



OKAGE SAMA DE

BECAUSE OF YOU I AM...



Pachi Tsukano, original member of the 3YSC, in 2008, shows Checkoway what he ate for breakfast back in the day at Camp 5.

‘THREE-YEAR SWIM CLUB’ AUTHOR FEELS PRIVILEGED TO TELL THIS MAUI STORY

The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center (NVMC) is excited to announce a very special guest speaker at the 14th Annual Dinner on Friday, Nov. 17, 2017, 5 p.m., at the Maui Beach Hotel.

In addition to the dinner, three outstanding Maui residents will receive the Hero Award in one of the three categories (Leadership, Courage and Philanthropy), the NVMC will also welcome as keynote speaker Julie Checkoway, a New York Times best-selling author of the acclaimed “The Three-Year Swim Club”

...the Untold Story of Maui’s Sugar Ditch Kids and Their Quest for Olympic Glory.

A graduate of Harvard, the Iowa Writers Workshop, and Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars, Ms. Checkoway is also the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts individual artist grant and a Yaddo fellowship. Her writing has appeared in the New York Times and the Salt Lake Tribune.

SEE ‘THREE YEAR SWIM PAGE 4

The 14th Annual NVMC Dinner Coming Up in November

The 14th Annual Nisei Veterans Memorial Dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2017 at the Elleair Ballroom of the Maui Beach Hotel. The event will feature our “Hero Award” winners.

- **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Julie Checkoway, best selling author of “The Three Year Swim Club”...the Untold Story of Maui’s Sugar Ditch Kids and Their Quest for Olympic Glory.
- **TIME:** Doors open at 5 p.m. and the program begins at 6.

- **TICKETS:** \$125 per person; \$50 per person for Nisei veterans, wives and widows. Corporate tables are available for \$1,750 and \$2,500.

Nisei veterans’ special prices are partially sponsored by corporate donors.

For more information call: Deidre Tegarden at 244-6862

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Okage Sama De newsletter is a free publication issued by the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center.

Articles, questions and comments may be sent to Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, P.O. Box 216, Kahului, HI 96733-6716.

We encourage family and friends to submit information and photos to our “Lest We Forget” column.

THE NVMC MISSION

The NVMC ignites human potential by inspiring people to find the hero in themselves through the legacy of the Nisei veterans.

THE NVMC VISION

We envision a community where all people act selflessly for the greater good.

THE NVMC VALUES

Being selfless for the greater good.
Leading by example. Living in gratitude.
Inspiring courage in adversity. Doing the right thing, always.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Deidre Tegarden

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NISEI VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER

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A woman in her late 90s came into the center a few months ago. Her brother, she told us, was a Nisei soldier who was killed in action when she was a very young girl. Research Archivist Melanie Agrabante recognized the name and went into our archives to look for a box of items that belonged to the woman's late brother. Just finding and seeing the box was so emotional — but nothing like what happened when she opened it. There, inside, was a stack of letters addressed to the woman. Her brother

had written to her during the war, but for whatever reason, they were never sent. There wasn't a dry eye in the center that afternoon.

This was not a typical Tuesday, but neither was it an uncommon occurrence at the NVMC. We have had veterans share memories of finding the “Lost Battalion,” youngsters come in with family to see their great-grandfathers' Purple Hearts, and story upon story of sacrifices made by families during the war.

One purpose here at the NVMC is to be a portal from the past to the present and to the future. Our summer intern program with schools and students across Maui, including Kamehameha Schools, Maui High School, Baldwin High School and Seabury, do just that (see our Intern Spotlight). The NVMC also had the honor of being a part of Josh Ooka, Nikki Ooka and Jordyn Vierra's Baldwin High School history day (see report from Josh Ooka). With the new school year in full force, we welcome our next crop of Youth Ambassadors.

“This has been an amazing experience,” one of our interns recently said. “I'll go into the archives and what seems to be only a few minutes will actually be hours by the time I come out. The time at the NVMC allowed me to look at the stories of the veterans and really appreciate their contributions.”

Perpetuation of the stories and values continue through our “Speaker Series,” the NVMC exhibits, and our Maui News “Hero Spotlight.” All of this will culminate and be celebrated at our Annual Dinner on Nov. 17 as we welcome Julie Checkoway, award winning author of “The Three-Year Swim Club” and recognize the 2017 HERO award recipients for Leadership, Courage and Philanthropy.

With stories like the one of the recovered letters and with the interest shown by the next generation in our veterans, it is evident that even though one's time may seem to end, it never really does...as long as even one person is willing to remember. We thank our supporters, visitors and families for allowing us to share these stories which thus reminds us why we are here.

どうぞよろしくお願いたします。

Deidre

442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM: A TRIBUTE AND JOURNEY

Josh Ooka, Nikki Ooka and Jordyn Vierra

Nikki Ooka, Jordyn Vierra and I are students at Baldwin High School, and we competed in the 2017 National History Day Competition. This contest allowed students the opportunity to share a part of history through a project and compete for awards at the district, state and national levels. Our group decided to enter the performance category, and our project was titled, "The 442nd Regimental Combat Team: A Tribute." The main scene was a grandfather/granddaughter conversation that shared the story and sacrifices of Nisei veterans along with background information on Japanese Americans during WWII. We chose this topic because Nikki and I have family ties to Nisei veterans and our whole group is of Japanese ancestry. We felt that this topic was meaningful because of the prejudice against Japanese Americans and the types of discrimination they had to endure. We wanted to share the story of the Nisei veterans, the 442nd RCT and the legacy they created. They should be remembered, and we felt their story is gradually getting lost in history.

We started our journey at the district level at the 2017 Maui District History Day Competition at the University of Hawai'i Maui College. Our project was scored as one of the top performances on Maui, qualifying us for the state competition. We also won the Henry E. Wurst Family Foundation Award for our outstanding project focusing on the contributions of immigrants. We then revised our project for the 2017 Hawai'i History Day State Fair at Leeward Community College. At the state competition, we won two special awards: the UH Center for Oral History Award (due to our extensive use of oral histories as our sources) and the 100th Infantry Battalion Legacy Award (for our topic relating to Nisei veterans). We also won second place in the state for performances, which allowed us to qualify to compete at the national level



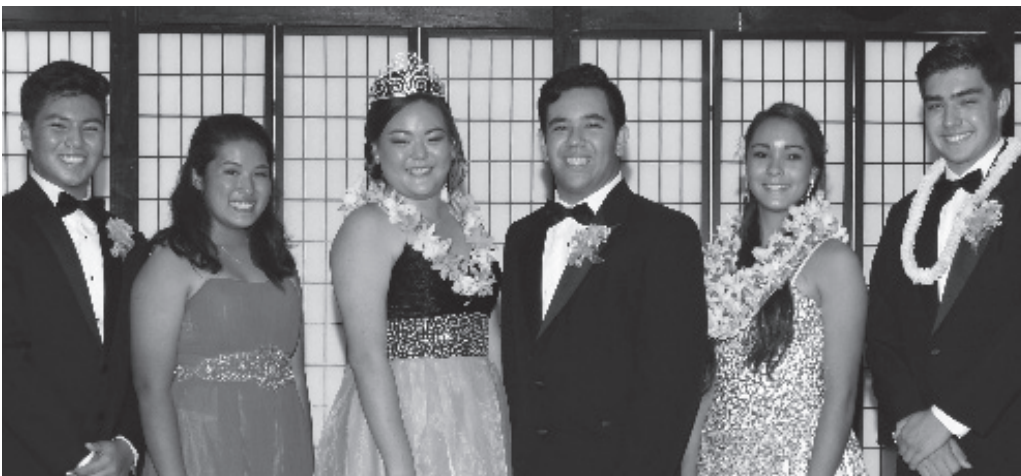
in Washington D.C. Though we were excited to win and qualify, we realized the one of our members, Jordyn Vierra, could not attend due to a softball tournament.

