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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
Asst. Chief Minister
Toyokazu Hagio
Ministerial Staff
Rev. Tomo Hojo
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Invitation to 2014 O-Bon Observances at the Hawaii Betsuin

The members of Hawaii Betsuin, their families, and friends are invited to attend this year's O-Bon observances: Bon Dance, Bon Service, and Family Memorial Services (Bon Mairi). Brought by our forefathers many years ago, the dance and services have become part of life for Buddhists in Hawaii. During these observances, we have the opportunity to reflect on the wonders of human life and to get in touch with the foundation of life, sustained by Amida's wisdom and compassion.

The Japanese term "O-Bon" is an abbreviation of the Sanskrit word "Ullumbana," meaning suffering and pain of hanging "upside down." This state symbolizes our human life that does not move according to our wishes. Whether it was in the time of the Buddha, 2,500 years ago, or today in America, one incessantly feels the sorrow of living in aggression and self-attachment. The solution to this dilemma is the Buddhist teachings.

When we, as Buddhists, live this life in earnest to the best of our ability, we discover that we are already on the path to being saved from suffering and sorrow by the unconditional love and compassion of Amida Buddha. Discovering this religious path in memory of our deceased loved ones and living in joy is another meaning of O-Bon.

Let us make this year's O-Bon season a time to learn more about the teachings and to express our gratitude to our forefathers for our rich religious traditions. Please mark your calendar for the 2014 O-Bon observances listed below.

Bon Dance - Friday, June 27th and Saturday, June 28th. On both nights, there will be a service at 6:15 pm by the yagura with the Bon dance to follow. Preceding the service will be a taiko performance at 6:00 pm. The temple will be open, and there will be guided tours. Food booths and a Bontique will add to the evenings. Bon Dance practice will be on June 23th, 24th, and 25th at 7:30 pm.

Bon Service - Sunday, July 6th. Temple members and their families are welcome to the annual Bon Services. In Jodo tradition, the Bon Service is known as the Gathering of Joy. The spiritual path from the realm of suffering to Buddha's realm is realized to those who hear and say the Nembutsu: "Name-that-calls." By attending a Bon Service we deeply acknowledge this call of Amida Buddha.

Sunday, July 6th: 8:00 am Japanese Service: Guest speaker: Rev. Ryoso Toshima
10:00 am English Service: Guest speaker: Rev. David Nakamoto, Kailua Hongwanji
1:00 pm Japanese Nitchu Service - Speaker: Fuku-Rimban Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Bon Mairi Weekend (memorial services for individual families) Temple members and their families are cordially invited to reflect on the oneness of life through the practice of having a Bon service in memory of their departed family members.

Services are as follows:

Friday, July 11th

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm - Private Family Services
6:00 pm - Combined Family Service (English)

Saturday, July 12th

8:00 am to 7:00pm - Private Family Services
10:00 am - Combined Family Service (English)
6:00 pm - Combined Hatsu-Bon Service (English)



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Rimban's Column: Object of Worship or Art Object?

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto



This article is in response to Mrs. Fujiko Motobu's discussion (Goji, May, 2014) about the statues and portraits of Shinran

Shonin that are in the temple. I hope that I will adequately answer her questions. At the same time, I wish to clarify important aspects of Jodo Shin teaching and practice.

The first question was how we should properly treat statues or paintings of the founder of the

Honpa Hongwanji. The answer is quite straightforward and simple. If the statues and paintings are considered to be objects of worship or objects of reverence, we have set rules that we cannot easily change according to our convenience. The scroll of Shinran Shonin has to be in the altar of the worship places. In the Hawaii Betsuin's main altar, Shinran Shonin's altar is on the right. The scroll of the founder of Jodo Shinshu represents "Shonin" who attained enlightenment. The scroll is not something that we must see with physical eyes, but we show our respect because it is an object of reverence.

The same holds true with the altar of Rennyō Shonin, who was the organizer of our Shin Sangha 500 years ago. When we put our palms together in Gassho and bow in reverence in front of Amida Buddha, we pay homage to Shinran Shonin and Rennyō Shonin as well.

