



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NEWSLETTER
of the

Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin

hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com

Hongwanji Mission
of Hawaii

Five Year Theme:
"Path of Entrusting"

2014 Slogan:

"Share Peace"

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister:

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Tomo Hojo

Rev. Bert Sumikawa

Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

New Year's Greetings from the Gomonshu, Otani Koshin

Immeasurable Light and Life.

At the beginning of the year, I would like to send you my greetings from Hongwanji in Kyoto.

Upon succeeding the position as Monshu, thirty-six years and nine months have passed. I have come to empathize with Chinese master, Shan-tao, as he writes in Hymns of Birth in the Pure Land, "Caught up in everyday life, the days and nights go left unnoticed, unable to become emancipated and escape the sea of suffering." I shall vow to work diligently until my term comes to an end this June.



For many of us, although the passing of time seems to speed up with age, in recent years, changes within society have sped up, making things all the more unsettling. Because these rapid transitions are largely the result of developments in scientific technology and economic growth, they sometimes produce discrepancies in individual lifestyles and societal framework. The gap among socio-economic concerns including business corporations and people's lifestyles are widening that both domestic and international efforts have not been successful in dealing with such issues. As a result, there is a sense that neither reflecting on the past nor thinking ahead into the future matters, so long as we are content with the present. However, this mentality will result in repeating past mistakes or passing burdens on to future generations.

Is it not that the role of Buddhism is to provide us who live in this constantly changing world, with an unfaltering spiritual foundation to live the life which we have received to the fullest? In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, that foundation is the Primal Vow of Amida Tathagata, namely Namo Amida Butsu. Being unconditionally embraced by Amida Tathagata, we are enabled to accept our own inconvenient past and at this very moment, be joyous of this life we have received.

May we all continue to live every day of this year in appreciation of the Nembutsu.

January 1, 2014

OHTANI Koshin
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Rimban's Column: "Hauoli Makahiki Hou!"

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto



Greetings for the New Year!

I wish to thank the members of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin for the

wonderful support and guidance that the temple has been receiving throughout the years. With your assistance, our temple will provide spiritual, educational and social programs to enrich the wider Shin Buddhist Sangha

in the changing circumstances. There are many kinds of gifts that one receives in a lifetime. Mind and body are the precious gifts given us through the interactions of numerous living beings. Air, water and plants are gifts provided as blessings from nature. Education is a gift of human endeavor to develop intellect, love and a will to live by. Indeed, there are precious gifts that cannot be taken for granted.

Among these gifts, the Dharma is the gift of life given through the painstaking efforts of the masters, teachers, and members of many Sanghas to spread the teachings. Awakening to the Name of Amida and sharing the gift of the Dharma with others is a joy in our Shin Buddhist life.

Living in our society which is interdependent, we cannot keep the gift of the Dharma as "my own." When it is shared with others, it becomes truthful, authentic, and powerful. It is my belief that the Name of Amida Buddha, "Namo Amida Butsu," is expressed as the following "Four Immeasurable Minds:"

Loving-kindness (ji), which is to give happiness to others,

Compassion (hi), which is to remove pain and sorrow of others,

Sympathetic (ki) joy, which is to rejoice in happiness of others, and

Equanimity (sha), which is to feel serenity and peacefulness.

When I recently joined the ministers and PBA students and teachers for the Ministers' Walk, I realized these "Four Immeasurable Minds" were at work.

When I see more young children joining the Dharma School programs, I become grateful to their families for their efforts to nurture faith in the children. These children will surely grow to make Hawai'i a better place.

Contact the ministers and the members of the Board when you feel you need assistance and support. The ministers have had more counseling training and will refer the cases to agencies if needed. For those who are ill, we will assist you as best as we can.

And to those who have supported the Betsuin for many years as Goji members and now cannot come to the temple, we will share the teachings with you through visitations and telephone assurances.

In 2014, may your lives be filled with many opportunities to reflect upon the self in the Immeasurable Light, and may you find joy and happiness of living in the Infinite Life!

Namo Amida Butsu.



GOJI

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DEADLINE:

Articles must be submitted no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication. Mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813), fax (536-0919), or e-mail (hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com) all items to the **GOJI**. Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

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The opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.

