



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

Vol. 71, No.2
FEBRUARY 2016



NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin

www.hawaiihetsuin.org

2016 Slogan:
Embrace Change:
New Vision
(Create Engagement)

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

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

History of Nishi Hongwanji

Have you ever visited Nishi Hongwanji? It is our home temple in Japan, and if you haven't visited it, you have missed one of the most beautiful temples in Japan!

In October 2016 and March 2017, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Kyodan invites all of you to participate in the commemoration of the accession of the Jodo Shinshu tradition, followed by a special tour, related to Shinran Shonin and Rennyō Shonin. Please don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Do you know how our Head temple, Nishi Hongwanji, started? The Hongwanji developed from a modest temple built at the site of Shinran Shonin's mausoleum. After Shinran Shonin's death, his cremated remains were interred at Otani in the eastern hills of Kyoto, marked by a simple stone obelisk. Many followers went to pay their respects, and in 1272, with their support, Shinran's daughter, Kakushinni, had his ashes moved to the grounds of her residence at Yoshimizu, slightly to the north. Several years later, with the death of her husband, title to the residence passed to Kakushinni, allowing her to determine the future of the chapel, and in 1277, she dedicated her property to the Shin movement as a permanent mausoleum, to be tended by a person of Shinran Shonin's lineage. The chapel and land became known as the Otani Mausoleum.

The first intendant of the mausoleum was Kakushinni's son, Kakue, and in 1310 his son, Kakunyo, succeeded him. Kakunyo elevated the status of the mausoleum by gaining recognition for it as a temple. It was he who adopted the name Hongwanji. (Quoted from "Hongwanji") Through many wars and fires, Hongwanji has kept rebuilding. In 1591, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, who was the one who united Japan, donated the land where our home Hongwanji temple stands today.

Our founder, Shinran Shonin, left this world over 750 years ago. Through those long years, Hongwanji was the place where people went to appreciate Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion. The torch of the dharma passed through many Gomonshu (Head Minister) and is now in the hands of our new Gomonshu, ready to open a new window to the world! Please join us for this wonderful and solemn ceremony, which officially recognizes the new Gomonshu.



Dharma Message: Rev. Joshin Kamuro

We greeted the New Year 2016 a month ago. How have you been getting along? I have been assigned to Hawaii Betsuin as an associate minister since December 16th, 2015 and would now like to introduce myself.

I was born in 1978 and grew up in Aso, Kumamoto prefecture. I am a 13th generation priest in my family, and I was raised to be a Jodo Shinshu minister by my parents who have deeply devoted themselves to our religion. As a child, I helped my parents clean the temple, make offerings at the altar, and ring the temple bell every morning and evening at both 6 am and pm. Moreover, I visited our temple members' homes during the New Year and Bon Festivals, and

I officiated at services in front of their family altars. In that way, I grew up in the temple in the countryside. But why would I, who was such a country-bred person, be interested in being an overseas minister? It was because I met a junior high school English teacher who was an American from North Carolina. Through his English classes I was introduced to American culture and entertainment. My parents had raised me to be a Jodo Shinshu minister, but after taking the English classes, my vision was widened to include foreign countries. Therefore, I was gradually attracted to overseas missionary work.

At Ryukoku University, I took the Overseas Ministers' course. When I was a senior, I received training at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii on Oahu and the Big Island. I was so impressed by their missionary work. When I saw how much the Jodo Shinshu teachings influenced people's lives here, I came to realize that it was a living religion.

After graduating, I had the opportunity to work at the EKÖ-House of Japanese Culture in Düsseldorf, Germany, a division of the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism (BUKKYŌ DENDŌ KYŌKAI) for five and a half years. It was the first

time for me to work and live abroad, so it was very challenging. But through coming to know European Jodo Shinshu followers, I realized how the Jodo Shinshu teachings had spread out beyond race and borders. In addition, my questioning, "Why should I be a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist minister?" was dispelled. According to the lyrics of part three of The Shinshu Anthem (Shinshu Shuka), the Jodo Shinshu teachings don't have any discrimination between the inside and outside of the ocean (Umini no uchito no hedate naku). Jodo Shinshu is for everybody, anytime and anywhere. Anybody can walk the Nembutsu path without exception.

Thanks to many people who understood and supported me, I was assigned to Hawaii Betsuin. I won't forget my joy on becoming a minister in Hawaii. I will do my best, and I will grow my roots here. I'm looking forward to sharing the Buddha Dharma with all of you from now on. Let us live together, reciting the Nembutsu in gratitude, and let us together revere the Buddha of Infinite Light and Life. Namo Amida Butsu.



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.

GOJI STAFF:

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.

BWA Mini Market

February
14th

In the
Social Hall

Betsuin BWA Needs Your Donations For Spring Bazaar Spring Bazaar Spring Bazaar!

