, you know the symptoms: walk slow, think slow, talk slow, aches and pains, ailments, loss of memory, no energy and the list goes on. The time has come for me to pass it on to someone more capable and with more energy to take the bulletin to a new level. This will be my last input as editor.

Before I go, however, I would like to thank all of you for your support during my tenure; to the officers, board members, the readership, chapter reporters and to those of you who made generous contributions to the GFB Bulletin Fund. Also a special thank you to Production Manager, Claire Mitani who worked so hard behind the scenes to assure timely and quality products. Publication would not have been possible without her efforts. Thank you so much.

Feature Story



Did the little boy playing soldier in the McCully district of Honolulu ever dream that one day he would become a decorated soldier receiving a battlefield commission and earning the Medal of Honor? And continue to serve his country as a U.S. Senator for nearly 50 years with a distinguished record of achievement?



l-r: Shizuya Hayashi, Barney Haji, Yeiki Kobashigawa, Rudolph Davila, Senator Dan Inouye, Yukio Okutsu

442nd Regimental Combat Team, including the 100th Infantry Battalion, Medal of Honor recipients relax during the special MOH program here in Honolulu on Aug. 27, 2000. The MOH recipients in Hawaii were escorted to the front stage by Army Generals. This event followed the Washington, DC ceremony. Missing were those whose awards were made posthumously.

President Bill Clinton presents the Congressional Medal of Honor to Senator Dan Inouye at a special ceremony in Washington, DC, June 21, 2000. Twenty Distinguished Service Crosses of the 442nd RCT and 100th Infantry Battalion, Separate, were upgraded to the Medal of Honor. This followed the recommendaton of a special Army review commission.



At our anniversary banquets, Dan would be assigned seating at the VIP table. He would simply say: “Sorry, I’m going to sit with the boys” and join his buddies at the E Company table. He was such a down-to-earth person.

Photo: Clyde Sugimoto



Company E Veterans’ Table

As Keynote Speaker, Sen. Dan Inouye paid special tribute to our mainland buddies of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The “Kotonks,” whose families were kept in barbed wire internment camps, volunteered for combat despite the rampant racial discrimination – especially on the mainland. The Senator wondered aloud whether he would have done the same under such bitter circumstances.

Photo: VWayne Iha



Keynote Speaker at 65th Anniversary

We often talk about when will we have our “The Last Hurrah.” At the 65th Anniversary banquet, the veterans were asked to march into the banquet room as their unit’s name was called. Dan joined us in this – he marched with his E Company buddies into the banquet room in what has now become known as “The Last Roll Call.”

Photo: Vince Matsudaira



65th Anniversary, 442nd RCT, March 30, 2008



442nd Veterans Clubhouse

When President Barack Obama signed into law the legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the WWII Niseis of the 100th, 442nd and the MIS, we asked the Senator for a souvenir pen. Dan not only gave us a souvenir pen, he had it framed with the legislation printed and a photo of the signing. This is a treasure for our archives as it has not only the signature of the President, and that of the Speaker but the Senate President Pro Tempore, Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

Photo: Wayne Iha

Dan took great delight in chatting with the veterans and their wives at informal gatherings. His easy-going ways charmed those present belying his prominent position in our Nation's Senate.

Photo: Wayne Iha



442nd Veterans Clubhouse



National Memorial Center of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Dec. 23, 2012

At the 50th Anniversary of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Dan was the keynote speaker. We recall his words: "... Though most of us who went into battle were young and single, we wanted to leave a legacy of honor and pride and the promise of a good life for our yet to be born children and their children.... Yes, I believe we can stand tall this evening in knowing that our journey together, a journey that began on a tragic Sunday morning was not in vain." Now, that journey has ended for Dan.

Photo: Pat Thomson



Veterans pay their respects to Senator Inouye at the State Capitol

Photo: Wayne Iha

Following photos courtesy Moriso Teraoka



Veterans get a front row view of the memorial service



Alan Miyamura performed with the bagpipers



President & Mrs. Obama together with the Inouye family



Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid addresses the crowd



by Henry Kuniyuki

The Regimental Headquarters Chapter of the 442nd Veterans Club celebrated the Ladies Appreciation Luncheon on November 11, 2012. The 43rd annual function was held at the Tree Tops Restaurant, located in upper Manoa Valley.

Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto presided at the gala affair, attended by thirty members and guests. The election of 2013 calendar year officers was held. It seems that the 2012 calendar year Chapter officers are again serving with perpetual tenure, year after year. President Ron Oba of our 442nd Veterans Club officially swore the re-elected officers into their respective office as follows: Chapter President Noboru Kawamoto; Vice President Yoshikatsu Maruo; Secretary Takamori Miyagi and Treasurer Henry Kuniyuki. Chapter Secretary Takamori Miyagi will continue to serve as

Chapter Representative to the 442nd Veterans Club's Board meetings.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Yoshikatsu Maruo's daughter, Leslie, who graciously took the fine group photo of the party participants. Mahalo also to Maria Yamada's son, David, who developed the group photo and printed a copy for each family participant. Chapter President announced at the meeting that the sum of fifty-dollar donation was made to the American Red Cross, as approved by the Chapter's Board of Directors.

The annual Chapter luncheon meeting participants, in alphabetical order, and reported by Chapter Secretary Takamori Miyagi are as follows: the Kawada Family – Jitsuo, Ruby and Alvin; the Kawamoto Family – Noboru and Elaine; the Kuniyuki Family – Henry, Emi, Michael and Joyce; the Maruo Family – Yoshikatsu, Katie and Leslie; the Miyagi Family – Takamori, Michael, Deborah, Brandon. Ryan and Sharell Cabiente; Sachi Miki; the Omori Family – Rachel and Colleen; the Sugioka Family – Kameo and Alice; Susan Takara and Jane Taira; and the Yamada Family – David and Kellie.

Arrivederci!





Cannon Chapter met on Nov. 26, 2012 at Zippy's for latest information from the Mother Club, and for social exchanges. Attendees were: Akira Okamoto, Yukisada Oshiro, Akira, Betty and Mark Takahashi, Harold Nakasone, May Koike, Mitsuo and Esther Umeda, and John and Mary Mikasa.

Discussions on the coming 70th Anniversary three days of activities were held. Due to our old-age physical impairments, concerns were expressed

on our participation in the activities. A big concern is the attempt to host Cannon Chapter members from the mainland, even though the expected numbers have greatly decreased from five years ago. We greatly miss Kazu Saiki's abilities and connections for these events. We will continue in planning.

Yukisada Oshiro, our erstwhile walking enthusiast who use to daily get up before dawn to exercise at Ala Moana Park, suffered a fall at home and fractured his pelvis just before Christmas. He is in convalescence care, hoping to be able to attend the coming 70th Anniversary activities. We all wish him well.

Roger Yoshinari, our principal mainland coordinator sends the following reminder of our upcoming Annual Reunion at Las Vegas.

442nd Regimental Combat Team



Cannon Company Annual Reunion

Fremont Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada
Thursday, May 2 – Monday, May 6, 2013

Almost 70 Years Ago



Cannon Company at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, November 1943

"Go For Broke"



by Oscar Tsukayama

Joint Luncheon Meeting for Medics Chapter

The Medics Chapter held its first ever joint luncheon meeting with veterans, wives and widows in attendance on Saturday, October 20, 2012 at the Fook Yuen Restaurant in the McCully Shopping Center. Heretofore, our practice was to have meetings with only veterans in attendance but the numbers kept dwindling to about 5 or 6 which meant that most of the members were not getting information about projects and activities of the 442nd Veterans Club. So it was decided that we would get the word out by newsletter and have joint get-togethers such as this, just so we can keep in touch. After a few announcements, we enjoyed the sumptuous Chinese buffet, followed by a briefing by Wesley Deguchi on his project to establish a Nisei Legacy Center. A lively discussion followed and some questions were raised but reaction to the plan to establish a Legacy Center was positive. Background music was provided by our talented musician, Kazu Tomasa, which sometimes resulted in the audience accompanying him in a community sing. A good time was had by all as we spent a lot of time just talking story and getting up-dated on the latest.

Twenty-one happy folks attended which included: Howard and Dorothy Kozuma, John and Gloria Masunaga, Toshiaki and Mitsuyo Tanaka, Kazuo Tomasa, Oscar and Suzy Tsukayama with guests, Wayne, Nancy and Taryn, Jack and Marian Yamashiro with niece Joyce, Iris Fukui, Millie Nakasone with daughter Camille, Betty Ogami with daughter Carolyn and Wesley Deguchi. Our heartfelt thanks to Kazu Tomasa and Wayne and Nancy Tsukayama for their generous monetary donations; our thanks also to Jack and Marian Yamashiro for making arrangements for this event.

Our next event will be our 2013 Shinnen Enkai which is scheduled for Natsunoya Tea House on January 26, 2013. We are looking for a BIG TURNOUT.

Former Army Medic Who Treated Inouye's Wounds Remember Him

Several fellow members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team traveled to the U.S. Capitol on Thursday, December 20, 2012 to pay their final tribute to the late Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) as he laid in state at the Rotunda of the State Capitol. They could be recognized by their white blouse and red and blue caps with the 442nd logo attached. Among them was Yeiichi Kelly Kuwayama who served as medic for Co. E. the unit Senator Inouye was assigned to.



*Yeiichi Kuwayama,
circa 1944*

Kuwayama, now 94, was interviewed during his visit to the capitol about saving Inouye's life on the battlefield. In typical humble fashion he stated "well, he came over the cliff over there and I was there so I took care of him. I put a tourniquet on his arm to help stop the bleeding and then put a bandage on him. I don't know that I saved his life or not but I was just one soldier doing his job to give medical treatment to another. When I worked on these various people who were wounded, I just treated them to stop the bleeding first and then put the bandage on. That's all I knew and that's all I thought about. I didn't think of anything else." Such modesty from a person who was awarded the Silver Star, a Purple Heart, the Military Valor Cross from the Italian Government and the Croce Al Valor Militaire from the Humbert of Savoy, Prince of Piedmont. We hope that our future generation

will grow up to serve their country with the honor and humbleness of Mr. Kuwayama. Mr. Kuwayama who has lived in Washington D.C. for nearly 30 years with his wife Fumi has remained in contact with Senator Inouye over the years. He said he last saw him about four or five weeks ago.

Donations

Generous donations were received from Kazuo Tomasa and Wayne and Nancy Tsukayama. We thank them sincerely for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

Taps

Received word from son Rick Numamoto that his dad Dick Kazuo Numamoto passed away on October 18, 2012. He was 92 at the time of his passing. Dick was an original member of the Medical Detachment, 442nd RCT and was assigned to the Regimental Aid Station. An obituary of his passing could not be located; consequently, we have not been able to obtain information about survivors. His last known address is Newport Coast, California. Our Deepest Sympathy to the family of the late Dick Numamoto.



Our trip to the biannual Slow Food International Salone Del Gusto held in Turin in late October, 2012 gave us an excellent opportunity to visit Bruyères, France where my father, like others in the 100/442 RCT, engaged in a fierce battle to liberate a people under Nazi occupation and rescue the Texas lost battalion. Since my father, Herbert Isonaga, passed away in 2007, I yearned to know more about him as a young man, for it was this time with the VVV and later the 442 that became all important to him for the rest of his life.

The Bruyères memorial was scheduled for October so I contacted longtime family friends, Willard and Geralyn Holck for advice in planning our journey. Uncle Sandy Holck (Cannon Company, Willard's father) had worked to establish sister city status with Bruyères. I knew the Holcks would steer us in the right direction, and they did.

Willard and Geralyn connected us with Monsieur Christian DeVile from L'Association Chemin de la Paix et de la Liberté, Association of

the Peace and Freedom Trail. The Peace and Freedom Trail highlights 89 points of interest of the 442 actions in liberating Bruyères from the Nazis. Members of this group visited Hawai'i in October 2011, and they were shown a grand time thanks to the efforts of the Holcks, the Sons and Daughters, and others, including the 100/442 veterans.