Ho'onko Service, Shinran Shonin's Memorial Service

We are soon to observe Ho'onko, Shinran Shonin's Memorial Service and one of the six major holidays of our School. The Ho'onko Service was first initiated by Kakunyo Shonin, Shinran's great grandson and third Abbot of the Hongwanji, and has been conducted annually for more than 600 years by Jodo Shin Shu followers. The Chinese characters "Ho-on" means "return of gratitude" and "ko" means "a gathering" of those who wish to return this gratitude. Ho'onko is also referred to as Goshoki or Founder's Death Anniversary.

The schedule for our 2014 Ho'onko Services is as follows:

Saturday, Jan. 11 at 7:00 PM; English Evening Service
 Sunday, Jan. 12 at 8:00 AM; Japanese Service
 Sun. Jan. 12 at 9:30 AM; English Family Combined service
 Sun. Jan 12 at 1:00 PM; Japanese Service

Guest speaker will be Rev. Jeffery Soga, Rimban of the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin. Rev. Soga's topic is, "How do you answer when you are asked, 'What is Jodo Shin Buddhism?'"

Celebrate the New Year!
Sunday, January 26, 2014
in the Social Hall after the 9:30am. Combined Service
 • Delicious Buffet Lunch
 • Great Entertainment
 • Silent Auction Treasures
 (children can bid, too!)
 Tickets available from affiliate organizations and the Business Office
 Cost: Adults: \$10 / Seniors over 60: \$8.00 / children \$5.00
 Deadline to purchase tickets: January 19, 2014

Kuakini Offers Adult Day Care Services At The Hawaii Betsuin!

Have you heard of the Kuakini Adult Day Care Services offered at your Hawaii Betsuin temple on Pali Highway since 2002?

Kuakini Geriatric Care provides supervised care and educational, social and recreational activities. Services include a daily program of varied activities, lunch, snacks and supervised opportunities for socialization and continued learning within a group setting. An adult day care center may be an ideal place for a senior who is capable of providing some

of their own care to spend the day while their caretaker at home is normally at work or tending to other responsibilities. The supervised program enables family members to provide care for an elderly relative who may otherwise be left at home alone during the day. Your Hawaii Betsuin Project Dana volunteers also visit the seniors at the Kuakini Adult Day Care Services.

Applicants must be ambulatory, able to feed themselves, continent, a non-wan-

derer and non-combative.

Open Monday through Friday from 6:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Languages spoken by staff include English, Japanese, Ilocano and Tagalog.

There is a written application and screening interview by appointment.

For more information, visitation, and applications, please call 528-4621.



Owen Lee Oshima
 Pre-Need Counselor

1347 Nuuanu Avenue
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
 Phone: 808 529-0373
 Fax: 808 536 9588
 Cellular: 808 741 6936

Kyodan Announces Ministerial Assignments

Rev. Mary David, the Resident Minister of Mililani Hongwanji Mission, will be relieved of her responsibilities as Resident Minister of Mililani Hongwanji Mission and Oversee Minister of Waialua Hongwanji Mission as of December 31, 2013, and will be assigned to Headquarters as HQ Staff in the Office of Buddhist Education as of January 1, 2014. She will retire from HHMH as of March 1, 2014.

Rev. Janet Youth, a Retired Minister, will provide religious services for Mililani Hongwanji Mission until a new assignment can be made to Mililani Hongwanji Mission. **Rev. Kojun Hashimoto**, the Resident Minister of Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, will oversee Waialua Hongwanji Mission.

Mrs. Mitsuyo Saito's Retirement Party

Betsuin Choir members hosted a warmly appreciative retirement celebration on Nov. 17 for well-loved Choir Director, Mrs. Mitsuyo Saito (Mitzi). Under Mitzi's direction for the past 18 years, the Choir's musical offerings have infused Dharma joy into the Betsuin's major services and special observances and numerous invitational events in the community.