The second question was about the statue of the seated Shinran Shonin, which is on the ground floor in the Nokotsudo. My understanding is that this statue is considered to be an art object that reminds us of Shinran Shonin's strong determination to pay his homage to Amida's Primal Vow. Mr. Fujii must have donated this statue many years ago, hoping that it would raise awareness of Shinran Shonin's virtues among the members. Since it is not an object of worship, we cannot put it in the main altar. For this reason, the seated statue of Shinran Shonin was first put in the small room. And now it is on the floor of the Nokotsudo in the basement. It could be put in the main social hall during special occasions such as

Hoonko in January and Gotan-E in May. Dharma School students could put flower lei on Shinran to show that we all love and respect him.

The tall statue of Shinran Shonin, which is in front of the temple building is also an art object. It signifies that the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin building is a Dojo where Jodo Shin teachings are learned whole heartedly. Known as Shinran Shonin's "Tabisugata," this statue tells us that 800 years ago, he traveled from place to place in the Kanto area to spread Amida's Vow that would save all from the pain and sorrow of human existence. This basic information of Shinran's life can be inscribed on a plaque, that can be put on the left hand side of the foundation. I agree that the statue needs a clean-up job.

The last question that Mrs. Motobu asked is about the correct romanization of the nembutsu. Is it "Namu Amida Butsu" or "Namo Amida Butsu?" For decades in the United States the nembutsu has been spelled "Namu Amida Butsu." The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii has spelled and pronounced the Nembutsu as "Namu Amida Butsu." However, the correct way of pronouncing it in Honpa Hongwanji tradition is actually "Namo Amida Butsu." About ten years ago, Monshu Koshin Ohtani, instructed all overseas mission temples in the U.S., Canada, and Europe to use the proper spelling and pronunciation of the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu."

In the small chapel of Hawaii Betsuin (Onaibutsu), the object

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

BWA Mini Market



Attention all bakers, gardeners, craftspersons! The next BWA Mini Market will be held on July 27, 2014.

Gardeners: Please harvest your flowers, plants, veggies and fruits...Bakers: Please have your ono-licious treats ready to donate. It is your kind donations that that make the Mini Market a success! We appreciate your past generosity and ask for your continued support!



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Dharma Message: Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

To Listen To The Teaching For The First Time

Buddha said, "If we do not become awakened, even if we have already become old, we might have spent our entire life in vain."



Saint Rennyho explained that there are three types of listening attitudes when listening to the Teaching: the first attitude is to listen to the Teaching for the first time. The second is to listen to the Teaching alone for our own sake. The third is to listen to the Teaching for the last time in this life. This article will focus on the first attitude.

Do you know how many types of services there are here at the Betsuin, such as Sunday Services, Major Services, Memorial Services, Funeral Services, and so on. At each of these services, with what kind of attitude do you listen to the sermon?

Once, Shakyamuni Buddha preached at the Geta Grove Monastery. He said, "My disciples, among the many horses, there are horses that have various bad habits." After explaining about the horses' bad habits, he compared the horses to people. He explained that we must pay attention because even among human beings, there are people with bad habits, such as the following:

1. A person who covers his ears and hates to listen to a sermon with deep meaning of Buddhism.
2. A person who listens to a sermon but does not understand its true meaning and instead, becomes angry and abusive.
3. A person from the beginning who hates to listen to a sermon and holds opposing views.
4. A person who looks down on and speaks ill of someone who tries to give a sermon.
5. A person who quickly stands from his seat and leaves when someone gives a sermon.
6. A person, instead of quietly listening to someone giving a sermon, purposely looks sideways or begins to whisper to others.
7. A person who heckles and speaks ill of someone who is preaching. On the other hand, if he is asked a question, he becomes silent and does not answer.
8. A person who does not listen to a sermon but instead thinks of other things only and enjoys evil desires. Then at the end of his life, on the brink of going to hell, he finally, for the first time, tries to listen to the Teaching of Buddha.