When my partner, Bill Tam, (whose father, a U.S. Army Colonel who fought in Guadalcanal and Bougainville with the Americal Division during WWII), and I arranged our European trip to England, France, and Italy, we knew our time in the Vosges would be especially poignant.

Prior to leaving Hawai'i, I contacted Bill Thompson to get some background about the 442 in the Vosges, particularly HQ2. Bill gave me numerous materials to review, some which described day by day accounts of the 442, including maps. He answered questions and I learned a lot in that short meeting. He told me to be on the lookout for Gerome Villain, an historian whom we would later meet on the steps of the church in Bruyères. Bill recommended going to the American Cemetery in Epinal. We took his advice, and it turned out being an emotional highlight of our visit.

The train from Paris to Nancy and then Epinal was a pleasant and easy journey. Our hotel on the banks of the lovely Moselle River was but 5 minutes

from the train station. Epinal was a charming town. We wish we had more time there.

On the morning of the memorial service, Christian and Marie Claire DeVille, met us in the lobby of our hotel. “I will pick you up and take you wherever you want to go.” And they did. What happened that day was beyond anything we had imagined. We hoped to see the 442 Memorial in Bruyères and the American Cemetery in Epinal, and Geralyn told us about the magnificent views from the area surrounding the memorial in Biffontaine. Off we went. We thought we would be attending a memorial service and then walk around the town. We had no idea we would become central participants in a full day of ceremonies.

It was a glorious day— blue skies and temperatures in the 60’s and 70’s. We felt lucky to have such great weather, knowing how foul and bitterly cold it was in October 1944. Our first stop was a church service in Bruyères, a tribute to War Veterans. There were elderly French men (probably members of the French Resistance), standing tall as they marched into the church. On the church steps, we met dignitaries from nearby towns. We took our seats, and strained to grasp the French words. As the service ended, the organist began to play notes that sounded hauntingly familiar. I looked at Bill with tears in my eyes. The organist was playing Hawai‘i Pono‘i. Josiane Hans (she and her husband Bernard were visitors with the group who came to Hawai‘i in 2011), looked at us, and started singing along with the music. We later learned that Madame Descheseaux, a retired school teacher, had been teaching her students Hawai‘i Pono‘i ever since the war. It was one of many chicken skin moments that day.

From the church, we headed to the Hilledraye Forest for the memorial ceremony at the site of the 442 monument. The tall trees looked just like the photos I had seen of the area. . . only this was real, not black and white. French dignitaries and a group of Frenchmen dressed in US army fatigues stood at attention. It would be the first of 3 times that day in which we would hear our National Anthem played.

We stood at attention with our right hands over our hearts, feeling deep appreciation and aloha for the men of the 442. Then the band played the Marseille. The French officers saluted. I felt transported back to another time. The decades-long bond established by the 442 showed no signs of weakening. I was asked to accompany the Freedom Trail President, Jean Albert Haby and Andy Anderson (Superintendent of the American Cemetery at Epinal) to present the beautiful arrangement with a “Go For Broke” ribbon. The honor was given to me as the daughter of a 442 veteran from Hawai‘i.

Next, we visited Bruyères’ town center for a remembrance of the war dead. The tall monument with the names of those who gave their lives in the World War I, were engraved in the base of the monument. The fall colors framed the town square on a brisk and bright fall day. The French and American flags blew in the gentle breeze as the Marseille and the Star Spangled Banner played.

From there, we walked to City Hall for a reception. The showcase at the entrance to the building held proclamations from the Honolulu City Council and from Governor Lingle acknowledging the 442 RCT, and the sister city status between Honolulu and Bruyères. Mayor of Bruyères, Alain Blangy and Andy Anderson (the American Cemetery Superintendent and a former marine) addressed the crowded room. There were 2 sons of 442 vets, from California; George Umezawa and Ron Oshima. We got to chat there briefly. (The Umezawas were staying at the same hotel as Bill and me, so we had a very nice conversation with them later that evening.) The city presented us with special medallions from “Le Chemin de la Paix et de la Liberté,” and a beautiful poster of Epinal. We all drank a toast with French wine. The two sons and daughter of 442 veterans signed an American flag that flew over the town the day it was liberated. I signed Dad’s name, with “Go for Broke” and HQ2.

Christian and Marie Claire whisked us off to lunch hosted by the Freedom Trail group at a nearby restaurant where we had a wonderful meal and great French wine (of course). I sat next to the mayor and

his wife, wishing I had practiced my French before coming! They were gracious and charming throughout the afternoon and treated us with their aloha. After lunch, we were given yet another beautiful plaque in honor of dad's service in the 442.

By the time we reached the American Cemetery in Epinal, the sun was about to set in the crystal blue sky. Superintendent Anderson gave us a special tour and the honor of assisting him in taking down the American flag. "Don't screw up (he said), you've got 5,000 American soldiers watching you." We stood at attention, our right hands over our hearts as our National Anthem played. It was one of the most humbling, powerful, and heartfelt moments of my life. I looked out across the sea of white crosses and reflected on all those who gave their lives on foreign soil for our freedom. The more than 5,000 who died here, men who never made it home. We will forever be grateful. We asked to be shown the graves of the Hawai'i boys so that we could pay our respects and leave a lei in remembrance.



Photo courtesy: Josiane & Bernard Hans

There was one more stop: Biffontaine, the site of the rescue of the Lost Battalion. It was a beautiful drive in the countryside. Serene and peaceful in the early evening light. The opposite of what it had been like 68 years ago. When we arrived, the Freedom Trail members insisted I present the bouquet of flowers they brought for the monument, and I humbly did so.

Christian motioned for us to take a short walk up the hill and into woods. We saw foxholes carved into the earth – still evident after almost 70 years. It was chilling being there, knowing that so many died in that spot, so many young men, so far from home. So many tears flowed that day. George Umezawa told us that his nephew found shrapnel there the day before.

On the way back to town, Christian and Marie Claire insisted we stop at their home. Their home was lovely. Christian put on his cowboy hat (purchased in Jackson, Wyoming) and popped open a very good bottle of champagne. We felt so fortunate to have shared in this remembrance, a day that is still alive for the people of Bruyères. They have not forgotten the boys from the 442. Sipping champagne to celebrate their liberation was fitting. We were treated like celebrities that day – even rock stars – because my dad was a 442 veteran.

My generation could find no better role models, and no greater inspiration than they. We so appreciate all they did to shatter prejudices and to gain justice and equality, a better place for all. We strive to conduct ourselves in a way that would make you proud of us. We too will be tested. With the character of our fathers we too must find the same courage, the same honor, the same integrity.

If you have not done so already, visit Bruyères and experience what we did. You will never forget it.



by Ron Oba

Quo Vadis? 70
What goes around comes around
Anniversaries

Bonjourno, Omedetoo, Happy New Year and yes, Kung Hee Fat Choy!

Veterans Day

The Veterans Day event was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. Gene Castagnetti served as the MC. The Nisei units offered the wreaths. Ron Oba and Mrs. Janice (Yokoyama) Trubitt carried the 442/100 round foliage to the front and center display stands. Discovered that Mrs. Trubitt is the niece of the first recipient of the Medal of Honor, Sadao Munemori, who earned the award for throwing himself over a grenade to save his fellow comrades.

Daniel Akaka was the keynote speaker. The memorial ceremony was highlighted with the flyover helicopter with the 21-gun salute and Taps. I had the pleasure of greeting Senator Colleen Hanabusa, a close family friend of Michi's through the Ikenobo flower arrangement school. Alan Miyamura and Sita Seery piped "Going Home" and "Danny Boy."

Year-End Luncheon

In appreciation, the Board of Directors, incoming presidents, GFB bulletin reporters, and 5 docents of the Regt. HQ for Punchbowl were guests of the 442nd Veterans Club at the Natsunoya Teahouse on December 3rd, 2013.

The nominating committee selected the following officers for the year 2013: President, Bill Thompson; First VP, Frank Takao; 2nd VP, Ralph Chinaka; 3rd VP, Wade Wasano; Treasurer, Takashi "Bolo" Shirakata; Secretary, Esther Umeda.

Fox Chapter President, George Nakasato offered to relinquish the presidency to Ron Oba, who is

scheduled to step down from his position as the 442nd president to Bill Thompson.

Christmas Party

The venue was at the Tree Tops Restaurant. Christmas presents, gift bags for everyone and Bingo Games rounded out the festivities. As usual, the children enjoyed it the most.

In Memoriam

In 1941, Paul Yamashita was classified 1-A, draft eligible. Then when World War II started, he was relegated to 4-F, enemy alien. The Government virtually took his citizenship away without due process. However, in 1943, like 4,800 Japanese American soldiers from Hawaii and 1,500 from internment camps, he trained at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. During basic training, on maneuvers into the boondocks where Water Moccasins and Rattlesnakes were inhabitants, Paul was ordered to climb a tree to see where the enemy forces were. He climbed up high and grabbed a branch which was soft and clammy. He had gotten hold of a tree snake that frightened him to death and he nearly fell off the tree. He served well during the war fighting the enemy from Rome to Leghorn, Genoa, then to the invasion of Southern France, through Marseilles and into the Northeastern part of France, Bruyeres-Biffontaine, across from St. Die, Germany.

After a shrapnel hit his hand, the doctor at the aide station decided that the diminutive soldier should go to the rear echelon to do non-combat duties with Warren Iwanaga.

After the war, they both worked for the Veterans Administration Clinic at the prosthetic section with Shigeru Goto, Ed's father, where I went as a physical therapist to treat the veterans how to use their prostheses. Paul and Warren retired from the Veterans Affairs Administration. Paul was a member of Fox Chapter and attended the meetings with his wife, Clara, who helped type the year's events and songs that we sang at our parties. Paul was a good member and we will miss him dearly. The funeral at St. Patrick's church was a solemn affair with Fox members attending. Our condolences to his family the Shimogakis and friends.



by Ann Kabasawa

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

“G” Company will be getting together at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas on Tuesday-Thursday, April 16-17-18, 2013. OUR YEARLY GET TOGETHER CELEBRATION IS OPEN TO ALL!!!

This year we will definitely need your help in making the reunion a success by getting enough participants to fill the bus from Los Angeles and the hotel rooms. Please ask your family and friends if they would like to join us. The cost will be \$155 per person for double occupancy and \$175 for single. This includes the bus ride, bento and drinks on the bus, hotel room for two nights, meal tickets and tips. (This price is based on 50 people)

For those of you who are flying in, we have a few rooms at the Fremont at a discounted price of \$110 per person, double, or \$125 for single occupancy, which also includes the meal coupons.

For the bus ride only, the price is \$75. If you'd like to stay longer, we can get you on a Vacations Hawaii Charter, too.

We hope you will all join us at the banquet which will be on Tuesday evening, April 16th, on the second floor of the Fremont and the cost is \$45 per person. Also included in this is the Wednesday hospitality room, open all day to everyone for fellowship, “talk story” time, more refreshments and just having a good time. There will also be a slot tournament on Wednesday morning from 9:30 – 10:00am at Main Street prior to our get together at the Hospitality room. This check should be made out to Ann Kabasawa and sent to: 847 20th Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816; Phone: (808) 781-8540. Deadline date: March 1, 2013.

I will be handling the hotel and bus reservations so would appreciate an early Yes/No reply so we can make further plans. Please contact me ASAP by email or phone.

Am looking forward to seeing everyone in April!!!

Mary Karatsu

3749 Muirfield Road – Los Angeles, CA 90016
(323) 293-4676; mkaratsu@aol.com



by Yutaka Yoshida

Greetings, fellow H Company members! I'm sorry it's been so long since my last entry, and as you can see here, this one is pretty thin, too! I'd like to ask your help in getting more and better H Company news: My daughter Ann is helping me write these news reports—how about dropping her a line or two and letting her know what is going on in your life? Send any information about yourselves or other H

Company friends to Ann Yoshida, 1135 Pam Anne Dr., Glenview, IL 60025 or email her at amyoshida@aol.com. She would love to hear from you!

Heard from Pete Peterson recently that he is doing well but that his golf game is not. So glad that he is healthy and happy and it is always a pleasure to hear from him.

