

Month and Ace of Aces. Stan S. the pro of HCC—well, not exactly pro but he plays there often enough to know every blade of grass on that course. With this home course knowledge and help from his handicap, he shot a net 66 to take the whole nine yards, the whole enchilada, all the marbles meaning the Ace of Aces, Ace of the Month and Individual Low Net and the uku millions that goes with the event. But this being a Christmas shoot, there were at least some money left to rejoice for Roy F., Biggie, Flint, Geo M., Don Y., Boyan, Walter, Harold, Ted, Rocky, Taguma, Larry and Akabo.

CP's on the Par 3's: Ted was the only CP—on #4. For that distinction, he may have the cash for the CP's on the other par 3's.

13 Jan 97, NGC. Don with his net 64 took the Ace of the Month followed by low net shooters Geo, Flint, Roy F., Mits, Rocky, and Walt. Biggie, Akabo and Francis depleted the till with their net 71s.

CP on the Par 3's: #1 Club. There being no Tiger in this club, no one has been able to claim CP on this long par 3. #5 Toku, #8 Biggie, #10 Ted, #14 Y.T., #17 Toku.

10 Feb 97, NGC. After tying with Mits for the monthly Ace at net 60, Y.T. squeezed a win by a hair. You could say it was by dint of adhering to the do's and don'ts of the game. Dint four-putt any greens, dint bury the ball into the sand traps, dint sent the ball into the koa bushes or the stream. Also the tie-breaker ending in Y.T.'s favor helped.

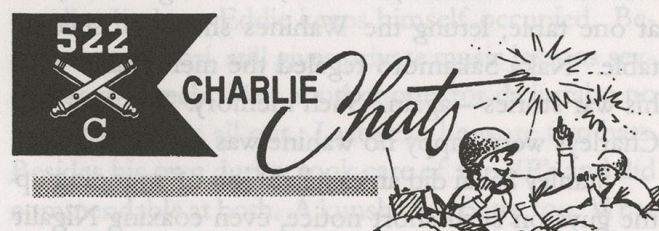
The other ten who had to shoot in the 60's to smell any cash were Joe S., Biggie, Rocky, Walter, Tony, Akabo. Boyan and Yoshio T. were the low man on the totem pole with net 67s.

CP's on the Par 3's: #1 Club, #5 Biggie, #8 Roy F., #10 Club same as #1. This long par 3 is too long for the super seniors. #14 Biggie again. No low net money but getting rich enough to make his frequent trip to Las Vegas. #17 Toku.

31 March 97, HCC. Ted and Y.T. tied at net 70 for the Ace of the Month but Y.T. being a previous winner, and Ted is the Ace of Mar. The foursome of Stan K., Stan S., Roy O. and Taguma had lower scores than that but were disqualified for taking "automatic two putts" on the greens that were being aerated.

And Den

Joe S. tees up his ball but the T-marker was in the way of his stance so he moved it... the T-marker. Hmmm. Must be about a 5 stroke penalty for that? Joe Usui who has been absent from tournaments has not taken up knitting as an easier pastime. Fact is, he can play only on afternoons when he is relieved from his caregiver's duty to his wife. Seems like there are more handicap flags being requested for their golf carts to enable them to drive onto the fairways and the able-bodied ones are happy to share the cart with them.



by Ed Ichiyama

Charley Chapter held it Shinnenkai on February 15, 1997 at Tsune and Marge Maruo's mansion at Pearlridge. The catered Japanese food and the company were excellent as usual. The fish fry was superb, the icing on the cake. the men gathered around the patio, where chef Tsune Maruo displayed his culinary skills. They quickly demolished the moana, uhu and barracuda as soon as they were grilled. The ladies had their share also, periodically leaving the comfortable confines of the dining room, to expropriate the fish from Chef Tsune. Danke, Marge and Tsune for your hospitality and camaraderie.

Charleys were on the go during the period March 21, 1997 through March 27, 1997. On Friday morning, March 21, 1997, Kokomo, Sada Higa, Bob Orita, Stanley Sakai, Naka Sakamoto and Ed Ichiyama walked all over Punchbowl Cemetery, placing American flags on the gravesites of 12 Charleys buried there. In addition to the flags, each gravesite was adorned with fresh flower leis, courtesy of Naka and Kokomo. No doubt our deceased comrades appreciated this fine gesture of Aloha and remembrance.

We then hurriedly adjourned to the Queen

Kapiolani Hotel to attend a 522 FA Bn luncheon. This banquet was held to honor 5 Field Artillery officers who came from the mainland to attend the annual 442 Anniversary Banquet. Dr. Sus Ito, professor emeritus from Harvard Medical School, was our officer representative. The Battery was well represented at the luncheon and Sus and Minnie Ito, I am sure, enjoyed the festivities as well as the company.

In addition to attending the 442 Anniversary Banquet, Sus and Minnie were feted by the chapter on Monday evening, March 24, 1997, at the Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant at the Ala Moana Hotel. The attendees numbered two tables. True to Japanese custom and tradition, the men, including Sus Ito, sat at one table, letting the Wahines share the second table. Naka Sakamoto regaled the men's table with his war stories—again. Such memory. Some of the Charleys were happy no wahine was at their table.