These are eight kinds of bad listening habits. When listening to the Dharma, it is well to recall this and make a real effort," the Buddha thus told his disciples. As you know, in our Hongwanji, Shin Buddhists practice listening and hearing. Even if people hear the same thing, each person's thoughts and perspectives

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News from the Betsuin's Buddhist Women's Association

BWA JUNE 2014 Activities

- 14 Sat BWA Executive board meeting 9:00
(dining room)
- 15 Sun Fathers' Day Breakfast with Sudhana Fellowship
- 21 Sat Honolulu United BWA Education workshop at Jikoen
- 23-25 M –W Bon dance practice
- 26 Th Bon dance prep.
- 27-28 Fri.-Sat. Bon dance:
Bontique from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Honpa Hongwanji 125th Anniversary Celebration

We have been in existence for 125 years, and on April 27th, the members of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Jikoen Hongwanji, Kailua Hongwanji, and Moiliili Hongwanji gathered to celebrate our exciting and memorable existence.

A capacity crowd gathered in the Hondo and participated and enjoyed a very nice and inspiring service. With beautiful music by the choir, made up of members from the four temples, the mood and spirit were transformed into something majestic. The Dharma School students took leadership in the MC capacity and the inspiring and heart rendering talks by the students, Dustin Iwasaki and Lacy Tsutsuse made it very enjoyable and heart warming. Brandi Yamamoto's beautiful singing solo, "There You'll Be" was exceptionally warm, and we could picture the image of the forthcoming generation of Jodo shinshu members through them.

Our Bishop Eric Matsumoto gave a very inspiring sermon to encourage and appreciate the teachings of Amida Buddha through our Jodo Shinshu way. The Gomonsu's (Abbot) letter was read by the Rev. David Nakamoto. Guests, Governor of Hawaii, Neil Abercrombie and Ms. Georgette Deemer representing Mayor Kirk Caldwell also spoke congratulatory messages.

For all in attendance, joyful and merry "petals" with inscriptions "Live Peace, Harmony and Gratitude: Share Aloha..... Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 125th Anniversary" were distributed and tossed into the air to express our gratitude and share peace. It was fun.

Refreshment were served in the social hall after the service for all to enjoy, and they certainly did that. The BWA ladies from all four temples supplied and served the wonderful food. Our Betsuin BWA women did a tremendous amount of work in

Fujiko Motobu, President

order to have all the members enjoy the food. Some of our ladies made about 400 inari sushi in the morning; others prepared goodies at home. Our BWA ladies worked tirelessly and did a wonderful job not only in making the goodies, serving, cleaning up, but were very friendly and enjoyable with all the people who came by. We certainly appreciate their enthusiasm and stamina and their willingness to help and share with all. Thank you very much.

The BWA ladies also made great contributions for the event with their unselfish contribution- checks to the Betsuin. We greatly appreciate your selfless giving practice.

Remembering Shigeko

Miyashiro Former resident of Hawaii and long time member of our BWA, Shigeko Miyashiro passed away on April 12, 2014 at the age of 92 in Gardena, California. Shigeko and her husband, Tsuneyoshi, relocated from the Moanalua area to Torrance, California to be near their only daughter, Roseann and her family. Tsune, as Shigeko called him, had preceded her in death a few years ago.

Shigeko was a very talented and artistic person, who was always full of smile and gentle words. She designed many beautiful cards for the use for the Dana projects. She was also talented in calligraphy and sumie, as well as in Japanese singing and dancing. She and Tsune were always at the temple, helping with

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Honolulu Dharma Schools Keiki Day at Kailua Hongwanji!

On Sunday, May 4, the Honolulu Dharma Schools held their annual Keiki Day at Kailua Hongwanji. Dharma School Students and families were warmly welcomed by Keiji Kukino and the Kailua Hongwanji sangha. It was great for everyone to see and enjoy the brand new Kailua temple and facilities. We had a great turnout of about 90 people from the four Honolulu temples: Betsuin, Jikoen, Kailua and Moiliili.

The program for the day included a special service tailored to our keiki with the gatha "Buddha Loves You" incorporating different animals such as a buzzing bee, magic unicorn and big-eared elephant. Some of our students were asked to hold up the animals when their verse was sung. We also sang a Buddhist version of Old MacDonald, "Old Amida", which was originally written by Larry Nakamoto at the first YESS Camp. As a small gesture of appreciation for hosting this event, the Honolulu Dharma Schools presented the Kailua Hongwanji with a new clock for their temple and a koa plaque

to express their gratitude and commemorate the day.

