

by Charles Watanabe

Here we are already into the second quarter of 1996 and time for another report. First let me get to the happenings for March.

The following members were present at the March 15 meeting held at the clubhouse as president **Sam Sasai** called the meeting to order: **Frank Ishikawa, Shigeru Goto, Takeshi Nakamura, Hajime Matsuura, Bill Kuwata, Charles Watanabe, Sam Furuya, Erni Uno, and David Kaiura.** The meeting, however, was short, covering the items discussed at the previous meeting.

In addition, Sam reported on the following: Ground-breaking ceremony was held on March 11 at Fort DeRussy for the "Brothers in Valor Monument." When completed, there will be names of the veterans in a capsule placed in the monument. (The ceremony took place under favorable Hawaiian skies. We heard many speeches by representatives of local government, military, and various communities. I must not forget to mention that **Rev. Ernest Uno** offered the invocation. Showing up for this ceremony and enjoyig light refreshments afterward were **Robert & Edna Kuniyuki, Sam & Michi Sasai, Shigeru & Janet Goto, Takeshi Nakamura, Erni & Grace Uno, and Charles & Clara Watanabe.**

I wonder if the pupu and refreshment time has been the motivating factor in getting members to attend meetings at the clubhouse because it was not different this night. With the short meeting over, time was not wasted to get right into enjoying the tasty pupus and refreshments. What is the club to do without **David Kaiura**, who had done a terrific job all these years in this department.

Friday March 29, 3rdHq carried out its mission to place an American flag on the graves of our departed men. The task of locating the grave-stones of the men of 3rdHq is becoming less difficult with each visit to NMCP. Am I right? Participants were **Takeshi Nakamura, Sam Sasai, Erni Uno,**

Robert & Edna Kuniyuki, Sam & Harumi Furuya, and Charles Watanabe. These visits always bring back memories of how our lives were touched because they were there.

The Memorial Service on the morning of March 30th was a time of remembrance and reflection. The heartwarming keynote address by the Honorable **Paula Nakayama** and other guests speakers added to the great tribute due to our fallen comrades. Thank you Sons & Daughters for this memorable memorial service. The presence of the Sons & Daughters at the evening banquet was very encouraging. We were especially pleased to see the daughters of **Jimmy & Alice Matsunaga** for the first time. What an enjoyable evening it turned out to be with **Wendy Hanamura** as the featured speaker, followed by the viewing of "Honor Bound," a video that Wendy produced. Would anyone disagree that it was an excellent documentary with a five-star rating? We thank our capable Sons&Daughters again and again doing an outstanding job of organizing, planning, coordinating the very successful 53rd Anniversary events.

Enjoying the delicious meal, an excellent program, and good gathering were **Shigeru & Janet Goto, Robert & Edna Kuniyuki, Sam & Harumi Furuya, Sam & Michi Sasai, Takeshi & Irene Nakamura, Tommy & Elaine Tamashiro, Janet Matsuda, Frances Tsubata, Hajime & Hinayo Matsuura, James & Alice Matsunaga, Erni & Grace Uno, Charles & Clara Watanabe & David Kaiura.**

Among the Sons & Daughters were **Ed & Genny Goto, Gary & Grace Fujii, David Tsubata** and son **Aaron, Joseph & Nita Uno, Tommy Uno, Barbara Olmos** and **Adele & Susan** (daughters of the Matsunagas). Sorry if I've failed to mention others.

A busy month of March has come and gone. As for the April 19 meeting, let me press 1 to retrieve the names of those who were present at the meeting. The following names appear: **Bill Kuwata, Shigeru Goto, Takeshi Nakamura, Hajime Matsuura, David Kaiura, Charles Watanabe, and Erni Uno.** Erni took charge for President **Sam Sasai** who likely retreated somewhere in the Far East for R&R. I get the impression that he's having a wonderful time for he is really

an expert at living the ideal retirement life. As the designated hitter, Erni reported that **Gail Onuma** is now our new Executive Secretary. The treasurer reported on the club's financial status. With the business meeting over, the men decided that McDonald's may be the place to go, more suitable and comfortable and where the stories begin to unfold and keeps you awake.

Sam Sasai once again took position in calling the May 17 meeting to order with the following agenda:

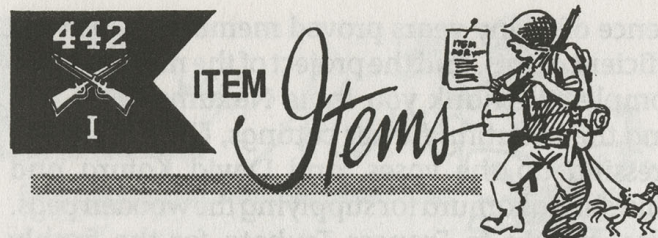
Memorial Day weekend events. We are to meet at Hajime Matsuura's place at 9AM on May 24. Takeshi will bring the flowers that Irene ordered. Gracie will decorate the vases and deliver them through Erni, David, and Takeshi will provide the wooden pegs. The Club will build a ramp for the DAV to improve accessibility. There is a problem seen arising, tho not yet with us, regarding the apartments that may have financial effect. Gail Onuma has come aboard as our new executive secretary. Please be cordial and patient as she familiarizes to the ways of the men. The Sons & Daughters held an Open House, hope many of you got to attend. The display of memorabilia will take you back. Time is catching up with us so let's remind ourselves to get our personal and financial matters in order. Better to be ready than sorry later. Finally, is there anyone for Vegas? If so, call **Victor Moriyasu** for more information.

Meeting was over, and it was Onward-to-McDonald's for coffee and fries. In addition to Sam Sasai, the roll call included Bill Kuwata, Erni Uno, Shigeru Goto, Sam Furuya, Hajime Matstuura, David Kaiura, Takeshe Nakamura and Frank Ishikawa and Charles Watanabe.