Stanley Sakai did an excellent job of rounding up the guys on such short notice, even coaxing Nigalit Fujimoto away from Hilo to attend the Friday, Saturday and Monday events. Everyone was happy to see Nigalit handling the transition from husband to widower with such grace and dignity. Rosie, Nigalit's wife, passed away unexpectedly and suddenly of a ruptured aorta early this year. Heartfelt condolences to Nigalit Fujimoto and family.

On Wednesday evening, March 26, 1997, Charleys gathered again, this time at the Nuuanu Memorial Park to bid a somber and solemn farewell to our comrade, Henry T. Kobayashi. Henry passed away on Sunday morning, March 16, 1997 after being bed confined for 10 years, following a stroke.

Just about every Charley was in attendance and the members, as usual, played a major role in the Memorial Service. The Choba tables were manned by Akabo Takasaki, Hide Hirata, Tsune Maruo, Slim Shimizu, Sada Higa, Kokomo Hokama and Nash Kato. Stanley Sakai served as M.C. and Ed Ichiyama delivered the eulogy. Sus Ito, who was scheduled to return to Boston on Tuesday, March 25, 1997, stayed over specifically to attend the service. This was a very compassionate and noble gesture by Sus. He also honored Henry, his fallen comrade, by saying a few words of remembrance at the service.

The following morning, March 27, 1997, Henry was accorded full military honors at a brief service held at Punchbowl Cemetery. His remains will be kept in the columbium there. After the service, we were guests of Mrs. Mabel Kobayashi at the Pagoda restaurant for a buffet luncheon.

Henry was blessed with loyal comrades who remembered him with love and respect all during his illness. Tsune Maruo, one of the closest Charley Battery comrades, visited Henry unfailingly twice a month during the entire ten years that Henry was incapacitated, immobile and incommunicado. On each of his visits, Tsune would give Henry a shave and a haircut. The only sign of recognition and appreciation Tsune received, was the extra squeeze of the hand he felt when he exchanged a handshake with Henry.

Equally as loyal was Gilbert Nishimi, another Charley comrade. Gilbert, who does not drive a car, rode the bus from Ewa Beach to Manoa, a distance of about 30 miles every week to visit his sick buddy. Gilbert did this for ten years.

Henry earned and therefore, deserved the love and respect extended by Tsune, Gilbert, and others, because Henry himself embodied and embraced the Aloha spirit all of his life. This extraordinary display of camaraderie was spawned more than 50 years ago in the heart and misery of Mississippi; further strengthened in the rain and muddy battlefields of Italy and finally, bonded and welded in the snowy battlegrounds of France and Germany.

Henry is survived by widow Mabel Kobayashi; son, Loren; daughters Liz Mitsuka and Lillas Cefra, and grandchildren. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

Henry Kobayashi - April 17, 1922-March 16, 1997



by Hichi Matsumoto

1996 Christmas Party

Eddie Kanaya, Chapter President with outside help, mainly from wife Betty and granddaughters (Lea and Jenna took care of the games and bingo) put on a well rounded program held at Victoria Inn. We get the same hall every year but seems like it's getting to look larger and larger with each passing year. This year's turn out barely met the minimum. Just about scratching the bottom of the barrel.

Barney & Bernice Zenigami, like always, took care of the all-important money part, collecting and paying off. Shimpai nai because arera futari tomo kichomenna. Yep, they still going dancing.

Charley Ijima took care of the bar. Wanting to get his goat, told 'em, "Eh, you big bugga, why you no be Santa Claus." He snapped, "Who going take care da bar, you?" And nodding toward Santa, "He doing one heck of a good job and enjoying it, too." End of conversation.

Santa Claus was Doc Kawamoto. Santa brought his karaoke machine, humbug demo he no mind. Joe Sato couldn't make it to the party but took care of the beer as he promised. A man of his word. No overhead or wall decorations (by the house) but no wuz sabishii because of Michiko Chinna's contribution, centerpieces for all the tables. Proves that it's not the quantity but the quality that counts. Konaida made she had a flower shop in Kaimuki Town. Several members' children were in attendance plus some magos.

We may change the party place next year. Anyway, to be on the safe side, put the deposit and reserved a date in case of moshika.....

Had a fireside chat with Bessie Ono and naturally the conversation turned to why she and the kids giving up the service station. Asked her "How come." Answered, "Well, having accomplished everything they set out to do, called it quits—enough is enough—after 31 years in Waipahu and Pearl City." Cites rising costs, rent/lease problems as some of the reasons. Ben Ono's Texaco Service Station was a landmark in Pearl City (like guys asking which way/how far from Ben Ono's). and just as well known as Pearl City Tavern.

Chewing the fat with Esther (Slim Motoyuki, de-

ceased) Fujioka, learned that with the latest umare, she now have 15 (as in jugo) grandchildren. First thing came to mind was, wow, minna isshoni atsumattara, totemo nigiyakana. That's not contributing to the population explosion. She's got six or seven children of her own. Esther, a yasashii person with a pleasing personality.