Washington D.C. was an unbelievable experience. Nikki and I were able to experience so many new things from dorm living, to the Capital city, to the east coast in general. When in the city, we walked around 11 miles a day and visited more than 20 museums and monuments!

During the National History Day competition held at the University of Maryland, we competed in one of 10 group performance brackets. We placed fourth in our bracket, but unfortunately only the first place group was able to move on to the finals. In the end, it was an amazing experience to be able to participate in a competition that had more than 3,000 participating students from all over the United States and international teams from Korea, Guam, Puerto Rico, etc.

We would like to thank the Maui Nisei Veterans Memorial Center for all their help and support throughout our project. We would not have been able to do it without them.

- Josh Ooka July 20, 2017



CHRYSANTHEMUM COURT 2017

Escort Tyler Cup Choy, Princess Renee Matsuda, Queen Alexa Nagai, Escort Ian Martins, Princess Jennea Nagura, Escort Austin Phillips

“THREE YEAR SWIM CLUB”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Author Julie Checkoway

The following are excerpts from NVMC Executive Director Deidre Tegarden's recent interview with Ms. Checkoway:

DT: *What inspired you to write the story?*

JC: I had just finished making a documentary and was fishing around for a book topic. I knew I wanted to do something historical, something about people who had made a difference in American history. I was looking for heroes.

I was sitting at my desk one day when my agent, Eileen Cope, called me from New York. She had been at lunch when a film agent who had been made aware of the swim club story shared the tale with her. Eileen told the broad outlines of the story; how in 1937 children on Maui began to swim in the island's irrigation ditches, training to become Olympic swimmers, and that by 1941 they had become the most famous swimmers in the world! I was gobsmacked. If the story was true, I remember thinking, then it was a story of a lifetime for a writer to be privileged to tell.

DT: *How did the swimmers' families react to the book, and to you?*

JC: Everyone was so generous. They could have looked at me askance, this haole woman from New England who'd only ever been to Hawai'i once before. But in every instance, people treated me like 'ohana, spending hours and hours with me in their

homes. I felt like I was imposing, but they were totally willing to share their memories and mementos.

I remember standing in the living room at Olympian Bill Smith's house when Smith and his wife, Moana, approached me with two shopping bags filled with scrapbooks Bill had kept about his career. They allowed me to take them and scan them. Why they did this is a mystery to me. I was a stranger.

Others, like Sono Hirose Hulbert, daughter of Halo Hirose, sent me back to the Mainland with a huge duffle bag of her father's things for me to study — newspaper clippings, patches, train tickets, you name it. I was trusted with such precious cargo. It was an enormous responsibility.

I admit though, I always wondered what the people really thought of me.

About a year after my first visit to Hawai'i, I was sitting down to transcribe one of my taped interviews with Blossom Young and Pachi Tsukano, two of the charter members of the swim club. I had been very nervous at the interview, worrying that I was imposing upon them and fearing that they would see me as an outsider who could neither understand their story nor really have any right to tell it.

So, there I was sitting in my office thousands of miles away from Hawai'i listening to Blossom's and Pachi's voices. There's a point in the interview where I got up and excused myself to use the bathroom. What I hadn't realized was that I'd forgotten to turn my tape recorder off while I was gone. Pachi and Blossom were still sitting there talking. After a moment of silence, Blossom whispered to Pachi, "I think she's sincere, don't you think?" And sitting in my office I began to cry. Maybe they had thought I was okay.

DT: *You've said you feel the story*

is not "your" story but rather it is the community's story. Could you expound on that a bit?

JC: Two years now after the publication of the book, I am feeling the story recede even further from me and into the arms and lives of others — those who deserve to own it. It was funny, even as I was researching and writing the book, I felt distinctly as though I was always handling something delicate, something priceless, and something not my own. I really tried to treat it as sacred — every word, every picture — because it was only mine to borrow.

DT: *A few years have passed since you completed the novel. Do you have any new feelings towards the book? Have people reached out with new information? Any updates on the growth of your book?*

JC: I've had as much fun and delight in having written the book as in writing it. I could never have imagined the phenomena that followed the book's publication. It's so much more than I could have asked for. On a nearly daily basis, I receive emails and phone calls from people who have read it and who reach out to me to share personal stories: some about their grandfathers and grandmothers who lived in Pu'unene and who swam in the ditches with Coach (Soichi) Sakamoto; some who were later coached by Halo Hirose; and others who have never set foot on Maui but were moved by the story.

There's always new information coming in, too, corrections to the record, for which I am grateful because history is a work in progress.

My favorite recent story is about a reader of my book from the Mainland who visited the Alexander and Baldwin Sugar Museum and by chance ran into an elderly visitor

SEE "THREE YEAR SWIM" PAGE 9

Kansha Preschool Celebrates Graduates, Guests

This summer, Kansha Preschool celebrated the graduation of nine students moving on to kindergarten. Since then, the preschool welcomed 13 new students and their families on Aug. 7, 2017.

The school year was busy with intergenerational activities, music with Uncle Wayne Watkins, gymagery with Uncle Chris Miller, and monthly visits from the new Bookmobile and Caring K-9s. We went on several field trips in the community and we celebrated May Day and graduation.

Kansha Preschool also had a visit from Kikyo Gakuen Kindergarten in Hakodate, Hokkaido, Japan. The proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Kawamura, and two staff visited Maui for a few days to check out Kansha's programs and meet some of the staff. They visited the NVMC and Maui Ocean Center, biked down Haleakala, met with Mayor Arakawa, and experienced Maui's Obon at the Kahului Jodo Mission. We want to express our thanks to NVMC intern Kazu Iinuma for helping with the group while they were here. It was wonderful to host our new

friends from Hokkaido, and we look forward to seeing them again in 2018.

There is never a dull moment at Kansha Preschool. For more information, visit preschool's website at www.kanshalpreschool.net



(From left) Ikumi Hasegawa, Mariko Yoneuchi, Osamu Kawamura, Mizue Kawamura, Mayor Arakawa, Tokie Ogawa, Deidre Tegarden, Kyoko Kimura and Gen Iinuma

NVMC EXTENDS A WARM 'MAHALO' TO ITS INTERNS

One of the things the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center (NVMC) strives to do is inspire the next generation to find the hero in themselves through the legacy of the Nisei veterans. The three current interns certainly fit the bill, and their enthusiasm, in turn, inspires us. John Williamson and Kayce Mercado are both incoming seniors at Kamehameha School, Maui, and Jolee Correa-Tanaka is going into her sophomore year at Maui High School.

With a passion for history, John spent his summer assisting Research Archivist Melanie Agrabante with the curation of the "One Puka Puka: The Purple Heart Battalion" exhibit. When he wasn't doing research in the archives or reorganizing the veteran's files, you could find him in the center "talking story" with the many special visitors who pass through our doors.

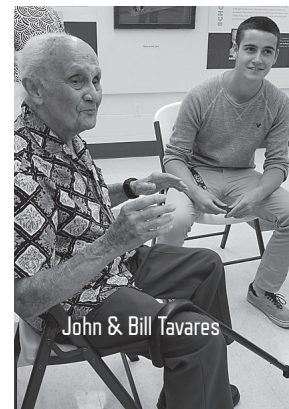
Kayce Mercado came to the NVMC to learn more about nonprofit

management. He worked with Director Deidre Tegarden and recently had the opportunity to speak live on KAOI 1110 AM Radio, as well as make outreach calls and learn a few great life-lessons from Warren Orikasa of Abbey Carpet of Maui. Kayce's passion for civil rights made the NVMC a perfect fit, as he learned more about the many sacrifices the Nisei veterans made for the betterment of the community.

We are lucky to have Jolee Correa-Tanaka at the center year-round. Jolee keeps the office organized and is working on the long-term project of cataloguing the many books the NVMC archives. You can usually see Jolee at the center's quarterly "Speaker Series," greeting people and overseeing the logistics for the day.



Kayce on the Radio



John & Bill Tavares



Jolee Correa-Tanaka

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION

Last June, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the 100th Infantry Battalion, which in World War II was comprised almost exclusively of young Nisei volunteers and inductees. I am reminded of words from the West Point Alma Mater that Bert Turner sent me 29 years ago when my father died. Bert, who passed away earlier this year, was a West Point graduate, class of 1948, and the son of Col. Al Turner, the original commanding officer of the 100th.

*“And when our work is done,
Our course on earth is run,
May it be said, ‘Well Done;
Be Thou at Peace’.”*

I doubt there ever was a prouder and more humble group of men than these American’s of Japanese ancestry (AJA) soldiers. Not only because of what they accomplished on the battle field but also because of the hurdles of prejudice they overcame along the way.

Because of their service, their parents were able to attain American citizenship; jobs previously closed to AJAs were opened; barriers to property ownership, club memberships, and fraternities were removed; restrictions on Japanese cultural celebrations were lifted; and Hawai’i statehood became a reality with AJAs holding local, state and national political offices.

In 1947, the 100th’s young chaplain, Israel Yost, was asked to come to Hawai’i when the bodies of the 100th killed in action were repatriated from Europe. He conducted memorial services on O’ahu, Kaua’i, Maui and the Big Island; met with families; and also spent time visiting soldiers who had been injured or disabled during the war. In his speech at the

Makawao Veterans Cemetery, Chaplain Yost shared a story about a day in November 1943, in Italy, when he saw four men of the 100th carrying one of their fallen comrades on a litter as they made their way slowly down a path. He said a lone Caucasian soldier of the 45th Division noticed them, stopped, stepped off the path, removed his helmet, and bowed his head. Chaplain Yost was so moved by the scene that he later wrote this poem:

*Step Off the Road,
and Let the Dead Pass By
When soulless men our high ideals defy,
When our fond hopes and visions
start to die,
When selfishness engulfs,
let’s you and I,
Step off the road to let the
dead pass by.
When human wrongs for right to
heaven cry,
If for ideals you e’en may have to die,
To keep your aims in life clean-cut
and high,
Step off the road to let the
dead pass by.*

The opportunities and freedoms we Sansei and Yonsei enjoy today are because of the patriotism, heroism and commitment to community of those young men of the 100th, including the 101 Maui County Nisei soldiers who didn’t make it back home.

They gave their lives for their country. They never saw their parents and loved ones again or had the joy of raising families. Two men I have been close to in my life reflected on this tragedy often. The first was my father, Maj. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda. When he returned home to Hawai’i from

Europe after the war, he asked his employer for a month’s leave before starting his new job so that he could visit Gold Star families (those whose sons died in battle) in the Territory. Remembering those men and their families was the theme in the many speeches he gave to veterans groups over the years.

The other man is Hiroshi Arisumi. When the war ended, his thoughts were for the men who would not be returning home with him. Over the next 50 years, the idea of building a memorial to honor those men stayed with Hiroshi. When Leonard Oka proposed the idea of a Nisei Veterans Memorial Center on Maui, Hiroshi jumped right in ensuring its realization.

Through the NVMC’s vast archives, displays and programs, the legacy of the 100th is kept alive so that future generations will come to know, honor and emulate these brave and humble men.

*“... May it be said, ‘Well Done;
Be Thou at Peace.’”*

David Fukuda is the son of Maj. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, the first Japanese-American to become an infantry field grade officer in the U.S. Army and the only Nisei commanding officer of the 100th Infantry Battalion. A board member of the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, Fukuda has devoted years to researching and sharing stories of Maui’s Nisei soldiers.

LOOK WHO STOPPED BY



Warren Drikasa and the Abbey Carpet Team



Deidre with Nancy and Norman Sagawa. Nancy and Norman stopped by to share greetings from the Go For Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles



L - R: Tom Yamada, Peggy Mizumoto, Kathy Lemon and Willie Goo



Diane Orikasa and Edwin Orikasa with granddaughters Aliya and Kalyssa. They are enjoying the "Pop Up" display of Diane's father Susumu Fukuyoshi who was in Company C of One Puka Puka



Amy Fujii and Paul Mizoguchi. Amy spent a few days of her vacation in the NVMC archives doing research on Kazuo Masuda



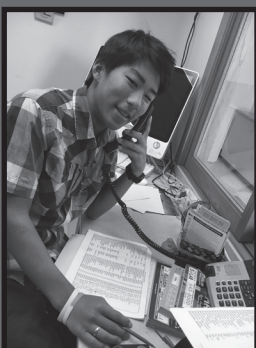
L to R: Warren Yamamoto - President of the 100th Infantry Battalion Legacy Organization, Layce Yamauchi, Consul General and Mrs. Misawa



Baldwin High School Key Club From Left to Right: Lindsey Kimoto, Josh Ooka, Megan Ing, Nikki Ooka, Tyller Tagalan, Ella Mitnick, Tiara Kobayashi-Bautista, Camille Kimoto

The 100th Infantry Battalion Legacy Organization awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to Baldwin High School graduate Layce Yamauchi on August 12 at the NVMC. Japanese Consul General and Mrs. Misawa dropped in to share their congratulations to Layce and her family. Layce's essay, "The Right to Fight" provided a clear history of the storied 100th IFB and 442nd RCT.

She will be attending Willamette University in the Fall.



Kazu Inuma-Nakaaki is a sophomore at Seabury High School. Kazu is working diligently with our silent auction list



Leonard Oka with Hiroshi Arisumi



BATTLE OF BELVEDERE



Most veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion consider the Battle of Monte Cassino as their toughest. The losses sustained by the unit in action leading up to and during the attack earned them the respect of their fellow units and the appellation “Purple Heart Battalion.”

But the battle that brought the men international fame (Combat Chaplain, Yost, p. 178) was the Battle of Belvedere. At this inconspicuous hamlet of a few buildings, the 100th earned its first of three Distinguished Unit Citations and resulted in Gen. Charles Ryder, Commanding General of the 34th Infantry Division, introducing the men to Secretary of War Stimson as “my best outfit.”

The lead up to the battle was hardly auspicious for the 100th. It was to be the unit’s first time in battle along with the newly arrived 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The men had enjoyed the reunion and 24-hour passes to Rome, but underlying tensions remained. The 442nd, proud of the fact that it was made up of volunteers rather than draftees, was determined to show its prowess on the battlefield. The 442nd commander, Col. Charles W. Pence, even turned down an offer from the 100th officers to provide an in-country briefing for the 442nd officers.

On June 21, 1944, the 34th Division relieved the 36th Division with the 442nd operating the center of the divisional line. The 442nd’s objective was to take a key road junction north of Sassetta. On June 26, the 2nd and 3rd battalions were committed to battle while the 100th was kept in reserve.

After driving 1,500 yards, both units faced fierce resistance, with

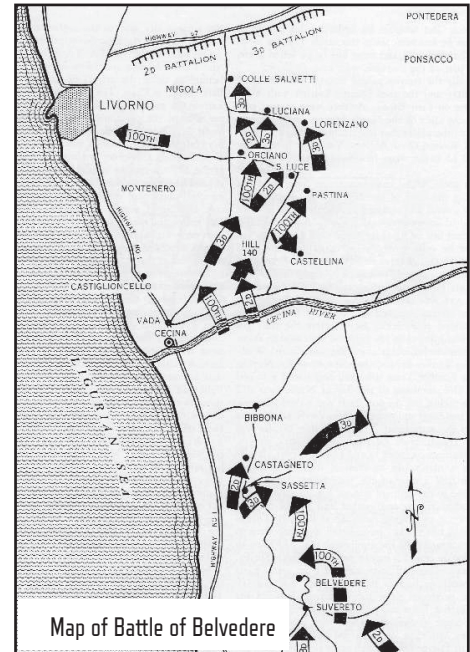
German counter-attacks supported by tanks and artillery fire from the high ground at Belvedere by a crack SS motorized battalion.

F Company was particularly hard hit and under direct fire from an enemy 155-mm gun. 2nd Battalion was unable to obtain artillery support from the 522nd Field Artillery due to communication and tactical failures as all three batteries were on the move and no arrangements had been made for division artillery support (Katsugo Miho’s interview courtesy of the University of Hawai’i Center for Oral History). It was a painful lesson learned, and the mistake was never to be repeated by the 522nd.

Meanwhile, Gen. Ryder led the 34th Infantry Division into a nearby town, which the 442nd HQ had reported as friendly, only to find himself and an accompanying colonel surrounded by Germans. The enemy captured both jeeps and wounded Gen. Ryder’s driver and the colonel’s radio operator. Gen. Ryder managed to escape back to the 100th Battalion HQ and shouted to Col. Singles: “Singles! Clean up this mess!” (Duus, p. 157)

As commanding officer of the 100th, Lt. Col. Gordon Singles quickly drew up a plan of action from his maps and, at 1200 hours, sent Companies A, B and C in single column between the 2nd and 3rd battalions on a covered route toward Belvedere. A and B Companies were to rendezvous at a farm northeast of Belvedere called Po Pino, while C Company was to block the entrance to the town.

From this vantage point, they observed a large infantry and artillery force. Capt. Sakae Takahashi (B Company) immediately launched an



attack into the town from the east with the 1st Platoon. The 2nd Platoon along with the 4th Platoon (heavy-weapons) moved into position to protect the key road leading out of town to Sassetta, and the 3rd Platoon headed southwest to cut off the road leading into the town. A Company swung north along the main road, and C Company remained close behind in reserve.

As the 2nd Platoon moved into position, they chanced upon the four self-propelled guns, which had been raining fire on F Company, and overran and captured the battery. At the same time, 1st Platoon swarmed into Belvedere to attack a three-story Fascist headquarters building with a doctor’s office on the first floor. Using hand grenades to flush the enemy out of the structure, the men moved from building to building.

Low on ammunition and facing a PzKW IV tank (Panzer IV) and half-tracks, Capt. Sakae Takahashi made an urgent call to A Company for help. Capt. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda’s A Company

moved to cut off the northern exit and chased the retreating Germans among the olive groves and down the ravines. By 5 p.m., A Company had broken the enemy's northern defenses, controlled the neighboring village of Michelino, and took a battalion command post and motor pool intact.

Enemy casualties for the day totaled 178 killed, 20 known wounded, and 86 captured. The Germans lost eight trucks, 19 jeeps, 13 motorcycles, two antitank guns, three self-propelled guns, two tanks, two command cars, two halftracks,

an 81 mm mortar, and a battalion and company command post complete (Americans, p. 35).

Losses to the 100th Battalion were one killed in action (KIA) and seven wounded. (In the earlier engagement, the 442nd had 12 KIAs, including Pvt. Robert Hirano (Waikapu) and Pvt. Shigeo Wasano (Paia), both of 2nd Battalion, HQs).

On July 4, 1944, at a review honoring Secretary of War Henry Stimson, Gen. Mark. W. Clark, Commanding General of the 5th Army, asked Capt. Takahashi and

members of B Company to represent the 100th. When the dignitaries reached the company, Gen. Ryder told Stimson, "Mr. Secretary, this is my best outfit."

For their accomplishments in the Battle of Belvedere, the 100th Infantry Battalion was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation on July 27 by Lt. Gen. Clark. (The Distinguished Unit Citation was renamed the Presidential Unit Citation and is the unit-equivalent to the Distinguished Service Cross.)



General Charles W. Ryder
34th Inf. Division, CO



Captain Sakae Takahashi
100th Inf. Btn., Company B



Captain Mitsuyoshi Fukuda
100th Inf. Btn., Company A

"THREE YEAR SWIM CLUB"

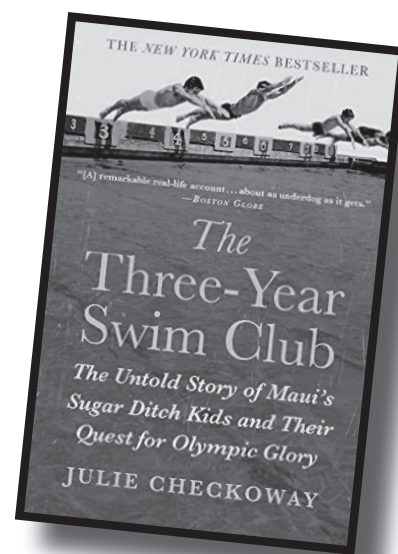
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who was returning to the island after a lifetime away. The elderly visitor was there to show his wife and daughters where he had grown up and where he had swum in the ditches, and the reader was there to learn some more about the background to my book. He wrote me to say that it was a highlight of his life to meet the man from Pu'unene. That these two men could meet by chance in such a way was really beautiful to me.

I was also moved recently when the Smithsonian procured two

precious photos of Coach Sakamoto from the Sakamoto family for its permanent collection. It was so kind of the family to donate these. And it is so wonderful because the Smithsonian only includes in its archives images of those who have made a significant contribution to American history. It's satisfying because that means that Soichi Sakamoto, and his club of intrepid swimmers, are finally recognized as having given shape to our nation's story.

With that done, with Soichi Sakamoto's story added to the official history of the United States, I feel nearly all is right with the world.



ONE PUKA-PUKA



THE PURPLE HEART BATTALION

JUNE 12 to AUGUST 26 // MON - SAT // 12pm - 4pm

Nisei Veterans Memorial Center Education Center
www.nvmc.org (808) 244-6862 info@nvmc.org / Go For Broke Place, Kahului



SUMMER EXHIBIT



Tom Yamada of One Puka Puka and later with the MIS



L to R The Nishihara family: Marie, daughter Francine, Ed and son Kevin



Speaker Mike Markrich at the One Puka Puka Exhibit opening



Charlene Yashiro with her dad Willie Goo.

MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

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Author, Economist Michael Markrich Shares

DIVERSE STORIES OF VETERANS



When his father was killed in an automobile accident in 1925, 9-year-old Israel Yost decided at that moment to devote his life to helping people.

He couldn't possibly have known then that 18 years later he, a tall, lanky 27-year-old Lutheran minister of German descent from rural Pennsylvania, would forever cement an unshakable bond with Hawai'i's young Japanese-American Nisei soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion as they heroically fought on the bloody battlefields of Italy and France during World War II.

The story of their amazing relationship was shared with an audience of about 80 at The Oceanview Maui Adult Day Care Center of the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center (NVMC) campus in Kahului on June 11, 2017, by author and economist Michael Markrich, a former Honolulu Advertiser columnist and co-editor of "Combat Chaplain: The Personal Story of the WWII Chaplain of the Japanese American 100th Battalion."

Markrich painted a vivid picture of Chaplain Yost, who joined the 100th in October 1943. Yost told stories of his indefatigable commitment to the Nisei soldiers, adding that even though 80 to 90 percent of the Nisei soldiers were Buddhists, Yost was not deterred, winning their respect and trust through shared hardship and sacrifice — so much so that many attended his battlefield services.

Markrich's talk was part of the NVMC's celebration of the 75th anniversary of the formation of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) and was the second of four of the center's 2017 "Speakers Series."

Also known as the "One Puka-Puka: The Purple Heart Battalion," the 100th was formed six months after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The Battalion was comprised almost entirely of Nisei (second generation Japanese) from Hawai'i, who volunteered, were drafted or were already members of the 298th and 299th National Guard units; it was the first group of Japanese-Americans to see combat in WWII. It is also important to note that about 20 Hawaiians and Asians of other ethnicities, including those who were hapa (mixed ethnicity), were among the enlisted men of the 100th.

The 100th was in combat for 20 months, from Sept. 29, 1943, until Germany surrendered on May 2, 1945, and was awarded three Presidential Unit Citations. The

3,147 soldiers who served in the battalion earned 4,340 individual medals and awards, including 1,703 Purple Heart medals (awarded to those wounded or killed in U.S. military service).

The 100th's combat record in Italy not only earned them the appellation of "Purple Heart Battalion," it helped change the minds of military and political leaders who had initially banned the enlistment of Japanese-Americans, thus paving the way for the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Markrich shared stories of veterans whom he had become familiar with in his studies of the 100th, including Maui's Willie Goo, Takashi Kitaoka, Jack Mizuha, Stanley Izumigawa, and Jesse Oba.

"Yost and the men of the 100th were not just great Americans," Markrich said. "They were great human beings who made the world a better place."

Markrich's talk was preceded by a luncheon served by committee members and Maui's Sons and Daughters of Nisei Veterans. Those attending included WWII veterans Ed Nishihara, Willie Goo, Tom Yamada, and Hiroshi Arisumi, as well as spouses, widows and family members. Peggy Mizumoto and her cousin, Kathy Lemon, from the California Club 100 made a special trip to be at the event.

After the talk, attendees were invited downstairs to the NVMC Education Center to preview Part 1 of the new exhibit, "The Purple Heart Battalion," which displays the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion from its formation through the Battle of Monte Cassino. This exhibit ran throughout August.

Part 2 of the exhibit will trace the 100th's history from Anzio to Livorno (Leghorn) opens on October 13 and will run through December 16, 2017.

Special thanks go out to the event's planning committee: Gary Sato, Jill Ross, Joni Kawamura, Francine Lee, Diane Orikasa, Paul Mizoguchi, and David and Judy Fukuda.

In addition, kudos to NVMC Research Archivist Melanie Abragante and Kyle Watanabe for putting together the descriptive pictorial exhibit of the 100th Infantry Battalion. If you have a chance to visit, please stop by the NVMC Education Center, which is open Monday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.



PROUD TO SERVE KUPUNA

As baby boomers are coming into their golden age of retirement, or what can also be called their “aloha years,” unpaid family caregivers too often feel alone, desperate, unappreciated and overwhelmed. But they are not alone! More than 39 million Americans provide care for their aging parents, relatives or friends. Many caregivers face these responsibilities with limited assistance from other family or outside support.

Does this sound familiar? If you are carrying most of the responsibility of your loved one’s needs, it is important to realize that you are probably spending the majority of your time and energy on your caregiving duties and not taking care of yourself. It is important to protect your own physical and mental health, too.

MADCC continues to provide care and activities for kupuna as it has done for over 43 years. The nonprofit organization provides social daytime therapeutic programs for individuals who are frail, elderly and may be diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia. It also offers a setting for adults who are physically or mentally challenged. Currently, MADCC offers five locations (Kahului, Lahaina, Wailuku, Kihei and Hana), with the sixth location in upcountry in the planning stages. Member clients enjoy a broad range of programs and activities to include:

- daily upper and lower body physical exercises;
- memory enhancement activities to stimulate cognitive thinking;
- music, karaoke singing, dancing, old-time movies, excursions, animal visitation;
- guest entertainers;
- personal care, e.g. bathing services, haircuts and manicures;
- hot meals and snacks
- Friday Night Sun-Downing Club and social program;
- Saturday and Sunday respite programs; and
- group games, including bingo, chair bowling, parachute ball toss, and so many more.

MADCC has a center located at the Nisei Veteran’s Memorial Center, which offers a one-of-a-kind Intergenerational program where our seniors can enjoy interaction with the Kansha pre-school children. Programs offer a wide range of caregiver support group programs and workshops.



SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH EXCELLENCE

Ten scholarships of \$1,000 were presented to 2017 graduates of Maui County high schools by the Maui’s Sons and Daughters of the Nisei Veterans / Maui AJA Veterans Scholarship Program:

Left to Right

- BRODY YAMADA *Kamehameha Schools Maui (Brown University)*
- JAELYN DOMINGO *King Kekaulike High School (California Polytechnic State University)*
- Dayna McGinnis *Baldwin High School (University of California, Irvine)*
- AIMEE NATHAN *Maui High School (Western Oregon University)*
- ALENETTE BALLESTEROS *King Kekaulike High School (Brown University)*
- LAYCE YAMAUCHI *Baldwin High School (Willamette University)*
- BRAIDEN PAA, *Maui High School (University of Hawai’i at Manoa)*
- DANNY DOMINGO JR. *Maui High School (University of Hawai’i at Manoa)*

Not pictured:

- LEXIE LEON *Maui Preparatory Academy (Nova Southeastern University)*
- KAMRYN PERRY *Maui Preparatory Academy (Gonzaga University)*

Scholarships are awarded annually based on academic achievement, extracurricular activities, an essay, and financial need.

The major source of scholarship funding has been the annual Chrysanthemum Festival. Three of this year’s recipients participated in the 2015 festival, including Queen Jaelyn Domingo and Princesses Aimee Nathan and Dayna McGinnis.

The Maui AJA Veterans Inc. ran the Chrysanthemum Ball from 1953 and provided hundreds of scholarships over the years. When the group dissolved in 2016, it distributed funds to the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center and to the Maui’s Sons and Daughters of the Nisei Veterans.

The latter has pledged to use its share to continue the tradition of providing scholarships to worthy Maui County high school graduates, honoring the Maui AJA Veterans Inc. by retaining the group’s name in the title of the scholarship.

LEST WE FORGET OUR DEPARTED COMRADES



Kazuichi “Kazu” Hamasaki

May 2, 1922 – Sept. 4, 2017

Kazuichi “Kazu” Hamasaki of Wailuku passed away on Sept. 4, 2017 at age 95. He was born on May 2, 1922, in Wailuku to Kijiro and Oyoshi Hamasaki.

Kazu graduated from St. Anthony High School in 1940. On March 24, 1943, he volunteered for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He served as a messenger/rifleman in the 2nd Battalion, Company G. During his service, he participated in the Rome-Arno campaign, Po Valley campaign and the North Apennines campaign. He also participated in the Rhineland campaign, which included the unit’s historic rescue of the “Lost Battalion” in the Vosges Mountains. For his service he was awarded the American Campaign Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart Medal and Distinguished Unit Badge. He was honorably discharged on Dec. 30, 1945, with the rank of private first class.

After the war, Mr. Hamasaki attended junior college at Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa, courtesy of the G.I.

Bill. In his junior year, he transferred to the University of Nebraska-Omaha and graduated in 1951 with a degree in sociology. He worked as a social worker with the State of Hawai’i Department of Social Services and Housing and, when given an opportunity to return to school, he attended the University of Hawai’i, graduating in 1956 with a master’s degree in social work. He returned to Maui and the state, working in the Department of Social Services where he was eventually promoted to department administrator in 1966. He held this position until his retirement in 1986.

Mr. Hamasaki was active in the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and with Hale Mahaolu since its inception in 1964, serving as its treasurer and president and remained on the board. He was also active with the Maui 442nd Veteran’s Club, serving as a past president.

Mr. Hamasaki is survived by his wife of over 63 years, Grace; son, Mark (Mariza); daughter, Teri, and granddaughter, Ashley.



Robert T. Miyashiro

Aug. 26, 1921 – Sept. 15, 2017

Robert T. Miyashiro of Pukalani passed away on Sept. 15, 2017, in Kahului. He was 96 years old. Robert was born in Puunene, Maui, on Aug. 26, 1921, the only child of Eika and Kama Miyashiro. The Miyashiros moved to Wailuku where Bob attended Wailuku Elementary before transferring to St. Anthony School. He enrolled in Maui Vocational School to study machinery before taking a job at Wailuku Sugar Company. Eventually, he moved to Honolulu where he found employment at Amfac before returning to Maui. Back on Maui, he worked for CQ Yee Hop and Company until the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Miyashiro then found employment as a bookkeeper at the Wailuku Branch of Bishop National Bank.

In August 1944, Mr. Miyashiro received his draft notice and, on Aug. 17, 1944, was inducted into the U.S. Army and shipped off to the 13th Replacement Depot in Wahiawa on O’ahu. He was then sent to Camp Fannin, Texas, for his basic training. After a few months, he was transferred to the European Theatre. Eventually, he was assigned to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team – Headquarters

Company. He participated in the North Apennines and Rhineland campaigns. He received the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal. On April 2, 1946, he received an honorable discharge with the rank of staff sergeant.

After the war, Mr. Miyashiro returned to his job at Bishop National Bank where he worked as a teller in the Wailuku Branch until the mid 50s. He then served as note teller and, in 1967, was promoted to assistant manager positions at the Kahului Branch. Over his 44-year career with the bank, Mr. Miyashiro rose from bookkeeper II to branch manager. Through the years, he was a member of the Maui Okinawan Kenjin Kai, St. Francis Xavier Club, Kahului Rotary Club, Maui Redevelopment, and Cost of Government boards.

Mr. Miyashiro was predeceased by his first wife, Hideko, and is survived by his wife, Margaret. He is also survived by daughters, Roberta (Ray) Westfall, Kathleen McGraw, and Ann (Tom) Rosario; sons, Ronald (Teri) and Richard (Patti); nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

LEST WE FORGET



Masaru Okubo

Aug. 11, 1923 – Mar. 26, 2017

Masaru Okubo of Kahului, passed away peacefully on March 26, 2017. Mr. Okubo, 93, was born on Aug. 11, 1923, in Pe‘ahi, Maui, to Keiso and Masano Okubo.

Mr. Okubo served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS). He was inducted into service on Feb. 13, 1945, at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu before being sent to the MIS Language School at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, where he stayed from September 1945 to January 1946. He then served almost a year in Japan with the U.S. Army Occupation Forces. Mr. Okubo received the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and Army of Occupation Medal. He was honorably discharged on Jan. 5, 1947, with the rank of Private First Class.

Upon his return from military service, Mr. Okubo worked for HC&S as a heavy equipment mechanic. He would later retire from HC&S after a 47-year career.

Mr. Okubo was preceded in death by his loving wife of 66 years, Mrs. Kinue Okubo. He is survived by his son, Paul (Adrienne) Okubo; daughters, Robyne (Paul) Tokunaga and Cheryl Okubo; four grandchildren; and sister, Harue Kobayashi. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law, Miyo Okubo and Mary Okubo, as well as by an aunt, Shizuko Okubo.



Robert Yukio Nishida

Sept. 14, 1925 – July 8, 2017

Robert Yukio Nishida passed away on July 8, 2017, at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Mr. Nishida, 91, was born on Sept. 14, 1925, the second of six children born to Zenzo and Harumo Nishida of Pukalani.

Completed the 8th grade at Makawao School, he left school to help his father with the farming business and, along with his father and uncle, started Maui Farmer’s Cooperative Exchange in Wailuku.

At the age of 19, Mr. Nishida was drafted and chosen for language school at Schofield Barracks in Honolulu. He was selected for assignment to the Counter Intelligence Corps and shipped out to Saipan where he interrogated Japanese prisoners of war. Immediately after Imperial Japan’s surrender, he was sent to Nagasaki to reconnoiter the city before entry by U.S. troops. He served an 11-month tour of duty in Japan.

Mr. Nishida continued his education by getting his GED and vocational training and correspondence accounting degrees. He later worked as a purchasing agent at Kula Hospital, Maui Memorial Hospital, and Maluhia Hospital on O‘ahu. He retired in 1977.

Mr. Nishida was predeceased by his wife of 54 years, Tsugiko Nishida. He is survived by his daughter, Arlene (James) Puailihau, and son, Kerry (Paula) Nishida. He is also survived by five grandchildren and two sisters, Hatsue Tsukamoto and Thelma Montgomery.



Kaoru Muraoka

Apr. 19, 1921 – Sept. 16, 2017

Kaoru Muraoka of Pukalani, Maui, passed away on Sept. 16, 2017, at the age of 96. Kaoru was born on April 19, 1921, the eldest of seven children born to Tomoyuki and Shizuyo Muraoka. Kaoru finished high school in 1939, the last class to graduate from Wailuku Intermediate School (Wailuku High School).

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Mr. Muraoka worked several jobs, ending up as a teller with Bishop Bank in Kahului. Then in August 1944 he was drafted and sent to Wahiawa with the 13th Replacement Depot. He trained at Camp Fannin, Texas, before being called overseas to the European Theatre. Toward the end of the war, he was finally assigned to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team – Service Company. He earned the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. He was honorably discharged with the rank of staff sergeant on Nov. 12, 1946.

Back in Hawai‘i, Mr. Muraoka returned to his job at Bishop Bank and continued there for 17 years. In the early 60s, he worked for his brother, Seiji, who owned Maui Book Store in Wailuku. He learned how to repair typewriters and adding machines at Remington Rand in Honolulu. Then in 1965 Seiji offered to sell the repair business to Kaoru, who took advantage of the opportunity and opened Business Equipment in Wailuku. He operated the business until his retirement in 2009.

Mr. Muraoka is survived by his wife, Fujie; daughters, Sharon (Dick) Kamita, Joyce Muraoka, and Donna (Russell) Ando; and son, John. He is also survived by grandchildren, Alison Vixaysakd, Jason Kamita, and Jessica Ando; and great grandchildren, Evan Vixaysakd and Emme Vixaysakd.

FRANCE INDUCTS MAUI RESIDENTS INTO NATIONAL ORDER OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

Two Maui residents, Dr. Seiya Ohata of Kula and Robert Sullivan of Lahaina, participated in the largest amphibious invasion in history more than 73 years ago in northern France. For their contributions in freeing the French people from German occupation during World War II, they were recently awarded France's highest order of merit, L'Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur (the National Order of the Legion of Honour),

Dr. Ohata and Mr. Sullivan were presented the medals from the French government on July 15, 2017, at a ceremony held at the Maui Adult Day Care Oceanview Center, located on the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center campus. The ceremony, held in conjunction with quarterly 442nd social gathering, was attended by more than 70 family, friends, and previous recipients of the award.

The Maui's Sons & Daughters of Nisei Veterans sponsored the event with the organization's president, Leonard Oka, serving as master of ceremonies. The highlight was the presentation of the medals to Dr. Ohata and Mr. Sullivan. In both instances, a grandchild pinned the medal on their grandfather. Patricia Huntley-Fujita pinned the medal on Dr. Ohata, while Blake Sullivan pinned the medal on Mr. Sullivan.

L'Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur is a French order of distinction established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802. It was the first order of merit open to men of all ranks and professions.

A few years ago, the French government began accepting applications for the honor from veterans of Allied countries who had fought for the liberation of France in WWII. Since then, 19 Maui veterans have been accepted into the order. Former Mauian, Barney Hajiro, previously received the medal in 2004 after being awarded the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism in the Vosges.

Dr. Seiya Ohata

Capt. Ohata, who recently turned 100, arrived at the beaches of Normandy on June 8, 1944, aboard a landing craft. He was attached to the 164th General Hospital where the doctors took care of the injured Allied soldiers, French citizens, and wounded German soldiers.

Besides being the only Nisei to participate in Operation Overlord, he also stood out because he was only 5-feet tall and had to wade ashore holding his backpack above his head unlike the other doctors in his unit.

Robert Sullivan

"Sully" Sullivan had initially sought to enlist in the U.S. Army in 1942 as a pilot. However, the Army would not accept him as a pilot because he was color blind. He enlisted with the Canadian Army instead as a paratrooper.

On D-Day, Sullivan was attached to the 6th British Airborne Division and was to drop in behind enemy lines and capture Pegasus Bridge over the Orne Canal. The unit achieved its objective and prevented German armor from crossing the bridges and attacking their eastern flank.

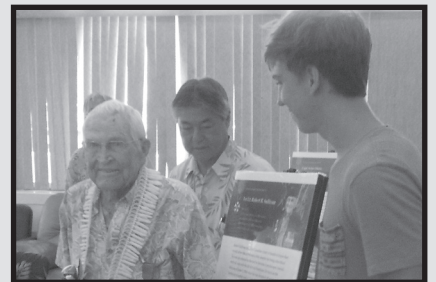
Sullivan transferred to the U.S. Army in 1945 and continued to serve through a tour of duty in Korea before resigning his commission in 1952. 1st Lt. Bob Sullivan left the U.S. Army after fighting for two countries in two wars on two continents. He earned 13 different stars and medals.



Dr. Seiya Ohata and Robert Sullivan after receiving the French National Order of Honor Medals



Dr. Seiya Ohata and granddaughter Patricia Huntley-Fujita



Left to right: Robert Sullivan, Howard Ikeda and Robert's grandson Blake.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NVMC

for the period ending August 2017

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Mike Tsuji
Yasuo Nishida



Korean War Veterans Royal Vida (left), Akira Kiyabu and Danny Kanahele (back)
Vida was chairman of the WWII Monument Committee

A granite stone memorial honoring the men and women of Maui who fought in the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific during World War II was unveiled on Memorial Day at Makawao Cemetery. The World War II Veterans Memorial is situated between the World War I and Korean War memorials already in place at the Maui Veterans Cemetery in Makawao.

At the dedication, master of ceremonies Leonard Oka thanked the Maui County Veterans Council for spearheading the World War II project and the County of Maui for providing the necessary funding. In particular, he thanked the special committee headed by chairman Royal Vida for coordinating the memorial's construction.

In addition to Vida's dedication, patience and unrelenting follow-through in seeing this project to its conclusion, the following were acknowledged for their assistance:

- **Walker Industries for donating the base slab;**
- **Chad Miyake of C&J Hauling for transporting the slab; and**
- **the County employees for excavating the ground, setting the slab in place, and placing the granite stone onto the slab.**

Also critical to the project's completion was Kristen Offerson of Maui Monument & Granite who, despite facing major challenges to overcome, saw that the stone was obtained and shaped; the plaque designed, ordered and mounted; and the monument delivered prior to Memorial Day.

Vida also recognized Billy Sakamoto who designed the monument base and donated the two flower vases embedded in the slab. Sakamoto passed away just two weeks before the unveiling.

DONATE TO THE NVMC

Please show your support for the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center

Your tax-deductible contribution will help the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center maintain the NVMC "Living Memorial" campus and fulfill its mission of promoting understanding about the history, values and culture of the Nisei veterans among our community's children, families and visitors.

DONATION CATEGORIES *Please indicate your support level by checking below:*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARMY (\$2,500 and over) | <input type="checkbox"/> COMPANY (\$249 - \$100) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIVISION (\$2,499 - \$1,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> PLATOON (\$99 - \$25) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> REGIMENT (\$999 - \$500) | <input type="checkbox"/> SQUAD (\$24 and below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BATTALION (\$499 - \$250) | |

- Enclosed is a check for \$ _____, payable to NISEI VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, to support NVMC in its work to educate the community about the history, values and culture of the Nisei soldier.

For other donation options, please visit our website, www.nvmc.org or call (808) 244-6862 with any questions you may have.

NAME (MR./MRS./MS.)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

EMAIL

Please charge my donation of \$ _____ to:

VISA

MASTERCARD

ACCOUNT NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

CVV#

PHONE NUMBER

SIGNATURE

DATE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The NVMC is so grateful to have the support of so many in our community.

We would like to extend a special "mahalo" to the organizations and individuals listed below for going "above and beyond" this summer.

The County of Maui - Office of Economic Development; Hawaii Alpha Delta Gamma; The Four Seasons Resort Maui; TJ's Warehouse and Maui Chemical; Young Brothers; Service Rentals; The Sign Source; Maui's Sons and Daughters of the Nisei Veterans; Lester Yamamoto; Debra Lumpkins; Frank Suda; Kiyoshi Murata & Rita O'Keane; NVMC Volunteers and the entire team at Sae Design.

Thanks to your generosity, we are able to continue sharing the legacy of the Nisei Veterans.

Recent Donors to the Archives

- Photos, medals and documents of Richard M. Nakahashi, 100th IFB, Co. B *Donated by nephew, David Miyake*
- Miscellaneous 1980 Pony League World Championship Baseball plaques and awards *Donated by Francis Miyazono*
- Large collection of documents and photos belonging to Mamoru Yokoyama, 442nd RCT, HQ Co. and MIS *Donated by widow Janet Yokoyama*
- Miscellaneous documents of Kase Higa, MIS *Donated by daughter Elaine Yamashita*

We thank all of the families who have donated to our archives. It is the NVMC's responsibility to ensure current and future generations understand the legacy of the Nisei veterans. Thanks to the donations, we are able to continue sharing their legacy.



COMING THIS WINTER TO THE

NISEI VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER

THE MAUI INTERNMENT STORY

THREE SOLDIERS OF THE 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION WERE KILLED
IN ACTION (KIA) IN ITALY WHILE THEIR FATHERS WERE DETAINED
IN INTERNMENT CAMPS ON THE MAINLAND.

S/Sgt. Toshio Murakami
July 1, 1920 – July 9, 1944

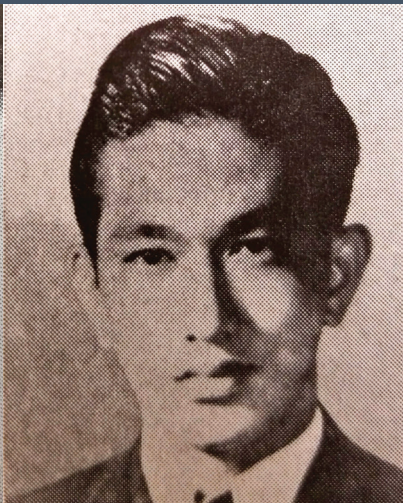
PFC. Kihachiro Hotta
May 7, 1923 – July 10, 1944

1st Lt. Saburo Maehara
April 5, 1915 – April 5, 1945



Shigeru Murakami was interned in Santa Fe, New Mexico and the last family member to see his son, Toshio, who visited him prior to being shipped overseas. Owner of a billiard parlor in Wailuku, the elder Murakami was also secretary/treasurer of the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and assisted immigrants with writing letters home.

HIS SON, S/SGT. TOSHIO MURAKAMI, WAS KILLED IN ACTION NEAR CASTELLINA MARITTIMA, ITALY.



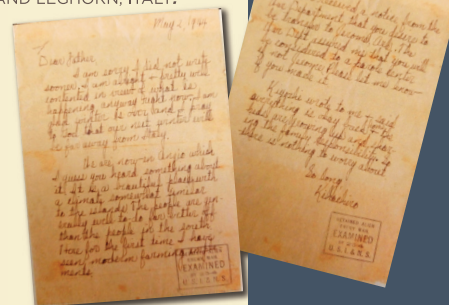
Kiyoji Hotta was owner of the Hotta Store in Wailuku specializing in clothing for clients visiting Japan and wanting to make a "proper" impression. Besides being a store owner, his internment in Santa Fe was possibly due to his enlistment in the Japanese army during the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-1905.

KIYOJI'S SON, KIHACHIRO HOTTA, WAS KILLED IN ACTION ON JULY 10, 1944 NEAR POMOJA AND LEGHORN, ITALY.



Teiichiro Maehara was the principal of the Puunene Japanese School and assistant consular to the Japanese Consulate office in Honolulu.

HIS SON, SABURO, WAS KILLED IN ACTION ON HIS 30TH BIRTHDAY WHILE LEADING AN ATTACK ON GEORGIA HILL IN THE PO VALLEY CAMPAIGN IN ITALY.



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Interview

'Three-Year Swim Club' Author

Checkoway is also the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts individual artist grant and a Yaddo fellowship

PAGE 1



442nd Regimental Combat Team: A Tribute and Journey

Baldwin High School students win multiple awards in the District, State and National levels at the 2017 National History Day Competition.

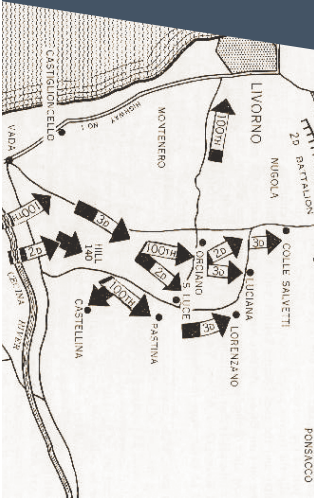
PAGE 3



OSD - Battle of Belvedere

The battle that brought the men international fame (Combat Chaplain, Yost, p. 178) was the Battle of Belvedere.

PAGE 8



France inducts Maui residents into National Order of the Legion of Honor

For their contributions in freeing the French people from German occupation during World War II, they were recently awarded France's highest order of merit.

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