Alberta Yamada is keeping up her daunting schedule of travel, recently touring parts of Europe with her sister. She also regularly visits California, as three of her four children live there.

Dorothy Nakagawa continues to be a wonderful and loyal friend to all. I'm sticking a little closer to home these days, and she has sometimes

been my own personal Meals on Wheels, and it is always so great to spend time with my old friend.

Wishing you all a hale and hearty 2013!

Many thanks to Mildred Tahara for submitting the following news:

On November 11, 2012, H Co. enjoyed our last 2012 luncheon meeting at the Tree Top Restaurant. Fifteen members were present – Charles Okazaki, Harry & Yoshi Kiyabu, Ronald & Yukie Sakai, Robert & Yoshi Kishinami, June Oganeku, Ann Tamura, Doris Yoshimoto, Betty Nojima, Mildred Tahara, Velma Oshiro and her sisters, Jane Akahiji and Nancy Lyum. Tak Okuhara had a fall and couldn't make it that day. Hope you're feeling better – we missed you.

Charles Okazaki, after serving 20-some odd years as our H Co. President, has stepped down due to personal reasons. Robert Kishinami will be taking over for now – hoping to get help from our Sons and Daughters so H Co. can keep going. A big THANK YOU to Charlie for your leadership all these years. Don't forget to join us for our luncheons.

Reminding you of H Co. – the 442nd RCT 70th Anniversary celebration on March 22-24, 2013 will be here soon and we would like to see as much of our H Co. members, wives and family attend. There is no charge to the 70th Anniversary Banquet for the veterans and widows only. Please send in your reservations as soon as possible to the 442nd Club.

Happy New Year! May it also be a healthier year.



by Sat & Jane Shikasho

Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party was held in the Pineapple Room by Alan Wong at Macy's.

We enjoyed their fantastic menu selections such as Kiawe Grilled Kalbi Short Ribs with Kabayaki Sauce and each other.

Attending were Irene Nakamura, Tommy and Elaine Tamashiro; Frances Aoyama and daughter Karen Kikukawa; Sat and Jane Shikasho.

Although Harumi and Sam Furuya did the arrangements for the party, they were absent because Sam injured his hip a few days earlier and had an appointment for a pre-op examination. He was hospitalized for three days. Currently, he is being treated by physical therapist at home.

An Unexpected New Year's Visitor

Three days before New Year, Jane noticed a stray pigeon amongst the wild birds she was feeding in our back yard. We carefully watched the beautiful pigeon and concluded it wasn't a common roof-top variety, was undernourished and with a band tied to the leg. We expected it would fly away before sunset but the bird refused to leave even after some shooing. With nocturnal scrounging felines in this neighborhood, we couldn't allow the bird to become a victim so we hastily assembled a cage with food and water. Bird safely in the cage, Jane and I rested well that night (though I checked the bird about 3 AM).

I lifted the cage at sunrise and the bird calmly walked out. It spent the day eating, resting and preening itself to become the most elegant, beautiful pigeon we had ever seen. That convinced us to try locating the bird's owner.

The next day we called several animal care organizations and visited a pet shop but none could assist to identify the owner. We also made a "Lost Bird" sign to display it on our street.

On Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, the bird remained with us all day but about sunset, it flew away – destination unknown. We were relieved that the bird may have returned home.

About 8 AM New Year's morning, the pigeon reappeared at the patio screen door, looking at us. We fed it an extra portion to celebrate the New Year. Again it flew away when darkness approached.

The next day, Jan. 2, a serviceman came to do a once-a-year inspection. Before he left, I inquired if he knew any pigeon keepers in our neighborhood.

Surprisingly, he knew one just two blocks away. As soon as the bird returned, I called the keeper, who agreed to come to see the bird. Upon arrival he immediately identified it as a "Show" bird, therefore, not his because he keeps "homing" pigeons.

Since we do not want to keep any birds, we reluctantly let the homing pigeon owner have the show bird for he will provide a good home and professional care.

Goodbye stranger. Hope to see you at a pigeon show someday.



by Ed Yamasaki

Norwest by Louise Kashino-Takisaki

We are back to our webbed-feet days what with the history-making Pacific Northwest rain that we are enjoying this winter. We were spoiled because the Pacific Northwest had an unseasonably 84 days of sunshiny summer weather into October, so we forgot that we needed rain to keep our grass and trees green. But we cannot complain when reading about the terrible devastation that Hurricane Sandy caused in the New Jersey and New York areas. The pictures are like watching the tsunami in Fukushima all over again. Our sympathies to those who suffered such devastation.

We are mourning the loss of our dear Senator Daniel K. Inouye. He was such a wonderful representative for the 442nd veterans, as well as being such a well respected Senator representing Hawaii as well as the JA communities. Many Seattleites had a personal connection to Dan since he had many close E Company friends here and the rest of us got to know him as he stopped in Seattle during his business trips. He always made time to say hello and what an

inspiration he was, encouraging the younger generation to strive to preserve our legacy and to get interested in politics. Dan is our hero, someone we are so proud of, and someone who will never be forgotten for his great contributions to his country.

Although we are rapidly losing our 442nd veterans, there are some who are still going strong and making us proud. Kim Muromoto, for one, is still full of energy and always attends our functions on special events and Veterans Day. Another one is Tosh Yasutake, who tells us that he and Fumi just moved to a retirement complex and says that Fumi is so happy she doesn't have to cook. Tosh is still looking healthy and seems to be enjoying life. Saw George Murakami's brother-in-law the other day, and he tells me that George is in a nursing home because he was stricken by pneumonia some time ago; he is better now but his wife doesn't want him to come home until they are sure he is completely recovered.

Recently, Shane Sato, a photographer from Los Angeles, was up to take pictures of our veterans in Army uniforms. Luckily, our two museum docents had clothes that could be used to portray our boys, and we are anxiously awaiting the results. Debbie lined up 18 of our veterans to be models, and I think the boys enjoyed "playing soldier" again. One month before, Shane was here and successfully photographed about a dozen of our boys; however,

his car was broken into the next day and he lost all his equipment plus the negatives of his pictures. Within that interim of one month before he came back to retake the pictures, one of the boys suffered a stroke and is now a patient at Keiro. So that's the way it goes with our generation!

Well, here's to a Happy 2013 to all of you: hope to see you at the 70th Anniversary Reunion in Honolulu, in March.

Norcal by Frank Shimada

It's been a year since Masato "Mauch" Yamashita suddenly passed away; and following Buddhist custom, relatives and friends gathered at the Lodi Buddhist Church on December 29th, 2012, for his one-year memorial service. While still overseas, he had written two letters to his mother, in Japanese, which were translated into English and read as part of the service. One was sent to Mrs. Yamashita when she was still an internee of Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas. The second reached her in Lodi, California, where she had "returned home." The reading of these letters had a profound effect on all in attendance.

Lloyd Fujitani, who reached the ripe old age of 95 on New Year's Day, and his sister Myrtle are now residents of the Vienna Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Lodi. Myrtle broke her hip in a home accident; and Lloyd's legs became unstable, causing him to easily lose his balance and fall.

Shig and Yoshiko Doi with daughter Janet, and Frank Shimada together with Tets and Jeanie Matsumoto, Lodi residents, visited Lloyd and Myrtle following conclusion of the memorial service. Matsumoto, an Anti-Tanker, is a close friend of both Yamashita and Fujitani. Both, though wheelchair-bound, were in good spirits. If Lloyd were sitting in a regular chair, one would have the impression he is in super-good health. Both expressed the desire for complete rehabilitation soon so that they could go home.

Meanwhile, should any who served with Fujitani wish to send words of encouragement, the address is 800 South Ham Lane, Lodi, CA 95242.

Socal by Marian Yamashita

Happy New Year to everyone from So Cal where we have had cold and rainy weather for over a month with very little sunshine. Hope that everyone had a good 2012 and are looking forward to another year of good health and success. Item Chapter members here in Southern California has dwindled to just a few; but with friends from other chapters plus children and guests of our own members, we had a wonderful holiday party held jointly with members and guests of JA Living Legacy and 442nd Companies including M, L, H and Cannon. The 2012 Holiday Happening event with more than 60 in attendance was held December 2nd at the Miyako Inn Hotel in Little Tokyo, LA. Thanks to Susan and Ray Uyemura of JA Living Legacy, we had a very happy and merry time with their creation of "White Elephant" gift exchange and other fun games. Among our special guests were Cameron and Keri Kubota, who had attended a local university and may make the "mainland" their home. They are grandchildren of Amy and Sadaichi Kubota of Hilo.

Tomiko [Eddie] Yamaguchi with her son Stephen visited us lately. Steve, after graduating college, went to Japan to spend some "fun times" in Osaka. After marrying Toshimi, he has settled down in Thousand Oaks, CA where he is employed by Yorktel, a video development company of global Amgen Corporation. Tomiko's younger son, Glen, has been working for Budweiser Brewery for over 20 years.



Photo: Bryan Yagi

Note from Eddie:

Though belated, we're pleased to have a photo of Jim Yamashita, the only I Company veteran present at Los Angeles' June Congressional Gold Medal celebration.

Honolulu by Eddie Yamasaki

Ohana Luncheon

Too much *kaūkau*; lots of fun games (requiring no physical effort, only the harder mental), lots of prizes, and rich camaraderie were featured in our annual chapter *ohana* luncheon held at Tsukiji Restaurant in October.

Attendance was at 42, down from last year's 52. The event was headed by Terry/Elsie Aratani. Terry, carrying on for years as "communications director," had sent out the invitations and again checked in the partiers.

Among the "class" leaders were Masa/Helen Nakamura with Mae, Brian and Chris Nakagawa; Ayako [Mutt] Sakumoto of Waipahu with Gary, Glenn, Kimiyo and Linda Nakashima; Liz Nishioka with Diana, Ted Ogata and Pamela Phillips; and Peter/Tetsu Kobashigawa with Cora Saladurus.

Harry Umetsu came again with David/Elsie Shimokawa, Nickie Oshiro with Carolyn Yoshida, Ellen Yamada with Peggy McCague, Carol Sullivan with Mike, Bessie Watanabe with Donald Matsumoto, and Nancy Taba with Stuart.

Faithfully from Aiea was Dane Sakaida; and from hinterland Wahiawa, Futao Terashima and Betsy Yamamoto. Eddie Yamasaki invited guests: bagpiper Alan Miyamura, archivist Claire Mitani, former 442 secretary Gail Onuma, Douglas Goto (Pacific Guardian Life CEO and strong supporter of 100th/442nd vets) and *Journey of Heroes* creators, Stacey Hayashi and Damon Wong.

Special recognition was given to widows, Ellen, Nancy, Liz, Betsy, Ayako, and Nickie.

Alan played "Amazing Grace," and "Danny Boy" on his bagpipes, following the reading of names of chapter veterans lost this past year.

The ensuing games of figuring out acronyms and popular sayings produced lots of laughs, and smiles too, with cash prizes of Hawaii volcano quarters; one-dollar coins, honoring Haudenosaunee, the American Indian Great Law of Peace; and Jefferson \$2.00 greenbacks—all in mint condition.

Carol Sullivan added to the variety of prizes with gift cards from Big City Diner, Gyotaku, and Watanabe Florist.

Following tradition, a pot of Ben Kodama's flowering dendrobium orchid plant was given out as a party favor to ten lucky ohana members just for being present.

Come one, come all to Year of the Snake's Item Ohana dinner on "Chapter Night," Saturday, March 23, during 442nd's 70th Anniversary Celebration.

And Then There Were Eight

We continue to receive not only compliments on this book of war-time memoirs by over 100 men of I Company, supplemented by contributions from forward observers of 522nd Field Artillery Battalion and survivors of the 141st Infantry Regiment "Lost Battalion."

Dedicated to the 48 Item men killed in combat, the 450-plus page volume also has a brief review of historical developments up to "Pearl Harbor" and the formation of the Regimental Combat Team, along with many pages of photos, from those of the entire I Company unit at iconic Camp Shelby to the period of post-war 442nd reunions.

