



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
www.hawaiiibetsuin.org

Five Year Theme:
"Embrace Change"

2015 Slogan:
"Awareness:"
(Seek Opportunities)

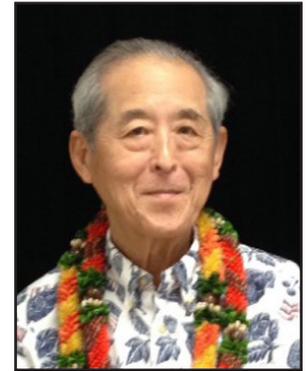
BETSUIN MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Tatsuo Muneto
Asst. Chief Minister
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Norman Hirohata-Goto Receives Asoka Award at Betsuin's Annual New Year's Gathering

Norman Hirohata-Goto received the Asoka Award at the Betsuin New Year's Party held on Sunday, January 25. He is a long-time member of the Betsuin and has served the Betsuin and the Hongwanji in many roles over the years.



Norm was very active in the Junior and Senior YBA (Young Buddhist Association)-serving as its Honolulu District President, the Betsuin Board of Directors-serving in several officer positions, the Honolulu District Council-serving as its President, and the Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors-serving in several officer positions.

Norm owns his own real estate company and generously donated his knowledge and his time to help the Hongwanji in matters involving real property. His expertise and business relationships were invaluable in helping the Kyodan and Betsuin acquire the Ching property on Pali Highway. Included in the many situations he assisted with was the acquisition of property on the Lusitana Street side of Betsuin and, recently, in locating the owner of a piece of property located next to Kailua Hongwanji.

Despite his busy schedule, he was also a Betsuin Dharma School teacher for over 30 years; initially with its 3rd grade and more recently, its middle school (6-8). In Dharma School he was remembered for field trips to Punchbowl to visit Ellison Onizuka's Grave and his many talks about his travels to India, Japan, and China.

Besides all his contributions to the Hongwanji, Norm is also known for his passion as a marathon runner, completing thirty-three marathons, the last with help from his daughter-in-law. He is an enthusiastic supporter of International Day of Peace, participating in events and promoting it with his "tsuru branch." He is a historian, helping to preserve and to tell the story of the Nissei experience in World War II both in combat and in the relocation camps. He also constantly collects and retells historical recollections of the Betsuin and Hawaii. Most importantly, Norm is known as a friend who always has something interesting to talk about.

Although recent health issues have required Norm to resign from both the Betsuin Board and Dharma School, we hope to continue to see him and hear his stories for many more years.

Congratulations to Norman and mahalo nui loa for your many years of dedicated service to the Sangha!

Rimban's Column: "Self-Benefit: Benefit for Others"

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto



Have you ever wondered why two offerings of rice are made to Amida's statue in the altar of our temples? There is one statue of Amida Buddha, but there are two offerings of rice. Is this a mistake? The answer is "No." According to a theory, when offering rice, one acknowledges two kinds of working in Amida's compassionate vow. One is self-benefit, and another is benefit for others.

According to the Larger Sutra, when Amida Buddha was still a Bodhisattva under the name of Dharmakara, he aspired to become the enlightened one, so the Bodhisattva went through a long period of meditation and asceticism. Becoming free from blind desire and attaining the vow to benefit all, the Bodhisattva became the Enlightened One, the Buddha, under the name of Amida. That was self-benefit. But this benefit of becoming the Buddha was also attained to liberate others from the suffering of pain and sorrow, which means it was a benefit for others.

When I offer rice to Amida Buddha in the temple altar in the morning, this act is not just a ritual or a custom. Instead, this act comes from my entrusting heart, my awareness that Amida Buddha is directing love, wisdom and compassion to me through the name that calls, Namo Amida Butsu, and so, in gratitude, I make my offering of rice.

As I walk the way to Buddha's land of peace, which is self-benefit, I am

allowed to live here and now as a Jodo Shin minister who works to help others at home, at the temple and the community. This work is a benefit for others.

This year marks my 50th year anniversary in Hongwanji ministry in Hawaii. Sometimes, I stumbled on the road of becoming a good minister. What motivated me to live as a minister and to pursue the temple programs was my awareness that I was always sustained by the power of Amida's Primal Vow, and I wished to share that message with others. There were always opportunities in my life for learning and expressing.

This year's Hongwanji Slogan is "Embrace Change: Awareness (Seek Opportunities)." We see changes in our lives and the society, but we embrace them if they help us achieve the Buddha's spirit of self-benefit. These changes then open our hearts and we become aware of things happening. We may find good opportunities to share the Buddha's heart of benefiting other.