Chapter Officers - 1997

President - Eddie Kanaya

Immediate Past President Eddie Kanaya consented to serve again as chapter president. Give him a kunsho. Many thanks to him and wife Betty, too (his chief confidante), for keeping the club running on all cylinders. Eddie keeps himself occupied. Besides mago mori, still gives private music lessons several days a week. He's another one, for da kurabu no tame nara, goes all out. Last year, he wore two hats. Besides his own duties, took care of the VP's and did commendable at both. A kunsho for Betty, too. What for, what did she do? Go ask any president's wife.

Vice-President - Doc Kawamoto

He wuz da chapter's "Fearless Leader" (Pres.) seems like only konaida but never monku nor kotowaru when asked to be the new VP. Seems like the Chapter's VP (entertainment chairman) criteria was written with him in mind. You know him, he likes to do dakine, eh. In da 442 Uta-No-Kai, singing dem karaoke songs, he enryonashi borot like hell but no more any kine repercussions because he is considered to be one of the top notchers. If you no believe, go ask him. Dis guy, good fun and rascal yutara.

Secretary - Masao/Yvonne Yamasaki

Treasurer - Monte/Lily Okamoto

Why not, give the wives title and recognition as well, ase kaite they earned it, helping in any way for a better club. They kompan their respective duties, he records and she makes the report. Besides, by coming to the meetings, the two ladies help build up the attendance and gibatte contributes to da popular pupu table. Dis two couple no behavior yo, mada honeymooners no yohna, naka yoku sete kurasu.

Urayamashii. Emulate setai daga... longevity and dedication must be their middle name.

Bless them all (officers and wives), cannot thank them enough.

Aloha/Welfare/Etc. Chairman - Joe Sato

His duties are just what it says. Chotto mitara looks as though duck soup and title only. But not quite. They are mainly taking care of mimai/koden/senbetsu, things like that. Has a guideline to follow but still yet no can yudan and do a half-ass job bambai going get plenty iran kine repercussions. We got the right man for the job.

Chapter Meeting - January

"Ake mashite shinnen omedeto..." After all dat stuff pau, old/new president Eddie Kanaya called the first meeting of the year to order at 7:32 pm and opened with: If Masao Yamasaki (Secretary) can serve for 25-plus years, Monte Okamoto (Treasurer) can serve for 30-plus years, and Hichi Matsumoto (Reporter) can serve for 35-plus years, I can and willing to serve another year. Words deep down from da kokoro kara.

Members present unanimously voted in favor of the chapter picking up the tab for the officers (commissioned) and their wives should they attend the annual banquet. Took some time to honor and recognize them, better late than not at all.

Our chapter's reunion will be held in Kona the day after the annual banquet, from March 23 to 26, 1997. For particulars, call Lily Okamoto, Honolulu or Midori Fujimoto of Kona.

Reliable Charley Ijima brought da nokotta refreshments (beer & soda) from the Christmas party. He only had to pack 'em, lug 'em home and bring 'em back again.

Chapter Meeting - February

Having done his homework as usual, President Eddie Kanaya just about breezed through the business portion of the meeting.

For us guys in the 2nd Platoon, Gilbert Kobatake's) especially were overjoyed when Lily

Okamoto (coordinator for the Kona Reunion on the Honolulu side) made it known that Henry "Florida" Ozaki of Florida, where else, was coming to attend both the 442 Annual Banquet and the Kona Reunion. A very first for him. For sure the boys will be waiting with great anticipation. Haven't seen one another since 1945—was it at Leghorn? Anyway, daibun long time.

Ended the evening enjoying watching the UH Baseball Rainbows wallop the daylights out of the USC Trojans.

Chapter Meeting - March

Finalizing plans for the chapter's mini-reunion in Kona starting the day after the 442 Anniversary Banquet by chairperson Lily Okamoto and Doc Kawamoto in charge of the get-together dinner at Pagoda, where many of our mainland friends are staying prior to the banquet and Kona reunion, stretched the meeting overtime.

Learning of Da Ijima's recent all expenses paid, free trip to Las Vegas, hounded Margie for details. Never bother to ask Charley, knowing him like the back of my hand, we know even how good demo or junk, he going shrug his massive shoulders and say, "wuz okay." Anyway, Margie ga yuhnoni was dakine promotional thing. Fabulous. First class all the way. Air/ground transportation, hotel accommodations and gourmet dinners. And get this, on top of all that, went morau kozukaisen amounting to four figures. Rolling her mentama, muttered something like, how sweet it was. The "hard luck" part was, her's was only the third prize.

Chapter President Eddie Kanaya announced that Velma (Richard Urada) Kawamae will be the 232nd Engrs/Band guideon bearer for the Punchbowl Memorial Service. An excellent choice.

After enjoying the abundance of food, finished up with Helen Takano's fresh strawberry cake and Tommy Hirao's mochi. Da bugga so good, kuchi ga wareta. Just about melts in da mouf. Even da no mo teeth guys can kamu and enjoy.

In the News

The following appeared in The Pacific Citizen: TOM MASAMORI NAMED JACLERS OF THE BIENNIUM. Masamori is known for his long-time service to the Mile-Hi Chapter, JACL, as well as with other community organizations. He has been a member since 1960. He has held various offices, including president, and currently serves on the board of directors. Additionally, he is the treasurer for the Mountain Plains District Council of JACL.