On the morning of Friday, May 24, 3rdHq gathered outside Hajime Matsuura's home to work on the Memorial Day weekend project. Upon arriving, Sam Sasai told members of Hajime's mishap which required hospitalization. He also mentioned that Hinayo was away but expected to arrive home in the evening. The news on Hajime was of deep concern. As for the task before us, being the project was to take place in Matsuura's yard, members proceeded to complete the floral bouquets as planned. With this accomplished, they then headed for NMCP where each bouquet was firmly placed at the various graves. The expe-

rience of many years proved members to be very efficient at this, and the project of the morning was completed. Thank you Irene Nakamura for getting the beautiful flower cuttings, Gracie Uno for dressing up the vases, and David Kaiura and Takeshi Nakamura for supplying the wooden pegs. Also, thanks to Frances Tsubata for the freshly baked bundt cake we enjoyed. Participants were Sam Sasai, Takeshi Nakamura, Robert Kuniyuki, Erni Uno, Frances Tsubata, and Charles & Clara Watanabe.

The late afternoon potluck dinner is an event that members and wives look forward to each year. The year's cookout was held at the DAV Kakesako Hall in Keehi Lagoon. In my absence, Clara reported that the DAV complex has been noticeably improved and is well maintained—a great place to hold a function of this sort. Ladies in Group II wasted no time exhibiting their talent with each preparing her specialty. There were so much to enjoy with dishes of roasted chicken, sweet potato salad, baked beans, cucumber namasu, roasted eggplant, etc. The main course was the carefully selected loin cut, tastefully seasoned and grilled just right over the fire. Desserts of home-made cheese cake topped with cherry, and baked buttered mochi with coconut complemented the delightful dinner prepared by the ladies of Group II. Clara added that everything tasted ono. Thank you ladies of Group II for the delicious meal. Relaxing and enjoying themselves at this gathering were **Sam & Michi Sasai, Robert & Edna Kuniyuki, Sam & Harumi Furuya, Bill & Yaeko Kuwata, Shigeru & Janet Goto, Janet Matsuda, Frances Tsubata, Erni Uno, Joseph & Nita Uno, son George and Clara Watanabe**. As a final note, **Hajime and Hinayo**, our thoughts are with you, and wish Hajime a speedy recovery. Thank you Hajime for your role in making the "Memorial Day Weekend Project" a special event for 3rdHQ.



By Bruno Yamada

Mahalo

A sincere mahalo to the I Company 442nd Club of Southern California for contributing an enormous donation to our Item Club for the Brothers in Valor Monument. With that kind of continued support along with other individual donations creation of the monument should progress very rapidly.

Memorial Service

Alan Kubota who was chairman for the Memorial Services at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on March 30 did a bang up job involving the Sons and Daughters and also the grandchildren who participated in the well planned program.

Kazu Takekawa along with **Richard & Nancy Oshiro**, **Tom & Mari Umeda**, **Norman Yokoyama**, **David Ito**, **CB Sakamoto**, **Akio Kameda** and **Togo Nakagawa** decorated the I Company graves with flags and flowers. Thank you for all your time and effort. You did an excellent job.

May Meeting

Long lost **Tom Aoki** showed up at our May meeting. Others at the meeting where: **Kazu & Winnie Takekawa**, **Richard & Nancy Oshiro**, **CB & Gay Sakamoto**, **Mamo Shiota**, **Larry Ishikawa**, **Masa Kobashigawa**, **Guy Koga**, **Joe Okumoto**, **David Ito**, **Togo Nakagawa**, **Shu Fujitake**, **Mitsuo Yakuma**, **Aki Kameda** and **Motomi Shindo**. Also **Tom Umeda**, **Norman Yokoyama**, **Bill Naganuma**, **Clarence Taba**, **Champ Suzuki**, **Bruno Yamada**, **Kazuma Oyama**, **Francis Sugai**, **Walter Furukawa**, **Hiram Doi** and **Masa Nakamura**.

Condolences

We were all saddened to hear that **Eisuke Asato** (1st Platoon) of Aiea passed away on April

22, 1996 at the Pali Momi Hospital in Aiea. **Eisuke** was 74 and was born in South Hilo. **Yoshinari Nakamura**, brother of **Masa Nakamura** and a member of Club 100 passed away on March 14, 1996. He was 77 years old. **Fred Hayakawa**, retired firefighter who had close ties with Item members passed away on April 18, 1996 at Kuakini Hospital. **Fred** was 70 and was born in Wahiawa. Our deepest condolences to their families. We will surely miss them.

Archives Center

Guy Koga, **Alan Kubota** and the rest of the Sons and Daughters have been kept busy during the month of May with the Open House to the Veterans Archives Center at the 442nd Veterans Clubhouse and Archives Center at 933 Wiliwili St. Exhibits from the artifact collection, oral histories and data from the National Archives were on display. While **Guy** was busy at the 442nd Archives Center, his wife **Stephanie** was also making the headlines. She was named one of Hawaii's top teachers in the May 19 edition of The Honolulu Advertiser. **Stephanie**, who's been with Maemae School for thirteen years, is presently the Cafeteria Manager there. Nice going **Stephanie!**

Recognition

Clarence Taba was one the eight recipients to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team Friendship Medallion (Kansha Award) during the 53rd Anniversary Banquet. **Clarence**, a past president was one of the founders of the 442nd Federal Credit Union and spent over forty years as manager. **Guy Koga** was also a recipient to the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for his contribution to the 442nd Veterans Club. Congratulations to **Clarence** and **Guy** for a job well done.

Sick Call

It was nice to hear from **Takeo Suma** who is recuperating at home. He wants to thank everyone for their will wishes during his hospitalization and rehabilitation. He is receiving excellent "home care" from the Kapiolani Healthcare System and wonderful wife **Hanayo**.

Hawaii Betsuin

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Memorial Day Service at 1727 Pali Highway on Monday May 27, 1996 was dedicated to those of Buddhist faith who made the supreme sacrifices in

the defense of our country. All members of the various organizations, their families and friends were invited. **William Naganuma** who represented the 442 Club, **Kazu Takekawa** and **Bruno Yamada** attended from I Company. **Alan Kubota** who was there with **Debbie** was the guest speaker. A very impressive speech telling the audience about the roll the Sons and Daughters are playing in perpetuating the legacy of the 100th Battalion Veterans Club, the 442nd Club, the MIS Veterans Club and the 1399 Veterans Club. After listening to war stories from Dad **Sadaichi**, Alan was appalled to find out how big a sacrifice the Veterans went through in Europe.