A slideshow entitled "This is Your Life, Mrs. Saito!" was shown to party attendees and it quickly became apparent to all that Mitzi has been sharing her love of music and the joy of the Nembutsu for over 54 years! She has directed the Hilo Betsuin Fujinkai Chorus Group on the Big Island, the Koloa Hongwanji Choir on Kauai, the Lahaina Singing Group on Maui, the Papaikou Hongwanji Children's Choir on the Big Island, and the Pearl City Hongwanji Choir and Hawaii Betsuin Choir on Oahu! Mitzi recalled most fondly the photo of the Centennial 100 Children's Choir, the participants of which were drawn from temples across the state. When the children sang under Mitzi's direction to commemorate the Centennial of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii in 1989, Mitzi felt that they "all became one in expressing the joy of the Nembutsu." She will never forget that feeling of oneness and of being supported by every temple.

Following the slideshow, it was so much fun to see the Dharma School students, which included Mitzi's former students, sing, dance, and do the hand motions to one of their favorite songs, Maru Maru Mori Mori, as taught by Mitzi. The encore included Mitzi performing with the students!

Choir member and violinist, Mari Murakami, shared her memories of meeting Mitzi and becoming involved with the Choir over a decade ago and then played a touching original piano composition that Mari had dedicated that day to Mitzi – Mitzi's Heart.

Choir members, led by Wendie Yumori, surprised Mitzi by singing one of Mitzi's delightful musical compositions, Arigatai, the lyrics of which were written by Cecilia Lindo. Mitzi and Wendie conducted together as the audience sang the chorus with choir members.

A tribute to Mitzi would not have been complete without an offering from Mitzi's valued musical partner, Betsuin Choir piano accompanist, Francis Okano. Francis met Mitzi back in 1961, when he was invited from Honolulu to perform a solo piano recital in Hilo. In honor of his first meeting with Mitzi, Francis masterfully played three Brahms pieces, Intermezzi op. 118 no. 1 and 2, and Rhapsody op. 79 no. 2, which Mitzi had enjoyed during Francis's 1961 recital program. In so doing, Francis placed memorable musical bookends on Mitzi's career of over half a century.

Master of Ceremonies, Dennis Sekine, pointed out to the audi-

Wendie Yumori

ence the enlarged poster of Mitzi's essay, "My Dream – Message to Shinran Shonin", written in Japanese and submitted to Honzan's 750th Memorial Essay Contest in Jan. 2011. Choir members had requested that Mitzi read an English translation of her essay at her retirement celebration and she graciously consented. As Mitzi read, everyone learned of Mitzi's dream "...of seeing the Nembutsu spread in ever-widening circles

all over the world through meaningful Buddhist Gathas..." and her conviction, "...one crucial task...was to translate the original Gathas with Japanese lyrics into Gathas with singable English lyrics..." Dennis emphasized that Honzan had recognized the great significance of Mitzi's dream and her essay was one of 13 selected from 1,364 entries to be displayed at

Honzan in 2011.

During her tenure as Betsuin Choir Director, Mitzi made an effort to introduce many new gathas published by Kyoto Hongwanji to the Choir. With a sincere desire to have these appealing choral gathas translated into singable English, Mitzi chaired the Gatha Translation Subcommittee of the HHHM Music Committee from 2005 to 2013. Under her stewardship, 41 singable English renditions of Japanese gathas



BWA Blood Drive Big Success!

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin BWA would like to extend our gratitude to all who generously donated their time and energy to making our recent blood drive a success.

On Saturday, November 16, 2013, the Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin BWA, together with Boy Scout Troop 49, Cub Scout Pack 49, the Girl Scouts, Dharma School, Hongwanji Mission School and Pacific Buddhist Academy, sponsored our first blood drive at the Honpa Hongwanji Social Hall. We exceeded our goal of 43 pints by collecting 51 pints of whole blood during the drive!

The Blood Bank of Hawaii was impressed by the enthusiastic response of our sponsoring organizations. With the help of the many groups assisting with the drive, we were able to recruit many first time donors as well as several regular donors.

With all the generous food donations, it turned out to be a mini party! Many people decided to "hang out" in the social hall before and after donating blood. They all ate the delicious food while talking story. Some even mentioned that they liked the camaraderie and would like to donate again next year!

We would like to thank the countless volunteers, blood donors and food donors! We couldn't have had a successful blood drive without all of you! We are already planning next year's blood drive to be held on Saturday, November 22, 2014 from 7:00am – 4:00pm at the Betsuin Social Hall.