Our very own Nannette Ganotisi led the group in fun activities, which included "Buddha Says" (instead of "Simon Says"), follow the leader, green light/red light and a parachute activity. Many thanks to Faye and Dexter Mar for donating the parachute to our Betsuin Dharma School; everyone enjoyed playing with it!

After a delicious potluck lunch, the children (and adults) continued to have fun in the grassy yard at Kailua Hongwanji playing catch, jumping rope, hula hooping, and playing with the parachute. It was a memorable day and a grand time was had by all!



Dharma School

Debbie Kubota



Performances by Honolulu Dharma School Students & Betsuin Dharma School Taiko Group at 125th Anniversary Service Program

On Sunday, April 27, the Honolulu District celebrated the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's 125th Anniversary. After the service there were performances by the Honolulu District Dharma School Students and the Betsuin Dharma School Taiko Group.

The Dharma School Students performed 2 songs—"Buddha Loves

You" and "If You're Happy and You Know It." Both songs had motions that accompanied the lyrics. The students did a fantastic job!

After their songs, the students remained onstage to join the Betsuin Dharma School Taiko Group in the debut of their newly composed piece, "Jan Ken Po." While the Taiko Group was performing on the drums, the Dharma School students were playing Jan Ken Po to the rhythm of the drum beats.

The Taiko Group also played "Hiryu San Dan Gaeshi," which is a piece about flying dragons, and "Laulima," which is another original piece composed by the group. "Laulima" showcases the various ethnic groups in our

islands, starting with the traditional Japanese taiko drum beat, then moving to the Chinese Lion Dance beat, then the ipu setting the rhythm for the Hawaiian section, moving on to the Filipino rhythm used in the tinkling bamboo pole dance, and finishing with the traditional Japanese taiko drum beat.

The Dharma School students and taiko group were glad to take part in and help to commemorate this momentous occasion. We hope these performances were enjoyed by all!

(photos by Ruth Tokumi)



A Strategic Plan Initiative Another Way To Support Hawaii Betsuin: Planned Giving

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin is often considered the “flagship temple” of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Our immigrant ancestors developed a dynamic and inspirational sangha (community) to share the teachings of Shakamuni Buddha and Shinran Shonin to their new home in Hawaii. With dharma-centered perspectives, they generously contributed their vision, organizational skills, physi-

cal labor and limited assets to meet the religious, spiritual, cultural and educational needs of their community. Based on this legacy, the Hawaii Betsuin sangha continues to meet the multiple needs of a larger and more diverse community. With heartfelt gratitude, we offer a variety of programs and create an environment that nurtures our lives on the Nembutsu Path.

Our ability to continuously share Jodo Shin Buddhism now and in the future will significantly depend on the contribution of sangha members. Hawaii Betsuin’s religious services and variety of programs are primarily funded by membership fees, service offerings, donations and proceeds from annual special events such as Taste of Hongwanji, Bon Dance, Golf Tournament and White Elephant Sales.

Brownie Troop #257 Gives Donation To Betsuin Project Dana



After the Gotan-E service on May 18th, Courtney Mann, representing Brownie Troop #257, and Troop #257 leader, Kim Mann, presented the Betsuin’s Project Dana Temple Coordinator, Jo desMarets, and Executive Board members Carol Yamamoto, Sharyn Sekine and Wendie Yumori with a check for \$50.00 and an assortment of cleaning supplies to be distributed to Project Dana recipients. Following is the presentation speech by Courtney Mann: “On behalf of Brownie Troop #257, we would like to present Project Dana with a donation of \$50.00 and cleaning supplies. This is our way of helping our community. And we would like to thank you for taking care of our grandmas and grandpas.” Mahalo nui loa to the members of Brownie Troop #257 and their adult leaders!

Another way to support Hawaii Betsuin is through various PLANNED GIVING methods.

Planned Giving is a way to support not-for-profit religious and charitable organizations that allows individual donors to make larger gifts than from their budgeted income. Whether you are young or a senior citizen, we encourage you to consider developing an estate plan. It is extremely important that you consult appropriate financial and legal professionals for assistance to plan your estate. As you plan your estate and financial affairs, please consider making a planned giving gift and method(s) to Hawaii Betsuin and other eligible organizations.

