

Go For Broke Association Newsletter

<http://gfbassn.org>

MARCH 2021

No. 1/2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Go For Broke!

CoVID-19 vaccination is the path to some sense of normalcy – backyard BBQs, dining out, meeting friends/family, GFBA annual dinners, and just basic socializing ... Lol. We know vaccination is a personal choice

given the politics of the past years have warped facts, truth, and honest science briefings to make all Americans skeptical of politicians given your trust in them. If you choose to participate now or later, watch the local news to keep informed how to sign up for a vaccination appointment. If you need help scheduling your vaccination shot, you can reach out to your Squad Leader for help and we will find someone to contact you to help you schedule your vaccination appointment. Currently, Vietnam era veterans or earlier (75 years >) are in line unless you are a health provider or work in government that designates you in a critical category. As of February 9, 2021, for VA members, category 1C (65 years >) are available for vaccine scheduling. With vaccination rates increasing we can reach effective US CDC herd immunity rate to allow businesses to hold large group gatherings like our traditional annual dinner meeting to occur without being a friendly-fire virus infection spreader event.

Nation-wise, healing America after 4 years of divisiveness starts with knowing the truth and dispelling conspiracy theories that are found common on social media that does not have any

effective fact checking mechanism. As a once wise man said in the past “Know the truth and the truth will set you free (John 8:32).”

Originally a spiritual proverb, can be applied to all of life's decisions. Therefore, before retweeting/re-posting social media content from friends and family, please fact check them to heal our nation and our community. You can also go one step further in your personal prerogative to dispel it on your social media thread itself and be that social justice avatar/champion that our great Battalion continues to fight for.

If you haven't notice, our association website is redone. Big kudo to Jimmy Kaaihue, our GFBA webmaster, for the redesign. Let's give him some kudo for leading this effort, and some feedback to make it even better – especially if you have something graphically or historically to share for everyone.

Lastly, we grew with 17 new life members with a new Battalion leadership with the acting Battalion Commander and new Command Sergeant Major leading out in front. We need to keep up our recruiting tempo to recruit new eligible life members from the Battalion, as well as former Battalion members, to ensure we help the Battalion's legacy perpetuates for future generations as well as connecting our former members to strengthen our association foundation. As you know this association is a very elite organization unlike others since it mandates past service in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry unlike others in Hawaii.

Live the spirit - Go for Broke!

- Sean Lee -

100th BATTALION CSM'S MESSAGE



Go For Broke
Association members,
I am Command
Sergeant Major Jerry
Walden and I want to
provide the members
a current update for
the 100th Battalion.

442d Infantry Regiment.

Starting last year, we faced many challenges to remain operational and ready to meet the Nations call with the impact of COVID-19, however the BN was able to have a successful Annual Training 2020 (AT), in both virtual and in-person settings. All Companies were able to conduct AT to include the Oahu Companies being able to conduct Individual and Crew Served Weapons Qualifications. During this time, the BN won the 9th Mission Support Command (MSC) Best Warrior Competition with SGT Ryan Litwinsky as the NCO and SPC Gabriel Ramirez as the enlisted winners. Both soldiers won an all-expenses paid trip to Ft Benning to attend Airborne School which both recently graduated from.

Moving on to FY 2021, the BN is currently looking at the following as important BN initiatives and events:

- The move of Charlie Company from American Samoa to Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) is in the final stages with the permanent move order currently with the Chief of Staff of the Army. Already we have the BN XO MAJ Tim Shea spearheading the move as the projects officer and we have around 30 soldiers on the roster. JBLM was very welcoming, and Army Reserves gave the BN office and training space in a nice large building on installation, and we expect the first in-person Battle Assembly to occur in March 2021.

- Charlie (JBLM, WA), Echo (Guam/Saipan), Delta, HHC and 740th FSC (Oahu) will participate this summer in a consolidated AT at our favorite Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island. Excitingly, this will be the BN's first collaborative training event with the renewed training relationship between the HIARNG 2th IBCT and the 100th Battalion 442d Infantry Regiment.
- Bravo Company (American Samoa) will be part of the Geronimo Opposing Force package at Joint Readiness Training Center, Louisiana as an OPFOR Company under the 1/509th ABN IN Regt this summer.
- In April, the BN will participate in the 25th ID consolidated Expert Infantry Badge event to attempt to attain the coveted badge through strenuous, and challenging tasks. Last year, SGT Hadley from HHC Scouts achieved the status of "True Blue" by scoring expert on all tasks and was recognized by the 25th Infantry Division CG.
- Finally, there is a change in the BN command structure, MAJ Benjamin Bloomstrom is the current BN Commander and I recently was selected as the BN CSM, with a recent Change of Responsibility occurring in January 2021.

Thank you.

Go For Broke!

CSM Jerry Walden

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Vaccinations for the coronavirus are being administered to TRICARE beneficiaries at Tripler Army Medical Center, Spark M. Matsunaga Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and Wheeler Army Airfield. Visit www.operationcovidshot.com to check eligibility requirements, and to schedule an appointment. Too young – continue to monitor the website for updates.