We hope to see all of you next year!

Some of the discipline meant to come earlier to warm-up and stretch before the commencement at 6AM. During the entire one hour, they do not expect and not allowed to have a water break or restroom break. Every morning, the dojo was filled with yelling and taunting instructors to push all in the full-judo way of doing drills and exercises. This was truly boot camp, samurai-style training. The kendo shinai was not needed. In fact, one of our returning judokas said that after several years of participating in this made it easier than what she expected at Hawaii National Guard training. On Wednesday (the middle of the week-Hump Day) judokas started with running around the block, meaning to start from the HMS parking lot to run to Nuuanu Ave, up to Kuakini St to Pali Hwy. then down to School St., come up Nuuanu Ave, to return to the same parking lot at Iliahi St. Most had light colored clothes or judogis and almost all had flashlights.

Being that the trainers and blackbelt instructors had to experience this tradition in their younger years, their taunting our youths every morning echoed those being challenged. Several parents reflected that even they do not provide those challenges because it seems most are just peering into the cell games and texting even when 'breaking bread' for family time and even sleeping at night. The Academy goal is to support family cohesion and looking to horizons of life.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Judo Academy: Axel Obara,
Principal Instructor-Of Counsel

Kangeiko – Winter Morning Training Session

Annually, our judo "Kangeiko" is conducted for seven (7) consecutive mornings starting from Sunday till Saturday, Dec. 22-28, at 6AM to 7AM, in vigorous training and drills, regardless of Christmas Eve or Day. This is stylized to the practices at Kodokan Judo Institute-Japan, although theirs is 6 mornings for 3 weeks in cold weather condition. This can be perceived as a "boot camp" to a challenge that our youths want and look forward year after year with healthy attendance. Each morning, different

trainers volunteered and selected so the schedule of drills was different and independently very strenuous. The mission is to produce perspiration, breathing regimens and in the effort to 'try to make them cry', although there were no tears shed by all. But the intention is to create the disciplines and challenging environment that they can expect in later life to growing in a very aggressive and hostile world of attitudes/confrontations.

The training started getting harder toward the end, with Saturday morning being the final push. This was the climax of what the Academy wanted to achieve and observed to be obtained. Then we all relaxed until our 9:30 commencement of our Kangeiko-Promotions and Recognition Brunch, another pot-luck occasion that was overflowing with great contributions from all in the HMS Cafeteria. The Kangeiko awards recognized funny faults in our youths, with traditional perpetuals presented to deserving individuals and

Bishop Eric Matsumoto's New Year's Message



Namo Amida
Butsu and
Happy New
Year!

As we begin the New Year, let me express my most sincere gratitude to all Ministers and their Families, Members and Supporters of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for your commitment and effort in the past year. Without your dedication and willingness, Hawaii Kyodan would not have been able to accomplish all that it did in 2013. Now, as a New Year begins, please accept my best wishes and hope that the New Year will be most meaningful and especially peaceful for you. Needless to say as the Jodo Shin Buddhist Sangha, we entrust in Amida Buddha and go to the Dharma/Teachings for guidance. The Great Aspiration of the Buddha of Immeasurable Life and Infinite Light/Amida Buddha is the peace and happiness of all existence. If a person experiences this Great Wisdom and Unconditional Compassion of Amida Buddha that person also embraces the Buddha's Aspiration. Hence, Shinran Shonin was able to say, "Those who feel that their own birth (in the Pure Land of Enlightenment) is completely settled should, mindful of the Buddha's benevolence, hold the nembutsu in their hearts and say it to respond in gratitude to that benevolence, with

the wish, "May there be peace in the world, and may the Buddha's Teaching spread!"

In this way, the life of a Shin Buddhist is one of responding in gratitude to Amida Buddha's Compassion by reciting the Nembutsu in awareness, joy and gratitude and incorporating into one's life the wish that the

"...let us take to heart our 2014 Theme and Slogan, "Path of Entrusting: Share Peace." As the Compassion of Amida Buddha shows peace must be for all people, all life, all existence."

