



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NEWSLETTER
of the

Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin

www.hawaiibetsuin.org

2015 Slogan:

Embrace Change:
Awareness:

(Seek Opportunities)

BETSUIN

MINISTERS

Chief Minister

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Asst. Chief Minister

Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Peace Day Celebrated at the Betsuin 2015 Theme: “Building Peace”

The annual Peace Day Interfaith Celebration, which was held at Hawaii Betsuin on September 18, 2015, was sponsored by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Pacific Buddhist Academy, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii and Hawaii Conference of Religions for Peace. This year’s theme was “Building Peace.”

The International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21st. The United Nations General Assembly declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. In 2007, Hawaii became the first state to recognize Peace Day.

At our Peace Day Interfaith Celebration, at least nine different groups and denominations gathered to observe this Peaceful event. The main hall was filled with warm, calm, and strong wishes for peace. Everyone shared a wonderful moment together.

The service started with Kansho bell. Bishop Matsumoto, Rev. Umitani, all Betsuin ministers, and some Oahu district ministers chanted Sanbujo as an opening chant. Bishop Matsumoto and Rimban Muneto shared their reflections of Peace. PBA students performed hula, song, and Taiko. Also, the Buddhist Study Center’s fellowship club of college students and the Junior YBA provided volunteers to help.

Peace is not far from us. Peace is not a fruit which we can’t reach. Peace can sprout inside our heart, and that is the only place where Peace can grow. Day by day, we can nurture our fruit of peace, and we can share it with others.



Rimban's Column: "Happy 25th Anniversary to Project Dana Hawaii Betsuin!"



This month marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of Project Dana Hawaii Betsuin. Best wishes to the Project Dana HI

Betsuin Coordinators and Executive Board members, past and present, in commemorating this wonderful occasion. Aloha to dozens of Project Dana volunteers and to the Project Dana Dancers for devoting so much time and effort to Project Dana HI Betsuin. To those who are now receiving services provided by Project Dana HI Betsuin volunteers, may you continue

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto



to receive Amida's warm love and care through the Dana -- selfless giving -- of conscientious volunteer caregivers!

"Service to the Sangha is Dharma in Action." This was the founding spirit of Project Dana HI Betsuin that prevailed among members of the Temple Board and volunteers back in 1990. Ever since then, many members of the HI Betsuin Sangha have attended meetings, workshops, and leadership training sessions, at first to implement, and later to nurture this caregiving program. As a result of the fine leadership of lay folks and clergy in overseeing the growth of this program, Project Dana is now widely recognized as a Buddhist and Interfaith caregivers program in Hawaii. May the 25th anniversary be a time for rededicating ourselves to the founding spirit of Project Dana, especially having reflected upon its spiritual meaning.

A few months ago, Project Dana Hawaii Betsuin lost an elderly participant who had been receiving caregivers' support for more than ten years. As this person declined in health, experiencing challenges both physical and mental, the three caregivers took turns seeing her at her apartment to provide support and spiritual care. These Proj-

ect Dana caregivers took it upon themselves to do so, out of sincere concern for her well-being. The compassion of Amida Buddha flowed through them to this lady in thought, word, and deed. Indeed, the spirit of "Service to the Sangha is Dharma in Action" was embodied by these caregivers.

There is an important concept of "Hosha" in Jodo Shin living. Introduced and elaborated upon by Rennyō Shōnin, the Eighth Abbot of Hon-gwanji, this concept is referred to as our grateful response to the benevolent guidance of Amida Buddha. The Japanese word, "Ho" means to repay; "Sha" means to thank.

As Amida's compassion encompasses our whole being, even in the most ordinary acts of eating, sleeping, sitting and walking, we express our gratitude to Amida daily or weekly, either at home or at the temple. That is to say "Namo Amida Butsu," joining our palms together in Gassho in front of the Buddha's altar. This religious act of thanking the Buddha is Hosha, and that is extended outwardly to assisting others, families, friends and members of the community. This is Hosha work in the temple and the community.

The basis of the volunteer work of Project Dana must be this sense of Hosha, which derives from the heart of Amida's compassion. On the auspicious occasion of Project Dana Hawaii Betsuin's 25th Anniversary, to be held on October 18, let us nurture this Hosha work, truly, the volunteer's spirit of Dana in gratitude!



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.

Dharma Message: Light and Life

Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

I think you know the name of our temple. However, do you know the meaning of "Hongwan" of Honpa Hongwanji? Hongwan is Amida Buddha's original Vow, which is the desire to save all human beings. It owes its origin to Amida Buddha's name.

The original name of Amida means "infinite." It is derived from the Sanskrit language and stands for AMITABHA meaning "infinite Light" and AMITAYUS meaning "infinite Life." Therefore, Amida Buddha possesses both virtues of "Light" and "Life," so Shinran Shonin chants the praise at the beginning of Shoshin-ge: Kimyo Muryo Junyorai: I take refuge in the Tathagata of Immeasurable Life!