From I Co 442nd Club of So. California

Schedule of Upcoming Events: Thursday, May 16 10:30 am: 2nd Round I Co/Guest Golf Tournament "Best 2 of 3" I Co. Club Championship Gold Tournament at Los Amigos Golf Course in Downey Optional early 7:00pm dinner to follow at Olive Garden Restaurant, Lakewood & Firestone (Stonewood Shopping Center) in Downey. Call **Jim Miyamoto**, Chairman at (310) 868-3650 for further details. Mon. May 27 11:00am Annual NVCC Memorial Day Service at Evergreen Cemetery. Sun. June 2 3:00 pm General Meeting with Wives will be held at the Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First Street, L.A. Dinner at Oiwake's Restaurant, Japanese Village to follow meeting Pres. **Richard Shinto**, Chairman.

Re: 1996 I Company Reunion Nov. 7 to 11 at Gold Coast Hotel & Casino, LV

Terry Aratani informs us that final details are being worked out with the hotel regarding the "Hawaiian Package". The room reservations followed by activities registration will be mailed as soon as every thing is confirmed. In addition to golfing which will be at Boulder City Muni Course on Fri. Nov. 8th at the Las Vegas Club and on Sat. Nov. 9th, we will now have a bowling tournament Saturday night. Since the hospitality room for the reunion will not be available to I Company that night, So. Cal. bowlers have been asked to organize a bowling tournament. It will start at 9:00pm and going to 1 am. Terry is requesting anyone with suggestions of side tours or other activities be forwarded to him for consideration.

Obituary: Shun "Cal" Morishige, 70, Ontario, OR. died April 14, 1996. According to

George Murakami of Tacoma, Cal was found dead in his room in Laughlin, NV. He and his friend, **Hideo Harada**, were on their way to California. Cal was born and raised in Auburn, WA. and graduated May 1942 from high school in Tule Lake Relocation Center. He joined "I" Company in France after Bruyeres. His wife, **Alyce** had passed away prior to our 1991 Mini-reunion in Reno. He is survived by his daughters, **Kelly Reilly** and **Gail Morishige** of Portland, Oregon.

Members of the Seattle's Nisei Veterans Committee will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary June 22nd. Congratulations goes to **Shiro "Kash" Kashino** and other 442nd Veterans who had the foresight of forming an organization that included Japanese American Veterans without unit of company designation. Here in Southern California members of "I" have enjoyed many years of fellowship but, as our ranks thin we may have to merge with other chapters to survive in order to see our 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Balance of 1996 Schedule of Meetings and Events: Watch for Docu-Drama '442': For the Future' screening. Created by Executive Producer **Patricia Kinaga** (Tom Kinaga I/M Co), follows the story of two Japanese American cousins, one living in Hawaii and one living in California. Eventually both volunteer to fight with the 442nd. The film traces the different paths both cousins take from their childhood to the time they decide to fight and reflects on the aftermath of their decisions. Although a screening was held March 16th at the Museum, Patricia is planning another one in the LA area. Invitations to include the I Co Veterans.

Soko Ga Shiritai

Harold and **Frances** enjoyed their first trip to the Cherry Blossom Land and want to share their experience:

Bruno urged me to share some of my experiences on the Cherry Blossom Tour of Japan on which my wife and I went. Most of you have been there so I mention only my impressions. Never saw so many Japanese people in one place. Very very few fat people; fat men especially I did not see.

I don't remember seeing sloppily dressed people; all where neatly clothed. Residences of farms looked new and modern and the yards were artistically manicured with varieties of trained pines.

Didn't come across any panhandlers. The economy there is supposed to be bad now. But there were some huge new buildings coming up in some cities. A new suspension bridge (2.4 miles long), connecting the islands of Honshu and Shikoku, nears completion. We traveled on another bridge almost six miles long. Some years back when times were good, the Prime Minister declared a bonus of sort to municipalities (or some other political subdivision) and this one place put its bonus into gold bullion; forgot how much money was involved, it was big bucks. Felt good touching some of the gold on display.

So many people of a farm area grow the same crop like strawberries...as far as you could see. My thought was too much supply would lower the price of the product. Shut my mouth! The farmer drove around in the a \$60,000 Toyota Majestic automobile.

Most of the hotels we stayed at had Western and Japanese breakfasts, buffet style. I think we enjoyed breakfasts just as much as suppers. For most of our suppers our tour took us to restaurant rows, gave us supper money, and let us eat what we wanted at the restaurant of our choice. There were dozens of restaurants.

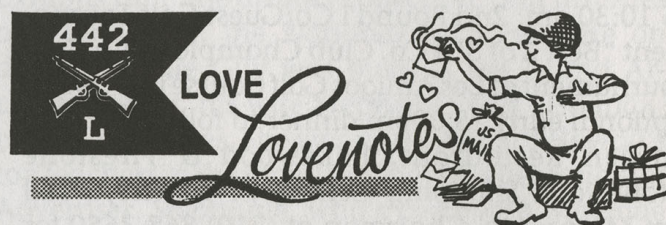
The tour of the Atomic Bomb Peace Park and Museum (Hiroshima) was a somber experience. The total devastation shown in many exhibits at the museum—especially in panoramic enlarged photographs of the blast area before and after, gruesome photos of some victims, videos, etc.—left me speechless. Thousands of people just vanished that day; the bones of hundreds of unidentifieds now lay in a mass grave at the park. Spoiled my day.

Statistics show that Japanese tourists spend a lot of dough in Hawaii. The price of goods in Hawaii must be bargains compared to costs in Japan. Name-brand American gold balls went for \$70-80 a dozen. Metal drivers were priced in four figures.