NOTE: You must be a TRICARE beneficiary to receive a vaccine. This includes TRICAE for Life and TRICARE Select.

Earlier announcements are included in this newsletter.

Life Membership Drive



Director Jimmy Kaaihue (foreground) and President Sean Lee field questions from (back to front) CSM Jerry Walden, CPT Peerawut Kamlangek, and SSG Akiona.

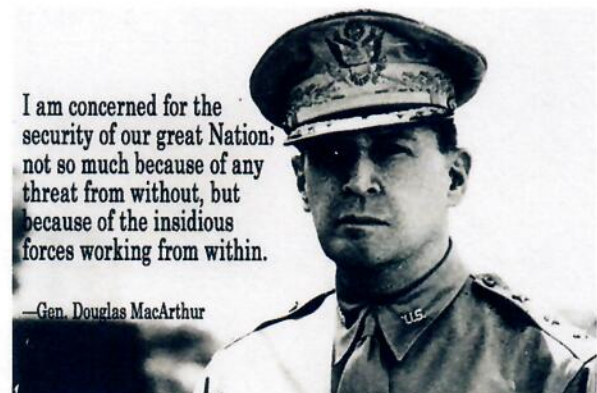
Young, new blood are beginning to infuse itself into the Go For Broke Association! On Saturday, November 8, 2020, led by President Sean Lee, Jimmy Kaaihue and Calvin Nomiya conducted a membership drive at the

headquarters of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment at Fort Shafter Flats. The drive was made possible by the invitation of Acting Battalion Commander MAJ Benjamin Bloomstrom, and hosted by CSM Jerry Walden, in the unit's common area during its annual SRP (Soldiers Readiness Processing).



(L-R: Secretary Calvin Nomiya, President Sean Lee, CSM Jerry Walden, and Director Jimmy Kaaihue) Seventeen new members joined as a result of that day, paying the one-time, Life membership dues of \$100.00.

An After-Action Review was held by the Board of Directors and it was decided for the Association to employ an electronic pay system to better facilitate any payments made to the Go For Broke Association.



Best Warrior Competition 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment

The 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment conducted a Best Warrior Competition. Events included the Army Combat Fitness Test, day and night land navigation, road march, and in person board. Congratulations to Sergeant Austin Davis and Specialist. Esaias Furtado. Go For Broke!



(L-R) SPC Esaias Furtado, SGT Austin Davis



Update on Samoa Brothers

(Mahalo to MG, Retired, Bob Lee for his contribution to this article)



How many of you remember this handsome young man in the photo? He is Peliti Mauga, former Commander, Bravo Company, 100th Battalion and later Major Mauga representing the 9th Mission Support Command in American Samoa.

In the recent election, he is now Governor Mauga having received 60% of the votes. There were other candidates for Governor but the closest one received only 21%, so no run-off election was needed.

In other news from American Samoa, Mapu Jamias retired from the position of Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army but is still the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves (ESGR) Chair for the territory.



Mapu came from the Hawaii Army National Guard and transferred to the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry in MAY 1980 as a Captain. He went to American Samoa to build an Infantry detachment for Company C. Three years later he became Commander of BRAVO Company. In 1987, he returned to the 100th Battalion as the S4, Logistics Officer and moved to IX Corps DCSOPS where he was promoted to the rank of Major.

2021 Annual Membership Dinner Meeting

The Island of O`ahu is under a four-tiered system to help reduce the spread of the pandemic coronavirus (COVID-19). As of late February, O`ahu remained in Tier 2, limiting social gatherings to no more than 5. As a result, hotels, including the Hale Koa Hotel, are not taking reservations for any banquets or other large-scale events.

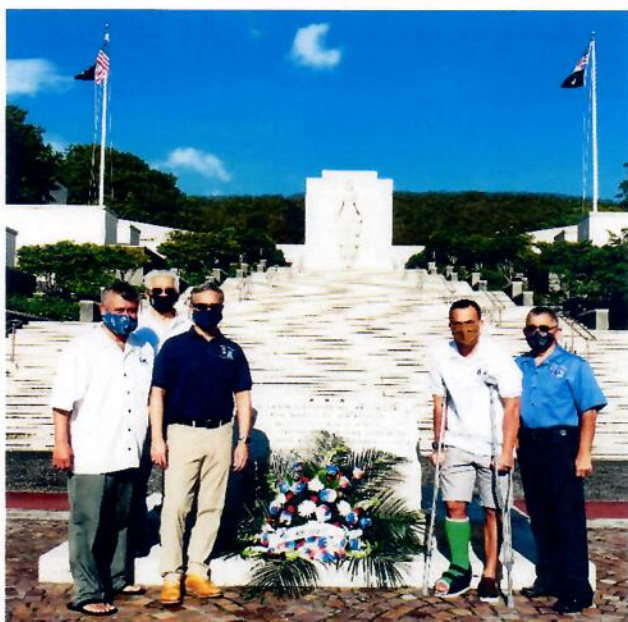
The Board of Directors (Board) are hopeful that through vaccinations and the steady decrease in COVID-19 cases per day will improve that would allow O`ahu residents to attend large social gatherings. Thus, the Board has decided to postpone the Annual Membership Dinner from May 8, 2021, to a date to be determined in October 2021.