The Betsuin BWA members send a heartfelt mahalo to all of our members and friends who have, in past years, generously donated countless items for the Rummage Sale of the Betsuin's Spring Bazaar. Although our desire to assist the Betsuin with its fundraising is as strong as ever, because we ladies are getting a little older and are moving a little more slowly, we need to ask for more assistance with set-up, sorting, and pricing.

For the Rummage Sale, we would be most grateful for donations of items in good saleable condition, especially in the following categories:

- All Clothing for Men, Women, and Children
- Accessories scarves, belts, shoes, purses, jewelry, etc.
- Linens bed linens, table linens, curtains, etc.
- Housewares dishes, bowls, glassware, stove cookware, microwave
able cookware, serving containers, storage containers,
etc.
- Electronics kitchen and home appliances, phones, calculators, etc.,
in working condition, etc.
- Sporting Goods golf clubs, balls, bags, fishing rods, tennis racquets,
small coolers,
lanterns, etc.
- Fabric & fabric yardage, yarn, beads, baskets, etc.
- Craft Materials

In addition, many patrons come to the Betsuin in search of Asian items, either in the Rummage Sale Treasures section or at the Bontique in June so we would love to receive the following:

- Japanese clothing:** adult and children's kimonos, yukatas, happi coats and accessories, etc.
- Asian art :** scrolls, woodblock prints, paintings, prints, etc.
- Asian collectibles:** dolls, display pieces, lacquerware, etc.
- Asian ceramics:** dishes, bowls, tea sets, etc.
- Asian objects:** trays, fans, coin purses, decorative knick-knacks, etc.
- Ikebana:** vases, containers, kenzans (frogs), clippers

Photo taken at the 2015 Spring Bazaar



Again, we wish to thank you for your wonderful support for so many years. You have contributed immeasurably to the success of the Rummage Sale and Bontique sales! Please bring your donations to the Betsuin Office as soon as possible.

Betsuin Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota

Shabu Shabu Night (11/29) & Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day (12/6)

Eighteen bubbling soup pots, Red Light/Yellow Light/Green Light activity, Board/card games (UNO, Battleship, Trouble, etc.) and 50 hungry mouths made for a fun Dharma School Fellowship Shabu Shabu Night. In addition to cooking our dinner together, we all got to know each other a little better... do you know which minister's favorite cartoon character is Astro Boy? How about Dharma School families who like Scooby Doo, Snoopy or Shrek? Reverend Hasebe asked each family to introduce themselves and share their favorite cartoon character.



When planning the event, there were some concerns that we might not have enough food. However, those worries were quickly squelched as carton after carton of tofu, bag after bag of Chinese cabbage and tray af-

ter tray of chicken, pork and beef kept on coming. Our soup pots were filled with tofu, beansprouts, Chinese cabbage, and meats, and we had a great selection of dipping sauces from which to choose, along with steaming white rice. Our meals were topped off with a wide



selection of homemade desserts. Yum yum!

full and lives richer because of this wonderful event filled with fun, food and fellowship. We can't wait to plan our next event. Please join us!

On Sunday, December 6, our Dharma School students played a big part in the Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day Service and Program. During the service, a skit was performed by Dharma School students, which portrayed Prince Siddhartha's journey to enlightenment. For the program in the Social

selection of homemade desserts. Yum yum!

Game playing passports were passed out and stamped when board/card games were played. Prizes were given for those that had the most stamps on their passports.



Hall, Honolulu and Oahu District Dharma School students, parents and teachers sang the song "Live Amida's Love," an original composition by BJ Soriano (Hilo Betsuin). Dharma School students also participated in the Ohana Arts presentation. Dharma School parents were in the

The night ended much too quickly, but everyone agrees that this event, coordinated by the Dharma School Parent Fellowship Group together with Reverend Hasebe was a huge success. Although we all started out being hungry, we all left with our stomachs

kitchen early that morning to help prepare the food for refreshments, and worked throughout the program to make sure the refreshments were well stocked and cleaned up afterwards. A big mahalo nui loa goes out to our students and parents for all of their wonderful support. We couldn't have done it without them!



More Dharma School News Debbie Kubota Mochitsuki - Sunday, December 27



Okinawan sweet potato, peanut butter with chocolate chips, Reese's peanut butter cups, Nutella, and brownies were only a few of the many different fillings to choose from to fill the freshly pounded mochi made by the Dharma school families. Of course, there was the traditional azuki bean filling too.