In 1992, Masamori was appointed veterans liaison to JACL by then National President Lillian Kimura.

In area activities, Masamori is a member of the Ralph Carr Memorial Committee to honor the former Colorado governor who supported Japanese Americans during the war and after. The JACler also chaired the Minori Yasui Memorial Committee to honor the later JACL leader.

Born in Pescadero, California, he attended San Jose State College in 1941-42, before being interned to Poston II in Arizona. He entered the US Army in 1944 and joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, assigned as a combat medic with the Third Battalion. He served during the Po Valley Campaign in Italy. He was discharged in 1946.

Masamori then studied photography under Patrick Coffey from 1946-47, and began his own operation in 1948.

Tom & Lil participated in their first Hawaii Reunion in—could be late seventies or early eighties. Since then, they've been fixtures. they are in da yoh kuru group.

"The Kona Coffee Story" has attracted national recognition. Last September, the exhibit was presented a Certification of Commendation by the American Association for State and Local History at its 52nd Annual Awards program in Nashville, Tenn. On hand to accept the award were Kona residents Midori Fujimoto... The above article with snapshots appeared in the Hawaii Herald, January 17, 1997 edition.

Midori very much involved and was co-chairperson for the fund raiser in Kona. Asked her how come you one former Hilo girl, born and raised, get involved in this "Kona Coffee" thing. Answered, "They

asked for help so..." she's another one like Hiroshi Arisumi of Maui, whenever people come asking for help, she's right there. A very community-minded person.

A worker she is. She and Fred (deceased) put the Kona Reunion together with outside help, of course. Thanks to her, the 232nd Engrs/Band continues to have reunions. Add Lily Okamoto's name to that list.

Eh, not bad boy, konaids's edition of Hawaii Herald had about Hiroshi Arisumi of Maui and now this (Midori Fujimoto). Before that Jimmy Kobatake, Takeshi Hirata's daughter (Hilo) and Tommy Hirao several times.

Tommy Hirao again appeared on TV live and in living color, too. The topic—what else but mochi. In the newspapers, too, yoh deru kotoga. He must get some kind of drag. When interviewed, he no get da halulu kine look. Just like an old pro (which he is) he just rattles off. Looked very comfortable with da mike in hand. Just like holding dakine (mallet for pound mochi).

James (Gilbert) Kobatake was recognized as the Minority Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The article with a picture of him and his wife appeared in The Hawaii Herald, Friday, Nov. 1, 1996.

Jimmy is the third and youngest of three brothers. For years, he was team mascot of the 232nd/Band Chapter's softball team sponsored by his dad. Today, he has contracting business of his own.

Never Too Late

Evelyn (Thomas/Mike) Shintani is the newest member in the 442 Uta-No-Kai—mainly singing karaoke songs. You one Japanese song lover, no be selfish and sing only to yourself in the shower, come out and sing along and give da guys and gals a treat or treatment.

Any paid-up 442 Veterans Club members/spouses are welcome to join. The group meets Fridays, 5:00 to 6:45 pm at our clubhouse.

Sick Call

Joe Sato wasn't exactly laid up but for his safety

put himself on hold until such time. He had some visionary problems, causing his equilibrium to go atcha kotch and zig instead of zag. Wanting to be on the safe side, skipped both the 232nd/Band Chapter's and the 442 Uke/Hula Club's Christmas parties. Must be a first for him. Him and shobai dohgu (guitar) liven up the party.

Blanche (Kiyo) Kimura has been going for dialysis treatment for sometime now, keeping Danna-san very busy and out of mischief. Kiyo appears to be the nonchalant and nonkina person but when comes to the family, it's about face. Top priority and all business.

Edna (Hiroshi) Arisumi suffered a stroke konaida. With Hiroshi at her side urging her on, physical therapy, etc., is doing great and well on the road to recovery.

Too much stress lands Kiyo Kimura in the hospital for some much needed R&R. Wuz long overdue. Murimo naiyo for him. For years now, tsutomete took wife Blanche to St. Francis Hospital for dialysis three times a week. Da days kimatte was the same so not too bad, but da time yo, that would get anybody nuts. Some time was in the a.m. and other times in the p.m. Dat wuz the kurushii part. Dis guy is one good husband/father, wife and kids ni nandemo kandemo moku nashi yoh sete yaru. Hey, Kiyo & Blanche, they do things atcha kotch. Blanche is home now (2/27/97) and Kiyo is in the hospital. They're fortunate having oya koko kids. Susan (Chojo) and Clyde (Jinan), two of their six kids that are living here in Honolulu, arera ni yoh sete yaru. Dem, parents kara yoh narota.

Anyway, yura all kiotsukete, yohjin sete hayo naoru koto. THAT'S AN ORDER.

Memorial

James Ihara - Jimmy passed away the latter part of last year. Big brother Terry of Easy Chapter was the bearer of the sad/shocking news.

He was born and raised in Hilo on the Big Island. When the 442 Regimental Combat Team was formed, he volunteered and served with distinction with 232nd Combat Engineers. Returned home in one piece and was honorable discharged.

Not long after he got married, looking for greener pastures, pulled up stakes and moved, not west but east to the west coast, San Diego and then to Reno and Sparks, Nevada. He got his civil engineering degree after starting a family. Do we need to tell you how much he musta have busted his dakine and sweated blood as well.

With wife Tomiko and da Hiraki's (Tom & Mary) of Seattle, played hosts to the 232nd Engrs/Band members and wives at the Reno Reunion. Prepared taberaren hodo broke da mouf kine kaukau daily for lunch at home and brought it to the reunion site, Bally Hotel/Casino in Reno. Still yet can taste da hekka no aji yo, da way only da local Hawaii guys can make 'em. Like feeding an army (442 RCT) that's how much they prepared. They make our Hawaiian Hospitality look manini. Wuz an unforgettable sight, seeing our boys, waiter-like, narande parading through the casino transporting da goodies up to the hospitality room.

Their children also took active part during the reunion, hosting the whole group to a cocktail party prior to the banquet.

Our deepest sympathy to Tomiko and family.

Michiko (Teiji) Chinna - Passed away January 23, 1997. Owned and operated the popular Michiko's Flowers in Kaimuki for many years. Survived by husband Teiji, son Leslie, daughters Patricia and Joy and several grandchildren.

Clara (Richard) Urada - Passed away January 26, 1997, suffered heart attack. Survived by husband Richard and three daughters, Velma, Corinne and Arlene and several grandchildren. The daughters are very active with the 442 Sons and Daughters. Their record three of three can be tied but not broken.

Kay (Gilbert) Kobatake - Passed away February 25, 1997 after a lengthy illness. Being a senior, she was looked up to and well respected by the ladies. Survived by husband Gilbert, sons Warren, Kenny and Jimmy and several grandchildren.

All the three ladies were active in the chapter. Their passing away in about a month's time, rocked the 232nd Engrs/Band families.

Memorial Service

The 232nd Engrs/Band Chapter was well repre-

sented. Many were seen throughout the crowd. Many of our people from the mainland here to attend the Anniversary Banquet and Kona Reunion was the reason for the good turnout.

Velma Kawamae upheld our colors and stood tall. She was one of two Sons & Daughters having the honor. The popular Honolulu Boy Choir rendered several selections were good. Better than the 442 Choral Group? You decide for yourself. Being still boys, they all sounded like sopranos.

Being in the 442 Choral Group which performed several times in the past, felt kinda out of place sitting among the audience.

Anniversary Banquet

The 232nd Engrs/Band Chapter occupied all of seven and a half tables. An excellent turnout, just like the good old days.

Our two commissioned officers, Gilbert Kobatake and Walter Matsumoto, the honored guests, took over a table each. Losing his wife recently, Gilbert had his three sons and their spouses on his table. Walter had his wife Hazel, son Bruce, wife Ruby, grandson Todd and his girl friend, ototo, sister-in-law, nephew and his yomesan. This recognition thing was long overdue.

The MC mentioned only the donor of the anniversary cake but nothing said of da hocho used to cut 'em. The saber was Gilbert's pride and joy, this prize he won for having the best company, UH ROTC class of 1934. It's his contribution to the Mother Club. Executive Secretary Gail (Rodney Yamashiro) Onuma was in the center of the cake-cutting.

The banquet was a huge success with 800-plus members, wives, sons, daughters, grand kids and friends attending. General Chairman George Nakasato and staff put on a good program. Several numbers by the wahine hula dancers, a couple by the men hula dancers, three numbers by the Choral Group. Ended up with the men singing "Go For Broke."

The three main speakers format was lilibit different from the usual. All interesting speakers but like the old folks would say, yokatta daga sukoshi naga katta. And the food, had monku.

One of the few with coat and tie and dressed so nattily was our own Sam Tominaga of El Cerrito, CA. Wanting to make him feel good, told him, "You look shaka." Him, "Huh?" He heard it loud and clear the first time but wanted to hear it again. Same old fun loving guy... he no change.

Oh, lilimo forget. Lily Okamoto went hustle the flower leis to be presented to our two honorees, Gilbert and Walter. Now, who was that had the honor to kakeru da leis to them. Mo forget seta. Nasakenai. The forgetting part, might as well get used to it.

Kona Reunion

We tell you straight from the heart. Today, no mo da wahines hustling, no no any kind reunion, that's for sure. Namely, Midori Fujimoto of Kona and Lily Okamoto of Honolulu. They are doing exactly what Tommy Kiyosaki used to do. Dohmo arigatai. The menfolks, dey mo bettah zip da mouf and like the old folks used to say: Kuchi shimete damatte shinda yoni se. How they managed to get it done, we shake our head.

This just completed Reunion in Kona was a good one with members and wives coming from the mainland and outside islands, too. Kona iku tambini the C.P. was at Kona Surf Hotel, Midori Fujimoto no okage samade. Dekiru dake tried to get our people close to the Hospitality Room. She had a huge suite on the ground floor, the biggest and the best in the hotel, with daughter Janne occupying a bedroom and her the other. The rest of the rooms were our Hospitality Room. A corner suite so double the veranda space.