Watching the girls go by was fun! They are pretty. The younger set are very chic: mini skirt, modern hairdo, dark stockings, good make-up, etc. Pretty good legs, too. In their manners they are not as reserved as I had believed them to be; our tour bus driver was a good looking guy: tall, built,

shaka uniform, Elvis sideburns, fancy shoes, etc. At one of our stops a local gal of the area wanted to meet him, if he was willing. He confessed to having a wife and two kids, honest bugga.

Our tour visited only one temple, although we visited the immaculate gardens of many others. At this one temple there was a special altar where one offered incense and coaxed the smokey vapors towards where he ailed. One of the guys had an old judo injury in the knee area and after going to the altar his knee felt much better, he said. I helped the smoke to where I wanted — even opened my fly. My wife says "you gotta go again!" Bye, I'm going again.



By Allen Nakamura

The big event had to be the 53rd Anniversary Banquet with **Wendy Hanamura** as the keynote speaker and showing of the documentary film *Honor Bound* on a large screen. I would like to recall some of the happening's for our members.

When I called Wendy in February to extend our invitation to her, I learned that she was expecting a baby in December. Altho' it was a blissful event, my hopes were somewhat at a low ebb and it was decision time for me. It wasn't a difficult decision for I was determined to have her on the program. You can imagine the anxiety for the following 10 months that nothing would go wrong with her. Fortunately, Wendy being a healthy mother, the relief was so great, euphoria had set in when she gave birth to **Kenny** on December 14.

Wendy, son **Jonathan** & baby **Kenny** as guests of the 442nd VC stayed at the Pacific Beach Hotel from Wed. 3/27 to Sun 3/31. **Howe** and **Mary** also were at the PBH. The regrettable thing is that, **Mary** babysat **Kenny** at the hotel and was not able to be present for Wendy's outstanding night. Of

course, we all know that Mary would not have it any other way than to leave Kenny. Wendy was one of seven VIP's who received the 442nd Kansha Friendship Medallion Award.

Our committee meetings were not without problems as I learned that times have changed since my involvements of long ago with the mother club. We were restricted in some of the decisions to be made. **Jacob**, as we often joke around as my hatchet man, certainly proved his mettle in the discussions. His impressive report on Wendy's speech at the Las Vegas mini-reunion was very instrumental in the decision of showing Honor Bound when the committee were wavering, because of the concern the length of the film could have on the members and the reported no show from some members.

My boyhood friend "**Moon**" **Saito** of K Company was a tower of strength on the committee. His aggressive support on Wendy & Honor Bound and many suggestions of his worked out very well, such as showing of Honor Bound, invite other AJA Veterans organizations, mailing to the membership my report to the Board of Directors, selection of the keynote speaker at the Memorial Services, etc. As it turned out, **Jacob** and myself were on the same wave length with "**Moon**" on all decisions.

Genro, **Jacob**, **P.K.**, **Genny** and myself greeted the Hanamuras at the airport. **Hide Nakayama** was supposed to be there with the leis but he mistook the arrival date to become a no-show. However, he made up for it at the Wah Kung Restaurant at the Damon Tract business area on a Friday night, where the Chapter enjoyed a chop suey dinner with the Hanamuras. The Wahiwawa combo of **Furukawas** and **Hagios** who usually pass up the evening socials and close buddies of Howe escorted by their daughters were also there. The **Fujiis** and **Kashiwas** were missing as **Lawrence** was on Maui as a guest of the UH Agricultural Program, where he is in great demand for his expert consultation on plants and flowers. **Genro** had a late starting time in golf that forbade him from coming.

Wendy and Howe expressed themselves that they really look forward to seeing everyone at the chapter gatherings, no one was disappointed as we had a good turnout of members and wives including **Paul** and **Yuki Takiguchi**.

For many years I wanted to reciprocate Howe and Mary's hospitality back in 79' when Howe came to pick up **Paul K.**, **Genny**, my late wife **Emi** and myself at Kyoto Inn in Japan Town, San Francisco to visit the wineries in Napa and subsequent visit to their home in Oakland. I was finally able to do that with a dinner on Wednesday evening at the C.W. Peacock Restaurant at the Moana Hotel. Wendy, the children, Howe, Mary, **Genro**, **Muriel** and myself enjoyed the dinner. Wendy and Jonathan had a ball playing on the sand before dinner, roving around the adjoining Banyan Court outdoor restaurant. I guess it's not widely known that Howe is an excellent artist. I have a painting of the waves done by him, hanging on the wall which he carefully packed with frame for us to bring home. He claims to be retired from painting now.

The Hanamuras were well entertained as each night of their stay was occupied. On Thursday evening, thru **Genro's** generous hospitality, spouse **Muriel**, Hanamuras, **Jacob** & **Terry**, **Paul K** & **Genny**, 442nd President **Paul Takiguchi** & **Yuki** and myself were lavishly treated to a fantastic dinner at **Kyoya** Restaurant.

We can be proud of the record turnout by our members at the banquet: **Yoshiji/Betty Aoki**, **Lawrence/Chiyoko Fujii**, **Mable Fujimoto**, daughter **Linda Kalua**, **Richard/Chizuko Furukawa** & daughters **Phyllis Fujii**, **Sheila Morgado**, **Karolyn Mukai**, **Bill Hagio**, daughter **Diane** & spouse **George**, **Howe Hanamura**, **Jacob/Terry Jichaku**, **Tommy Kakesako**, **Mickey/Tatsue Kurokawa**, **P.K./Genny Matsumoto**, **Cowboy/Marian Matsumura**, **Toshi/Betty Nakahara**, **Hide Nakayama**, **Allen Nakamura**, **Kazuma Ogata**, **Gary Ohashi** & **Irene**, **Joe/Nancy Oshiro**, **Bill/Lily Oshiro**, **Robert/Lily Sasaki**, **Kobe/Chiz Shoji**, **Matsy/Aya Takabuki**, **Isa/Hilda Takiyama**, **Yoshito/Pauline Tome**, **Jiro/Flora Watanabe**, **Victor/Timmy Yamashita**. Due to a bad cold the following were absent: **Wally Kawamura**, and **Mabel** who made a brief appearance to greet the Hanamuras and guests **Tom/Dorothy Fukunaga**. **Fumio Ohashi** because of his illness and wife **Michiko**, **Freckles/Gloria Oshiro** because of relative commitments were also absent. We had 6 tables, triple the number of tables for the past decade!

