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Asian American Studies Center



ROCKY MATAYOSHI FINALLY RECOGNIZED

Gallery of Heroes - July 6, 1996

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER REPORTERS

Feature Story:	Pg.	1	MedicsHerbert Akamine
President Report:	Pg.	2	A-TMary Sakai, Carol Sakai Freiteira & Patti Laba
Editor's Message:	Pg.	3	CannonKaoru Watanabe
Taps:	Pg.	4	ServiceEd Imamura
Editorial Contribution:	Pg.	5	HQ2Moriso Teraoka
2 HQ:	Pg.	7	EasyTerry Ihara
King:	Pg.	8	FoxRon Oba
Mike:	Pg.	9	GeorgeHarold Fukunaga
Fox:	Pg.	10	HoweJackson Morisawa
George:	Pg.	14	HQ3Charles Watanabe
Livorno:	Pg.		ItemBruno Yamada
522-B:	Pg.		KingJ.H. Shimamura
Howe:	Pg.	21	LoveAllen Nakamura
A-T:	Pg.		MikeShiro Aoki
232nd Engr./Band:	Pg.		LivornoHenry Kuniyuki
Service:	Pg.		232Eng/BandHichi Matsumoto
3 HQ:	Pg.		522 AbleHarry Tokushige
Item:	Pg.		522 BakerJerry Ishimoto
Love:	Pg.		522 CharlieEd Ichiyama
Sons & Daughters:	Pg.		Sons and DaughtersEdwin Goto
Kauai News:	Pg.		Rural Chapter Ed Imamura
Sports Scope:	Pg.		Kauai ClubMargaret Oshita
Retirees Golf Club:	Pg.		SportscopeBruno Yamada
Other News:	Pg.		Retirees Golf ClubEd Tamanaha
Committee Reports:	Pg.		442nd RCT FoundationHarold Fukunaga
			Contributors
			Chaplain Ernest Uno, Allen Nakamura
			T IT II B I W B BUILD

Chaplain Ernest Uno, Allen Nakamura Ted Tsukiyama, Bob Katayama, Bill Naganuma



FEATURE STORY

KATHERINE COLLINS, ARCHIVIST, HIRED -FINALLY!

The Sons and Daughters know that last word in this headline expresses the feelings of many of you out there who have been wondering when we would get around to spending the money so generously granted us by the Foundation. Well, we believe you will be pleased with the outcome of your long wait (and our arduous recruitment and selection efforts).

Katherine Lloyd Collins, who started as Archivist of the 442nd RCT Archives Center in May 1996, was born in Bremerton, Washington on February 2, 1971. Her father was in the U.S. Navy for over 20 years, so they moved a lot. She went to kindergarten and first grade at Makimanado Elementary on Okinawa before moving back to the states.

She attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and spent a semester abroad in Japan at the Kansai University of Foreign Studies in

Hirakata-shi, Osaka-ken. She studied Japanese language and took courses in "The Cultural Context of Japanese Behavior" and "Women and the Family in Japanese Law." She lived with a Japanese family in the Homestay program.

Katherine graduated from the University of Arkansas, with honors, in May 1993 with a B.A. in History, and a B.A. in Psychology, with a concentration in Asian Studies. In the fall, she married **Rick Collins** and began attending graduate school in History. She specialized in both Asian and Military History.

The Collins moved to Hawaii six months ago when (Lieutenant) Rick was stationed at Fort Shafter with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Katherine will be working for us on a parttime basis. Her schedule is shown in the following article. Stop in and say hello.

Although we're a long way from being fully organized yet, test out her skills in helping you learn about and/or locate information, artifacts, or books in the Center. She'll always greet you with her friendly smile and pleasant personality. And you'll probably be surprised at how much she already knows about the 442nd RCT. Come on over and welcome her aboard!

Archives Help Wanted

We need you!!! Volunteers (vets, wives, sons, daughters, grandchildren, relatives and friends) are needed in the Archives Center. To make certain our new archivist, Katherine Collins, can spend more of her valuable time on critical work, we're looking for people to help with all kinds of tasks, from searching through files for specific records, photocopying, to even some housekeeping (sweep, mop, dump the rubbish) - your eyes, minds and hands are needed.