Please contact Stacy Bradshaw, Hawaii Betsuin’s Executive Director, for more information about planned giving at 536-7044.

In Case You Did Not Know: Info From Internet On Planned Giving

What is Planned Giving?

Planned giving, sometimes referred to as gift planning, may be defined as a method of supporting non-profits and charities that enables philanthropic individuals or donors to make larger gifts than they could make from their income. While some planned gifts provide a life-long income to the donor, others use estate and tax planning techniques to provide for charity and other heirs in ways that maximize the gift and/or minimize its impact on the donor's estate. Thus, by definition, a planned gift is any major gift, made in lifetime or at death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning.

By contrast, gifts to the annual fund or for membership dues are made from a donor's discretionary income, and while they may be budgeted for, they are not planned. Whether a donor uses cash, appreciated securities/stock, real estate, artwork, partnership interests, personal property, life insurance, a retirement plan, etc., the benefits of funding a planned gift can make this type of charitable giving very attractive to both donor and charity.

For specific, commonly asked questions on planned gifts, or gift planning in general, refer to our Answers pages.

What are the 3 types of planned gifts?

- First, outright gifts that use appreciated assets as a substitute for cash;
- Second, gifts that return income or other financial benefits to the donor in return for the contribution;
- Third, gifts payable upon the donor's death.

From a clever marketing perspective for your prospects, however, these should be handled differently as you can see here. (Notice the three categories under "Ways of Giving".)

What gift plans return income to donors?

Charitable gift annuities make fixed payments, starting either when the gift is made (an immediate-payment gift annuity) or at a later date (a deferred or flexible gift annuity). Some organizations maintain pooled income funds, which commingle donations, pay beneficiaries variable depending on the earnings of the fund, and generally operate like a charitable mutual fund. Charitable remainder unitrusts and annuity trusts are individually managed trusts that pay the beneficiaries either a fixed percentage of trust income or a

fixed dollar amount.

What are the tax benefits of planned gifts?

- Donors can contribute appreciated property, like securities or real estate, receive a charitable deduction for the full market value of the asset, and pay no capital gains tax on the transfer.
- Donors who establish a life-income gift receive a tax deduction for the full, fair market value of the assets contributed, minus the present value of the income interest retained; if they fund their gift with appreciated property they pay no upfront capital gains tax on the transfer.
- Gifts payable to charity upon the donor's death, like a bequest or a beneficiary designation in a life insurance policy or retirement account, do not generate a lifetime income tax deduction for the donor, but they are exempt from estate tax.

Welcome To The Sangha!



Infant Initiatory Rites was held for Asami Kameyo Nishihira on May 24, 2014. Shown are Asami with her parents, Ron and Jan Nishihira, sister, Miyaka Nishihira, and family. Rev. Toyokazu Hagio, presided over the service. Welcome to the sangha, Asami!

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Hosha in whatever way possible. She was one of the privileged persons who was allowed to be up in the altar area during Hosha and helped with the cleaning. Tsune was one of the members of the Wednesday Gang and was always helping with the upkeep of the grounds of the Betsuin. His name was Tsuneyoshi, but I always called him "Minamoto no Yoshitsune."

A private funeral service was held on April 29 at Venice Hongwanji Buddhist temple.

A memorial service will be held on June 6, at 12 Noon at Hawaii Betsuin. Friends of the Miyas- hiros can gather and recall many of the fondest memories that we have of them, for they are both Bodhisatvas and will be with us in our memories.

WHO SAYS WE SHOULDN'T LAUGH?

"I love people who make me laugh. I honestly think it's the thing I like most, to laugh. It cures a multitude of ills. It's probably the most important thing in a person." Audrey Hepburn

YOUNGSTERS WHO PRACTICE TRUE DANA

The young Girl Scouts have been giving the BWA tremendous help on Hosha days when we have been running short of help from our members. The girls are eager, enthusiastic, and very hard working, and we certainly appreciate their genuine Kokua in keeping the Hondo nice and sparkling clean. Thank you very much to the parents of the girls and to all the girls who have helped us. We hope you will continue to give us a hand in the future. In GASSHO from the BWA ladies.

