



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
www.hawaiibetsuin.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

We welcome all to Hawaii Betsuin's

2016 Obon Service

July 3, 2016

8:00 AM Japanese, 10:00 AM English

Hawaii Betsuin welcomes all to join our annual Obon service. Obon is the season to express our appreciation to our ancestors as well as to reflect on our life. We are living now because of numerous people who came before us. If even one person were missing from the line, we would not be the same. So, at Obon time, we think about our ancestors and express our gratitude to them. However, for some, thinking about their departed ones sometimes bring back tears and grief.

We may have sadness in our heart, but for Jodo Shinshu followers, the Obon service is an occasion to hear about Amida Buddha's Compassion and Wisdom. To be separated from our loved one is really difficult, but we can feel comfort in Amida Buddha's Vow to save us.

About our Speaker: Rev. Kazunori Takahashi

This year, we are fortunate to have Rev. Kazunori Takahashi as our Hawaii Betsuin Obon service speaker. Rev. Takahashi is originally from Yamaguchi-prefecture. He majored in Buddhist Studies and graduated from Ryukoku University in 2007. He moved to Hawaii in 2007 and served at Hilo Hongwanji, Kapaa Hongwanji and is currently working as a resident minister of Lihue Hongwanji. He received his Tokudo ordination in 2003 and Kyoshi status in 2005. Please don't miss this great opportunity to hear the Dharma.



Betsuin Bon Mairi and Hatsubon Services

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin offers 2 weekends for Bon Mairi and Hatsubon services. Reservations for the combined services are recommended, although we will take walk-ins for each service. Reservations for private Obon family services will be taken by appointment as usual. Please contact Betsuin office for more information.

Combined Bon Mairi services: Combined Hatsubon Services:

July 16 (Sat): 10AM and 5PM

July 23 (Sat): 10AM and 5PM

July 17 (Sun): 5PM

July 24 (Sun): 5PM

Dharma Message: “My Parents’ Wish for Me and The Buddhas’ Wish for Everyone”

How did you spend Mother’s Day and Father’s Day this year? Mother’s Day was on the 2nd Sunday in May, which was May 8th, and Father’s Day was on the 3rd Sunday in June, which was June 19th. I made phone calls to my parents in Kumamoto, Japan on those days. It was a really good opportunity for me to express my love and appreciation to my parents but also to reflect on my parents’ wish for me.

I was born into a temple family, and my parents taught me how to live the teachings of Jodo Shinshu. My father gave me the name Joshin, which is my Buddhist name, too. The first character, ‘jo,’ means settled or stable, and the second character, ‘shin,’ means mind and heart.

He chose the name Joshin, meaning “settled-mind” because he wanted me to be a true disciple of the Buddha with a diamond-like heart and mind, which is shinjin (the entrusting heart).

My mother wanted me to become a minister who works as a bridge for people to pass to the Buddha-land. She takes every opportunity to remind me, quoting the letter from Genshin’s mother to her son, Genshin (942-1017). Genshin is the Sixth Patriarch in Jodo Shinshu. When Genshin was 15 years old, he gave a lecture at the Imperial Court and received fine presents, which he sent to his mother. She returned them with a letter admonishing his worldly ambitions. She said that she expected her son to be a bridge for those who

Rev. Joshin Kamuro

would come later to take refuge in the land of peace, and that she was very sad that he had become a priest interested in gaining recognition and fame.



The wish of Genshin’s mother and that of my parents is the same. With this in mind, I would like to be a bridge for people to pass to the Buddha-land. And I am devoting my every effort to share the true and real teachings with people here in Hawaii.

I would like to close with Shinran Shonin’s words in which he tells us the Buddhas’ Wish:

“Śākyamuni and Amida are our father and our mother,
Full of love and compassion for us;
Guiding us through various skillful means,
They bring us to awaken the supreme shinjin.”

(Hymns of the Pure Land Masters, CWS, p.380)

What is your parents’ wish for you? 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, 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.

Project Dana Dancers Need A Volunteer!

Entertaining nursing home residents during the summer is what we HHB Project Dana Dancers love to do! With great energy and enthusiasm, we present an hour-long program of Japanese and Okinawan dances, original line dances, Rhythm and Life dances, and hula to residents who often sing and clap along.