Namo Fukashigi Kou: I entrust myself to the Buddha of Inconceivable Light! What do "Life" and "light" symbolize? Some would say that the world of after death is ridiculous. If it really existed, I want to see it. Life itself is only when

you are alive. It is all over after death. While living, I'll do whatever I want and make an effort to be happy. That's it!

However, the ancient people described the person who sought only his own happiness, pursuing desires beyond his power, as follows: "Tis March, the season of flowers. You are eighteen and I, twenty. Devoted, immortal children have wealth to spend that never ends, Untouched by death, life eternal shall ours be."

The last phrase, "Untouched by death, life eternal shall ours be" is the ultimate desire of human beings, isn't it? It can't be denied that human beings will have to die without fail, but if it is to follow chronologically by age we can prepare for it to some degree. Nevertheless, when we fix our eyes on the reality that "once born, we have to die without fail," we are able



to seek "the Pure Land as the world of eternal." Well then, the more light there is, the brighter it is; the bigger the light, the less darkness. In other words, ignorance diminishes and light symbolizes "wisdom," and it indicates the character of Buddha's possession of "infinite wisdom".

On the other hand, life is limited for everything existing on this earth, so no matter how much love you bestow upon the surrounding existences, your love is limited.

If you were to receive limitless life, you can love all existences in the world. This great love is "Compassion." The Buddha who possesses infinite wisdom and compassion is called, "Amida Buddha." The world that is established with this wisdom and Compassion is Amida's western Pure Land.

Presentation by
Frances Kakugawa
Poet, Author, Lecturer

"Dignity, Joy and Compassion in Giving Care"

Sunday, November 8, 2015
11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Registration and Refreshments
Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall
11:00 am to 11:30 pm



Congratulations to
Cori Sutton,
former Hongwanji
Girl Scout and graduate
of HMS, on her
scholarship to the
John A. Burns
School of Medicine.

Betsuin BWA News

Fujiko Motobu

Calendar Of Events For OCTOBER

- 17 Sat. Honolulu United BWA General Membership/Education Workshop at HB (letters mailed to all members. Response requested by Sept. 27)
- 18 Sun. 25th Anniversary Bestuin Project Dana
- 25 Sun. 4th BWA General Membership Meeting 11:00 am in Hondo (letters mailed to all members. Response requested. Requesting e mail address from those that have)

NOVEMBER:

- 8 Sun. BWA Mini Market...Donations and help needed
- 8-15 Sun.-Sun. Family Promise---Jikoen needs help
- 14 Sat. BWA Executive board meeting 10 am in dining room

The third quarter Honolulu United BWA meeting was held on August 22 at Kailua Hongwanji. The highlights were: Membership meeting-Education workshop will be held on Saturday, October 17 at Betsuin, from 9 to 3 pm. All BWA members are urged to attend. The two meetings have been combined into a day meeting instead of spending two separate days for the meetings. Moiliili BWA is in charge of the Education workshop, and Kailua ladies are in charge of the general membership meeting. New officers for Honolulu United will be elected and installation will be on Dec. 12. Hawaii Betsuin needs to come up with a vice president candidate, who will be serving for two years and then move up to the President's position for the following two years.

HELP WANTED. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NOKOTSUDO (COLUMBARIUM MAINTENANCE WORK) MEN ARE WELCOME TO HELP. YOU'RE NEEDED TO SUPPORT BWA.

Maintenance of the columbarium means, changing of water in the vases with flowers and greenery. Some of the vases are very heavy to carry, and men would be able to support the women in this activity. Wilted plants are removed and

occasionally new flowers are added. Water must always be changed, for the strong smell of the contaminated water can make some feel ill. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Marjie Determan ASAP.

EXCURSION TO MARI'S GARDEN IN MILILLANI

On Sunday, August 30th, approximately 50 BWA members, spouses and friends went on an exciting excursion to Mari's garden. 40 members went on the bus, the others were from Kailua and Kaneohe, so they went by their own cars and met us at the garden. It was a temple tour day, so the members all attended the 10 am service prior to venturing on to Mari's.