If you can devote about 4 hours a month to help, please call Katherine at the Archives Center, 945-0032, Mon/Wed/Fri from 7 to 11 AM and Sat from 8AM to 1 PM. Katherine will discuss with you what you can help with, or whether what you want to do or can do is needed.



by Paul Takeguchi

The 53rd 442nd Anniversary Banquet held at the Pacific Beach Hotel on the 30th of March 1996 turned out to be outstanding. Thanks to Chairman Allen Nakamura (L) and his committee, something new was unfolded for the first time. This was the beginning of the joint assemblage of other units of the 442nd, 100th, MIS, and the 1399th at the morning Punchbowl Ceremony as well as the evening Banquet. There were many positive comments of participation and events.

The programs at each event were carefully planned to include the Sanseis and they turned out real well. Sons and Daughters President Alan Kubota, son of Sadaichi Kubota (I) should be commended also for doing extraordinarily well in compiling and coordinating with the older members. Their contributions were: Associate Justice Paula Nakayama, keynote speaker, Sansei and daughter of 3rd Hq. Johnson and Mrs. Nakayama who gave an inspiring speech at Punchbowl; Joe Uno, MC at Punchbowl, son of 3rd Hq. Ernest and Grace Uno who did a commendable job; Wendy Hanamura, daughter of Howard Hanamura of L Chapter who kept everyone riveted in their chairs until the very end of the evening program. The 53rd Anniversary is pau but turned out to be an enjoyable memorable event.

Gail Onuma, daughter of Rodney and Nora Yamashiro is our new Executive Secretary. She comes from a family whose association with the military goes a long way back. Grandfather Matsuo Yamashiro served in WW I and is buried at Punchbowl. Rodney, her father served with the 232nd Engineers and was past President of the 442nd Veterans Club. Rodney's older brother Bill (Shigeru) served with 2nd Hq. 442nd. A younger brother Matsuo served with the Marine Corp during the Korean War. Gail's father-in-law Wallace Onuma is a 100th Veteran. Husband Malcolm is a Navy Veteran currently working with the Department of Defense. This "true blue" American

Family has pride and tradition to fall back on. Gail, her older brother Alvin and sister Diana were taught the importance of citizenship and duty to country. Gail and Malcolm have two children Michelle and Ryan whose wife is from Tokyo and one granddaughter Miki Kaonohi 3 years old. Soon 442nd members will be involved with the Yonseis as well as the Goseis. That makes us seem very old.

Sansei Gail was abruptly thrust into a role that required administrative, office and PR knowledge and she handled them well during the crisis of Jennifer leaving the 442nd for a better job. We wish both of them well and success in their endeavors. Gail's background is suitable for the job as Executive Secretary because of her understanding of the history of the 442nd in perpetuating our legacy and as a member of the Sons and Daughters Chapter. She also has 20 years of management experience in the health care industry. Welcome aboard!

The Memorial Celebration events and representatives of the 442nd Club this year were the usual Arizona Memorial Ceremonies (attended by Ed Ichiyama and Paul Takiguchi), The Punchbowl Ceremonies (attended by Robert Katayama), Honwanji Ceremonies (attended by Bill Naganuma) in which the keynote speaker was Alan Kubota, Sons and Daughters President. The Hawaii State Veterans Ceremonies (attended by Paul Takiguchi, Bob Katayama & Ed Ichiyama). In addition, Ed Ichiyama and Bob Katayama attended the VFW's and Vietnam Ceremonies on the 26th of May. It has almost become necessary to attend these functions because invariably 442nd's distinquished record cited, not only of the war but what changes came to the state after the war.



by Ed Goto

Production problems

To start, I'd like to express my gratitude to the **Board of Directors** for their vote of confidence by stating clearly that, as your GFB editor, I have the freedom to make any changes in your publication I consider appropriate, to set policy, and generally "call the shots." You'll start to notice a few changes in this issue already.

That said, I need to express our apologies for the mix-ups which led to the last issue and this one being mailed late. Part of our problems involve the transition period we are still undergoing from the departure of Jennifer Baker and the changing of the guard to our new secretary, Gail Onuma. Gail came on in the midst of anniversary preparations, and besides having to hit the ground running with the yearly ceremonies, she was not familiar with the mechanics of producing the bulletin.

We are still transitioning, so we beg for your patience if things aren't running quite as efficiently as you're used to. We're also looking into changing our printing and mailing services too, which might add a few more snafu's.

Attention reporters, some changes to anticipate:

The bulletin, it seems, is viewed by its different readers in different ways. Some of you view it as a newsletter, bringing people up to date on what's happening with your buddies, their wives and families. Others would rather see some meaningful historical recordings, written memories of your time in service - before, during and after. Still others complain that there is too much repetition in the coverage of different events, with every chapter reporting what happened - on the European trip, on the Shelby trip, at the VJ day events, etc.