Due to continued inquiries on/requests for copies of this "treasure," first published in 2003 for 442nd's 60th anniversary celebration, consideration is being given for another printing, perhaps in time for the March 2013 anniversary.

To think that out of the original 2003 book project team of nine, only three are still around: Harold Watase, Nickie Oshiro and Eddie Yamasaki. We are missing Clarence Taba, Henry "Bruno" Yamada, Togo Nakagawa, Walter "Joe" Okumoto, Shusuke Fujitake, and Sadaichi Kubota.

The "Movers"

Nickie Oshiro has moved to 15 Craigsides Condominium, pulling up stakes after 50-plus years of living with Richard in their own Aiea home. She says daughter Elyse and granddaughter Rachelle are pleased with the change of address to Craigsides at 2101 Nuuanu Ave., Honolulu, HI 96817.

In January, Eddie will accept his daughter's invitation to live with her family: c/o Mariko Yukawa, 8-14 Omiya-machi, Nagasaki City 852-8506, Japan; telephone: 095-894-9874; email mariko.yukawa@gmail.com. He expects to be back for 442nd 70th events.

Meanwhile, you can say, "Eddie wen go." Item Chapter's monthly meetings—recently over brunch at Zippy's Kahala—will be, as Terry puts it, "on semi-inactive status."

442nd's 70th

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the formation of our combat team on March 23, 1943, the Sons and Daughters have announced several events sited at the War Museum, Fort De Russy.

Chapter night on Saturday, March 23, 5:00-9:00 p.m., will be a "special" at the Kaha-nui Building, Iolani Palace, from *kaukau* to entertainment.

Terry has sent initial notices on this event to our Hawaii regulars, with follow-up with local and mainland Item ohana to be made in due course. 70th is indeed SPECIAL; let's all celebrate. 'Be seeing you!

Sad News

Frank Norito Tomita of San Jose, CA

April 4, 1923 - February 3, 2012

Frank, an internee of Jerome Relocation Center, AR, was inducted into the Army on August 7, 1944 at Ft. Sheridan, IL.

He was initially sent to I Company, Camp Shelby, but was transferred to Camp Snelling, MN for military intelligence training. After graduating in December, 1945, he was stationed at Snelling.

He founded Mobile Communication Service and retired in 2007.

Frank, an avid fisherman, was preceded in death by his wife Grace of 48 years; he had met and wed her at Jerome. He is survived by four children: Cheryl (Bruce) Park, Cindy (Paul) Kageyama, Craig (Sandy) Tomita, and Lee (Joyce) Tomita; and fourteen grandchildren.

Ronald "Buster" Seiichi Minami of Wauwatosa, WI

January 28, 1919 - July 12, 2012

Buster, in his contribution to *And Then There Were Eight*, writes that in January 1942, he volunteered for the Air Corps in San Pedro, CA. However, after written and physical tests, he was sent to Camp Barkley Medical Training Center, TX.

The formation of the 442nd RCT offered an opportunity to serve in the infantry, so he volunteered and became a cadre, non-commissioned officer helping to train the recruits arriving in Camp Shelby in April 1943.

He expresses respect and admiration for all the officers, cadre, and volunteers in I Company, reminiscing on the camaraderie enjoyed.

As the unit was shipped to France to enter the Vosges campaign, Buster was diagnosed as having untreated "acute infectious jaundice" and was shipped home. Discharged as a first sergeant, he earned a Bronze Star for Valor in action.

Buster leaves behind Ruth, his wife of 61 years; children, Terry and Robert Minami, Claire Yukushi and Quentin Ikezoe; nieces and nephews.

Yukio Takeuchi of Seattle

June 7, 1923 - September 11, 2012

Yukio, having resided in Mukilteo, Puyallup, Seattle and Mercer Island over the years, died peacefully at Seattle Keiro.

He is survived by brother Robert S. Takeuchi, four nephews, eight grandnieces and grandnephews, and a great-grandniece and a great-grandnephew.

He graduated from Puyallup High School in 1942. After his service with 442nd, he worked for 33 years at the Boeing Company as a member of the Machinist Union. He served as a volunteer at Seattle Keiro Nursing Home and became a life member of the Nisei Veterans Committee and Nisei Bowling Association.

Mitsuru Yagura of Fresno, CA

Born 1919; died September 23, 2012

Mitsuru served in Item Company, seeing combat and earning a Purple Heart. He is survived

by children, Ellen Morimoto and Don Yagura, four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

George Takeo Okamoto of Honolulu

Died October 7, 2012 at age 92

George, an Olaa, Hawaii native, is a recipient of the Purple Heart. A retired State Department of Accounting and General Services civil engineer, he died in Nuuanu Hale. Burial was at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

George is survived by son Michael G., daughter Barbara L. Okamoto-Subject, brother Hisao and two grandchildren.

Donald Akio Kameda of Honolulu

November 15, 1920 - January 6, 2013

Aki's wife, Barbara, says that he died of prostate cancer after suffering quite a bit of pain. How long were they married? "69 years." Except for the past two years, during which Aki's dementia developed, they enjoyed a blissful life, with lots of travel.

Aki joined I Company as a replacement from Fort Hood, TX. Fred, a brother younger by three years, was our company's first casualty, killed on June 26, 1944, day of 442nd's baptism under fire.

During our post-war years, Aki was an active chapter member. He played catcher for Item's team, continuing the tradition of Waialua Kanedas in baseball: all eight Kameda brothers were avid, active and fine players.

With Donald's passing, the eight siblings are gone. Robert, a third brother, was in the Military Intelligence Service. Shigeo, a fourth, was drafted into the Japanese Imperial Navy prior to "Pearl Harbor" as a submariner.

Barbara, who has a caregiver, suffers from that painful ailment, sciatica. Unless the pain in her back or legs is extreme, she avoids medication. Aki and Barbara have two daughters: Diane (Mark) Sasaki and Patricia (Russell) Yamamoto, who have two and three children respectively. Barbara says grandchildren are so adorable. She added that 442nd

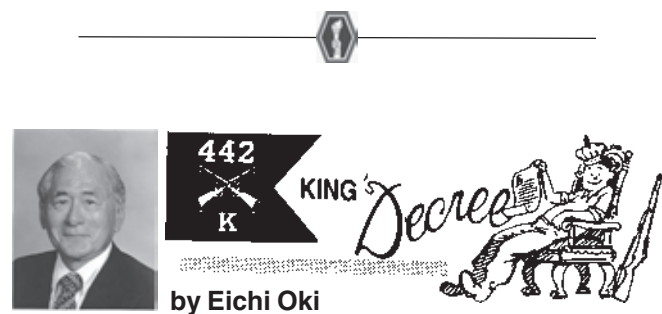
was Aki's second family, as he continually said, "Go for Broke," up to his dying days.

To the families and friends of Frank, Ronald, Yukio, Mitsuru, George, and Donald, the Item Ohana extends *Aloha Pumehana*.

Daniel K. Inouye, 1st Lt., E Co., 442nd RCT of Honolulu

September 7, 1924 - December 17, 2013

Dan will live in our collective memory as a comrade-in-arms and a warm, thoughtful friend. To Irene Hirano and Dan, Jr., we extend our heartfelt condolences.



Farewell to Our Revered Senator and Comrade

The articles appearing in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser have been primarily relied on for the account below.

Our revered senator and comrade, Daniel Ken Inouye, died on Monday, Dec. 17, 2012, at age 88, at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. His wife, Irene Hirano Inouye, and his son, Daniel Ken Inouye, Jr., were with him when he passed away.

Senator Inouye's service to our country will probably never be surpassed or matched. He volunteered for military service in March 1943 and was assigned to the segregated unit that became the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, consisting mostly of Japanese Americans and predominantly of Caucasian officers. He received a commission as an officer in Nov. 1944, the youngest in the regiment.

While leading his platoon to wipe out the enemy's machine gun emplacement near San Terenzo, Italy, in April 1945, he lost his right arm, for which action he was awarded the Medal of Honor. Politically, his service to our country began after Hawaii became a State in 1959. He was the first Japanese American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1959 and to the U.S. Senate in 1962. He served as a senator from 1962 to his untimely death in Dec. 2012 and was the second-longest-serving U.S. senator after the late Senator Robert Byrd.

The four memorial services held for Senator Inouye following his death, two in Washington and two in Hawaii, were monumental and memorable. He was given a rare honor by both chambers of Congress (bestowed previously to only 31 Americans) to have his body lie in state in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol on Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012. Colleagues and friends lined the Capitol rotunda five deep to say farewell and pay tribute to "a noble soul – one of the finest men I've ever met," as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said in opening remarks. President Obama had earlier said, "... our country has lost a true American hero."

At the final service held at the majestic National Cathedral in Washington the next day, President Obama stated that "We remember a man who inspired all of us with his courage, and moved us with his compassion, that inspired us with his integrity, and who taught so many of us ... that America has a place for everyone." Vice President Joe Biden, a longtime friend, remembered thinking of Inouye, "I wish I could be more like that man. He's a better man than I am." He had said earlier that the Senator "was in every way the quintessential American." Former President Bill Clinton said of Senator Inouye, "One of the most remarkable Americans I have ever known."

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid told the service that Senator Inouye continued to work, even minutes before his death, saying farewell to those gathered around him and writing notes detailing his

last wishes. He was asked how he would like to be remembered and he replied, "I represented the people of Hawaii and this nation honestly and to the best of my ability. I think I did OK." His last word of farewell was "aloha."

At the memorial service in the State Capitol in Hawaii on Saturday, Dec. 22, Governor Neil Abercrombie said of Senator Inouye, "Well done, O good and faithful servant. Rest easy now. You are home with us in paradise." Then on Sunday, Dec. 23, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Adm. Samuel Locklear, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Forces, said of Senator Inouye, "We have lost an irreplaceable American, a model of service to country and his values he so treasured."

Senator Inouye's death marked the end of an era in many ways, one of which was that he was the last elected public servant actively in office who had served his country as a soldier during World War II. The irony of the respect and adulation bestowed upon him at his memorial services is that he had been declared an enemy alien in 1941. Senator Inouye will now serve as a shining example to all Americans and to those who believe in what America means and stands for. We extend to you, our good and great senator and comrade, our fondest mahalo and aloha.

Apologies and Best Wishes for the New Year

I will report on the King Chapter's 2012 Christmas gathering in the next issue of the bulletin. I apologize for all of my failings as reporter and will try to find a better solution for the continuance of the Chapter reports.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend greetings of the season and best wishes for the new year to all of the King Chapter members and their families.



by Genro & Muriel Kashiwa

At the annual Christmas Dinner and the monthly “L” Chapter meeting held at the Tree Tops Restaurant in Manoa Valley on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 the following were present: Joe Oshiro, Flora Watanabe (widow of Jiro Watanabe), Hideo Higa, Isao Takiyama, Stanley Matsuura, Mabel Kawamura (widow of Wally Kawamura), Mrs. Joe Oshiro Mrs. Tom Mizuno, Genro Kashiwa and Muriel Kashiwa where all enjoyed a sumptuous buffet lunch after a short meeting. We were pleasantly surprised to meet Mrs. Elaine Usui (daughter of Yoshito Tome – 4th Platoon sitting on the next table with another group.

Incidentally, in corresponding with Mrs. Elaine Tani Usui who wanted to know more about her father (Mamoru Tani), she mailed me some photos of her father (Mamoru Tani) taken together with a Co. “L” veteran of the same platoon. That veteran turned out to be Yoshito Tome. So I informed Elaine that her father was in the 4th platoon and not the third platoon as she surmised.

At the Tree Tops Restaurant, as is the usual practice, we sang our Company “L” song; all activities at the Tree Tops Restaurant stopped while the other guests at the restaurant listened to our rendition of the song, which included the chorus “Hi Lai Lai.” For those reading this column, who do not know the origin of the chorus, be informed that the chorus was picked up from the Africa Korp German prisoners who was imprisoned in Enterprise, Alabama. Company “L” was sent to Enterprise, Alabama to guard these prisoners who worked there harvesting peanuts. There, us guys from Hawaii learned how peanuts were grown and harvested. Being extra friendly and naïve, we used to give our rifles to the German prisoners to teach us their manual of arms. Recently a resident of Enterprise, Alabama sent us a

letter reminding us of that time we were in Enterprise, Alabama.