GOJI

The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044.. There is no newsletter published for the month of August.

DEADLINE:

Articles must be submitted no later than the 15th 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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Editorial: *Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Ralston Nagata, Rev. Satoshi Tomioka, Japanese section editor,* Production: *Stacy Bradshaw, Alice Omura, Alice Tando, Kimiyo Miyose;* Circulation: *Stacy Bradshaw;* Contributing reporters from *Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, and the Kyodan*

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



New Clock in Annex Hondo!!

Mrs. May Leiko Imamura-Uruu from Aiea donated a clock to the temple Annex. The Annex is a special place to her as she was married in the Annex Hondo on June 22, 1968. While attending the 1 o'clock service in the Annex, she noticed that there was no clock on the wall so made this thoughtful donation for all to enjoy! Mahalo, May!

Dharma Message

Our Purposes in Life

It's already one year since I came here to Hawaii Betsuin. Every month, there are about 20 funeral services. I noticed that families, more and more, are choosing to have just an inurnment service, instead of a public funeral service. The family usually explains that their deceased father or mother had requested it, or that the deceased's acquaintances are too old to attend a public service.

Sometimes, I wonder if not having a public funeral service is an excuse on the part of family members to suit their own convenience because of work hours, travel, transportation, and so on. Furthermore, I think that people might be thinking that when a person dies, everything is over, and nothing more is left.

When I die, I would not like to have a very lonely service. A professor once

Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

said that we live for happiness, and there are many conditions for us to be happy such as being rich versus poor, being healthy or being sick, being gifted versus being ordinary, being strong and healthy or having a disability, being educated versus uneducated, being wise or unwise.

These conditions affect our lifestyle as we are apt to spend much time and effort increasing our strengths and talents, which we believe will add to our happiness. This reality of our daily lives is a misunderstanding if we think that merely adding on to our talents will make us happy. This point of view may be one of our bonno- (attachments, faults) because no matter how much we gather these positives of being rich, famous, powerful, and healthy, the negatives of sickness, aging, and death will come without fail as those are the facts of life.

Therefore, the purpose of human life will ultimately boil down to two questions. The first is "What do human beings live for?" The second is "What is life truly?"



Through listening to the Dharma, we realize that all things are impermanent. When we realize this, we then listen to the Dharma even more intently to meet and awaken to Amida's great Compassion and Wisdom. Then we are able to have the answer to our two questions. What do human beings live for? "We live to have a life of gratitude" and What is life truly? "Living each moment with satisfaction."

With these points, Shinran Shonin truly lived with the Nembutsu with appreciation saying:

"How joyous I am, my heart and mind being rooted in the Buddha ground of the universal Vow, and my thoughts and feelings flowing with the Dharma-Ocean, which is beyond comprehension! I am deeply aware of the Tathagata's immense compassion."(CWS, page #8)

Mark your calendar!
Feb. 22 and May 3.

REMINDER: Change of dates for Happiness in Mindfulness Class:

The dates for Happiness in Mindfulness – Essence of Shoshinge have been changed to Fridays. The new dates are: FEBRUARY 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 2015.

The deadline for registration will be FEBRUARY 17. For more information, contact the Business Office.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49 Camp Kualoa

The Boy Scouts held their annual joint camp at Kualoa Regional Park November 7 to 9, 2014. The Boy Scouts taught the Cub Scouts knot tying, fire building, knife safety and first aid. Other activities the Scouts participated in included a catamaran ride to a sandbar, launching rockets for the Arrow of Light Den Cub Scouts, roasting s'mores and hotdogs at the campfire and simply enjoying the fellowship with other Scouts. Fortunately, the weather was clear for most of the camp this year, unlike last year when many of the Scouts' tents were flooded during the record deluge. We had a visitor, Rev. Joshin Kamuro, from the International Ministerial Orientation Program at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, CA. We hope he had fun and took back great memories from this camp as much as all of the Scouts did.

Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout



Troop 49 Boy Scouts and Pack 49 Cub Scouts at their annual joint camp at Kualoa

Thanksgiving Iron Chef Douglas Yanagihara



Shark Patrol members cooking their dishes.

Troop 49 celebrated Thanksgiving with a cook-off in which the Boy Scout Patrols were asked to prepare a unique dish using the meat from a Costco chicken (the "turkey"), stuffing and a fresh vegetable salad with their own dressing. There were surprise discoveries of bone shards in many of the foods, as some of the scouts were not so diligent in deboning the chicken. I don't remember which unique creations won in which categories, but all the Scouts made a good effort and the dishes came out delicious all the same. Happy Thanksgiving!