Roll Call at Punchbowl

The names of the following Company L deceased members during 1995 were read at the Memorial Services at the National Cemetery of the Pacific: **Shigeo "Tonto" Aoki**, (1/23/95), **Elbert Izumi** (4/21/95), **Masaharu "Oki" Okumura** (7/26/95) and **Bobby Yamane**, (10/2/95), **George Tokio Doi** (11/14/95).

Brothers In Valor

Victor Yamashita, Joe Oshiro and myself attended the Mounment Ground Breaking Ceremony held at Fort DeRussy on Monday, March 11, 1996. The plan designed by **Jackson Morisawa** when completed will be a thing of beauty. The Central Theme, Circle of Friendship, a small outdoor amphitheatre with a time capsule will be surrounded by Go For Broke Quadrant (442), One Puka Puka Quadrant (100th Bn), MIS Quadrant, Chowhound Quadrant (1399the Eng). The location of this monument is adjacent to Kuroda Field and alongside Saratoga Road and Kalakaua Avenue.

Sickness & Distress

4th Platoon Sergeant, **Moses "Moki" Shigeharu Utsumi**, age 75 died on April 14, 1996. Our deepest condolence and sympathy to his wife **Rosemary**, son **Deems** and daughter **Daryl**. May he rest in peace. Private services were held. **Victor Yamashita** was hospitalized at Kaiser on May 2 for four days as he had difficulty breathing. He had experienced irregular heartbeat earlier. The doctor diagnosed it as a lymphoma in the throat which was treated with chemotherapy and radiation. No surgery was necessary. Because of his benign tumor in the groin area, he will be expected to live with these occurrences. Victor's volunteer work at Keehi will be limited but he should be around for our meetings as he continues to improve. He will be the adjutant for LIKM Chapter.

Fumio Ohashi is under dialysis treatment at the Pali Momi Hospital as reported by Joe Oshiro. **Toyo Mizuno** of Hilo was bedridden as she injured the vertebrae, the lower lumbar on March 9. I can attest to how painful this type of injury can be from my own experience. Tom called me that they won't be able to make the banquet because of Toyo's injury. Hope she gets better before their trip

to Seattle later this year. Woe to Tom, he had to cook, clean house and do other chores!—complaint from Tom, ha! Our well wishes and prayers to each of you to get well.

Shinennenkai

We had over 130 participants at our annual Shinennenkai on Sunday, February 25, 1996, again chaired by **Victor Yamashita**. The attendance each year has been very encouraging. Victor the innovative chairman, thought of a splendid idea to have grandchildred take part in the program. My granddaughter **Lauren** age 4, daughter of my son **Randal & Ann**, sang two songs in Japanese dressed in a kimono. She was well received for her performance. Lauren not being shy, more on the "oshale" side relished her role! In fact she's already talking about the next years grandpa's party so she can do the Japanese dance! ha! So all you grandparents and sansei's out there, have the grandchildren ready to perform at the 97' Shinennenkai!

It has been quite a while that we sang the Go For Broke song a a group. As Victor sez', "we need to have it sung at every Shinennenkai." The singing surprisingly was pretty good and the warm applause was the clincher that the audience really appreciated it! The **Jerry Yamakis** catered food received nice complements and plenty too! The catered food was supplemented by "oishi" sashimi donated by perennial donor **Capt. Tom Fukunaga**. With the strong wind and high waves which makes fishing very difficult and supplies of fish limited at that time of the season, Capt. Tom even under these conditions never fails to set aside for our chapter's need for sashimi. My daughter **Cynthia** prepared the sashimi, taking great care to make it palatable.

It was good to have **Jiro Watanabe** back with us and resume playing music. Jiro who has been ill the past 2 years looked really great! With his return, he was joined by **Yoshito Tome**, **Ted & Yvonne Yanagihara**. Another group of musical entertainers led by **Wayne Shishido**, son of **Ralph & Mitsue** were surprise performers. I guess the talent must belong on the mother's side as Mitsue sings with the Ukulele Choral Group.

Dr. Kei Yamato who is also a Reverend and wife **Sherrie** were introduced as a new member of

LIK Chapter. Kei a member of Easy Chapter of 442nd transferred from Chapter 56 upon dissolution of Chapter 12 a few years back. Sometimes I cannot thing straight with advanced age but as the MC, I should have taken the sage advice of Jacob to introduce **Wayne/Barbara Hirota** and daughter **Stephanie** on their first appearance at the Shinenenkai. From one aged to another aged, snafu's will happen! In anycase, they really enjoyed the afternoon's excitement with lucky numbers, bids, good good, especially the mouth watering deserts by the wives. Look for them to be regulars hereafter!

Donors of Prizes

Our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all donors for their continued support on their contributions of items to make our social functions the best ever there is. **Tommy Kakesako**, over \$600 retail value of items: 1 Ladies Lindy Star Ruby and Diamond Ring \$200, 1 Ladies Medana Asst. Bands watch \$70. 1 strand Lapis Necklace \$110. 2 Gents Medana Quartz watches @ \$35. each. 2 Ladies Medana Quartz watches @ \$35. each. 1 Ladies Medana Quartz watch w/red leather band. \$25. 1 child's digital watch \$10. 1 Lorus Quartz Alarm Clock. \$10. 1 Freshwater Pearl Necklace \$50. 2 Bracelet watches \$15. each. 1 Reconditioned Arenix watch \$30. **Lawrence Fujii**. No price listed but the plants must be in the neighborhood of \$400. Black Pine, Palapalai Fern, Boston Compacta Fern, Asparagus Meyeri, Asparagus Retrofractus, Azalea Satsuki Pink, Asalea Red, Footstool Palm and Anthurium Aristocrat. **Hide Nakayama** 10 Cattleya Orchids, **Pauline Tome**, **Marian Matsumura**, Lid Tray, **Nancy Oshiro** Dessert Plates, **Betty Nakahara** Hot Cups, **Mitsue Shishido** Cold Cups, **Mabel Fujimoto** Case Soda, **Flora Watanabe** Tsukemono & Candy, **Betty Aoki** Hiyashi Ramen. The following donated case soda and beer each: **Toshi Nakahara**, **Kobe Shoji**, **Bill Oshiro**, **Ernie Uno**, **Isa Takiyama**, **Fumio Ohashi**. **Yoshito Tome**, **Allen Nakamura** each 2 cases soda, **Cowboy Matsumura**, **Joe Oshiro** and **Victor Yamashita**, 1 case beer each. **Victor**, **Ice** and **Allen**, boiled peanuts.