What an exciting treat and cultural experience provided



for our Dharma School students, families, and the 10:00 a.m. service goes. Many were lucky to have an opportunity to use the kine (wooden mallet) to pound the sticky rice in the usu (mortar). Mikey Bradshaw and Ron Nishihira were the brave



souls who risked getting their hands pounded and burned as they helped to turn and wet the mochi. They gave everyone instructions, "Each of you take two hits, then stop while we turn the mochi." Young, old and everyone in between took their turns pounding the mochi, and thankfully, no one was injured in the process. To help speed the process, we also used the modern convenience of mochi makers. Tables were covered with waxed paper and katakuri ko was spread around, then the real fun began. Everyone got to choose their favorite fillings and make their own mochi. Yum, yum...what could be better than warm, fresh mochi with your favorite filling?

Movie Night on Tuesday, December 1

The Betsuin Social Hall was transformed into an early evening movie theater as Dharma school and Hongwanji Mission School families snacked on corn dogs, cheese balls and freshly popped popcorn, and brought blankets and sleeping bags to stretch out on the floor. They enjoyed an exclusive showing of Disney & Pixar's "Inside Out," which is set in the mind of a young girl where five personified emotions—Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger, and Disgust—try to lead her through life as her parents move the family from Minnesota to San Francisco and she has to adjust to her new life.

What a fun way to look at how our emotions interact and guide us through our lives on a daily basis.

Many thanks to Reverend Hasebe, Stacy Bradshaw and Art Nakagawa for coordinating this wonderful mid-week fellowship night. We are looking forward to many more movie nights to come in 2016!

What a perfect ending to 2015 and a traditional experience to kick off the New Year. More exciting and fun activities are planned for our Dharma School in 2016, including Playful Percussion session on February 28 and Keiki Day Event in May. Don't miss out!



Betsuin BWA News

Fujiko Motobu

HOONKO: MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE FOR SHINRAN SHONIN

January, 2016 started with a solemn and memorable service honoring Shinran Shonin . The purple colored curtain was nicely exhibited in the front entrance of our temple, which was really outstanding , beautifully spread across our immaculate white building.

People passing by always notice that something special is going on at the temple with the beautiful purple curtain displayed so stoically. We need to remember that this is the day our great Buddhist, Jodo Shinshu teacher, Shinran Shonin passed away nearly 800 years ago. Shinran Shonin's life size statue was also displayed in the social hall. If you looked at him closely, you could see his warm eyes looking at you no matter where you stood.

Thank you to Rev. Hagio, Stacy, and Elmer for hustling and getting the beautiful curtain and statue up for all of us to appreciate and enjoy.

Let's not forget to recite our Nem-butsum, "Namo Amida Butsu."

BWA ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

DANA DAY will commence on February 7 and end on Eshinni Day , on April 24. Every year our BWA ladies have encouraged everyone to make donations toward Dana Day. Our contributions are given to the Hono-

lulu United BWA and their decisions are made on who will be given our contributions to support their causes. Last year, four community organizations were each given one thousand dollars each.

MINI MARKET

This year, due to lack of convenient Sundays, BWA may have only three mini market dates rather than the usual four times a year. Thus far the dates for Mini Market will be on February 14th, (Valentine's day), May 15th, and November 6th.

February date has been set, so we hope many people will donate goods, and help to make it a great event. We always need donors and buyers as well.

BWA EXECUTIVE BOARD

MEETING will be held on Saturday, February 20 beginning at 9:00 am in the dining room. This will be a busy day, so the members are requested to arrive on time.

HONOLULU UNITED BWA

meeting will be held in Kailua Hongwanji on Saturday, February 27, beginning at 9 am. Nine members are expected to attend the meeting from our unit. They are Florence Wasai, Liane Wong, Wendie Yumori, Sharyn Sekine, Fujiko Motobu, Lillian Kadomoto, Lillian Inatsuka, Peggy Shintaku. And Edna Muneto. Five of the ladies are from Kailua area so they are lucky this round.

JUST A SMILE:

Why did the tiger keep losing the poker game?

Because he played against the cheetah.

CLUES ABOUT HOW TO LISTEN

from Rev. Tomioka:

We may become better listeners if we follow the 3 rules; 1) Listen as though it is the first time I'm hearing what is being said; 2) What is being said is just for me; 3) This is the last time I'm able to listen.

CLUES TO SPEAKERS:

Whenever you speak to seniors especially if they are 80 years old or older, be sure to speak clearly and slowly. Young people speak so fast these days, the seniors can barely keep up, so half of the time they will just turn you off. Ministers should be well trained to speak into the microphone directly and not mumble and turn their heads to and fro from the mike; otherwise, all the important sermons are lost to the ears of the seniors. Many of the seniors are also very courteous and will not complain, so speakers on the mike, please take caution and speak into the mike from now on to be fully appreciated.

ANOTHER SMILE:

If the branches do not bear any money, then why do the banks have so many branches?