We are in need of assistance – we’d love to have a volunteer handle (play and pause) our CD player during our dance performance. All the dance music is on one CD, in the same order as presented by the dancers. We will be going to nursing homes on the following Fri. mornings: June 17 and 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and Aug. 26. Generally, a 2 ½ - 3 hour time commitment would be involved, say from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., which includes commute time. The volunteer need not worry about driving to nursing homes as carpool drivers have already been assigned. If this summertime volunteer assignment appeals to you, please call Sumie Sueishi (395-3665). Thank you!



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Aloha Council Makahiki

Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout

“Be A Hero” was this year’s theme at the annual BSA Aloha Council Makahiki held at Ala Moana Beach Park on Saturday, May 14. The objective of the Makahiki is to showcase scouting traditions with the community and increase awareness of Scouting’s positive impact on youth. Troop 49 featured a match lighting skill activity using the sharp blade edge of a hatchet. Cub Scout Pack 49 had scouts draw their own hero poster. Some Order of the Arrow scouts facilitated scout games such as bicycle obstacle course, wiffle ball golf tournament, and water balloon toss. It was a great opportunity to see scouting in action. One of the sponsors, Hard Rock Café, honored Troop 49 with lunch for being the unit that sold the most Makahiki fundraiser cards for the second year in a row.



Memorial Day

Douglas Yanagihara,
Troop 49 Boy Scout

BSA Aloha Council Memorial Day “Good Turn” is an opportunity for scouts to honor fallen military service members at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. Honpa Hongwanji Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts picked plumeria blossoms, bougainvillea, other flow-



ers and ti-leaf and gathered at the Honpa Hongwanji Social Hall to string lei to take to the Memorial Day event, where lei and a U.S. flag are placed

on each of the 38,000 graves by boy scouts and cub scouts from all over the island. The pre-Memorial Day event has been held annually since 1945 and is the biggest event of the year for Boy Scouts in Hawaii.



Jeff Sulzbach, Scout executive and CEO for the Aloha Council, the largest Boy Scouts organization in Hawaii, said the traditional event remains popular because it imparts lessons of service and citizenship to the Scouts and corresponds with the Scouts’ oath to help others at all times and with their slogan to do a good turn daily.

Betsuin Dharma School News: Teachers' Appreciation Day and Last Day of Dharma School

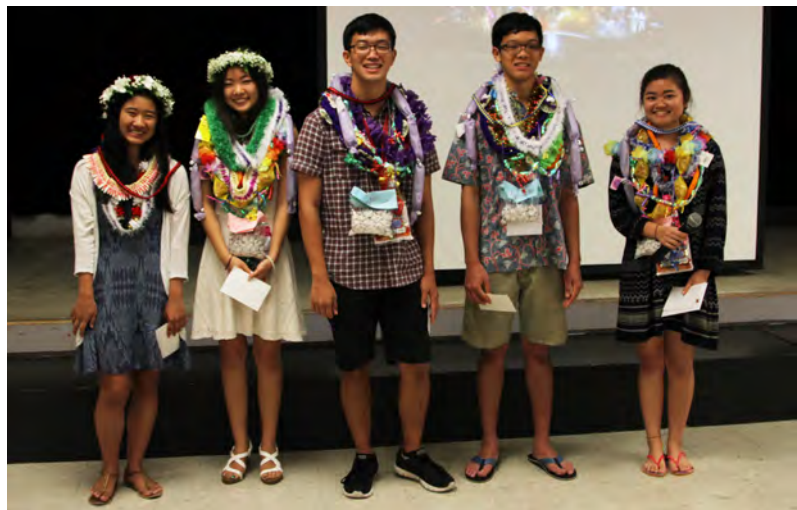
Debbie Kubota

Another year of learning, fun and fellowship has come to an end, with the last day of Dharma School on Sunday, June 5. Christina Shioi, Dharma School PTO President, along with her team recognized all of the dedicated teachers—Laura Nakasone (Supervisor), Faith Takenaka and Doris Fujiwara (Preschool), Faith Nakasone and Debbie Kubota (K-1), Dean Sumikawa (2nd-3rd Grade), Jovie Yoshioka (4th-5th Grade), Nannette Ganotisi (Middle School), Wayne Yoshioka (High School), Alan Kubota (Parent Fellowship Group), and Cameron Kubota (Ukulele Group). The Dharma School students helped to shower the teachers with colorful lei made with small plastic containers, pass out striped bags filled with goodies, and large wrapped gifts, which were perfect for the summer — trunk organizer and cooler. What a wonderful way to show appreciation to the teachers. Many thanks to the PTO for all that they do throughout the year to support the Dharma School events and activities.