Mari's Garden is owned and operated by Fred Lau, who opened the gardens in 2007 as Hawaii's premier landscape nursery. The name Mari's Garden is named after his daughter, Mariko, and is located on an eighteen acre land, which was once owned by the Watanabe florist. Fred Lau and his son Brendon converted an acre to aquaponics farming in 2010. Here they grow several varieties of

vegetables, including the Manoa lettuce. Large aquaponics raceways are used to grow and fertilize lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes and a variety of other produce. Water is recycled from the tilapia and catfish ponds and used to irrigate the nursery crops. Today, the hydroponic and aquaponics farm is manned by 16 to 20 workers (the word aquaponics is not even listed in my 1991 Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary). Our guide, Ryan Tsutsui, the Production manager, was very knowledgeable and explicit in explaining everything to us. Hydroponics is growing vegetables, which are marketed to stores as well as to restaurants. They are now in the process to marketing some lettuce to McDonalds. These lettuce are hydrated or watered from the roots, and the water that they nurture from is the aquaponics or fish waste which then becomes fertilizer for the lettuce. Water conservation and the elimination of synthetic pesticides/fertilizers is a priority for the Laus. Drip systems are used instead of overhead sprinklers. The water goes directly to the plants root, and the recycled water used for the crops has decreased the need to fertilize regularly.

Besides plants, vegetables and fish, there are huge vases and decorative stones and statues of the Buddhas from China. Some of the vases are huge enough for you to bathe in them. The Buddhas are beautifully plump and with very consuming smiles. There were huge rocks of grey with white stripes as well as rocks with grey, white and orange colors, and can be used to decorate a nice garden.

In spite of the extremely hot weather and lots of walking, no one complained about anything. In fact they all commented about the plentiful and delicious lunch which was served. Those who wanted information walked with the guide and enjoyed the scenery and the talks and those who did not want to strain

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2015-2016 Social Concerns Fund Drive

We celebrate gratitude in the month of November. The Thanksgiving holiday and the Eitaijyo observance are reminders of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

Through the generous contributions of Sangha members, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community. Your support also allows us to provide compassionate action during times of disaster and the ability to respond to social issues

affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness, we are able to lend our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii, Family Promise of Hawaii and the various food banks on each island. We were also able to raise over \$38,000 to help support relief efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Nepal last April.

Because of your kokua over the years, we have also been able to help with recovery efforts after

natural disasters and assist members of our Sangha affected by misfortune and other emergency situations. We have also been able to establish the Golden Chain Grant program that promotes compassionate action through community service. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please make all checks payable to HAWAII BETSUIN. The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person. Any donation you are able to give will make a difference in the lives of others. Your help is needed to continue our mission of sharing the Dharma through compassionate action. Mahalo!

\$46,000 Donated So Far in Betsuin's Matching Campaign for PBA; Match Available Through October 31, 2015



Betsuin members and supporters have donated \$46,000 so far to Pacific Buddhist Academy's capital campaign under a matching program established by the Betsuin board and announced in June 2015. The funds go toward construction of a new classroom building.

Donations made through the program are matched dollar-for-dollar from existing Betsuin funds dedicated to education. This means the total gift to PBA through the program so far is \$92,000.

The board authorized a matching fund of \$100,000, so there is still \$54,000 available. Donations made by October 31 are eligible for the match.

Thanks to all who have already made gifts! For those still considering one, you have a few weeks left to double your gift to PBA.

Find complete details and a donation form at the Betsuin office or via a link at hawaiibetsuin.org.

In Gassho,
Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

**Mark your calendar!
NEXT MINI MARKET
NOVEMBER 1ST**



BETSUIN GIRL SCOUTS

Trip to Japan By Jackie Furuta



Aloha temple members,

Thanks to the support of temple members both here in Hawaii and in Japan, ten Girl Scouts along with ten adult chaperones had the opportunity to experience Japan. After departing on Friday, June 5 from the Honolulu International Airport, the group arrived in Fukuoka and traveled east, through Hiroshima and Kyoto, before finally arriving in Tokyo.

Within the nine days of the tour, we managed to travel through and experience life in six different regions; Fukuoka, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Shibuya, and Tsukiji. Our trip was full of family, friends, laughter, fun, and memories that will last us a lifetime. Due to our leaders networking skills and tireless dedication, our scouts had the chance to stay overnight at various temples across Japan, not only defraying the overall cost of the trip, but also providing a more authentic cultural experience, ranging from home-cooked Japanese meals to tatami mat "beds" to six a.m. services. Additionally, our scouts were presented with the opportunity to converse and interact with other Girl Scout troops from Fukuoka, Kyoto, Tsukiji, and Tokyo, as well as

students from Chikushi Jogakuen.

We had the time of our lives enjoying the delicious food, practicing our Japanese, learning about the culture, and shopping, shopping, shopping! However, the highlights of our trip were the moments that we would never have had the opportunity to experience if we had not gone with Auntie Tamayo (Bishop's wife) and Seawind Tours. Their hard work allowed us to have the great honor of meeting the Gomonsu, Kojun Ohtani of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji, as well as Sadako Sasaki's nephew, Yuji Sasaki, who shared with us his beautiful song about peace. We even got to see one of Sadako's paper cranes up-close. Overall, our 2015 trip to Japan was unforgettable for it held wonderful moments that we will never be able to recreate. Again, much mahalo for your good wishes and help to make this trip a reality. If you ever run into one of us, we would be more than glad to share more about our trip or show you more photos!