HAWAII STATE CONVENTION HELD IN KONA: MAY 3 AND 4, 2014

Close to three hundred BWA women met for the State BWA Conference, prior to the 15th world convention in Calgary, Canada, to be held in May, 2015. It was an interesting conference, full of activities. Hawaii Betsuin was represented by sixteen ladies and our Rev. Muneto.

Everything was held at the Sheraton Hotel, where we also had our rooms. Most of the attendees were elderly women, and it was tiring to walk great distances. Most of us stayed on the second floor, and there were 29 steps to climb each time we left the room to go elsewhere, and only on the last day did we discover that there were many elevators nearby for our convenience. Some senior minds are not so sharp these days. However, we were provided with a lot of nourishment and entertainment to make everything worthwhile.

The conference program was inspiring. After the general membership meeting was held by HHMHFBWA President, Janet Honda, lunch was served. The guest speaker, Mr. Duane Kurisu's talk on "Peace and Oneness of Life" was heartwarming. He focused on his family's great influence on him. He is originally from a small town on the Hamakua coast on the Big Island, and is now a highly successful entrepreneur with varied interests. BWA members were given an opportunity to choose three out of five workshop sessions. The workshops were , weaving lauhala bracelet, meditation in

developing an awake and compassionate heart, crafting from recycled material, gentle chair yoga, and historical tour of Sheraton, Kona area. All the activities were well received by enthusiastic BWA ladies.

Dinner was held out in the lawn, and as the evening progressed, there was fine entertainment by many very talented children playing the ukulele, piano and singing. There was also a demonstration of modern bon dancing, of inspiring dance steps, and hula by a gentleman from Japan, and taiko presentation by Kona Hongwanji members. The reverends Hirokawa from Lahaina, Sumikawa from Moiliili, Nishiyama from Jikoen, and the Bishop participated and performed excellently. Unfortunately, there was just a crescent moon and absolutely no stars in the sky, thus, we had to eat in the dark with two tiny candle lights on each table. Have you tried eating in the dark? Somehow, the food doesn't flourish with taste and stays bland. Perhaps this is a secret on eating less. We all departed to our rooms for the night.

The Sunday morning service was very endearing and unique. Rev. Soga of Hilo Betsuin led the congregation with the English version of Juseige. In his beautiful and resonating voice he led the group in the sutra chanting. In the pamphlet the Juseige was printed verse by verse horizontally, thus, verse 1 and 2 on the first line, then verses 3 and 4, followed by 5 and 6, then 7 and 8, then 9 and 10, and last verse 11 which was set just below verse 9. Vertically, the verses on the left side of the page were: Verse 1, below it verse 3, then below it verse 5, and verse 7, then verse 9 and below, verse

Rimban continued from- page 2

Betsuin (Onaibutsu), the object of reverence is the six letters: This signifies that the saving power of Amida's compassion has been directed to each of us through the Name-that-calls. When seeing these six letters of Namo Amida Butsu, let us acknowledge the call of Amida Buddha, which is Entrusting Heart (Shinjin). In attaining this Shinjin-faith, may each of us be liberated from sorrow, and say "Namo Amida Butsu" in gratitude!

In order to inform the members of this powerful symbol of the Name of Amida Buddha in the small chapel, we need a horizontal sign that reads "NAMO AMIDA BUTSU" and it has to be put at the base of the six letters. The ministers will be able to focus their Dharma message on the importance of saying of "Namo Amida Butsu."

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11. On the right hand side of the page were verse 2, below it verse 4, then verse 6, then verse 8 and last verse 10.

Because the Juseige was written in English, Rev. Soga recited the verses vertically, 1, then 3, 5, 7, 9, and when he came to 11, he realized that he erred and stopped his loud and clear voice recitation. Nevertheless, in spite of his silence the audience continued and recited verses 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 without any hesitation. I found it to be unique and entertaining. Membership 101 was the homework which June Asato of Mililani Hongwanji gave to all of us. Through this discussion, many of us realized that as the world and Hongwanji population changes, we also must change our attitudes

Dharma message continued from page 3

differ. An analogy is if people see the same thing, their reactions may be different. For example, when people see my shaved head, I get a wide range of opinions. Someone said that I look like a true priest. Another person said, "Did you put oil on your head? It's very shiny." One lady even said, "Sensei, I bet you were a good baby that looked up and slept without moving because the back of your head is flat."