Dharma School Graduates' Luncheon

The “force” was strong this year, as we had a record number of seniors graduating from Dharma School. There were 6 graduates—Brittney Fujihara, Logan Matsuoka, Aaron Shimoda, Randi Shioi, Jenna Tom, and Douglas Yanagihara. Presentations to the graduates were made by Jerry Tamamoto (Betsuin), Laura Nakasone (Dharma School),

Wayne Yoshioka (High School Teacher) and Florence Wasai (BWA). A very fitting Star Wars themed Words of Thanksgiving was given by Reverend Kaufmann. After a delicious Korean food lunch, the graduates played a fun game of Star Wars/Dharma Wheel Jeopardy. One of the juniors, Chika Matsumoto, put together a memorable slide show featuring the graduates through the years. We wish the graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors. May the Dharma be with you!



Please join us for these future Dharma School Activities!

Sunday, July 10 - Summer Fun Day at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens in Kaneohe (9 am to 2 pm) - carpooling available from Betsuin at 8:30 am, lunch provided by Dharma School PTO / **Sunday in late July or early August (date TBA) - Sports/Fun Day at HMS** (volleyball, pool & lunch) / **Sunday, August 21 - Dharma School Registration Day** together with Honolulu Dharma Schools at Jikoen Hongwanji / **Sunday, August 28 - First Day of Dharma School at Betsuin**

Betsuin Cultural Class: Instructor, Mrs. Okano

Mrs. Okano's students held an exhibition of their recent works in Ikebana (flower arranging) and calligraphy. For information about these classes, please contact the Betsuin office at or check the Cultural Class Calendar in the Goji.



Adult Ukulele Club



One
Thurs.
a Month
at 10 AM
Call the
Betsuin office
for more info!

If you are unable
to come
to the temple
and would like to
have a minister visit
you in your home,
please call

**Rev. Yuika Hasebe
at 536-7044**



and request
a home visit.
We miss you
and do not
want to lose
contact with you!

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When you shop at Amazon smile, Amazon will make a donation of 0.5% of eligible purchases to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. There is no cost to you. Simply start your Amazon shopping by clicking on the link: You must designate HHMH as the recipient for the donation. Find this link and click on it to designate HHMH.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0073500>

Betsuin BWA News and Events

SPECIAL DVD SHOWING SUNDAY, JULY 31, 9:00 AM IN SOCIAL HALL: YOU'RE ALL INVITED

Did you know that there are about 5,000 Muslims living in Hawaii and there is an Islamic mosque in Manoa? At this fall's Honolulu United BWA Joint General Membership/Education Meeting on Oct. 15, there will be an opportunity for BWA members and guests to listen to and interact with several Muslim women from the mosque in Manoa who have responded positively to the Honolulu United BWA's invitation to make connections and seek commonalities .

In preparation for this Oct. 15 event, the BWA units of Hawaii Betsuin, Jikoen, Moiliili, and Kailua will be showing a DVD of "Life as a Muslim in Hawaii," recorded from a recent episode of Insights on PBS Hawaii. In this episode, Moderator, Mahealani Richardson, poses questions to four panelists, Hakim Quansafi, of the Muslim Assoc. of Hawaii, Esmat Arslan, a Muslim student at UH Manoa, Chad Dunlap, a Muslim convert, and Jay Sakashita, PhD, Professor of Religion at Leeward Comm. College, and the panel discussion is fascinating. Hawaii Betsuin BWA members, ;and all who are interested in learning about "Life as a Muslim in Hawaii," are invited to the special 50 minute screening on Sunday, July 31 at 9 am in the social hall.

By Wendie Yumori

SHINRAN SHONIN'S LIFE LIKE STATUE

Having displayed Shinran's statue three times, many of you are aware of his gentle looking face. There is a story behind how we acquired this beautiful statue, which we have had at Hawaii Betsuin since 1962, some fifty four years.

After World War II ended in 1945, and trading channels between the United States and Japan reopened Mr. George Fujii was given permission to be the first buyer from America to go to Japan. He asked his grandmother, who was 92 years old then if she wanted to accompany him since she had never been back to Japan since her arrival some fifty years earlier. Grandma Fujii was overjoyed but her doctor advised against the trip because of her age, and in those days they went by ship, for commercial airplanes were not flying. George then asked her where she would have liked to visit the most if she were able to make the trip. Mrs. Fujii replied that she wanted to visit the Founder's Hall at Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto to worship before the image of Shinran Shonin. George decided and consulted with Professor Ryugyo Fujimoto of Ryukoku University, to have a replica of the statue in the Founder's Hall made for his grandmother. Mr. Fujii was introduced to Mr. K. Sano, a noted sculptor of Buddhist art. Mr. Sano made daily visits to Nishi Hongwanji to study Shinran's image, and spent many days in the library doing research on Shinran's life, and worked on the statue.