With Love,
Troops 383 and 415 Scouts
Leaders, and Parents

BWA continued from page 4

in walking, remained in the cool area where we ate our lunch and walked about nearby. It was a very well planned and enjoyable excursion. Thank you to all, especially to Irene Nakamoto who chaired this event, and to Wendie Yumori and her helpers who got us the delicious lunch.

No one became sick, and no one complained about anything. They were very appreciative of the well planned excursion, bento, and comradery that they enjoyed, and wish that more excursions are on the way for all of us to enjoy.

Calling all Betsuin Volunteers!

The Hawaii Betsuin could not operate and be an active temple without the dedicated support of its volunteers. To honor and show our appreciation for all of our volunteers, the temple staff and ministers will be hosting an informal Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 11:30 am.

If you have been volunteering your time and effort to the temple, you are cordially invited to attend. Please visit the Betsuin Business Office or call 536-7044 to RSVP by October 26, 2015. We hope to see you there!



BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout

Cub Scout Visit to Coconut Island



On an extremely hot and humid Sunday afternoon, August 30, I was able to arrange for the Cub Scout Pack 49 to visit Moku O Lo'e Island, more commonly known as Coconut Island. The Hawaii Institute for Marine Biology Community Education staff took the Cub Scouts on a tour of the island where they saw experiments on coral growth, super sucker boat that removes invasive seaweed, shark tanks where some received Mako shark teeth, and a reef table where the scouts learned awareness and protection of various reef organisms. I think it was a fun, educational and unique experience for the Cub Scouts. For me, I was also able to touch up my Eagle Scout service project walkway and remove weeds from the area.

Pack 49 Cub Scouts waiting for the boat to Coconut Island.



Cub Scouts looking at a Coral Reef Awareness exhibit.



Mark Your
Calendars!

Betsuin
Blood
Drive

Saturday,
Dec. 12th
2015

In Memoriam



AUGUST 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

Hongwanji Radio Programs OCTOBER 2015 KZOO 1210 AM

Japanese Language Saturday at 7:30 AM

- 3 Rimban Tatsuo Muneto
- 10 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 17 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 24 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 31 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji

Betsuin Services Asaji Service 8 am

- 04 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 11 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 18 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 25 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Adult English Services 10:00 AM

- 04 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 11 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto
- 18 Rev. Shigenori Makino
- 25 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

Dharma School

- 04 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 11 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 18 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 25 DS Teacher

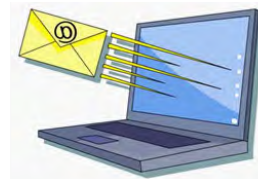
Nursing Home Services

- 01 Hale Nani – Rev. Tomioka
Hale Ho Aloha –
Rev. Kaufmann
- 08 Maluhia – Rev. Hasebe
Liliha – Rev. Hagio
- 09 Hale Pulama Mau –
Rev. Kaufmann
- 22 Nuuanu Hale – Rev. Muneto
- 23 Leahi – Rev. Tomioka

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 OTO, Richard Tamotsu (86) | 16 MINAMI, Ralph Tadashi (79) |
| 1 SUDA, Elsie Koyoshi (103) | 19 KNIGHT, Gloria Emiko Itokazu (72) |
| 2 OMURA, Toshio (89) | 21 TADA, Sharon Misao (68) |
| 3 KONO, Frederic Denichi (75) | 25 HIGA, Grace Masako (93) |
| 4 INOKUCHI, Takeo (88) | 26 SUETSUGU, Aiko (95) |
| 6 MASUDA, Curt Katsuji (45) | 27 TOYAMA, Frances Kyoko (92) |
| 6 TERAU, Yaeko (87) | 27 WATANABE, Fred Katsuji (94) |
| 9 NOZAKI, Roger Hifumi (83) | 29 FUJIMURA, Yoshie (96) |
| 10 FUKUSHIMA, Masuichi (94) | 29 MASUDA, Fumiko Yonemori (92) |
| 14 TANAKA, Tsune Muranaka (106) | 31 MINATO, Grace Misao (102) |
| 14 TOKUNAGA, Nancy Chieko (95) | 31 TATSUNO, Aiko (90) |
| 15 SEMINARA, Jane Fumiko (94) | |

Get the Goji by Email!

Hawaii Betsuin is now offering members an option to receive the monthly Goji newsletter by email. When a new edition is available online, those who choose this option will receive a short email with links to PDF versions of the Goji and any inserts. If this sounds good to you, visit <http://hawaiibetsuin.org/e-goji> to sign up. You'll help the Betsuin go green and save on printing and postage!



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



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