Teaching spreads far and wide and the aspiration for world peace. The reality of interdependence affirms that what we each do (or do not do) will make a difference. However, limited and imperfect my responding efforts are it is important that we try to be that difference. According to the Dharma, a further emphasis would be the importance of how we strive towards our goal. It is clear that the Buddhist emphasis would be on collaboration, without force or violence and without fear. This is the Wisdom of the Buddhas.

Truly, let us take to heart our 2014 Theme and Slogan, "Path of Entrusting: Share Peace." As the Compassion of Amida Buddha shows peace must be for all people, all life, all existence. I call out to our members and supporters to please help us, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, keep alive the aspiration for world peace by continuing to speak of it and also be engaged in local and world events which nurture peace in individuals and society. In our 125th Anniversary year in Hawaii, may we encourage each other to listen, to study and learn, and experience Amida Buddha and the Dharma so we can be guided and inspired by it. I humbly ask for your support of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and its Mission Statement "To share the living Teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism so that all beings may enjoy lives of harmony, peace and gratitude. I can say with certainty that, in our own way, are making a difference and today more than ever, as we network with other organizations in the community it does make a big difference. Please let us come together and let us work together! Let us entrust and share peace.

Kyodan President, Alton H Miyamoto's, New Year's Message

Aloha and best wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year! 2013 was a year where we made great progress in reaching out into the community through programs and addressing community issues. Two significant examples are the Sada-ko Sasaki crane exhibit at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National

Museum and marriage equality law.

The Japanese Cultural Center, the Hiroshima Sister City Committee, and HHMH partnered with the National Parks Service and Pacific Historic Parks in raising over \$70,000 for the construction of the display. The Sasaki family joined

us in dedicating the exhibit on Peace Day, Sept. 21, 2013. A significant portion of the contributions were made by HHMH and its affiliates, such as individual temples, BWA, Dharma Schools, and individual members. Thank you very much for your support for this project. We plan to continue our leadership role in peace education.



Happy New Year from your Betsuin Ministers and Staff!



As we welcome the New Year, may I share with you the following passage as a source of hope for the coming year?

"As the sun shines upon the earth, awakening the seed that lies therein, so does the light of truth shed its glorious radiance in the hearts and minds of all mankind, calling forth into activity the compassion of the universe.

May the same light shine upon us all, giving us the insight to realize that all life is one, that we may constantly strive for the well-being, not only of ourselves, but also of all people everywhere."

Let us keep our visions bright and clear with a perspective given by the wisdom-light.

Rimban Tatsuo Muneto
Ministers and Staff of the Hawaii Betsuin

2013 was a year of divisive issues for our communities. Neighbor islands were polarized with the issue of GMOs (genetically modified organisms) and pesticides while our entire state struggled with the issue of marriage equality. We understand and respect that some may have different perspectives, however, our support of the issue is based on our Buddhist values. As we get involved with the community and social issues, there will be other instances where our individual preferences may differ from that of the Honpa Hongwanji. In order to appropriately navigate through those issues, it is critical for us to have strong leaders at all levels of our organization.

I'm hearing more instances where temples, especially smaller ones, are unable to find willing and able members to step up to the plate to hold leadership roles. Several years ago, we believed the problem of getting the younger members to hold leadership positions was that the seniors were unwilling to let go. Today, after years of dedicated service and sacrifice, many have step aside, only to find out that the

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News from the Betsuin's Buddhist Women's Association

Fujiko Motobu, President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 2014

JANUARY

- January 11, Saturday BWA Executive board meeting. 9:00 dining rm.
 January 16, Thursday BWA State Conference deadline
 for May 3-4, 2014 in Kona
 January 19, Sunday BWA General Membership Meeting #1, 2014
 January 26, Sunday Hawaii Betsuin general membership meeting

FEBRUARY

- February 1, Saturday Hosha
 February 9, Sunday BWA Dana Day collection begins
 February 15, Saturday BWA Executive board meeting . 9:00 dining rm.
 February 23, Sunday BWA Mini Market (Donations appreciated!)

from January to June. Suddhana Fellowship members take over from July through December. If anyone is interested in helping please contact Sue Kaizawa or Nora Matayoshi.