Had dinner delivered to our H.R. the first night and everybody tewo tsunaide, Margie Ijima played da Bonsan role and blessed the food. The Sayonara banquet with most people dressing lilibit on da hokano side was held in one of the dining room of the hotel. Paul (Mac's son) Nogaki did the honors this time.

The whole gang went up mauka for lunch at the well-known Manago Hotel & Restaurant. Most had fried akule or pork chop which made the place famous, a must when you go to Kona. Sitting next to Jon (Kimo's son) Kimoto, told 'em no fool around and order fried akule or da other stuff. Obediently,

he did. And what, the father, one transplanted kotonk went order something looking like hamburger on a bun. How you figgah.

People went to places like Kawamata Rose Farm, Richard Nakano's Farm, Kamuela Shopping Center, Parker Ranch Museum, Coffee Mill, Onizuka Space Center and went haka mairu Fred Fujimoto's grave.

With Charley Ijima their Fearless Leader, several guys volunteered to rusuban the H.R. day and night and did a commendable job. Only leaving the place to go up mauka to Manago's.

Catching all the rain, we thought the Hawaiian Airlines pilot mayoote was heading for Hilo. But just prior to landing saw lava to our left and lava to our right, dat mite sanshin seta.

While enjoying the Reunion, Millie Honda went mago mori her son Jay's boy and girl in the H.R. Jay is an optometrist and maintains an office in Kailua, Kona. Killing two birds with one stone.

The guys who tried to make themselves look like golfers had their day in the sun, Kotonk Fujii, Mits Honda, Doc Kawamoto and George Yamada. Started to add up their first day's score and gave up only after a few holes, needed a soroban. Never seen so many 7's and 8's. Scolded Janne, "No be too rough on da old farts. You use the back tee and let them tee-off from the front of the front tee and you might have a closer match." She is only 5'8", hadashi. Whereas the tallest guy, not counting George, yoyatto 5'4" in their golf shoes. Her yo, Tiger Woods yohni utsu gena.

Guests Dr. & Mrs. Sato and Dr. & Mrs. Watanabe were like bread and jelly throughout their stay in Kona. Kompande rented a U-Drive and dokosan demo hatteta.

Da wahines no need any kine detail sheet posted on the bulletin board. Whenever/whatever needed to be done, cooking, ato jima or whatever, kiwo kikasete kitchen haite go do 'em. The men, relaxing and taking it easy like with something cold in hand. Their conversations were decibels above from the normal. Must be the ear clogged with mimikuso.

Takeshi & Violet Hirata and Atsuo & Marian Nishioka again everybody's favorite daibun etto motte kiyagatta. Not a nabe full but more like a big tarai full. Tsuketa head cabbage, kyuri, nasubi, etc. The

best way to describe 'em, just like how mother used to make 'em. Yoh tsukatte, ajiga yoh kiitoru and umaka. That's naming only one of many things they brought over from their home in Hilo, opposite side of the island. What made the meals in the H.R. so special was asa kara had tsukemono and nambo attemo no 'nuff.

Takeshi is a strong churchman, not only spiritually but helps any way he can. Atsuo in his mid-70's is a perfect specimen. The physique ramrod straight like six o'clock straight up and down and no abura. Reminds me of Hiroshi Arisumi of Maui. Both hard workers. Their motto must be: Idle hands only help the Axis. Remember that one? Atsuo is a gung-ho batten man still very active in kendo. He is the biggest 5'7", 145-pounder we've ever seen.

The Nishioka's wedding picture was placed in the most conspicuous spot in the H.R. making sure nobody missed 'em. Atsuo even 51 summers ago, recognizable. Never recognize the best man was Fred Fujimoto, until somebody mentioned... Fred was skinny. Placing the picture was Midori's doing. Asked Midori, "Where your picture?" Midori, "Lost 'em in the tidal wave." She lived in Hilo then. She'll be going on a kanko to Ura Nihon, a few days after the reunion pau... 3/31/97.

Kaz Kiyomura and Min Sueda da otonashii guys are the good listeners. They must be enjoying because they always come and about the first to sign up.

Time marches on. Tatta konaida made the menfolks used to be the main guys and in charge of things. Dam days are all gone forever. Like on this trip, da wahines took over, hustled the U-Drive and did all the driving. The men, back seat drivers, atcha kotcha.

Midori's announcement at the Sayonara banquet of Sot Furuya's passing away in 1995 was a shocker. No kuwashii details.

Doc Kawamoto, a "bachelor" on this trip, da ladies kara yoh kawai garareta... Helen Takano, Yuri Ishikawa, Yvonne Yamasaki, Barbara Haruki and others. The most often heard in the H.R. wuz, "Where Doc."

More than several people had the runs following the first night's meal. For some da okole menioota. Lily Okamoto, our kanko dancho was bedded down

for two days. With Monte caring for her, made a full recovery by the third and last day in Kona.

For Margie, tokiwa kane nari, time is money. Hospitality Room in oru aida, always knitting.

Going time, had some delay so had some monku. Kaeri shina, Lily doing some hustling were able to catch an earlier flight.