The statue arrived in Honolulu on August 31, 1950, the very day that Mrs. Fujii was being discharged from the hospital. George immediately made arrangements to have the statue delivered and placed in the Fujii home, next to the family's altar. When Mrs. Fujii returned home from the hospital, she immediately began reciting the Nem-butsumi at the sight of the statue. Her family was overcome with joy, for during her entire hospitalization she had not uttered a single word. Mrs. Fujii was overjoyed with Shinran's statue. She passed away the following year.

In 1961, Mr. Kichiji Fujii, George's father

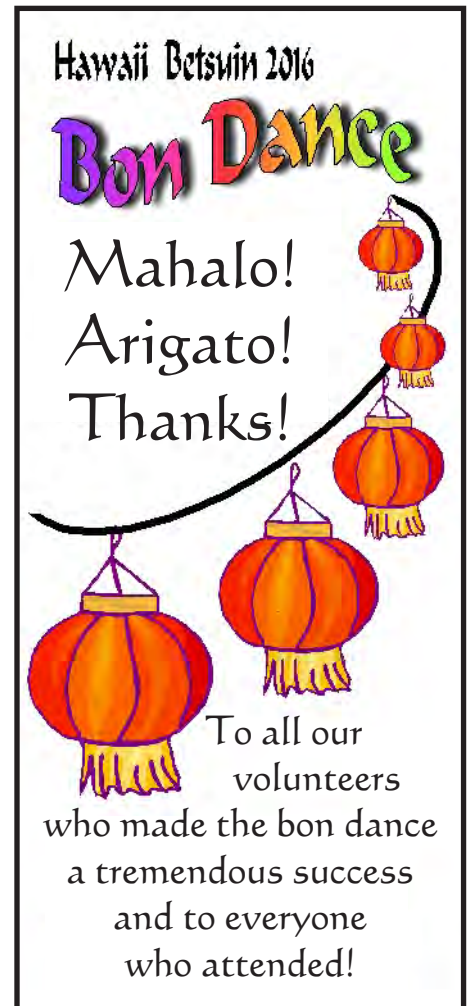
Fujiko Motobu

was in Kyoto for the 700 memorial anniversary for Shinran Shonin, when he suddenly took ill and was rushed home to Honolulu. He died shortly after.

After Mr. Kichiji Fujii's death, the family contacted the Rev. Kakusho Izumi (June Iwahashi's father) to decide what to do with the statue. The Rev. Izumi arranged a meeting with Bishop Zenyu Aoki and they decided to donate this life size statue of Shinran, carved from camphor, to the Hawaii Betsuin. In May, 1962, Mr. George S. Fujii of Fujii Junichi Shoten, Ltd., donated the statue in memory of his father.

This is the heartwarming story of how Hawaii Betsuin acquired the statue of

continued on page 7



BWA News continued from page 6

Shinran Shonin. We hope to have the statue displayed twice a year, in January at Hoonko (memorial service, January 16 for Shinran Shonin), and in May, for May 21 is his birthday celebration.

If you have not seen his gentle looking face close up, please do so the next time it is displayed. Dharma School students have been very nice in presenting him with leis whenever he is displayed on the stage.

WANTED: NEW, REFRESHING, OPEN MINDED, AGGRESSIVE MEMBERS FOR BWA:

It is only \$15.00, fifteen dollars per year to become a BWA member at Hawaii Betsuin. Better yet, you need to first become a Goji kai member of the Betsuin. To become a member of the temple the dues is \$180.00 per person per year. The benefits you will gain from becoming a member is that you now belong in the general membership. You now will receive our monthly Goji Newsletter and any other handouts. You will gain friendship of all

the members of the temple as well as the ministers. You will benefit from discounts when you rent the hall but most important, you are in line to continue to propagate the teachings of Shinran Shonin. You are a very important person.

\$180 per year for a person means \$15 per month. For a family with two adults, the price is \$360.00 per year, and that includes all the minors, your children. The old members are fading away, so the younger ones must perpetuate Jodo Shinshu teachings of Shinran Shonin and Amida Buddha, and that is you.