DATE TO REMEMBER: Hawaii Betsuin's annual Taste of Hongwanji Bazaar will be on Sunday, March 30. Prior to the event, BWA will need lots and lots of manpower help in the thrift shop. Please save the date.

KEEP YOUR BRAIN WORKING:

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \text{ Multiply } 111,111,111 \\ \quad \quad \quad \times 111,111,111 \\ \hline \quad \quad \quad ? \end{array}$$

2. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter "A" ?

JUST A STORY TO RELAX:

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?" "Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied. "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked. "NO REFILLS'."

ANSWERS FOR BRAIN EXERCISE:

- 12345678987654321
- one thousand

Things To Remember For Bwa Members:

In the month of January, please remember to pay your annual BWA dues of \$15.00 (fifteen dollars). You should also remember to pay your annual Hawaii Betsuin Goji membership dues of \$150.00 per person, or family \$300.00.

BWA will have a busy year with the State Conference being held in Kona on May 3 and 4. Deadline for that is January 16, and most people have already submitted their registration of intent to attend. You need to register for the conference, register for hotel occupancy, and book your flights in and out of Kona. Many of the ladies will be traveling to Kona on Saturday morning, May 3rd, to arrive in Kona by 8:00 am, for a pickup bus will be awaiting us to transport us to the conference site or to the hotel. Many of the ladies will also return to Honolulu on Sunday, May 4 at the conclusion of the conference, perhaps on the 4 or 4:30 pm flight out of Kona. If you have any questions, please contact Florence Wasai.

WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN CONVENTION will be held in Calgary, Canada on May 30-31, 2015. Hawaii will probably have a quota of 200 women, so if any of you are interested in attending this convention, please contact our 2nd VP, Li-ane Wong and/or 1st VP Florence Wasai. Information on this event is forthcoming.

BWA WOMEN ARE INDISPENSABLE: BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT!

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to help with the various committees. We can always use more help. We needed more help with the HOSHA group for the monthly, first Saturday morning group. Thank you to those who signed up to help with the cleaning of the Hondo and altar area. We deeply appreciate this, for the help had dwindled quite a bit. This Hosha help is needed for just six months,

Mrs. Mitsuyo Saito's Retirement continued from page 4

were completed and distributed statewide and to the Buddhist Churches of America, Canada Hongwanji, and North America Higashi Hongwanji on the mainland. In her essay, Mitzi noted that expressing the feeling of the Japanese lyricist can be challenging in English, but that Namu Amida Butsu requires no translation whatsoever. It is here and now, overseas from Japan, always and ever, Namu Amida Butsu. Choir members then sang with feeling the translated gathas that Mitzi had cited in her essay, Amida's Compassionate Vow and Nembutsu. The Choir's ending gathas were Ondokusan I and its English translation, Gratefulness I, for it was upon hearing Ondokusan in her youth that Mitzi's fascination with Buddhist gathas began.

Mitzi's retirement celebration program was a tribute to her

remarkable musical legacy. In sharing her love of music and the joy of the Nembutsu, she has inspired countless individuals. Most gratifying to Mitzi are her former students who come running up to her and thank her for instructing them in Japanese language and in songs and dance, some of them proudly declaring that they are officers in their temples. Mitzi notes, "It is very encouraging to witness that many of the children under my care are leading their lives as devoted Buddhists." Betsuin Choir members have wonderful memories of the past 18 years with Mitzi, especially the warm

musical fellowship and aloha during their Goodwill Singing Tour of California temples, their three trips to Japan to participate in the mass choir Mido Ensoukai at Honzan in Kyoto, and the past four HHMH statewide ChoralFests. One choir member who has been with Mitzi since 1995 has said, "Singing with the Betsuin Choir has been a joyful and inspiring journey for me. The Onembutsu becomes real and resonates in my heart and mind."

Mitsuyo Saito has fulfilled her dream in Hawaii. Arigato! Namu Amida Butsu."

President's Message continued from page 7

younger members are unwilling to step up to the plate.

We all understand that our organization cannot function without volunteers. We should also understand that an organization of volunteers without dedicated leaders are not sustainable. You have all heard of the story "Whose Job Is It?". It is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. I am asking all individuals, boomer age and younger, to take a more active role in your temple leadership. Do not depend on the same people all the time. Everybody can reasonable claim "I am too busy". So in the end, Nobody will do what Anybody could have done. What do you think will happen to your temple?