Similarly, when we listen to the same story, our understanding might be different.

The following is a story that you might have already heard, but even so, please listen to it as if you are hearing it for the first time. Try to open up and find another perspective of this story.

One day, a young disciple asked Shakyamuni Buddha, "Buddha! Is this world limited or limitless? Does the soul exist or not? If you do not answer this question, I cannot follow you anymore." Buddha said, "Listen carefully, young disciple! Once, there was a traveler who was walking on a mountain road by himself, but he was mistakenly shot by a hunter with a poison arrow. The hunter realized his mistake and quickly took the traveler to the doctor. The doctor tried to pull out the poison arrow as soon as possible, but the traveler stopped the doctor's hand and then he asked, 'What's your name? How old are you? How long have you been a doctor?' And then the traveler asked, 'What is this arrow made of? What kind of poison was this arrow painted with? If you cannot answer these questions, you cannot pull out this poison arrow and treat me.'"

Buddha then said, "If the traveler asked these questions, what do you think about this?"

The young disciple answered, "How foolish this traveler is! While he was asking these questions, the poison from the arrow went through the person's body and he will now die. He does not have time to spare his life - what he should do right now is to pull out the poison arrow and receive treatment immediately!"

Then Shakyamuni Buddha responded, "There are many people in the world who study many things in various ways in daily life. However, those lives have already become struck by the poison arrow, which has been painted with the three poisons of greed, anger, and ignorance. This life is a fragile, unrepeatable, and irreplaceable one. Therefore, the foremost and more urgent matter is to pull out the poison arrow here, right now."

Buddha admonished the young disciple like this and then he also added as follows: "Amida Buddha promised that he would take away the root of suffering and affliction of birth and death, and then he accomplished the promises and established the Pure Land as our life's destination." The young disciple then devoted his life to the Buddhist practice.

So, let us not be one of the eight kinds of people and let us all listen with an open mind as though we were listening to the teaching for the first time.

and behaviors. We must be open minded and accepting of ideas and people. It was an interesting open discussion of ideas from the members of various temples on each table of about 10. I am not sure what was discussed at the other tables, but with us, we realize that changes must take place, and family members are very important in carrying on our traditions.

Slide presentation and music,

with trumpet playing by Kelvin Sewake, and message of gratitude by Linda Nagai and singing of gatha, Asoka Garden ended the conference. It was a truly wonderful experience for me. Namo Amida Butsu.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Buddha Day Breakfast and Maunawili

By Joanne Ebesu, Troop 49 Secretary

The Boy Scouts cheerfully prepared and served a delicious breakfast of sweet bread French toast, scrambled eggs, little smokies sausages, fruits, and beverages for their breakfast fundraiser on Sunday April 13, the date of the Hawaii Betsuin Buddha Day Service. We are extremely grateful for the generous donations from the Temple members, which will be used towards our Kauai Adventure in June.

As practice for this Kauai Adventure, which includes a hike in and out of Kalalau Valley, some Scouts participated in a 10-mile Maunawili hike from the scenic overlook on the Pali Highway, Kailua bound direction, to Wakapuna Street in Waimanalo. This trail contours the base of the Ko'olau Mountain Range on the windward side. It offers spectacular views of the windward side of Oahu, Olomana, and the Ko'olaupoko watershed. Vegetation along the trail includes mountain apple, rose apple, ti leaf, naupaka, mamake, lobelia, koa and ohia. With most of us carrying a 20-pound bag of rice in our backpacks, we quickly felt the load along the somewhat



strenuous hike. The reason for the 20-pound bags of rice was to simulate the weight of our necessary supplies that we will each need to haul going in and out of Kalalau Valley. We were fortunate that it didn't rain as heavily that day as it had during the past several days. We did not end up being drenched but we did get muddy. Fortunately, most parents anticipated the mud and had newspaper on the floor of their vehicles when they picked us up after our hike.

Bon Service Schedule continued from page 1

Sunday, July 13th
8:00 am to 7:00 pm
Private Family Services

10:00 am – Combined Family
Service (English and Japanese)

6:00 pm – Combined Hatsu-Bon
Service (English and Japanese)
First Anniversary O-bon Service

Please note that appointments
for individual services will not be
accepted during this period.