I recently made claim for disability to the Veterans Administration based on PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disability). My disability being that I am unable to forget my participation in the battle of Mount Folgorito which happened at 7:30 a.m. on the small mound next to Mt. Folgorito on April 5, 1945 (67 years after the event). After 67 years, I remember the details of that battle as though it happened last year. I can very easily forget what I had for dinner 3 nights ago, but the details of that battle keep on popping up almost every day. I guess that is what they mean by PTSD. I remember that the third platoon sergeant, leading his platoon in that battle, was hit while leading the attack of his platoon. I was watching his advance from the other side of the shallow gulley when he got hit and he fell forward after being hit.—“PTSD.”

I am urging all veterans to come forth and tell or write about such events which they are unable to forget, because upon the death of the veteran, the details of such events shall be forever lost. If the veteran is unable to write, then keep the details of the event on tape and have someone transcribe the tape. For example, in my situation, I cannot forget the details of the time when we were chasing the retreating enemy after the rescue of the “Lost Battalion”; and being in the forest of Vosges, we were having a fire fight with the Enemy about 25 yards ahead of us, when a jeep driven by Paul K. Matsumoto came to a stop about 20 yards behind our line. Paul had driven his jeep with his trailer containing hot food. He insisted that the men eat the hot food he brought because he was ordered by the “higher-ups” to feed the soldiers on the front line with hot food. I told Paul Matsumoto that the men are unable to eat hot food because they were in the midst of a fire fight with the enemy about 30 yards ahead of them. Paul Matsumoto will not listen and he insisted that the men eat the hot food. So I had no alternative, but to call the men to come back to where the jeep was to eat the hot food. They were told to come back two at a time, eat the hot food and then

to go back to the line to continue the firing at the enemy. This is what the Army calls “SNAFU” (situation normal all fouled up). All other outfits would have their men eat “K” rations (rations in a box wrapped up with flammable wax) which the men would burn to heat up their canteen full of water and drop in the package of soup mix or tea bag. But in 442nd RCT, we had to eat hot food while having a shooting fire fight with the enemy.

Company L Gathering by Wendy Hanamura (daughter of Howe Hanamura, Company L, First Platoon)

On New Year’s Eve 2012, my 17-year-old son, Kenny Okagaki, and I flew to Honolulu for a little R&R and to see the life-long friends of my father, Howie Hanamura. I called Muriel Kashiwa and she and Genny Matsumoto promised to gather some 442nd friends on Wednesday to join us for lunch at a restaurant. In the end, Genny nixed the restaurant and invited everyone back to her home for New Year’s *osechi ryori*, knowing that there is nowhere as comfortable and warm as a home. Muriel is the youngster of the group and at 80 she still drives a van so she picked up all the guests—Mabel Kawamura (Wally’s wife,) Isao Takiyama (90), Hideo Nakayama (90), Hideo Higa (91) and of course, her husband Genro Kashiwa (89).

The 442nd group was already there when we arrived—with everyone looking remarkably well. Genny served each of us a sake cup of *otoso*, the New Year’s sake, from a lovely lacquered set. We toasted in the New Year. Thanks to the warm hospitality of Genny’s daughter, Joni, we feasted on *ozone*, *barazushi*, *sekihan*, *kimipira gobo*, *nishime*, ham, turkey and all the traditional New Year’s foods. As Genny urged us to fill our plates, she remembered that at every Company L gathering my father would make *kimipira gobo*. On the walls, there were many photos of PK and his huge, loving family. Also on the wall of PK & Genny’s living room was a seascape that my father painted 40 years ago and gave to them. It looked lovely hanging there in

their light-filled Hawaiian home, and it reminded me that my father and PK were with us too.

Except for Muriel and Genro, each of the guests had lost his or her spouse by now. My father, PK and Lawrence Fujii passed peacefully within a week of each other last August. The ladies told me that when their wives got sick, Hideo Nakayama and Isao Takiyama each cared faithfully for their wives for many years. Mr. Takiyama is so independent, cooking and cleaning for himself, playing golf twice weekly, and going to Las Vegas once or twice a year. When I remarked on that, he said—“that’s nothing, Wendy! Most Hawaiians, we go 3-4 times a year to Vegas.”

Over lunch, around Genny’s dining room table, we “talked story.” They told me stories I had never heard. For instance, after basic training at Camp Shelby, a good portion of the 442nd was waiting to be shipped out to Europe. So for three months they were assigned to guard the German POWs in Alabama. These were sharp captives from the Africa Corps, young and well trained, who had been sent to the Alabama peanut farms to harvest the crops. Mr. Nakayama recalled they would line up and click their heels in sharp formation, crack German soldiers. Comparatively, Mr. Takiyama laughed, the 442nd seemed like a ragtag unit of misfits. Mr. Takiyama recalled he would be guarding the peanut pickers in the hot Alabama sun, standing with his gun as a prop, and he would fall asleep! The Germans would continue down the rows picking, and when an officer would come by, the others would wake him up and he had to scamper 50 feet down the field to catch up with the POWs. I asked him if any ever escaped, but he said they didn’t want to. “Where would we go?” they told him. The Germans were well fed, well cared for, and much safer in the POW camp than on the front in 1943.

Mr. Nakayama was a cook and he told us how he and one other fellow in the kitchen would take the extra provisions and barter them for cash. Coffee and soap were hot sellers. But they weren’t greedy. He would put the cash in a kitty and all the kitchen help would take what they needed. He never swapped the men’s rations, he said, only the surplus



l-r: Isa Takiyama, Hideo Nakayama, Hideo Higa, Genro Kashiwa

food. And Genro lauded them for knowing how to feed their boys. In Italy, the first thing they'd do was swap potatoes for rice—because the 442nd always needed their rice!

My father always told me the story of George Gushiken, the cook who was sent to the infantry with no training. For just a few days he became my father's ammunition bearer. One night he caught a chicken and made them all chicken hekka. For the first time I learned what Chicken Hekka really is. It's Hawaiian sukiyaki! They would simmer chickens (caught from French farms) in bouillon instead of shoyu. At one point, Mr. Nakayama told us, the cooks had pilfered so many chickens that the officers had to order them to stop.

Mabel told me that she and her family were interned, along with almost one hundred Hawaiians, in Jerome, Arkansas. Her father sometimes worked for the Japanese consulate and like the Buddhist priests and community leaders, he was put behind barbed wire. Since he was a U.S. citizen, they gave the family a choice to be together on the mainland. I never knew that Hawaiians were sent to mainland camps. Mabel recalls that Toshio Nakahara would often come visit camp while in basic training at Camp Shelby.

Another story I had never heard was about the 442nd song. It was originally written by two Company L guys, Martin Iida and another fellow, at Camp

Shelby. They both played guitar and sang, and they wrote the anthem that eventually became the song for the entire regimental combat team. Here's the part I didn't know: the chorus, "Lai, Lai, Lai, lai, lai, lai...Lai, Lai, Lai, lai, lai, lai," that was taken from the Africa Corps POWs they guarded. Marching back from the peanut fields, the POWs would sing that as they marched in perfect step. So the Company L song is based on a tune sung by Germans!

We shared many stories—the Company L friends remembering the days of war as if they were yesterday. My father would have loved it so much. In the hospital he told me how much he would like to see these guys one more time. "But your father is here," Genny told me. And PK and Wally and Lawrence and all the others, too.

I am sending you all a big hug and my deepest thanks for sharing these memories with me and my son, Kenny. We will treasure them always.



*Front: Denise Lau, Genny (Paul) Matsumoto, Mabel (Wally) Kawamura, Wendy Hanamura
Back: Kenny Okagaki (Wendy's son), Isa Takiyama, Hideo Nakayama, Hideo Higa, Genro Kashiwa*



Like the proverbial bad penny, here I turn up again but for only a one-shot deal. A couple of things have been happening. First and foremost, I am no longer the President of M Company. Your new President is Alice Murashige, the widow of Chandoo Murashige, a machine gunner in the second platoon who served leader Ralph Tomei. We have to thank Betty Tomikoshi for bringing Alice to our last Christmas Party at the Pagoda Hotel in 2011. Alice is Betty's sister-in-law, the sister of Edward Timo Tomikoshi. I told Ralph Tomei that I had to resign as President of M Company as I was the caregiver for my terminally ill wife and I just did not have the time. Ralph right away said, "that new girl that came to our Xmas party seems like a go-getter so I will ask her!" When Ralph asked her, she graciously accepted until such time as I could get back.

My wife passed away on April 13, 2012, and we had a strictly private funeral with only immediate family members present. I miss her so much. By that time, Alice was doing such a good job that we decided to let her keep on doing the job. She continues to do things that I never did as president. The latest being that we have our M Company meetings at the Ala Moana Food Court. Alice says the parking is easier and the wives can all attend the meeting if they want to. So all you wives and widows, come join us at the food court. Our next M Company meeting will be on the second Monday in April – April 8th at 0930 AM. We will be happy to see you there.

The annual 442nd Xmas luncheon, Alice did not want to go, so she submitted my name and that of Frank Nomura to be M Company representatives. So we went to the luncheon at the Natsunoya

Teahouse on Monday, December 3rd, 2012. We enjoyed ourselves meeting old friends and Frank even met his old schoolmate from technical school days, Joe Oshiro. The officers for 2012 were installed. They are:

President: William Thompson
 1st Vice President: Frank Takao
 2nd Vice President: Ralph Chinaka
 3rd Vice President: Wade Wasano
 Secretary: Esther Umeda
 Treasurer: Takashi Shirakata

In Memoriam

In the past year, we lost Edwin Matsuzaki, who had been ill for a while and were totally surprised by the passing of Dick Uyemura who looked so strong and healthy all the time. Dick is buried one niche to the left and top of my wife at Punchbowl.

Our New President

You know, every time we have our M Company meeting, Alice Murashige always brings stuff like jars of tsukemono and other goodies for us men folk and I noticed that in the 442nd Board of Directors meeting for November, Alice brought manapua for all the Board members. What a gal! How can I ever replace her? NO WAY! Nuff said.

A healthy and happy New Year to you all!

Chapter Reporters:

Deadline
 for the next GFB issue
 is
 April 5, 2013



by Ted & Fuku Tsukiyama

522-B Xmas Party

There we all were in our happy red holiday finery and equally happy faces to meet and greet our dear old 522 friends at Treetops at noon on December 5th, 2012. So good to see Sue Hamamoto, Mildred Hara and her friend Hilda Thomas, Nancy and Boyan Higa, Kay Kagawa and son, Hilda and Stan Kaneshiro, Laura Miho, Kise Miyamoto, Irene Naka, Biggy Nakakura assisted by his pretty daughter, Kay Nakamine, Charles Nakamura, Sr. and Jr., Bea Nishizawa and daughter Gwen and husband Clayton Fujie, Joe and Peggy Obayashi, Florence and Toshio Ohara, Chiyoko Shimazu, Dan Tada, Rocky Tanna, Harold and Jane Ueoka, the Urada family Henry and Grace and hard-working photographer son Wayne, Flint Yonashiro, and delightful guest Phyllis Hironaka, daughter of the late Sam and Martha. (and us)

Unfortunately, Jane Ueoka and I were for some unspecified reasons unable to gather together our faithful musicians together this season for which we hope you singers and music makers will forgive us. Perhaps next year? At any rate, Merry Christmas Past, and many Happy New Years' days of the Year of the Snake.

Taps

Not only the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion but the entire 442nd family suffered the loss of a great friend and supporter with the passing of Manabi Hirasaki this past July 26, 2012. Manabi was a member of "C" Battery of the 522nd FAB serving throughout the War as a Wireman under Raymond Kunitura's Wire Section. He participated in all the firing missions of the 522nd in the Italian, French and German campaigns including the Lost Battalion rescue and liberation of the Holocaust victims. C Battery men like Ed Ichiyama remember Manabi as a warm, friendly and generous guy and one of the mainland kotonks who got along with and was accepted and well-liked by the buddhaheads from Hawaii right from the start. Manabi maintained a lifelong affiliation and loyalty to the 522nd both on the mainland and in



Hawaii as well as continuous supportive effort to maintain and preserve the record and legacy of the 442nd.

After war's end he resumed his family's strawberry farming business in California, became associated with the prestigious Driscoll Strawberry Association to build up a lucrative strawberry farming business earning a name and reputation of being "the Strawberry King" in California. Hawaii's 442nd community will well remember past 442nd annual banquets where every table was treated with mounds of huge, juicy strawberries which were donated by Manabi Hirasaki.

Manabi and his wife Sumi will be long remembered for their warm, philanthropic generosity and support of community events and organizations like the Go For Broke National Education enter and the Japanese National Museum in Los Angeles. In 1999 the Hirasaki's generous donations made possible the dedication of the Manabi and Sumi Hirasaki Resource and Learning Center committed to preserve and tell future generations of the story and history of the Japanese Americans in America. Bill Hughes, a friend and fellow JANM Trustee described Manabi Hirasaki as "the epitome of America's Greatest Generation."

522-B Golf

The 522-B Golf Club, the last surviving 422nd RCT golfing group, sank their last putts on the 18th hole of Olomana Golf Course at the end of 2012. Over these last past years, the slow, pernicious ravage of deaths, age, infirmities and physical disabilities decimated its once eager, energetic ranks until lately it became a triumphant achievement to find hardly two foursomes show up on the first tee. So at its year-end "bonenkai" chop suey lunch, not more than eight stalwart survivors faced and swallowed the bitter truth that the end of their golfing days was in sight so they resolutely voted to disband. We recognize and thank Rocky Tanna and Boyan Higa for keeping 522B golf going this long. So this will regretfully report that the last sanctioned golfing activity of the 442nd Veterans Club has come to an end.

Most of the golfing scores of the 2012 season had not been reported due to the no-shows and infirmities of its golfing reporter, but these will not be reported in the usual detail here. Instead, the golfing prowess and achievements of this sturdy band of golfing survivors will be summarized by posting the number of times each of them placed first, second and third, omitting their "close to par three" record. A summary of their winning records are:

Flint Yonashiro – 4 first, 2 second and 1 third places
Boyan Higa – 2 first, 3 second and 2 third places
Roy Fujii – 2 first, 2 second and 1 third places
Richard Furuta – 1 first, 2 second and 3 third places
Harold Ueoka – 1 first, 2 second and 1 third places
Mits Kunihiro – 1 first, 0 second and 3 third places
Rocky Tanna – 1 first, 0 second and 2 third places
(with only 3 scores before disabled)

So aloha 522-B Golf Club!



*Rocky Tanna at the Oahu AJA Baseball League open season game
Photo: Wayne Iha*



Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu! Happy New Year! Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

We had our monthly club meeting today, and I was reminded that I am derelict in sending in the January News Letter. Then this evening, I received an email from Claire that I have until tomorrow at 4 p.m. to get it in! Pressure! My problem is remembering dates, like doctor's appointments, lunch meetings, deadlines, etc. I know you don't have that problem? Yeah, right! The other problem is that I don't remember details of happenings, and names. Other than that, I have perfect memory. ☺

Starting from today's meeting, before I forget: President Bolo Shirakata (Band) presided, and was re-elected unanimously, except for one dissenting vote, his. The other officers were re-elected also – Yvonne Yamasaki, Secretary, and Marge Ijima, Treasurer. Reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with, since it was from 3 months ago. You should attend a meeting if you can. It's hilarious. Along the way, we digressed into discussing hearing aids. Charlie Ijima is the only one that doesn't wear it. Bolo, Doc Kawamoto, Mits Honda, and Charlie + myself (guest member) were the only men; the rest were women, Mary, Millie, Margie (Doc, Mits, & Charlie's better halves) + Janet Matsumoto (Hichi's wife). Bolo reported on the Club's January Board meeting, with lots of kibitzing and wisecracks keeping the meeting lively. Major topic in addition to hearing aids was the 70th Anniversary of the 442nd in March. It will be a major event; all surviving vets and widows will enjoy free access to all events, and a large mainland contingent is expected. No count for 232nd yet. SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION!

After the meeting was over, Charlie bought lunch for the gang to celebrate his 88th birthday. He's the youngest and spryest of the active group. I had a "Saimin Safari" to go to, so had to miss Charlie's party. It's a family project to find the perfect saimin in Honolulu. So far we have visited about 8 saimin shops, but the search goes on. Today we went to Dillingham Saimin, and there were 17 in the group, Amy and me, kids and grandkids, and spouses of the kids. Included were some mainland hakujin in-laws becoming acculturated. Lucky come Hawaii. Afterward, we all went to get shave ice in Moiliili. More Hawaiiana.

The Christmas party was small but lively, with the usual carol singing, door prizes, grab bags, with grand prize donated by Winnie Namba: two gorgeous Ann Namba creations. Mary won one, and a vet's grand-daughter. Lots of ono Japanese food, especially shrimp tempura. Only complaint was "hard to get in" because of steps and narrow hallways. Maybe next year we will have to find a place with no steps, or get a larger group so we can get the larger front rooms at Natsunoya.

Kiyo is still in a wheelchair and unable to get around. He lost some weight, and looks younger and handsomer. That's not the same as looking young and handsome, if you get what I mean.

Have a great 2013! See you at the 70th Anniversary!



by Gail Nishimura

Happy New Year! Can you believe it's now 2013? Seems we were just planning for the Annual Christmas party and now New Years has just flown by!



Photo: Pat Thomson

We had a great time at the Christmas party. We had it at Treetops in Manoa again (next year's party will also be there...save the date: Sunday, December 15, 2013). Ann's guessing game was a tough one – guess the amount of coins in a bank and Kenji Jones came nearest the amount in the jar, so he went home with the prize – the bank & coins! Lisa Yoshino won all the bells in the “jun ken po” game. We were lucky to get lots of donations from members for prizes and Ann as usual collected lots of prizes to supplement the donations. Everyone seemed to have a great time; we even conducted our general membership meeting prior to the party!



Photo: Pat Thomson

The next Generation that we need to reach out to. Prepping them by having them at our annual Christmas party!

Our current officers all carried over for the next year. Wes, Al, Wade, Susan and Shirley will be leading us again.

On the same day as our Christmas party, Gwen & Clay Fujie managed to get the AJA baseball teams to honor the Veterans by sewing the 70th Anniversary logo patches on their uniforms! Gwen said even the umpires wanted patches for their uniforms so they pinned them on their sleeves!



Photo: Wayne Iha

Several veterans were able to attend the opening day festivities and were honored by the reception they received.

We all will miss Senator Inouye, the tributes and speeches were very touching. He was a giant in our eyes and a person with humble beginnings who grew up to be a terrific role model for all of us. He was someone most of us have “known” for all of our lives. It is hard to imagine that he won't be back for another anniversary. Aloha to one of Hawaii's treasures.

Time sure flies by – in about two and one half months we will be getting ready for the 70th Anniversary! Have you sent in your registration form

yet? Seems like we just started working on it and now it's getting close to crunch time!

Don't forget the cut-off date for registrations is March 1, 2013. Get those registration forms in! Remind your friends and family if they're planning to attend – don't procrastinate, do it now! (lol! I'm the queen of procrastination!)

We're working on activities for the weekend, starting on Friday there will be a tour to Honouliuli (first 50 people to sign up will get to attend – waiver form must be filled out and turned in to attend – waiver form will be available on 442sd.org) OR you can see the vets being honored at the state legislature. Then from 2-5 pm we'll have "AT EASE" at the 100th Battalion Clubhouse. Come and visit friends, make new acquaintances. We're having a pot luck of pupus so bring something to share. There will be a break between "AT EASE" and the Sons & Daughters meeting. If you don't have to take your parents back to the hotel or home, you can hang out at the clubhouse with the rest of us. Arlene Sato from 100th Sons & Daughters suggested we bring an item for a soup.

To all 442nd, 100th, MIS & 1399 Veterans,
families & friends
Pupu Pot Luck for "At Ease"
Friday, March 22, 2013 @
100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse
from 2-5 pm
(Parking available at Ala Wai Elementary School)
We welcome all pupu donations. (Something from
your yard, kitchen, hometown or
the local store nearby)

Sons & Daughters of 442nd, 100th, MIS &
1399 Veterans, families & friends
Meeting of all descendants and interested
supporters to share their "living the legacy" ideas
and how to best move forward.
Very important meeting!
(Friday, 3/22/13 from 6-9pm)
@ 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse
(Parking available at Ala Wai Elementary School)

"Coming together to share ideas & soup - Move Forward Together!" Bring 1 item for the "coming together" soup. Chef Arlene will create our coming together soup. (Example: 1 (One) carrot, or 1 can of beans, or 1 stalk of celery, or 1 piece of garlic, etc. (preferably from your yard)

"Come and meet other Sons and Daughters to share your commitment to make sure the Legacy Continues!"

We want as many Sons & Daughters to attend the meeting as possible. Leonard Oka from Maui is chairing this meeting of the various Sons and Daughters organizations, as well as individuals, to share and collaborate on ideas for living the legacy. It will be a very important meeting! Come and learn about carrying on the legacy of our fathers.

Remember the theme for this Anniversary is "The Legacy Lives On," so we need to work on learning how. We also need to have the 4th, 5th, 6th generations and anyone else learn about continuing our father's legacy.

On Saturday, March 23, 2013 we will have the 70th Anniversary Remembrance Service in front of the US Army Museum. The service will be followed by a tour of the museum. Then we will have a family picnic on the museum grounds. Should be a fun day for all.

Sunday, March 24, 2013 is the banquet at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Doors are scheduled to open at 10:30am. Event should end at about 2pm.

We just found out recently that the Honolulu City Council is planning a recognition of veterans and their 70th Anniversary on March 20th at 9:00 am. So if you live here or are coming into town before the 20th, add this to your agenda.

Well, we'll be looking forward to seeing you at the Anniversary and at any of our meetings (1st Thursday of every month). Enjoy the upcoming holidays – even Chinese New Years! The year of the snake is upon us!

“I Respectfully Dissent”: A Book Review by Ted Tsukiyama

“I Respectfully Dissent” written by famed Hawaii author Tom Coffman is a biography of the late Edward H. Nakamura, a member of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team who in the post-War led a distinguished career as a lawyer, labor leader, legislative genius, judge and intellectual, community figure. Author Tom Coffman has done a wonderful job of revealing in great detail the public life, service and accomplishments of Ed Nakamura which has deeply and significantly impacted the social, economic and political history of Hawaii today.

Nakamura was born of issei parents and was brought up in a middle class neighborhood of Kaimuki, attended Palolo grade school, Liliuokalani Intermediate, and McKinley High School. At McKinley he came under the influence of Hawaii’s greatest educator, Principal Miles Carey known for his encouraging students to apply themselves, seek higher education and to better their lives as descendants of immigrants. Although not specifically acknowledged, it was unquestioned that Miles Carey must have motivated and inspired Nakamura to educate himself, develop his innate intellect and strive toward achieving the American Dream. Enrolling at the University of Hawaii in 1940 his scholastic proficiency was revealed when he was virtually the only public school graduate who was assigned to the advanced English 102 where he competed on even terms with haole students from Punahou and Roosevelt. Nakamura then chose to major in Teacher’s College because teaching was about the highest profession a Nisei could aspire for in those times.