Scorpion Patrol members working together.



Pedro Patrol members enjoying the cook-off.

**Hongwanji
Radio Programs
FEBRUARY 2015
KZOO 1210 AM
Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM**

- 07 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
14 Rimban Tatsuo Muneto
21 Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
28 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

**Betsuin Services
Adult English Services
10:00 AM**

- 01 Scout Sunday:
Combined service 9:30 am
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
08 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
15 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
22 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

**Dharma School
Service 9 AM**

- 01 Scout Sunday:
Combined service 9:30 am
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
08 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
15 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
22 Dharma School Teacher

Nursing Home Services

- 05 Hale Nani – Rev. Tomioka
Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Hagio
12 Maluhia – Rev. Muneto
Liliha – Rev. Hasebe
13 Hale Pulama Mau
Rev. Kaufmann
26 Nuuanu Hale – Rev. Hasebe
27 Leahi – Rev. Kaufmann

In Memoriam



DECEMBER 2014

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 17 KOHATSU, Kazuo (79) | 26 IKAWA, Carol Keiko (76) |
| 20 ISHII, Doris Kimie (91) | 27 TAKAKI, Margaret Hisayo (97) |
| 21 HASHIMOTO, Yoshie (93) | 27 TANOUYE, Mary Mitsue (83) |
| 22 MATSUBAYASHI, Gerald Hisao (65) | 29 YOSHIMOTO, Donald Hirobumi (86) |
| 23 SHIRAI, Mitsuko (94) | 30 HIRONAKA, Eleanor Chiye (95) |
| 24 FUKUSHIMA, Shirley Yoshie (92) | 31 TSUTSUMI, Atsushi (80) |
| 25 SUMIDA, Alice Ayako (90) | 31 KISHI, Mildred Misao (94) |

2015 Memorial Service Schedule

2015 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2014 – 1 year	2003 – 13 year	1983 – 33 year
2013 – 3 year	1999 – 17 year	1966 – 50 year
2009 – 7 year	1991 – 25 year	1916 – 100 year

Bazaar Rummage Sale Donations



The Betsuin BWA thanks you for your generous donations to the Spring Bazaar Rummage Sale and Rummage Sale/Bontique Treasures! Warm Mahalo!

Please continue to bring your donations to the Betsuin Office.



The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of un-hindered 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 Namo-amida-but-su.

-Shinran Shonin

Hawaii Betsuin Cultural Classes Directory

Classes & Programs	Day and Time	Location	Instructor/Contact
Meditation/ Quiet Sitting	Sundays 9 am - 10 am	Smaller Lounge Classroom	Marj Deteman
Taiko	Sundays 11 am - 1 pm	HMS Gym Downstairs Rm #3	Jovie Yoshioka
Rhythm & Life	Tuesdays 9 am - 1:30 pm	Social Hall	Michie Takenoto
Shodo (Japanese Calligraphy)	2nd & 4th Tuesdays 9:30 am - 11 am	Dining Room	Michiko Okano
Japanese Language & Culture	Wednesdays 9 am - 10:30 am	Annex Temple	Rev. Ryoso Toshima
Ikebana - Saga Ryu (Flower Arrangement)	Wednesdays 1 pm - 3 pm	Dining Room	Michiko Okano
Bun Dancercise	Wednesdays 7 pm - 9 pm	Social Hall	Rakston Nagata
Meditation / Quiet Sitting	Wednesdays 7 pm - 8 pm	Annex Temple	Alan Goto
Ikebana - Ohana Ryu (Flower Arrangement)	1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursdays 10 am - 11:30 am	Social Hall	Edith Tanaka
Sahn Bo Dahn (Korean Exercise)	Thursdays 12:30 pm - 3 pm	Social Hall	No Instructor
Hawaii Betsuin Choir Practice	Thursdays 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Annex Temple	Mari Murakami Megun Pascual
Ballroom Dancing	Thursdays 7 pm - 9 pm	Social Hall	Arthur Kohara
Project Dana Dance	Fridays 9 am - 11 am	Social Hall	Sumi Sueishi
Sunie (Chinese Brush Painting)	2 Fridays a Month 9 am - 11 am	Dining Room	Sachie Saigusa
Taichi	Saturdays 1 pm - 3 pm	HMS Gym Downstairs Rm #3	Victor Kim