Desserts

One of the best innovations of this decade is the sign, Dessert Table and the composition tablet to list the goodies. The page was nearly filled with the

list of goodies and donors. The list is so helpful that it's a blessing for me to report it in the GFB Bulletin. The following listed their oishi, oishi goodies. The desserts are one of the hi-lites of our social gatherings, thanks to all the women and talented men! **Kuro Tomasa** 2 Pound Cakes, **Timmy Yamashita** Banana Cake, **Flora Watanabe** Hard Candies, **Pat Protzman** Brownies, **Pauline Toma** Apple Cake, **Terry Jitchaku** Apricot Cake, **Genny Matsumoto** Mochi and Gau, **Gloria Oshiro** Andagi, **Richard/Lani Oshiro** Jello Cake, **Hilda Takiyama** Jello, **Chiz Shoji** Chocolate Cake, **Edna Kuramoto** Pumpkin Pie, **Kiyo Yamamoto** Sekihan, **Doris Ishida** Baklava, **Mitsue Shishido**, **Coffee Azuki** Gelatin, **Grace Uno** Pecan Pie, **Butchie Leong** Mochi, **Joy Kurozumi**, **Jello Tatsue** **Karokawa** Chocolate Cookies, **Fumio Ohashi** Coffee Gelatin, **Barbara Hirota** Jello Cake, **Asako Watanabe** Lemon Squares, **Randal Nakamura** Petite Cream Cups, **Haruko Kawaoka**, **Walnut Cups** and **Grace Okamura**, **Yasumi Zuke**.

Mini-Reunion Date

Because of the lengthy article in this edition, I will list only the addition and deletion from the revised list received from Paul Matsumoto. So. California addtion: **Louis/Genevieve DesJunes**. Deletion: **Margaret Kleegar**. Nothern California deletion: **Frank/Kathryn Uda**. From the Northwest deletion: **Byron/Beverly Takeshita**, **Oahu** deletion: **Victor/Timmy Yamashita**, **Jacob/Terry Jitchaku**.

No. California News

Thanks to **Shig Kizuka**, Secretary for Nothern California Co. L for mailing me the minutes of their Spring meeting on March 16 and the videotape of the National Salute to Japanese American Veterans Banquet. This is a 2 hour long videotape that is available to anyone interested in borrowing. The minutes are so well recorded, it puts us to shame if we every try to do the same. Thanks Shig, I appreciate the news!

This is one group that is noticeably expanding as seen by their attendance which meets in early afternoon at the Nisei War Memorial Hall in Sacramento, followed by an oishi bento. The attendance as called to order by President **Tay Nobori** are: **Joseph Fukuda**, **Hanamura's**, **Joey Ishihara**, **Hide Kiyomura**, **Shizuka's**, **Howard/Ruby Matsuhara**, **Joe Jori**, **Noby Murakami**,

Ann Nakamoto, Jean & Virginia Nakaso, Nihei's Ray Nomura, Tom Okubo, Ray Orite, Fumi Oshita, Ray/Kiyo Sato, Louise Sakanashi, Satoshi Tamura, Amy Tanaka, Paul/Emmie Takehara, Tom/Tsukiye Teramoto, Joe Tominaga, Frank Uda, George/Jean Yasukawa, Yokois and Yokotes.

A moment of silence for George Doi, Marian Tominaga and James Sunahara was observed. Larry Takai is doing fine but it's a day to day basis. Tay has the new address for Tom Espineda who has moved. Tay, Ann Nakamoto, Hamamuras, Kiyomura, from Co. L attended the dinner held for Jean Bianchetti, wife of Rene and daughter Dominique at Oakland. Bianchetti made the monument at the site of the Lost Battalion.

A motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to So. California's group who's in charge of this year's hospitality room plus food, fruit, and other items. Feb Yokoi is the nominating chairman for 1997-98. The cabinet will be from Sacramento with the exception of the vice chairman, who will be from the bay area. The group were also reminded of the annual dues of \$30.

Memoirs of "Masi Okamura" (continued):

I must go back to Camp Shelby days as this paragraph refers to those days. Between the 3rd and 4th. How I remember Camp Shelby. Hot weather, shouting noncoms, chiggers, revelie, retreat, recruit classes, and the Hawaii boys with their colorful pidgin English and my efforts to understand and get along with them. On the lighter side we had a guy like Kaz Kunishige PFC, who new drew KP duty or anything but owned a 1941 Chevy sedan. He had a never ending supply of gas coupons, a pad of company passes with a magical talent of penmanship with which he could make "Captain Gardner" appear thereon. When the monotony became unbearable, and he uttered the words, "who like go Hattiesburg tonight?", there was a mad scramble in the hut to get in on the crowd. Whosoever had the whatfores, (money), whyfores and wherefores gets to go. The "Kala" changed hands, the passes magically appeared, and out the MP gates we went with a bang. The passes never got a second look and we usually went direct to WILSONS Restaurant for black market steak dinner. Kune made life bearable for us during basic training and made a lot of friends,

including Katsumi Nagao of Hilo, Turk Suzuki from Seattle and myself. He was so well known around the battlion that a 1st Sargeant came in one day and asked for PFC K. Kunishige? When Kune hesitantly identified himself, the Sarge said, "I'm from Major Watts, (Bat.CO) and he wants to know where you get all your gas coupons?" Of course Kune told him, and made himself a friend the rest of basic. Once when Kune and his friends had inadvertantly strayed to an off limits town, (Columbia or Vicksburg) I forget because I wasn't with them, and got in an altercation with the MPs, the Major let them off with a small reprimand, not even a company punishment.