Nakamura’s college education was abruptly interrupted by Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 when as an UH ROTC cadet he unhesitatingly responded to his country’s call to arms

to defend Hawaii against enemy attack. The UH ROTC was immediately converted into the Hawaii Territorial Guard (HTG) where for the next six weeks Nakamura stood guard protecting the government buildings and installations including Honolulu Harbor, when suddenly in mid-January 1942 all Nisei in the HTG were discharged because of their Japanese ancestry. Hiding his hurt and disappointment of being rejected by his own country, he was one of the 169 HTG discharges who then volunteered for and served in the Varsity Victory Volunteers which critically helped to stem the tide of hysteria and racism against Japanese in Hawaii and which sowed the seeds for the concept of a volunteer all-nisei combat team to follow, the famed 442nd RCT. In March of 1943 Nakamura volunteered for and was accepted to serve in the 442nd and was assigned to the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion to be trained as one of the firing gun crews. His leadership ability was soon recognized as he quickly earned a field promotion as gun crew sergeant where he helped the 522nd earn the reputation as one of the best artillery units in the European Theater in combat campaigns against the Nazi forces in Italy, France and Germany and participated in the liberation of Holocaust victims in the Dachau region.



l-r: Edward Nakamura, gunner corporal, Rocky Tanna, gunner no. 1, and Flint Yonashiro, radioman, firing a 105mm howitzer.

US Army Signal Corps

At War's end he used the G.I. Bill to complete his college education from the University of Hawaii and then attended University of Chicago Law School where he earned his law degree in 1951 specializing in labor and constitutional law. Hung Wai Ching remembers that Ed Nakamura needed and asked for a few hundred dollars to complete his law education, a loan which Nakamura not only paid back later but kept contributing to Hung Wai's scholarship fund many times over to aid other students in need. Nakamura's fellow law students at Chicago were Nadao Yoshinaga and Patsy Takemoto Mink, three names which were to leave indelible imprints on the course of the political history of modern Hawaii. Returning to Hawaii with a law degree Nakamura acted on the courage of his conscience and convictions to join Bouslog & Symonds, widely regarded as a radical leftist law firm because it represented the ILWU and defended those who were investigated by the U.S. House Committee on Un-American Activities and who were accused of violating the Smith Act. Working for Bouslog & Symonds over the years expanded and refined his skills in labor and constitutional law turning Nakamura into one of the most competent and skilled labor attorneys in Hawaii. As one of the returning Nisei war veterans joining the Democratic Party in the 1950's, Nakamura helped new Democrats like Patsy Mink and John A. Burns get elected to key public offices and was an active participant in achieving the historic Democratic Revolution of 1954 which broke the century old hold of Republicans on the political control of Hawaii.

In the years that followed the winning of Statehood in 1959, the ILWU became the most influential union in Hawaii's economic and political environment during which time Ed Nakamura became its chief legal advisor on labor and legislative issues and policy and most heavily depended upon by Director Jack Hall. With the governorship and both legislative houses in complete control by the Democratic Party, Hawaii was soon to become the most liberal of all fifty states with regard to the pioneering social welfare and economic legislation

passed, such as improved Wage and Hour, Workers' Compensation and Unemployment Compensation, Temporary Disability Insurance, compulsory Prepaid Health Insurance, and new health and safety laws. These progressive laws were pushed by the ILWU legislative team of Nadao Yoshinaga, Yoshito Takamine, Eddie DeMello and Edward Nakamura as legal advisor who was most responsible for the design, drafting, strategizing, shepherding and adoption of these laws through the legislative process. It was during this time that he met, courted and in 1955 married Martha Nakayama who was to become Ed's inseparable, devoted life partner thereafter, leading Ed to acknowledge and profess that "Martha was the greatest thing that ever happened in his life."

In 1964 Governor John Burns appointed Nakamura to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii who became the first person from Hawaii's labor community to be ever appointed to serve as a Regent of the University. Nakamura served out his tenure as a UH Regent with distinction, being elected as Chair of the Board within 3 years and thereafter successfully led the Board through the stormy Vietnam protest period, the Oliver Lee controversy and President Hamilton's abrupt resignation from the University. All the while he maintained his arduous professional life as the workhorse of the Bouslog and Symonds law firm working long hours for meager pay which finally took its toll in 1977 he suffered a massive heart attack which nearly took his life. Not long thereafter Nakamura applied to the Judicial Selection Commission to become a Supreme Court judge which application was supported by some of the leading business and community figures resulting in his appointment to the Supreme Court by Governor Ariyoshi in 1980. In his ten years of service as a Supreme Court Justice Nakamura distinguished himself and the Court by authoring important scholarly decisions which left a significant imprint on the social and economic welfare of the community and who will be remembered as one of the best justices to ever serve in Hawaii's Supreme Court.

After retiring from the Supreme Court in 1990 Nakamura continued to serve his community in his quiet unobtrusive manner becoming its social and moral public conscience thereafter. In 1991 Governor Waihee appointed Nakamura as a trustee of the State Retirement System, but within seven months he resigned in protest over what became publicly exposed as improper investment policies and practices of the Retirement System board. In 1993 when the Governor attempted to make a controversial Supreme Court judgeship appointment, Nakamura's signing of a petition opposing the nomination on grounds of conflict of interest triggered a mass protest of lawyers which forced the Senate to finally vote down the nomination. Then in the mid-1990's when it became obvious that appointments to coveted Bishop Estate trusteeships had become a patronage pasture for influential Democrat legislators through the network of the State Judicial Selection Commission and the Supreme Court, Nakamura sought to protect the integrity of the Judiciary by quietly advising and joining forces with those who advocated removal of the Supreme Court's power to appoint Bishop Estate Trustees. This led to the publication of the famed "Broken Trust" which exposed the abuses of the Bishop Estate trustees causing their resignations and prompting the Supreme Court justices to relinquish their power to appoint Bishop Estate trustees in the future. Edward Nakamura lived to see the day when the "Broken Trust" was first publicized in August, 1997 but succumbed to cardiac failures in the days thereafter and passed away on September 11, 1997 at age 74.

The book "I Respectfully Dissent" thus reveals many aspects and features of Edward Nakamura's rich and productive life that were never known before. Little did his fellow wartime buddies and colleagues know or realize at the time that this quiet, very private, serious, low-keyed guy we knew as Eddie Nakamura would ever become Hawaii's foremost labor lawyer, the intellectual bulwark of the ILWU, the legislative author of social legislation which made Hawaii the most progressive state in the Union, the first from the labor community to become a University

Regent and Supreme Court Justice, and the conscientious public citizen who helped restore integrity, dignity and justice to Hawaii's Retirement System, Bishop Estate and the Supreme Court. More than any other Eddie Nakamura left an imprint and legacy which changed the social, economic and political face of Hawaii.



Rev. George Aki Receives Congressional Gold Medal

The following article, submitted by Susan Uyemura, JALL, appeared in *The Rafu Shimpo*. December 27, 2012.



Rev. George Aki, the last surviving chaplain to serve with the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, received his Congressional Gold Medal during a small ceremony on Nov. 23 at Pilgrim Place, a retirement facility for retired clergy in Claremont.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the nation's highest civilian medal and is awarded by Congress. Rev. Aki received the award from Mits Kunihiro from E Company, Jim Yamashita, I Company, and the reverend's son, Jim Aki.

In March 1944, Chaplain Aki joined the 442nd RCT at Camp Shelby, Miss. As the last chaplain to serve the unit, he stayed behind to train replacements and was later deployed to Italy.

Because the war was coming to a close in Europe by the time he got there, one of his main tasks was to locate the isolated graves of American soldiers who had been hastily buried during the heat of battle. When they found a body, Aki, along with his assistant, Raymond, would immediately look for the dog tag.

As he identified the dead soldiers, he wondered about their shattered dreams for the future and "what moved them to fight for the country that stripped them of their birthright and cast them and their families into American made concentration camps?"

Aki's lifelong personal mission from that point was to do what he could to honor the men whose lives were cut short in a strange land without loved ones and friends to be near them. "I was never a hero," he said, "but I was glad and privileged to be on the "Go for Broke" team.

Aki is 98 years old and physically and mentally is in good shape. He attributes his good health to walking every day.



AJA Baseball Pays Tribute to the 442nd RCT on Their 70th Anniversary **by Gwen Fujie**

It was a bright, beautiful and very windy day in Waipio at the Patsy Mink Central Oahu Regional Park on December 16, 2012 – a most proud day for 442nd veterans, William Thompson, Rocky Tanna, Harold Ueoka, Joe Oshiro, and Ted Tsukiyama and Jimmy Araki of the MIS. More veterans were unable to attend for health reasons and the unpredictable weather.

The Oahu AJA Baseball League opened their 2012-13 season with a special tribute to the 442nd in recognition of its 70th Anniversary. AJA baseball was an important part of life for many young men of the 442, before and after the war. 70th Anniversary co-chair, Gwen Fujie, was particularly motivated to see this recognition occur as her late father, Toshio "Bulldog" Nishizawa, was an avid AJA baseball player and she grew up with Sundays spent at Ala Moana or Ala Wai fields watching her dad's McCully Team play with other 442 buddies and their families on the sidelines. While at Camp Shelby, Joe Oshiro said he remembers playing with "Bulldog" on the 442nd RCT baseball team.

Two hundred young AJA baseball players, all in their team uniforms, and the officials, lined the field and stood at attention as the Colors were presented by the Manoa Boy Scouts Troop 33 and the National Anthem sung by 442 daughter, Sandy Tsukiyama. The President of the Oahu AJA League, Wallace Izumigawa, son of Noboru Izumigawa of 442 and nephew of Stan Izumigawa of the 100th, welcomed the veterans and teams and talked about the heroics of the 442.

Co-chair of the 70th Anniversary, Clayton Fujie, a former AJA ball player from the Sheridan team, addressed the young men in a speech. (See excerpts of the speech below.)

After throwing the ceremonial first pitch the veterans were given a commemorative ball and then the ball players each came forward and shook the hands of the veterans saying "thank you for your service." It was a beautiful moment!

Speech delivered by Clayton Fujie, former AJA Sheridan Team member, to the AJA Baseball Players on December 16, 2012 - Opening Day Ceremonies of 2012-13 Season:

Ladies and gentlemen and honored guests:

71 years ago this month, on Dec. 7th, the quiet and unassuming lives of the men you see before you, and thousands of other lives like theirs, were changed forever. They were your age and younger, when Pearl Harbor was attacked and the United States entered WWII.

Looking like the enemy was a challenging surprise for these loyal, American citizens. Yet, despite racial profiling of their day, prejudice, and segregation, these young men answered the call to serve their country in battlefields across Western Europe. These brave warriors, with their “Go for Broke” spirit understood loyalty, determination, courage, and sacrifice. They returned home with

military decorations unmatched by any fighting unit in WWII, or any since.

Many of you may not know that the 100th Infantry Battalion 442nd Regimental Combat Team is the highest decorated military unit for its size and length of service in the history of the United States of America.

Ball players like statistics, well, imagine these numbers - they received a total of 18,143 Individual decorations, of which 21 were Medals of Honor and 9,486 were Purple Hearts. Last year, the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award, was presented to the 100th, 442 and the Military Intelligence Service. This is a remarkable record that very few can top. Were you aware of this?

You might be wondering why share this history with you? Especially, here on a baseball field?

First and foremost, because the 442nd and their brothers from the 100th Infantry Battalion, MIS, and 1399th Engineers Construction Battalion were and



Photo: Wayne Iha

are true American heroes and we are their descendants, directly or indirectly, being Americans of Japanese Ancestry. How many of you have ever said “thank you”

to these heroes? How many have shook the hands of heroes before? If you have never personally met an iconic war hero, today is your chance.

Secondly, we are here because baseball played an important role in the lives of these men. It kept their spirits up before, during and after the war. Mr. Tsutomu Oi, who is 90 years old, called us and said he wanted to be here today because he is proud to have played AJA baseball, from before the war. (Unfortunately, Mr. Oi was not able to attend at the last minute.)

After the war, the men kept AJA Baseball thriving. My late father-in-law and his wartime buddies played for McCully. His two sons, my

brothers-in-law followed in his footsteps as well and played for McCully.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, my message to you is to say that the greatest honor we can give these Nisei veterans is to follow in their footsteps and live our lives as they did, with courage, determination, and gratitude, and to teach our children to do the same. To always strive to do our best without complaint, to believe the sky is the limit in opportunities, to work hard and play hard, and to always be proud to be an American.

Thank you, players and umpires, for wearing the 70th anniversary patch this season, in honor of the veterans. Wear it with pride.