In the past I have said that sometimes, in order for an organization to grow, it must first contract. The symptoms we are experiencing, decreasing membership, financial difficulties, shortage of ministers and shortage of lay leaders should make us consider the possibilities of contracting (consolidating temples) now, until we achieve a stable and sustainable state.

Each temple has a choice. Find dedicated and effective leaders or consider consolidation. Either way, we need everyone's support. Without your help, we will be unable to grow for our future generations

We are truly grateful for the many hands that help us at all levels or our organization. Let us show our gratitude and lessen their burden by offering our help. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your patience, understanding, cooperation and support. Your participation is crucial in our leadership role for the international propagation of Jodo Shinshu.

Kangeiko continued from page 7

families. Closing was easy with many helping.

The Academy wants to thank HMS-Teddi Yagi to accommodate our annual event that couldn't have happen without her approval with parking lot improvements. Finally, we are very fortunate to announce that Shawn Fernandez, one of our judokas, will be traveling to Tokyo to board and participate in Kodokan training mid-January, and it should be an enlightening experience.

In Judo and In Gassho.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Joint Pack-Troop Camp at Kualoa Regional Park

Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout

Cub Scout Pack 49 and Boy Scout Troop 49 survived another wet weekend at Kualoa Regional Park Camp from November 8 through 10, 2013. Despite having to camp in the rain, the Boy Scouts made the best of the situation by applying knowledge and skills they learned in Scouting. During the day, the Boy Scouts were able to teach the Cub Scouts by holding the knot tying, fire building and first aid activities in the shelter of the Kualoa Regional Park kitchen lanai. Scouts, parents, and lifeguards paddled a catamaran to the sandbar, but due to the intermittent rain, they returned

to shore quickly. Saturday night brought a reported three to six inches of rain in the Windward area. A few Scouts had to switch to another tent after being flooded. The rest of the Scouts remained fairly dry in their tents. Fortunately, the Pack cooked hot meals which tasted especially good and kept the Scouts warm in the cold weather. After dismantling the tents and leaving the campsite, the Scouts discovered that the storm caused a lot of damage all over Oahu. A power pole

was struck by lightning in Laie, creating a domino effect that caused several other poles to come crashing down. The Waiahole Stream rose over 11 feet which caused area residents to be worried about possible flooding. Various power outages and downed trees were prevalent throughout the island as evidence of the heavy rain and strong winds that hit Oahu during that weekend. Surprisingly, Sunday brought clear weather, which would have been appreciated the day before.



Boy Scouts and Cub Scout at Kualoa Regional Park camp.

Temple Clean Up

The weather was clear and sunny for the annual Temple Clean-Up Day on Sunday, November 24, 2013. The Temple members cleaned the interior of the Temple. The Girl Scouts washed down the walls, pews, railings, and other miscellaneous areas. The Boy Scouts moved books, shelves, and miscellaneous items to the Print Shop and pressure washed the walkways around the Temple. The Cub Scouts pressure washed the tunnel. They also picked up litter and weeded the gravel parking area parallel to Lusitana Street. All of the Scouts felt good to provide service to the Honpa Hongwanji Temple.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Events Calendar

The Goji provides this monthly Events Calendar to keep everyone informed about cultural activities at our temple.

Please help us by submitting information by email to

hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com,

or by calling the Betsuin office at 536-7044.

Betsuin Cultural Activities for January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	3 9 am Project Dana Dance	4 9-11 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
5 8:00 – Rev. Tomioka 9:00 – Rev. Sumikawa 10:00 – Rev. Kaufmann 1:00 – Rev. Hojo	6	7 6-8 pm Judo	8 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercize	9 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	10 9 am Project Dana Dance	11 9-11 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
12 (Hoonko Services) 8:00 – Rev. Soga 9:30 – Rev. Soga 1:00 – Rev. Muneto	13 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	14 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 6-8 pm Judo	15 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercize	16 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	17 9 am Project Dana Dance 9 am Sumie	18 9-11 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
19 8:00 – Rev. Muneto 9:00 – Rev. Hojo 10:00 – Rev. Kaufmann 1:00 – Rev. Tomioka	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Holiday)	21 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 6-8 pm Judo	22 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercize	23 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	24 9 am Project Dana Dance	25 9-11 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
26 8:00 – Rev. Hojo 9:30 – Rev. Muneto 1:00- Rev. Tomioka	27 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	28 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 6-8 pm Judo	29 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercize	30 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	31 9 am Project Dana Dance 9 am Sumie	

Happy New Year!

Hongwanji**Radio Programs****JANUARY 2014**

KZOO 1210 AM

Japanese Language

Saturday at 7:30 AM

04 Gomonsu Sama
and Bishop Matsumoto

11 Rev. Ryoso Toshima

18 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji

25 Rev. Ryoso Toshima

Betsuin Services**Adult English Services****10am Services**

05 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

12 9:30 am Combined Service**Hoonko****Rev. Jeffrey Soga**

19 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

26 9:30 am Combined Service**Rev. Tatsuo Muneto****Dharma School****Service 9am**

05 Rev. Bert Sumikawa

12 9:30 am Combined Service**Hoonko****Rev. Jeffrey Soga**

19 Rev. Tomo Hojo

26 9:30 am Combined Service**Rev. Tatsuo Muneto****Nursing Home Services**

02 Hale Nani – Cancelled

Hale Ho Aloha – Cancelled

09 Maluhia – Rev. Kaufmann

Liliha – Rev. Tomioka

10 Hale Pulama Mau

Rev. Kaufmann

23 Nuuanu Hale

Rev. Muneto

24 Leahi – Rev. Tomioka

In Memoriam**October 2013**

The Hawai'i Betsuin extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away. May the family members find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu.

Namo Amida Butsu

1 MOTOYAMA, Teri-Ann (24)

1 SORANAKA, Kimie "Kay" (87)

5 IDEGUCHI, Keichi (94)

6 SUETSUGU, Violet Yoshiko (92)

8 FUJIMOTO, Clara Masako (104)

8 GOO, Gilbert W. N. (93)

8 KOMEDA, Marguerite Miyoko (91)

11 KAKAZU, Steven Tadashi (64)

17 UEDA, Hajime "Haji" (92)

17 UTO, Mildred Mitsuru (92)

19 FUJII, Fumie (91)

25 KATO, Marge Michiko (80)

27 YOKOTA, Clarice Akiko (85)

28 IIDA, Toshiko (73)

29 NITTA, Crystal Hisae (64)

30 SUMIDA, Ethel Mitsuko (98)

2014 Memorial Service Schedule

2014 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2013 – 1 year

2002 – 13 year

1982 – 33 year

2012 – 3 year

1998 – 17 year

1965 – 50 year

2008 – 7 year

1990 – 25 year

1915 – 100 year

HMMH 2014 Slogan And Theme
"Path Of Entrusting: Share Peace"

This year Theme is: Path of Entrusting: Share Peace! And as we enter the one hundred twenty fifth year of the Hawaii Kyodan it is very appropriate that our aspiration is to share peace. You will notice that words were chosen carefully avoiding using phrases like "Promote Peace" and "Spread Peace." This is because in Buddhism peace begins with the individual finding peace within and then sharing that peace with others. Please keep in mind that everyone is responsible for his or her own spiritual path and personal actions. But at the same time if the great Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha have transformed one's heart and mind, then one will aspire to share peace in many different ways, great and small. So let us, according to our circumstances and abilities, share peace by our actions and words starting with our families and communities. "Signs of long years of saying the Nembutsu and aspiring for birth (in the Pure Land) can be seen in the change in the heart that had been bad and in the deep warmth for friends and fellow-practicers;" ... Shinran Shonin, page 551, Collected Works of Shinran.

Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki, Director, Office of Buddhist Education



The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of unhindered light. This practice, comprehensively encompassing all practices, is perfect and most rapid in bringing them to fullness. For this reason, it is called "great practice." Saying the Name then breaks through all the ignorance of sentient beings and readily brings all their aspirations to fulfillment. Saying the Name is in itself mindfulness; mindfulness is nembutsu; nembutsu is Namu-amida-butsu.

- Shinran Shonin