The next area I recall with any clarity is the Vada Cecina region, just before Leghorn. Two clamities I recall was the accidental explosion of a mines demonstration team from some haole outfit, as they had furnished and were ready to pull out, killing about ten of them and one man form M Co.1, so I heard. We had to form a skirmish line and police the whole area picking up the remains.

The other bad thing was the accidental shooting of Pete Fujino, with Turk Suzuki lying right next to him, both reading letters from home. I was lying right in the very next row of that vineyard doing the same thing. Some guy was cleaning his rifle 50 yards away, got careless, and it went off and got Pete right in the head. Turk was shook up for a few weeks and nobody blamed him.

The next action I recall was after liberating the town of Colle Salvetti, just south of the River Arno. They asked for volunteers to go on a recon patrol to Pisa, which was about ten miles away across a flat plain criss-crossed with canals. Like a fool I volunteered with a dozen others, and we set out at dusk with Lt. Androvette and Lt. Cobriere leading. About midnight, three of us were sent back with information we had, including Art Kaisaki, Sgt. Nakama and myself. We had a partisan guide leading us across canals, etc., in complete darkness. The rest of of the patrol kept on till they had visual view of the leaning Tower of Pisa and got all the information. We were very glad to see them a day and a half later. We thought they had been killed or captured. They told us they hid in a farm house all day, and when a German patrol approached, they went upstairs and remained silent till they departed. They were

on recon so they couldn't fire because they had to come back with all the information. One Lt. said, "Hell, I forgot and left a crumpled pack of Camels in the front yard." Good thing the enemy didn't discover it and therefore avoided a firefight. We were very happy to see the guys again, and for that action, we were all awarded a Bronze Star. The members of that patrol including including the two Lts and the aforementioned three who came back were: Tom Espineda, Ken Higashi, Goro Nagasako, Johnny Naganuma, H. Najita, Turk Suzuki, Sueo Takahashi, and C. Oka. I may have left someone out and included someone else. The best I could do was check the 442 roster in the book, "Bridge of Love" and check out the decorations of the men in the 2nd Platoon. (to be continued)

Update From Wendy

Recently, Wendy had made a generous donation to Love Chapter but we felt this donation could be better used in her project of distributing the Honor Bound Video tapes to the schools, in lessons on American History. We accepted her donation and in turn increased the amount and forwarded a \$300 check made out to Honor Bound. I received word from her that this donation will be used to send videotapes to the Massachusetts Public School.



by Ed Goto & Others

You S&D members may have been a little surprized when you found a personal copy of the GFB Bulletin in your mailbox. Last issue's S&D report mentioned that we were going to do it eventually. Well better sooner than later.

I notice, and I'm sure you did too, that our word processing managed to cut off the end of our thanks to Grace Fujii for all her past efforts in reporting on the S&D's activities in previous is-

sues. Grace just got too busy, and probably burned out too. Anyway, thanks again Grace.

President's Message - Alan Kubota

My how time flies when you're having fun!

Hi gang!it's been an active year as usual; it's summertime already, and there's more activity ahead! The picnic committee is busy tying loose ends for the Summer Family Picnic, and a clean-up/overnighter is planned for early July, more details will come your way. Then in September the SS&D's of the 100th, 1399th, MIS and 442nd will enter a float in the 50th Anniversary of the Aloha Week Parade. We'll need a lot of hands to uphold a precedent; come join in the fun and fellowship.

We've accomplished much in these few months of 1996, and we can all pat ourselves on the back for a job well done. Many thanks to those who have participated in the various events this year; the continuing Oral History project, the Archives Center project, Brothers in Valor Monument groundbreaking ceremony, 53rd Anniversary Memorial Service and Banquet, Archives Open House II, to name a few.

A special thanks to Steven Higa, Chair of the Archivist project. He and his committee spent countless hours in an agonizing, however, educational search for someone to run our center. All has paid off in the hiring of an impressive individual by the name of Katherine Collins. Congratulations to Steve and Kathy!

Congratulations also to Gail Onuma (442 S&D member) on being selected as the new Secretary for the Vet's Club. Gail is a much welcomed addition to the Executive Committee. We look forward to a closer working relationship with the Club (Guy has already set up office).

Our new membership year has begun; please know that you're important to our chapter. Please keep in touch.

See you this summer....take care.

Treasurer's Report - Joe Uno

The current unaudited balances of the Sons & Daughters of 442nd RCT as of May 14, 1996 are:

Bank of Hawaii \$10,174.27

442nd Veterans Club FCU \$31,196.60

In addition, \$800.00 for banquet expenses have not yet been disbursed and \$15,000.00 in Foundation grant funds have not yet been deposited.

Archives Committee Report - Alvin Yoshitomi

On May 18, 1996, the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT hosted an Archive Center Open House for a second time. Artifact displays made up of veterans' donations were presented in the main clubhouse. Books from the 442nd Veterans library collection were placed on display for viewing. Videotapes of oral history interviews of 442nd veterans were shown throughout the day.

Ed Goto and Jan Kawabata were on hand to answer any questions about the 442nd oral history project. Tour guides Ann Kabasawa and Dean Anzai directed veterans and guests from the clubhouse to the Archive Center. Steven Higa was there to greet them and explain the use of the computer equipment with a short demonstration.

Then in the Artifact Room, Guy Koga and Terry Takaki explained how we catalog, preserve, and store all artifacts. Back in the main clubhouse, refreshments were served by Gail Nishimura, Shirley Igarashi, and Doreen Matsuda. At the final stop of the open house tour, Grace & Gary Fujii and Linda Toma were on hand with souvenir sale items.