From July 11th – July 13th just come
to the temple, check in at the reg-
istration desk in the social hall, and
wait for our volunteers to usher you
to a service. Light refreshments will
be provided in the Social Hall. If you
are unable to come during our spe-
cial Bon Mairi Weekend, please call
the office at 536-7044 to schedule
an appointment for an alternate
date.



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 JUNE 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 Rev. Muneto 9:00 Rev. Kaufmann 10:00 Rev. Tomioka 1:00 Rev. Hagio	2 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	3 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 6:00 – 8:00 pm Judo	4 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation 7pm Bon Dancercise	5 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom	6 9 am Project Dana Dance	7 9:00 – 11:00 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
8 8:00 Rev. Hagio 9:00 Rev. Tomioka 10:00 Rev. Kaufmann 1:00 Rev. Hojo	9 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	10 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 9:30 am Shodo Class 6:00 – 8:00 pm Judo	11 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation	12 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo	13 9 am Project Dana Dance	14 9:00 – 11:00 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
15 8:00 Rev. Tomioka 10:00 Rev. Umitani 1:00 Rev. Hagio	16 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	17 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 6:00 – 8:00 pm Judo	18 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrangement 7 pm Meditation	19 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo	20 9 am Project Dana Dance	21 9:00 – 11:00 am Judo 1 pm Taichi
22 8:00 Rev. Hojo 10:00 Rev. Hagio 1:00 Rev. Tomioka	23 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 7:30 pm Bon Dance practice	24 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life 9:30 am Shodo Class 6:00 – 8:00 pm Judo 7:30 pm Bon Dance practice	25 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 1 pm Flower Arrange. 7 pm Meditation 7:30 pm Bon Dance practice	26 10 am Flower Arrangement 1:30 pm Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo	27 9 am Project Dana Dance 6:15 pm Bon Dance	28 9:00 – 11:00 am Judo 1 pm Taichi 6:15 pm Bon Dance
29 8:00 Rev. Hagio 10:00 Rev. Muneto 1:00 Rev. Hojo	30 9:00 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life					

O-Bon ... O-Bon...
It's Festival Time!



In Memoriam



APRIL 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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 SUGIMURA, Sueno (95) | 15 MIYABARA, Chiyoko (93) |
| 2 OKAMURO, Masaaki (94) | 16 EBESU, Yoshiko Monma (94) |
| 3 KUROSU, Masao (86) | 16 SHIROTA, Gerald Minoru (73) |
| 3 NISHIMURA, Kay Kimie (90) | 19 HORIO, Nobuye (91) |
| 6 ISHIMOTO, Richard Tsutomu(94) | 19 KAJIWARA, Susumi (86) |
| 6 SASAKI, Sueo (95) | 19 NAKAUCHI, Donald Keiichi (62) |
| 7 KAYA, Mildred Misayo (95) | 21 HOKE, Hazel Hisae (83) |
| 9 TONG, Setsuko Nagatani (81) | 23 HIRAI, Tamie Matsuo (91) |
| 11 MUNEOKA, Ray Masato (65) | 24 OKAWA, June Sachiko (82) |
| 11 UESUGI, Noboru (89) | 26 MATSUBA, Mitsuru (95) |
| 12 KUIOKA, Gary Masato (67) | 27 HANATANI Yoshie (92) |
| 13 OCHIAI, Herbert Hiroshi (87) | 27 KURANISHI, Hiromu (95) |
| 15 ALMEIDA, Elsie (95) | 28 MIZUNO, Howard Masaru (83) |

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

Share Peace....

There can never be peace between nations
until it is first known that true peace
is within the souls of men

from the Ogala Sioux tradition

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

Hongwanji Radio Programs

JUNE 2014

KZOO 1210 AM

Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM

- 7 Rev. Tomioka
- 14 Rev. Hagio
- 21 Rev. Hojo
- 28 Rev. Toshima

Betsuin Services

Adult English Services

10:00 AM

- 01 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 08 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 15 Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
- 22 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 29 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Dharma School

Service 9am

- 01 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 08 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

(Dharma School will be
on vacation for
the summer)

Nursing Home Services

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