The Aloha Buffet features a Prime rib carving station.

2020 Memorial Service

On December 12, 2020, the GFBA Board of Directors held its annual memorial services for its fallen comrades at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Mililani Memorial Park, and Homelani Memorial Park in Hilo. A memorial wreath was placed at the steps to the memorial at Punchbowl, honoring all Soldiers who once served in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment (USAR) and were killed in action during the Korean, Vietnam, and Iraqi Wars.



(L-R: Jimmy Kaaihue, Arthur Delos Santos, Sean Lee, Jaybee Obusan, and Calvin Nomiyama)

Keep in touch, don't miss out a thing!

Recently, several e-mail messages have been sent to members, and returned "undeliverable." Please do not let this happen for you will miss out on updates on the Association as well as the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment. Keep the Board of Directors or your Squad Leaders of your most current e-mail address and mailing address.

BECOME A MEMBER, TODAY!

Eligibility - Every person who performed honorable military service with the 100th Battalion (Separate), 442d Regimental Combat Team, 442d Regiment, 100th Battle Group, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment; or any predecessor unit at any time shall be eligible for Membership in the Corporation by majority vote of the Board.

Life Members. Life Membership is open to any member who pays One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) in one lump sum. Life memberships are not transferable. A life member shall not be subject to dues and shall be entitled to vote.

Contact Us



GO FOR BROKE!



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I'll tell you what bravery really is. Bravery is just determination to do a job you know has to be done.

- Audie Murphy -



Vehicle Registration Fact Sheet

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Does it cost money to register my vehicle with the garrison?

A: No; installation vehicle registration is separate from state registration, and does not cost any money.

Q: I am a Soldier but live and work on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Do I still need to register my car?

A: In order to drive your vehicle on any U.S. Army Hawaii installation, you must register the vehicle.

Q: The sponsor is deployed or TDY past May 1. Can the spouse or other adult dependent register the family's cars?

A: Yes. You will need the Sponsor's DOD ID #, Sponsor's Social Security Number, Sponsor Unit Information (Company, Battalion, Brigade), Vehicle Registration, Insurance, and Safety Inspection. Bring the information to the VCC or Fort Shafter military police station to register.

Q: I am a retiree but do not live on post. Do I still need to register my vehicle?

A: In order to drive your vehicle on any U.S. Army Hawaii installation, you must register the vehicle.

Q: I am a civilian employee. I normally drive my own car but sometimes my spouse will drive me to and from work. Should I register all of my family's cars, or just mine?

A: You must register all vehicles that will be driven on the installation. There is no limit on the number of vehicle registrations.

Q: I am a Soldier but I'm not sure my unit will register me. Can I register my car myself at the Visitor Control Center or Fort Shafter military police station?

A: Yes, but you should speak with your unit S1 first to determine if your unit is conducting mass registrations.

Q: I just moved here and have a rental car for the next month and a half. Should I register the rental vehicle?

A: No; be sure to keep a copy of your rental agreement in the vehicle. In the event you are stopped for inspection or pulled over, show the rental agreement and that will take place for the vehicle registration.

Q: I have another question that isn't listed. Who can I contact for more information?

A: Email usarmy.hawaii.visitors@mail.mil for any questions or concerns.



COVID VACCINE INFORMATION

CURRENT VACCINE PHASE 1Ca

VA Pacific Islands Health Care System employees are working around the clock to distribute the COVID vaccine to all current eligible Veterans. We are currently offering the Moderna vaccine to Veterans who meet the criteria for phase 1Ca.

HOW DO I SCHEDULE MY COVID VACCINE?

- 1** Review the four categories of eligibility below to see if you meet any element of the criteria in any one of the defined categories.
- 2** If you are eligible to receive a vaccine, **please call 1-800-214-1306** to schedule an appointment through our vaccine clinic. We are not taking walk-ins at this time.
- 3** if you are **Not** eligible to receive a vaccine at this time, please monitor our website our Facebook site for vaccine phase updates. Site information below.

PHASE 1Ca ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

VETERANS WHO ARE ESSENTIAL WORKERS

No matter health conditions or age

- Health Care Employees
- First responders
- Education (to include daycare)
- Food and agriculture
- Manufacturing
- Corrections workers
- U.S. Postal Service workers
- Public transit workers
- Grocery store workers

OTHER ELIGIBLE GROUPS

- Caregivers of a Veteran enrolled in the Comprehensive Caregiver Support Program and receiving a monthly allotment from the VA.

VETERANS 65+

No matter health condition

VETERANS WITH A HIGH-RISK MEDICAL CONDITION

No matter the age

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions
- Immunocompromised
- Organ transplant
- Obesity [BMI] of 30 kg/m2 or higher
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 1&2 diabetes
- Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Guillain-Barre syndrome
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, or
- Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
- Liver disease
- Pulmonary fibrosis (having damaged or scarred lung tissues)
- Thalassemia (a type of blood disorder)
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD
- HEMOC

<http://>

www.hawaii.va.gov

<https://www.facebook.com/VAPacificIslands>



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System