As a lasting remembrance of the Sons and Daughters Open House, a brochure with a brief history of the 100th Battalion and 442nd RCT was given to all who attended this event.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Veterans' Archives Center Open House and to all who helped make this event possible.

Membership Services Committee Report - Ann Kabasawa

June 1st begins a new membership year for the Sons and Daughters. We have many new members who have joined for the year, as well as members who have already renewed their membership. There are still many of you who haven't renewed. Now is the time to do so. You have probably received a renewal form by now along information and sign-up sheets for upcoming

events. Please join us!

We've been corresponding with sons and daughters and other people who are interested in learning about the 442nd RCT through the Internet. If you would like to be part of our networking system, please e-mail Steven Higa (archivist project chair and computer whiz) at Steven_h2@verifone.com or Ann Kabasawa (compuserve) 761022,2654 or Sd442@lava.net.

The following is an update on our calendar of events. I know everyone is busy, but please give just a little of your time to attend at least one activity or help in any way. We're anxious to meet and share with you, not just see your name on our roster.

SEPT Saturday, September 14, Aloha Week Parade, float prep several weeks before and especially the night before

DEC Sunday, December 15, Christmas Party, Captain's Table, Hawaiian Waikiki Beach Hotel

We hope to see you at these activities. If you have questions, please call Ann Kabasawa at 734-0841.

Special Events Committee Report - Velma Kawamae

Plans and activities have been set in motion for a 1996 Aloha Week Parade float entry under the combined efforts of the sons and daughters of the 100th Bn, 442nd RCT, 1399th Engrs, and MIS.

This year's parade, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Aloha festivities, will be held on September 14, 1996, Saturday.

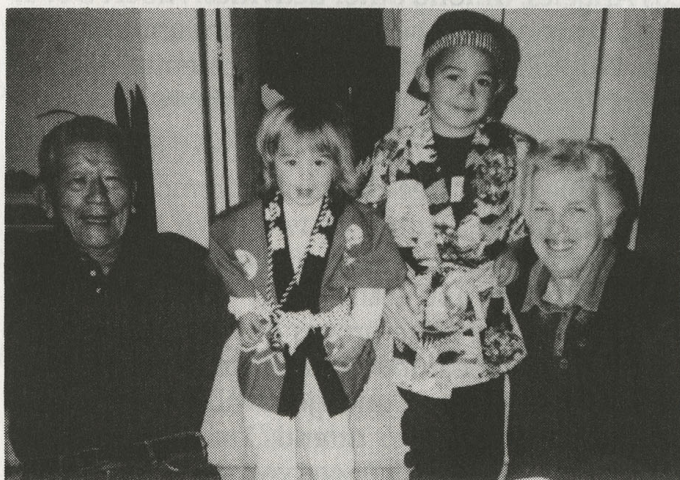
The theme for this year's parade is "Treasured Moments." Our design will have a replica of the Brothers of Valor statue at the rear of the float. At the head will be a reproduction of the purple heart medal surrounded with lots of flowers and greenery. We hope to have the statue rotate slowly; any "experts" out there who can make this happen? "I'll Remember You" will be our musical background.

The construction site is still in the works. Building of the float and some assembly will start about 2 weeks prior to parade day. We will need carpenters (or at least helpers), an electrician, and many volunteer hands to assemble the float, especially on the night before the parade, when the fresh flowers have to be applied.

We're still looking for a sponsor. If you know of or are one, please let us know. Donations are also welcome and needed in the form of flowers, greenery, and food for the workers. We'll even actually accept real money to buy all these!

If you'd like to participate in, or donate to, this fun and worthwhile event, please call **Gail Onuma** at the clubhouse at **949-7997** or call me, **Velma**, at **988-2537** (h). Please KOKUA.

A sketch of the float will be on display at both the 442nd and 100th clubhouses, as well as postings of up-to-date information on this event. So drop by and CHECK IT OUT!



Fa(THE)R(s) SIDE - Yutaka Yoshida

(The following entry was sent to us by daughter, **Ann Yoshida**, in (would you believe!) September 1995. The editor's apologies for taking so long; this was misplaced for quite awhile. - We didn't get much on Ann or her dad, other than that she lives in Glenview, Illinois with spouse, **Mike Hummel**. Dad, **Yutaka** (Yosh?) is from Howe Chapter. The accompanying picture was labeled "**Yosh, Amelia, Will, and Marge**" - we'll let you figure it out, or probably get a fill-in from Ann after she sees this, and let you know more later.)

I took part in the 50th reunion of the 442nd RCT and in the parade arranged by the Sons and Daughters. It was an enjoyable experience because there were sons and daughters, wives and friends and even a few strangers celebrating with us. It was poignant because those of us who took part in it knew that it was going to be our last hurrah. Some of us could hardly walk or were afflicted with various ailments, but being together made us forget our problems. We recalled our friends who were killed in action, some from Hawaii and many from the internment camps on the mainland.

In any case, the parade was a great experience and lots of fun for the ones of us who were able to take part. Our only uniform requirement was the overseas khaki cap somehow obtained by the committee of the Sons and Daughters. It was a memorable week, seeing old friends, some of whom we hadn't seen for many decades.

The parade recalled to mind the first parade in which the Hawaii contingent took part. Only a week after induction at Schofield Barracks, the new soldiers were put on a train, yes, a train, of the Oahu Railway and Land Company, and were shipped to the Honolulu station at Aala Park.

From there we marched to the Capitol grounds. I'm not sure why they marched us along the waterfront; maybe it was because we marched poorly. Each of us carried a gas mask because it was wartime. We did not know our right foot from our left but managed to march in loose columns to the palace grounds.

We heard a few speeches of which I do not remember a word or thought. I guess they wanted mainly to say goodbye and good luck. I do remember that a **Miss Miriam Leilani** sang a final song with the words, "To you, sweetheart, aloha, — one more aloha and it's time to say good bye." We then marched back to the Aala railroad station and went back to Tent City at Schofield Barracks.

To have joined and marched with the 442nd RCT, then and now, has been one of the proudest and most profound experiences of my life.