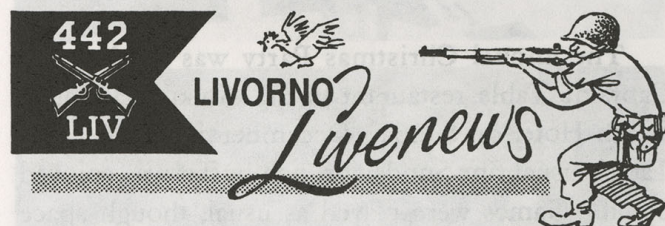
One man's opinion, the stories told and retold in the H.R. are all oral history material. It's been 54 years since and guys still remember vividly is simply amazing. You ask 'em about last month's chapter meeting, they blank.

Mary Yamada, a woman off her word. Arriving in Kona said, "I came here to take it easy," and did. Parked her dakine on the most comfortable sofa in the H.R. day and night and forever rested her eyes. She stay looking some good since the last time we saw her.

Going time wuz humbug with all the carry-ons, sushi, manapua, okole, etc. Coming home time not any better with all the Kona no omiyage.

Where's all the Kona Nightingales, no more nothing. Janne, seno takai handsome young lady, not dakine ushiro beppin mae bikkuri, was a big help to mom (Midori) in the H.R. and more so in the kitchen. She also took good care of da "Duffers" in more ways than one.

We feel kiga suman if we don't thank Midori & Lily again. They did so much and nantomo omowan.



by Henry Kuniyuki

The Livorno Chapter is pleased to present "THIS IS YOUR LIFE, NOBORU KAWAMOTO!" Nobu, as he is known to Livornoites, is a former Charter member who has been in inactive hiatus since the early 50s due to conflicting work schedule. Now that he is comfortably retired, he has renewed his association with us by attending our monthly dinner meet-

ings. This, then, is his abbreviated life story.

Nobu is the only surviving member of his family of three brothers and four sisters. His parents, the late Niichiro and Shike Kawamoto, hailed from Hiroshima Prefecture, Nippon. The youngest of three brothers, Nobu was born on March 20, 1921 in Kaimuki, Honolulu. After graduating from McKinley High School in 1939, he was first employed by Castle & Cooke Terminals as a wharf clerk where his dad was also employed as a longshoreman. When World War II began, Nobu was inducted into the U.S. Army at Schofield Barracks on August 15, 1944. Like many Livorno Chapter members, he was shipped to the Continental United States shortly thereafter for basic infantry training at Camp Fannin, Texas. Upon completion of his basic training as a rifleman he and other Livorno troopers were sent to the European Theater of Operations and he was assigned to Company B, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

At the end of World War II, he was honorably discharged as a Technician Fourth Grade (Sergeant) at Schofield Barracks, Oahu. Since he was on a military leave of absence from his former employer, the Castle & Cooke Terminals, he was rehired thereat upon his discharge from service. He was hired by the State of Hawaii Harbors Division, Department of Transportation as a Marine Cargo Specialist in 1974. His duties involved the inspection of waterfront facilities and scheduling the use thereof. He retired from his State employment in 1985.

Now as to his more important personal data...Nobu settled down with Elaine Itsue Hirota on August 10, 1947. The wedding was held at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church officiated by the late Reverend Lawrence Ozaki. They are the proud parents of a son, Norman Takashi, and a daughter Janice Chiyomi. Both Norman and Janice made Nobu and Elaine grandparents of two granddaughters and two grandsons.

Norman is the father of Andrew Takashi, 14 years of age, and Kendall Noboru, who is ten. Janice is the mother of Sara Akiko, 18 years of age, and Erika Emiko, who is 14. Son, Norman, is employed at the Pearl Harbor Naval Supply Center as the Director of Fuel Laboratory. Daughter, Janice Stinson, is a gradu-

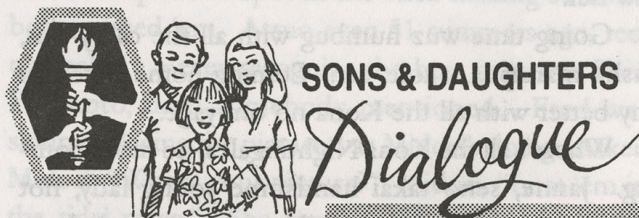
ate student in nursing at the University of California at San Francisco which will eventually result in a doctorate degree. Meanwhile, Janice is employed part-time at a hospital in Oakland, California. Nobu's spouse, Elaine, retired from the State Department of Education as a cafeteria cook after twenty-three years of service. Janice's spouse, Ralf Stinson, is a senior partner of a computer network business.

Kameo "Chop Chop" Sugioka of Livorno Chapter, also himself a Charter member "Retread," gets the full credit of encouraging Nobu to return to our fold. A chance meeting at a Heia waterfront pier when Nobu was strolling with his two grandsons, "Chop Chop," our avid fisherman, invited Nobu to attend our monthly dinner meeting by offering him courtesy transportation. Since Nobu does not drive in the evenings due to cataract problem he readily accepted to ride in the carpool with Kameo, Ken Teruya and Ronald Takara. Welcome back, Nobu it certainly is good to have you become active again with us Livorno paisans!

Other inactive Livornoites are extended an open invitation to become active again, as Noboru did, to talk old war stories and compare our mutual health

problems. For example, seventy percent of our active membership turned out for our first 1997 dinner meeting in January, held as usual, at the Likelike Restaurant, for an evening of enjoyable fellowship and fun. Incidentally, the Chapter Reporter, Henry, was elected Chapter President for the fourth time simply because he happened to be absent at the November Chapter meeting due to Precinct General Election duties. Paul Takaezu will serve as Chapter Vice President. Chapter Secretary Takamori Miyagi and Treasurer Raymond Tanaka will continue in their respective tenured positions.

TIME MARCHES ON! A quotation by Bette Midler says it all: "After thirty, a body has a mind of its own!" So, try Lily Tomlin's philosophy: "For fast-acting relief try slowing down!" Arrivederci!



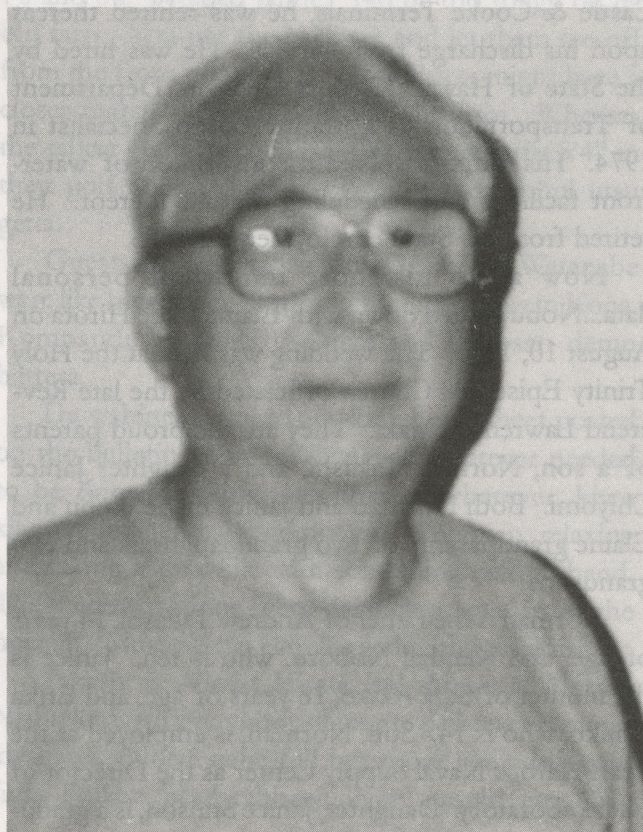
by Ed Goto

In this transition issue of the Bulletin, we still need to catch up a little with the end of 1996 as well as the 1st Quarter of 1997.

Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party was held at the Captain's Table restaurant in the Waikiki Hawaiian Beach Hotel on Sunday, December 15, 1996. The Table's usual fine Sunday brunch buffet was enjoyed by all. Games were played as usual, though space limitations prevented the usual musical chairs event. The best Christmas thing out of a single sheet of paper was created by "daughter" (and Justice) Paula Nakayama. Ray Nosaka graciously performed his Santa act again this year - I think he's got a lock on the position for many years to come.

Our thanks to all who donated the goodies given out as prizes this year and to those who prepared them all in superb Christmas fashion. Shown here



are a couple of pictures, as usual worth more than a thousand words.



Archives, Artifacts, and Oral Histories

An article by Katherine Collins, the now full-time archivist of the 442nd Archives and Learning Center, appears elsewhere in this bulletin, so we'll not bore you with a redundant report.

Moiliili Community Center Fund Raiser

On Saturday, January 11, 1997, the S&Ds of the 442nd and 100th set up a food booth again this year at the annual New Year's Day Festival celebration. Funds raised were shared by the two organizations. Fun had in working the event was also shared by all.

54th Anniversary

After an unusual February month of virtual inactivity, the S&D again set in motion their usual support of the annual anniversary events of the 442nd Veterans Club. S&D president, Alan Kubota, was once more put in charge of the memorial services held at Punchbowl Cemetery. Special thanks go to Wade Wasano and the members of his church who again helped in serving the after-service refreshments.

A surprise follow-up to this year's memorial services was the front page picture in the evening edition of the Honolulu Star Bulletin of Alan and yours truly presenting the S&D wreath. We also managed to get some air time on the news on a couple of TV channels.

The banquet at the Pacific Beach included an archives, artifacts, oral history display set up and monitored by Katherine Collins and Guy Koga, with a little help from a number of friends. Alvin Yoshitomi's usual presence was missed but visiting friend and Los Angeles Son, Russell Nakaishi, filled in helping set up a number of items loaned by Alvin. Katherine's husband, Rick, was also a notable presence, as well as relative novices at this activity, Stan Oka, and Randal Kubota, Alan's brother. Those others who were there to help and go unmentioned here, please forgive. Just know your efforts were sincerely appreciated.

A souvenir table was again set up, with a 442 logo'd polo shirt as the newest entry to Grace Fujii's growing line of items for purchase.