So what's an editor to do? Actually, I would like

to hear comments from more of you. What do you want to see in your bulletin, what suggestions do you have? One thought I have that you can react to is the production of a separate publication, perhaps twice a year, containing those written memories. Coming from the Sons and Daughters perspective, we would really like to see more entries which will help us record your legacy from the insiders' point of view.

At the same time, I can understand that many of you want the bulletin to carry more news of what's going on with your chapter. We can allow your reporters more freedom to do this by removing the more historical stuff from the regular bulletin. Let me know what you think.

Passing the torch

Like the old saying goes, there's always two sides to a coin. So, we have a bunch of vets out there who say "we've got to start thinking and planning on what's going to happen to the club, the clubhouse, the credit union, to the 442nd name. We've got to get ready for our sons and daughters to take over. We can't do all this work anymore."

Then there are another bunch of vets who ask, "are our kids trying to take over? We worked hard to put together the club, the clubhouse, the organization, our assets - the sons and daughters seem to want to take over already!"

To both views, I say "hogwash!" (there's another saying that has to do with four-legged riding animals and manure, but this is a family publication, right?) You see, the first group is made up mostly of guys in their 70's. They figure they're all going to kick off in the next five years. These are guys who are healthier than I am, with my bulging middle and high blood pressure.

Funny, these are also the guys who are active, with the club and their chapters, and are probably living longer and looking younger because they are active. Put them on a project and they work longer and harder than any of the sons and daughters. What I see is that 10 years from now, they are going to be where my dad is today, 82 and looking like another 20 to go (hey, think "George Burns" - better than vitamins).

The other guys? they're also in their 70's, also healthy and active, also going to be around an-

other 20 to 30 years. They, along with with some of the former group, have been running the club for years; they are part of your "core" members. They like what they have and expect to keep things going for quite a awhile.

To both, I express what I believe most of us sons and daughters believe. We don't want to "take over," we're not ready to take over. We're here to help, not to do it all. We would rather see less dependence on us "kids" for a longer time. We don't think being less active does you any good anyway.

To those of you ready to pass the torch now, I say: save the talk until you're in a nursing home. To those who aren't ready to give up the torch, I say: good! we don't want to have to do all the work. Besides we have our own purpose - to preserve your legacy. Frankly, I don't think you've been doing too much of that yourselves.

Too many of you threw away stuff from the "old days" because you figured it wasn't worth saving. You're surprised at how much we treasure some beat up old book. Guess what? It's not just us. Some of those old books, in beat up condition, are worth several hundred bucks to collectors even more if they"re in good shape. Surprised?

Still, we know that the time will come when Well enough editorializing. I hope you enjoy this issue. Mahalo and aloha til next time. Keep those cards and letters coming in.



Eisuke Asato, an Item Chapter member passed away on April 22, 1996 at the Pali Momi Hospital. He was 74 years old.

Issei Otsuki, an Item Chapter member from Salinas, California passed away on June 6, 1996 in Salinas California.

Kiyoji "SAM" Yamada, a Service Chapter member passed away on May 26, 1996.

Toshio "Dixon" Yamashita, a Service Chapter member passed away on May 23, 1996.

Patrick Yoshio Nakagawa, a 2nd HQ Chapter member passed away on January 30, 1996.

Harumi Yamamoto, a 2nd HQ Chapter member passed away on April 6, 1996.

Yoneichi Kurano, a 2nd HQ Chapter member passed away on April 29, 1996.

Adolf "Bruno" Nakamura, an Anti-Tank Chapter member passed away on April 27, 1996.

Henry S. Nakama, a 232nd Engineers/Band Chapter member passed away on April 23, 1996.

Fred Kanai, 232nd Engineers/Band Chapter member recently passed away.

Terry Ogawa, 232nd Engineers/Band Chapter member recently passed away.

Roderick Matheson, a former Service Co. motor pool officer passed away on March 22, 1996.

Shun "Cal" Morishige, an Item Chapter member passed away on April 14, 1996 in Ontario Oregon.

Moses "Moki" Shigeharu Utsumi, a Love Chapter member passed away on April 14, 1996.

Alfred Slater, 2nd Bn Motor Pool Officer at Camp Shelby passed away on March 4, 1996.