And, thank you Oahu AJA Baseball, on behalf of the veterans and their sons and daughters, for this great recognition and tribute to the 442nd and their 70th Anniversary celebration.

Now, let’s “Go for Broke” and Play Ball!



Photo: Wayne Iha

My Grandpa's Legacy Guides Me **by Marisa M. Kashino**

It was October, 2008, and I was sitting aboard a small, old airplane on the way to Kabul. I was 23, just a year into my journalism career, and headed to Afghanistan on a story assignment. I felt like I was totally out of my league. As I always do during times of stress, I was thinking about my grandpa, silently letting him know I was counting on him to get me through the next few days.

There was a 30-something Caucasian man seated next to me. Somehow, we started chatting, and I wound up telling him about my grandpa, Shiro Kashino, known among his World War II buddies as “Kash.” I told the man how Grandpa had been the most decorated soldier in his all-Japanese American unit, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. I told him how Grandpa had volunteered out of the internment camps to fight for a country that had betrayed him, and that he’d been awarded an astounding six Purple Hearts, one for each time he was wounded in combat. Grandpa died of cancer when I was 12, I told the stranger, but he was my hero and I still thought about him every day.

I’ll borrow some Hawaiian lingo to describe what happened next: a “chicken skin” moment. The man rolled up his sleeve to show me his tattoo—a fist holding a torch, against a blue background, surrounded by white and red borders—an image that I instantly recognized as the emblem of the 442nd.

That symbol had always been a part of my life. It was on lapel pins stored in my jewelry box. It was all over the Nisei Veterans Clubhouse in Seattle, where I grew up hanging out with my grandparents and their friends, and learning about all they sacrificed to ensure my generation would never face the adversity and prejudice they did. The symbol was displayed on the hats and shirts worn by veterans as they proudly walked down Honolulu’s Kalakaua Avenue during the parade to celebrate the 50th reunion of the 442nd in 1993. I was eight years old then, but I clearly remember that day. Grandpa and Grandma had flown the entire family to Hawaii for the occasion. Grandpa was in a lot of pain from his

cancer, but he insisted on walking the whole parade route. He was surely uncomfortable, but his smile never let up.

I thought of all these other places I had seen the 442nd logo. Now here I was, thousands of miles from home, stunned to see it on the arm of a young white guy. The man explained that he, too, had served in the 442nd before his recent retirement from the military. He was going to Kabul to work for a private contractor. He said he had gotten the tattoo to honor the brave Japanese American men who were the founding members of his unit—which I had no idea still existed—and that he was happy to learn about my grandfather.

I like to believe that Grandpa was sending me a message through that man, letting me know he was watching and that I would be fine. There have been countless other instances like that nerve-wracking flight to Kabul, where I have depended upon the memory of my grandpa and the legacy of the 442nd to give me strength. Whenever I feel overwhelmed by a new challenge, I think of what Grandpa endured, and how nothing I will confront in my lifetime will compare. When I need to make a tough decision, I think of my responsibility to make Grandpa proud, and to never take for granted the many opportunities available to me because of his immeasurable courage. For me, it’s in these small moments that the legacy of the 442nd lives on. It is an undeniable part of who I am, and it guides me in everything I do.

When I attend the 70th reunion of the 442nd in Honolulu this March, I know I will be saddened to see that the number of veterans has dwindled considerably since the last reunion I went to when I was 16. But I will also be comforted by the fact that younger generations can still carry on their stories. I intend to share memories of my grandpa with many more strangers, and I have no doubt that every time someone asks about his tattoo, the man from my flight teaches another person about the legacy of the 442nd.

Marisa M. Kashino, 28, lives in Washington, DC, where she writes for *Washingtonian Magazine*.

Michele Matsuo and Daughter Allegra Take an Extended Tour of Europe

Michele, daughter of Medic Ted Matsuo and Dr. Dorothy Matsuo who wrote two books about the 442nd, took a 4 month tour of Europe from September to December 2012. They visited seven countries and saw and experienced many interesting events and I'm sure enjoyed every bit of it because her first comment upon return was "I just wish we had more time — there was so much more we wanted to see and do."

Michele, who helped her mom in researching information for her books, is very knowledgeable about the 442nd and decided that one of their must see stops would be the American Military Cemetery near Florence, Italy. They took some mac nut chocolates for the 100th and 442nd soldiers buried there (there are 13); the cemetery staff gave them flags to present at each grave and after reading the background of each soldier, thanked them and explained to them how things were in the post-war period. They completed their tribute by singing for them Lei Pikake and America the Beautiful. They reported that all of the 100th/442nd soldiers buried there were from the mainland; some were haole officers.

Following the visit to the graves, they had a chance to talk to the superintendent and assistant superintendent of the cemetery during which discussions about Capt. Ensminger and Lt. Potter, both of M Co., came up. Capt. Ensminger is not buried there but he was killed on the same day Lt. Potter was wounded. However, there was a write-up on Capt. Ensminger who was KIA across the Arno River. Reportedly, Lt. Potter was wounded in the foot and taken as a POW by the Germans. Later, there were conflicting accounts of his being chained to a tree and shot. When his body was repatriated a few days later, he had been shot through the head. Medic Jimmie Kanaya was among the last to see Lt. Potter and the superintendent was interested in knowing whether Jimmie remembers him and his wounds.

Inquiries to Jimmie resulted in this e-mail message from him: "Hi, Re: Lt. Potter's wounds. Jack Yamashiro was one of the medics with me on this mission. While I was attending to a casualty with a shattered right knee, Jack yelled for me so I went up to the road to see what was going on. There were a handful of armed Germans milling around the medics treating the wounded. One German was trying to show Jack how they carried a wounded across the river (Lt. Potter) and Jack thought that he was going to be caught too. We picked up all of the wounded but before leaving I mentioned to the senior German that we would be back the next day at noon to pick up all of those killed. It was getting late to return for the bodies that day.

We returned the following day as all the Germans were waiting for us. It was quite a reunion as everyone wanted to volunteer to meet the Germans including Chaplain Yamada, the 3rd Bn. Chaplain. There was quite a gathering, a mix of German and U.S. uniforms, trying to communicate in Italian phrases and gestures. I'm sure it was not about the bodies we were retrieving. I heard that Lt. Potter died of wounds within a few days after capture at a German medical facility. Maybe Jack Yamashiro might have more to describe what happened from his point of view. We recently visited and paid our respects at each grave site where our men are buried.

Jack replied, I have no specific information on Lt. Potter's wound as I did not see the injuries. All I can remember of that day were the German soldiers milling around us as we treated the wounded.

Both replies were furnished to the cemetery superintendent.

January 30th 2013 is Proclaimed Fred Korematsu Day in Hawaii

Governor Neil Abercrombie proclaimed January 30, 2013 as Fred Korematsu Day in recognition of the Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient's historic and legally significant struggle to secure civil liberties for all U.S. citizens.

The public is invited free of charge to view the film "Of Civil Wrongs and Rights-The Fred Korematsu Story" at one of its daytime showing at the Arizona Memorial Theater on that day. In the evening, starting at 6:00 PM, the film will again be shown at the Manoa Grand Ballroom, Japanese

Cultural Center which will also include the award winning documentary, "The Constitution and the Camps" by 14-year-old Punahou student Matt Shimura. A panel discussion moderated by Carole Hayashino will follow.

Mr. Korematsu was born in Oakland, California and January 30th 2013 would have been his 94th birthday. Events are planned throughout the day to encourage students and the community to contemplate and discuss lessons from Mr. Korematsu's 40 year fight to seek justice for nearly 120,000 Japanese Americans wrongfully imprisoned during WWII and its relevance today.



442nd Holiday Party by Susan Uyemura, JALL

On Sunday, Dec. 2 at the Miyako Inn, JALiving Legacy along with Memorial Alliance hosted our annual Veterans Holiday Party (formally known as I Company Christmas Party.) Over 60 people joined in and we had a great time. Other companies included Cannon Company, G, H, I, L, M, and Korean Vets plus lots of families. As usual, we participated in our Annual White Elephant and this year we played a game called "Losing

your Marbles"...Ray Uchima (son of Ansho Mas Uchima) was the first to lose his marbles! Miyako Inn in Los Angeles donated sparkling cider plus table prizes and we thank Kumi Wakabayashi and her staff for their courteous service. Tamon Restaurant provided the EXCELLENT bento box hot lunches. Mark your calendar, we've booked Miyako Inn for Dec. 8, 2013 for our next holiday party!



Announcements



70th 442nd Veterans Club Anniversary Banquet



The Latest Information related to the 70th Anniversary Celebration of the 442nd RCT is as follows. Please note that additional events and information may be added as the committee attempts to put together a “Once in a Lifetime” celebration for the veterans. New events and information which were added since our last publication are identified by a double asterisk (**).

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

9:00 AM

**Recognition at City Hall sponsored by Council Members Chang and Kobayashi. Bus service will be provided.

Friday, March 22, 2013

8:00 AM to 11:30 AM:

**Optional tour of Honouliuli Internment Camp
(Transportation will be furnished)

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM:

Reception at Club 100

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM:

Meeting of various S&D organizations. All sons, daughters, adult grandchildren and supporters -- whether or not you belong to an S&D organization -- are urged to attend to discuss ideas and plans for the future.

Saturday, March 23, 2013

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM:

Remembrance Service at Fort DeRussy

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM:

Tour of US Army Museum at Fort DeRussy

11:30 AM to 2:00 PM:

442nd Family Picnic with bento, door prizes, games, shave ice stands, sales of logo items, etc.

Sunday, March 24, 2013

9:30 AM:

Banquet-Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel

10:30 AM:

Hospitality Room for all chapters opened

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Doors open to Coral Ballroom

70th Anniversary Luncheon and Program (includes exhibits, photo taking, logo merchandise sales, etc.)

Monday, March 25, 2013

**Recognition by State Legislature (time to be determined)

**Optional Activities. Special tours to World War II sites, tour to Bishop Museum to see the CGM display (time to be determined), possible tour of C-17 “Spirit of Go for Broke.”

All official activities will be FREE for Nisei veterans of WWII and widows of deceased WWII Nisei veterans. All others:

Cost for Picnic bento: \$10 per person
Cost for the Banquet: \$70 for adults
\$35 for children ages 4-11
Children 3 and below free

****Hotel guests (primarily mainland and neighbor islanders) will be furnished transportation to and from all official events. Pick-up information will be furnished to hotel guests at their hotels.**

****Special emphasis is being given to veterans and widows. The committee hopes that no veteran or widow will be unable to attend because he/she does not have a ride. Byrnes Yamashita, son of Victor Yamashita, L Co. has been designated Transportation Chairman to arrange rides for veterans and widows who have absolutely no way of getting to the events. He will coordinate rides with volunteer sons/daughters/grandkids. Veterans and widows requiring transportation are asked to contact Byrnes at: byrnes.yamashita@aecom.com or 808-728-9900.**

Request for Volunteer Drivers-Byrnes Yamashita

Aloha,

The sons and daughters of the 442nd RCT are planning to provide support for those veterans and widows who do not have rides and require transportation to and from the various events over the March 22-24 weekend. We are seeking volunteers for drivers from all parts of Oahu.

We encourage all sons and daughters to get involved or consider getting their sons and daughters involved in supporting this effort. It would be a shame if a veteran or widow is unable to attend because he/she did not have a ride. Please contact me at byrnes.yamashita@aecom.com or 808-728-9900 if you will be available to help us.

Veterans and widows requiring transportation are encouraged to contact me by e mail or telephone as shown above.

Mahalo for your support,
Byrnes Yamashita
Son of Victor Yamashita-L Co.

FINAL NOTE

A schedule of events and registration form have been published in the Go for Broke Bulletin. You should also have received copies through your chapters. If you need additional copies, you may make copies from the bulletin, contact www.442sd.org or call the 442nd Veterans Club at 808-949-7997. If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of the event, please contact the Club.

**Please submit your Registration Forms as soon as possible
but no later than March 1st, 2013**

The 442nd Veterans Club
933 Wiliwili Street
Honolulu, HI 96826

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