NOW FOR SOME LAUGHS:

1st story: A group of retirees is on a bus trip to the seaside when one of the old ladies comes up to the driver and complains she's been molested. The driver thinks she must be senile and tells her to sit down. Ten minutes later a second old woman totters to the front and makes the same complaint. He tells her to sit down too. Ten minutes later a third old lady screams she's been molested. The driver decides to investigate. He stops

and walks to the back of the bus where he finds an old man on his hands and knees. "What are you doing down there?" asks the driver. "Looking for my toupee" says the old man. "Three times I thought I'd found it, but when I grabbed it, it ran away."




2nd story: Two old men are sitting in an old people's home when one of the female residents runs past completely naked. "What was that she was wearing?" asks the first. "Don't know." Replies the second. "But it sure needed ironing."

RECIPE OF THE MONTH: KURO-MAME from the late Mrs. Yoshie Iwahashi via June Iwahashi

4 cups black beans
 2 to 3 packages dry Kuri (chestnuts)
 Sauce: 9 cups water, 1 teaspoon Baking Soda; 1 teaspoon salt; 1/3 cup shoyu; 2/3 cup brown sugar. Bring to boil sauce ingredients. Soak washed black beans in cooked sauce. Leave overnight.

Soak kuri in water overnight and remove all brown skin on the Kuri. Cook black beans. Add drained kuri when the beans is cooked half way soft. Continue to cook beans and kuri till soft. Add water if liquid is low. Cook over low or medium heat so beans will not burn. Stir once in a while. Takes about two to four hours.

The Wisteria Ballroom Dancing Club
Invites You to Dance!
 Thursdays, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 in the Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall
 No dancing for June and July;
 Return the first Thursday in August 2016!
 Dances change every 8 weeks;
 for August: International Waltz and ChaCha basics

For Information, please contact
 Claire Groom (286-3486)
 or Mary Fujitani (595-4533)

Reminder...

No Goji for the month of August 2016!



**Hongwanji Radio
Programs
JULY 2016**

**KZOO 1210 AM
Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM**

- 2 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 9 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 16 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
- 23 Rev. Tomo Hojo
- 30 Rev. Joshin Kamuro

Betsuin Services

**Asaji Service
8:00 AM**

- 03 Obon Service:
Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
Lihue Hongwanji Mission
- 10 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 17 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 24 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 31 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

**Adult English Services
10:00 AM**

- 03 Obon Service:
Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
Lihue Hongwanji Mission
- 10 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 17 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 24 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 31 Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

**Nicchu Service
1:00 PM**

- 03 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 10 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 17 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 24 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 31 Rev. Yuika Hasebe

**Dharma School
9:00 AM**

Resumes Aug. 28, 2016

In Memoriam



MAY 2016

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. Namu Amida Butsu

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4/30 HASHIMOTO, John (93) | 20 FUJIMORI, Edward Matao (96) |
| | 20 FUKUSHIMA, Jiro (99) |
| 2 TOCHIGI, Fusako Frances (98) | 24 MORISATO, Fumiko Kameoka (88) |
| 6 IKENO, Iwao (95) | 24 POENTIS, Yasue Ebesugawa (82) |
| 10 NISHIMITSU, Kay Sugako (88) | 24 SHIMADA, Jean Kazuko (94) |
| 12 AGENA, Tsutomo (88) | 26 MATSUDA, James Suemitsu (88) |
| 12 WATANABE,
Lawrence Iwanobu (89) | 27 NISHIMOTO, Mary Tsuruko (90) |
| 13 ARAKAKI, Diane Naomi (59) | 29 TAKIGUCHI, Walter Tokuo (97) |
| 15 SATO, Stanley Susumu (85) | 31 TANAKA, Akira (79) |
| 18 KONDO, Roseline Tsukimi (89) | |

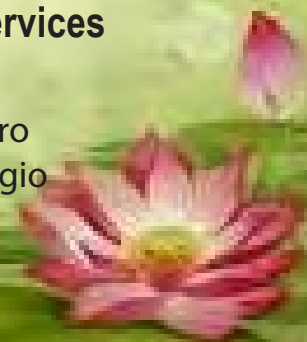
2016 Memorial Service Schedule

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

- 07 Hale Nani – Rev. Tomioka
- Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Kamuro
- 08 Hale Pulama Mau – Rev. Hagio
- 14 Maluhia – Rev. Hasebe
- Liliha – Rev. Kaufmann
- 22 Leahi – Rev. Kamuro
- 28 Nuuanu Hale – 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 Namu-amida-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin