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Blood Bank of Hawaii

News From Your Community Blood Center • November 2016 • VOL.19



**Blood Bank
of Hawaii**

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Blood on the Shelves Saved Lives

Peaceful Hawaii

The time was April 1940. One year and eight months before “that fateful Sunday morning” that changed lives around the world forever. Few thought that peaceful Hawaii would come within a thousand miles of war. Fortunately, there were some people who did and were doing something about it.

Dr. Forest J. Pinkerton was one of those people. As head of the Public Health Committee for the Chamber of Commerce, he was charged with planning medical facilities and care for any natural disasters or emergencies in the islands. As a



Timing is Everything

In November, Dr. Pinkerton presented his plan again. This time, it was better received and found to have merit. His proposal was the establishment of a community blood bank, one of the first in the nation. In February 1941, Honolulu Blood-Plasma Bank was formed. The first blood donors were drawn later that summer on the grounds of The Queen's Hospital.

With radio silence/censorship about the conflict and any possibility of war

on US soil, public interest waned for the blood collection defense/disaster program. Exactly 22 days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, the blood bank ceased operations.



The value of large stores of plasma, or other blood substitutes, was demonstrated beyond any question. One hesitates to think of what might have happened had not the Civilian Medical Defense Group of Honolulu [Blood Bank of Hawaii] made immediately available to the Army and Navy large amounts of plasma.

Excerpt from report authored by Drs. I. S. Ravdin and Perrin H. Long to Surgeon Generals of Army and Navy dated December 27, 1941.



member of the National Defense Council, he was also aware of the concern of the defense services in Washington. When sharing his vision for implementing preparedness measures, he faced ridicule being called “a war monger” and “alarmist.”



That Fateful Day

Dr. Pinkerton, Blood Bank of Hawaii founder and first executive director, recalled the morning of December 7th in his memoirs: “I was called at my home in Manoa about 7:00 a.m. [continued on page 2](#)



MAHALO MONDAYS

All November

To give thanks to our amazing donors, BBH is celebrating Thanksgiving every Monday in November at our Young Street donor center with special mahalo giveaways.

November 7	Mr. Tea Café
November 14	Dave's Ice Cream
November 21	La Tour Café
November 28	Hele Gas

The Ultimate Gift

Searching for the ultimate gift? Blood donors don't wait for the holidays. Every donation is the gift of life. For Hawaii's patients and their loved ones, that is indeed the ultimate gift.



In the spirit of the season, when you donate between December 10-31, 2016 you may enter-to-win:

- Las Vegas vacation package for two including airfare, hotel, meal voucher and hotel transportation
- Weekly movie ticket giveaway

First-time donors and donors who bring in a new donor receive two entries.

The Ultimate Gift Kickoff

Join BBH to kick off the holiday season. Put your feet up after you've shopped and have your gifts wrapped, all while giving the ultimate gift, the gift of life!

The Ultimate Gift Blood Drive
Waialeale Center
December 10th
7:30am – 3:30pm

Hourly prizes and free gift wrapping for all participants

*Sponsored by Waialeale Center,
 UFC Gym, and C3 Car Club.*



continued from page 1 by an unidentified person at 'headquarters' and was told we were under attack at Pearl Harbor by bombing planes and to please send all plasma we had (253 units) to Pearl Harbor base and

resumed on a much more comprehensive scale. From the previous average of eight donors a day, the blood bank was drawing 50 donors an hour overnight. Since that day the doors to BBH have never closed.



Hickam Field, so I hurried to the Hawaiian Electric Cold Storage Plant, and... loaded the units of plasma into my Dodge car."

Dr. Pinkerton continued, "Before I left for Pearl Harbor, earlier, I had phoned the radio stations and requested them to broadcast a call for doctors, staff, volunteers and donors to report to the Blood Bank at The Queen's Hospital."

Hundreds Gather to Help

By the time Dr. Pinkerton returned to Queen's, the grounds were crowded with several hundred volunteer donors and recently trained staff. By 11:00 a.m. operations

Uninterrupted Service

For the next two years, BBH functioned as a wartime agency under the Office of Civilian Defense, Department of the Interior. In October 1943, BBH was chartered as a non-profit organization with the establishment of its own Board of Directors and staff. The mission was to provide blood to all hospitals in Hawaii. And now 75 years later, BBH remains the steward of Hawaii's blood supply. Thanks to Dr. Pinkerton's vision and leadership, many lives in Hawaii were saved during the war and throughout the decades since.



Eagle Scout Kaliko Adams (center) with BBH leadership, Jonette Correia (L) and Todd Lewis (R)

Worth A Thousand Words

As blood donors, you donate not knowing whose lives you have saved or the reason why somebody needed blood. What's important is to know you made a difference. Rather than a long story, let these pictures tell you a beautiful story of an incredibly grateful family.



Sharla Kaeo, Milika'a's mother wrote the following when asked to select a photo to accompany her story. "She (Milika'a) has so much personality it's hard to choose... She has different personas depending on who she's with...her big sister Kala'iku just adores her and vice versa, she's so secure in love with her Daddy, and then she knows she is comforted and content with me! She is definitely loved and without the generosity of people who donate blood, she wouldn't have the opportunity to live a normal life...and we wouldn't have been able to witness the blessing she surely is to this world!"



Milika'a Kaeo was born with two holes in her heart. At 18 months she underwent surgery during Kapiolani Heart Week.



Leading the way

Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) program. Only four percent of Boy Scouts are granted this rank after a lengthy review process. Kaliko Adams recently joined the ranks of this exclusive group and saved lives along the way.

Summertime is traditionally an incredibly difficult time to collect enough blood to meet patients' needs. This year was particularly challenging with the outbreak of Hepatitis A, the threat of Zika Virus and some very high usage weeks from the hospitals. Kaliko learned of the need and stepped up to help.

"During my senior year of high school, one of my friends was hospitalized for multiple months due to a stomach issue and required multiple transfusions. He had type O-positive blood. During his time in the hospital, I overheard the doctors talking about a shortage of blood and when I heard the plea from Blood Bank of Hawaii, I realized it was an is-

sue. I wanted to make a difference and make sure that everyone who needed blood for treatment would have it," said Kaliko.

An Eagle Project is the opportunity for a Scout to demonstrate leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of the community. On July 27th, Kaliko held a blood drive with a goal of collecting 25 units. Under his exceptional leadership, he exceeded his goal by 7 units and inspired 14 brand new donors.

Eagle Scouts are expected to set an example for other Scouts and to become the leaders in life. Clearly Kaliko is well on his way in setting a great example.

Hawaii Stands Proud

Knowing only four percent of Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts, BBH is proud to have worked with three other Eagle Scouts this summer. Like Kaliko they all went over their goal. Combined they collected 90 units and inspired 55 first time donors. Special mahalo



to Kailiko Adams, Hunter Love, Gehrig Wagner and Joshua Morita for saving lives and "b-leading" by example.

Surviving Summer

Typically, summer is a challenging time nationwide to meet patients' blood needs due in part to vacations and travel. This year was particularly challenging with high hospital usage and the threat of Zika. With these additional issues, we struggled to ensure there was enough blood on the shelves. Heartfelt thanks to all who came out, donated and saved our summer.



Grand prize Winner Brian Siperly



Week 1: Jason Kershner



Week 3: Lloyd Ikehara



Week 4: Glen Fevella



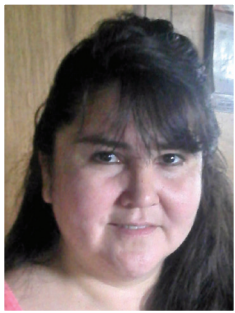
Week 5: Merina Cashe



Week 6: Carl Kealii Heu



Week 7: Rose Marie Wilson



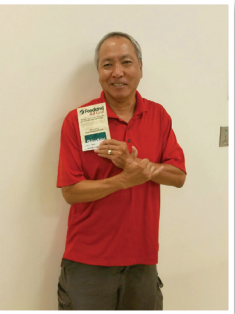
Week 8: Dena Dooley



Week 9: Scotty Sugiyama



Week 10: Paul Renard



Week 11: Curtis Takano



Week 12: Derek Yasaka

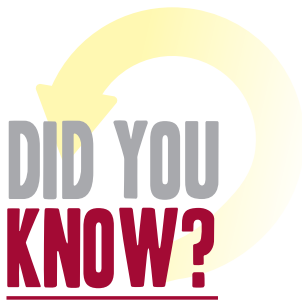


Week 13: Celia Melchor-Questin



Week 14: Kristal Masuda

Winners from Save Our Summer weekly giveaway and grand prize winner of the neighbor island getaway. Special thanks to Castle Resorts & Hotels and Hawaiian Airlines.



Excerpt from Dr. Pinkerton's memoirs recounting a trip from Pearl Harbor, after dropping off plasma, while on his way to The Queen's Hospital on the morning of December 7, 1941:

"I had almost reached the outskirts of downtown Honolulu, when I noticed one lone 'Rising Sun' plane coming in my direction with the machine guns firing. It had been crippled by our own gunfire. When the plane had passed I sped away as rapidly as possible. Later on that day my attention was called to a large round hole through the backseat of my Dodge car, which happened when I had left the car in the ditch on my return trip from Pearl Harbor. This incident supported the fact that I had been pretty close to the action."



Dr. Forest J. Pinkerton, founder of Blood Bank of Hawaii

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