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Kadomatsu

Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout

On Friday, December 18, Troop 49 Boy Scouts trekked through wet terrain to harvest bamboo in the Waokanaka Forest. The scouts, leaders and parents worked industriously on Friday night and Saturday morning to cut the bamboo, assemble and decorate the bamboo to create the Kadomatsu. We included a tag which explained the symbolism incorporated into the components of the Kadomatsu. We were not able to make as many Kadomatsu this year so we sold out of all of them by Sunday afternoon, thanks to the generous patrons of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.



The Boy Scouts of Troop 49 wish all of you a happy and auspicious New Year.

Boy Scout Cub Scout Camp 2015

Jacen Kimura



The annual Boy Scout/Cub Scout Joint Camp was held at Kualoa Park from November 6 to 8. The weekend camp started off on Friday night with the Cub Scouts playing laser tag and the Boy Scouts playing cards. Saturday began with breakfast made by the Arrow of Light parents and canoe riding led by City & County staff. Scouts packed into two canoes for their adventure on the open seas. However, the ride was cut short because of strong currents. Those who elected not to go on the canoes stayed back to enjoy their free time and had an opportunity to bond with others.

Everyone packed under one roof when the rain came - what a great time to interact and talk. Boy Scouts were talking to Cub Scouts and their parents about their experiences in Scouting. Lunch was prepared by the Wolves' parents and yet again, the food was excellent. The Boy Scouts were slightly disappointed that they couldn't cook any food, but they

were also happy because they didn't have to wash the dishes.

Following lunch, the Boy Scouts had activities for the Cub Scouts to give them a sneak preview of what it is like to be with the big boys. A session on fire building and axe and knife safety was led by Cameron Wong, knot tying was led by Dylan Tanioka, and first aid was led by Jarrett Furuta. Each den rotated between the three stations and for the final challenge, the Cub Scouts were put to the test. They had to use the skills they just learned to build a teepee, start a fire, and boil soapy water in a can until it overflowed. Every Den had some assistance from an older Boy Scout who made sure things went well and were being done safely. The Tiger Den won the challenge.

The challenge was succeeded with a 7th inning stretch from Senior Patrol Leader Jacen Kimura where the Cub Scouts learned athletic stretches to keep them-

selves physically fit. The remainder of the time was used to play some football, soccer, run around, or just play cards. Dinner was prepared by the Webelos' parents and again, we had another amazing meal. The sky slowly turned dark exposing the moon and stars. What a perfect night for a campfire, which the Boy Scouts helped to prepare, followed by skits by each Den and the Troop. In the blink of an eye, the camp was nearly over. Sunday morning came and parents, leaders, and Scouts packed up their tents and equipment and started to head out from the wet, muddy camp of Kualoa. From the youngest to the oldest at this camp, lessons were learned; new skills were learned, leadership skills were refined, and the camaraderie was enjoyed by all.

**Hongwanji Radio
Programs
FEBRUARY 2016
KZOO 1210 AM
Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM**

- 6 (R) Rev. Ryoso Toshima
- 13 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 20 Rev. Jay Okamoto
- 27 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Betsuin Services

Asaji Service 8 am

- 07 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 14 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 21 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 28 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

**Adult English Services
10:00 AM**

- 07 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 14 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 21 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 28 Rev. Yuika Hasebe

**Dharma School
9:00 AM**

- 07 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 14 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 21 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 28 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio



In Memoriam



DECEMBER 2015

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

- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 8/1/2015 | ASATO, Michiko (97) | |
| 3 | GENISHI, Bessie Tsuyoshi (87) | 18 HIRATA, Hisashi (82) |
| 4 | INATSUKA, Doris Yuriko (84) | 18 OKAMOTO, Edward Kaoru (102) |
| 6 | NISHIMOTO, Larry Takao (94) | 18 NARIKAWA, Ryoichi (89) |
| 8 | TANIGUCHI, Tokio (92) | 21 USHIJIMA, Juro (86) |
| 12 | KOHASHI, Dorothy M. (95) | 22 YANAGI, Helen Kikuyo (101) |
| 16 | KOBAYASHI, Yumeko (91) | 23 YAMAGUCHI, John Itsuo (82) |
| | | 24 TOMITAGAWA, Wallace Miyuki (94) |

2016 Memorial Service Schedule

2016 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2015 – 1 year	2004 – 13 year	1984 – 33 year
2014 – 3 year	2000 – 17 year	1967 – 50 year
2010 – 7 year	1992 – 25 year	1917 – 100 year

Nursing Home Services

- 04 Hale Nani – Rev. Kaufmann
- Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Hasebe
- 11 Maluhia – Rev. Hagio
- Liliha – Rev. Kamuro
- 12 Hale Pulama Mau – Rev. Tomioka
- 25 Nuuanu Hale – Rev. Tomioka
- 26 Leahi – Rev. Hasebe



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-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin