



1727 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

# GOJI

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November 2013



NEWSLETTER

of the  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Hawaii Betsuin

hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com

Hongwanji Mission  
of Hawaii

Five Year Theme:  
"Path of Entrusting"

2013 Slogan:  
"Live the Teachings"

## BETSUIN MINISTERS

Chief Minister:

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Tomo Hojo

Rev. Bert Sumikawa

Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

## Your're Invited! Bestuin Choir to Host Aloha Party for Director, Mrs. Saito, November 17th

The HHHB Choir invites you to a coffee hour and program honoring Choir Director Mitsuyo Saito, who will soon be moving to Hilo with her husband, Rev. Yoshikazu Saito.



The "Salute to Mitzi" will begin after the 9:30 A.M. Eitaikyo Service on Sunday, November 17.

Mitzi (Mitsuyo) will be sorely missed for her numerous contributions as the 18-year HHHB choir director. During her tenure, the Betsuin Choir produced three major recordings and numerous minor ones. She also led the choir to three Mido Ensokai events in Kyoto. Mido Ensokai are planned by the Honzan to encourage the singing of beautifully-arranged Buddhist music but also as head of the Betsuin's Music Committee.

In addition to being the choir director, Mitzi was the head of the Betsuin's Music committee, where she scheduled the songs and organists for all of the services. Mitzi also served on the Kyodan's (State) Music Committee, playing a major role in the biennial Choralfests. As Chair of the Gatha Translation Sub-Committee she carried a heavy "whip," resulting in a huge collection of beautiful, new, singable translations.

This talented woman has contributed so much to the music component of Honpa Hongwanji and her warmth has touched so many lives. Please join in this salute to Mitsuyo Saito as we bid her a fond Aloha and Mahalo!

## Eitaikyo Services November 17



Please join us for the annual Eitaikyo Service on November 17, 2013. Known as the Sangha Memorial Service, the Eitaikyo Services are dedicated in memory of the deceased members of the Betsuin. This year, the guest speaker will be the Reverend Shigenoir Makino, retired minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. His topic will be:

**"The Other Power: No Working is True Working".**

Sunday November 17, 2013

8:00 a.m. Morning Japanese Service (Rev. Makino)

9:30 a.m. Combined Service (Rev. Makino)

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Japanese Service (Rev. Tomo Hojo)

## Rimban's Column: Are You a Buddhist by Birth, by Choice, or Both?



While taking care of the high school students of the Hilo Betsuin Dharma School some 40 years ago, one student asked

me how to answer a tough question raised by her mother. The question was "Are you a Buddhist by birth or by choice?" The student took this question seriously. She participated in the youth programs and studied the Buddhist teachings while working for a BA degree in education. Today, she goes

Rev Tatsuo Muneto

to Aiea Hongwanji with her children. She was a Shin Buddhist by birth but also by choice.

Many local Buddhists today regard themselves as Hongwanji members because they were born and grew up in Jodo Shin families. However, without a strong commitment to the teaching and the temple organization, they are not active participants, spiritually, educationally, or socially, in the temple. I often wonder how the ministers could encourage these members to take part in the temple.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am very grateful to all of the active Hongwanji members in Hawaii who are Shin Buddhists by birth. They have been attending the services, taking part in the educational programs, serving on the temple board and participating in the affiliate organizations. But, this population is decreasing, and many of their children have freedom to choose their churches. We need to welcome more of the next generation so all those from Buddhist families can become Buddhist by choice.

The good news is that Buddhism is growing in this country. General Buddhism that emphasizes learning the "theories" and engaging in meditative practices is becoming popular. The "new" Buddhists are Buddhist by choice. In our Hongwanji, we are seeing an increase in those who are interested in learning the teachings of both general Buddhism and Jodo Shin Buddhism. This trend is seen in the ministerial training program and in the temple leadership. We wish to welcome more of these members who are Buddhist by choice.

Whether we have become Jodo Shin Buddhists by birth or by choice, we have to have one focus in mind, that is the Entrusting Heart called Shinjin in Japanese. When I was a young minister, I was concerned about what I get out of Jodo Shinshu, how I become a "good" minister with good knowledge and a good reputation. Those concerns were nothing but a willful calculation for self-glorification that were derived from the three poisons of Greed, Anger and Stupidity (GAS).

However, when I really accepted that Amida Buddha had already accomplished the vow to liberate such a person of blind passion as taught in Tannisho, I was awakened to Shinjin as Amida's gift. Thus, I became a Shin Buddhist by both birth and by choice.

Studying the Shin text and awakening to Amida's vow must be the focus in becoming a Hongwanji member. Join me for the study of Tannisho in the Dharma Light Project that starts on November 14. Tannisho is an important Shin text that teaches shifting from Self-power practice to Other-power practice. Let us become a Shin Buddhist by birth and by choice as well.



### 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 10th 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.

## Eitaikyo... A Time of Rememberance...

The Betsuin's Annual Eitaikyo service, also known as the Sangha Memorial Service, will be held on November 17. The Eitaikyo Service is a wonderful opportunity to cherish the memory of those who have gone before us and to listen to the teaching of Amida Buddha which has been transmitted by them.

Eitaikyo is the abbreviation of the Japanese term, "Eitai Dokkyo." Ei means perpetual, Tai means generation and Dokkyo means Sutra Chanting. Altogether,

"Eitaikyo is the abbreviation of the Japanese term, "Eitai Dokkyo." Ei means perpetual, Tai means generation and Dokkyo means Sutra Chanting."

Eitaikyo (perpetual sutra chanting) shows our wish that the teaching is perpetually transmitted from generation to generation without interruption and that each generation encounters the Vow of Amida Buddha here and now. Also, we sincerely recognize and appreciate those who, through their effort, contributed to the Hawaii Betsuin so that the Dharma continues to be passed on today.

Hence, Eitaikyo is a great time when the past and future are melded into the present. For us, the living, the Eitaikyo Service is an occasion to listen to the

dharma, as was the wish of members in the past, and transmit what we hear to the future generations.

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Shin Buddhism, said, "I have collected true words to aid others in their practice for attaining birth, in order that the process be made continuous, without end and without interruption, by which those who have been born first guide those who come later, and those who are born later join those who were born before. This is so that the boundless ocean of birth-and-death be exhausted."

During this Eitaikyo Service, let us listen to the Amida Buddha's Vow and express our appreciation to those members who have passes away.

In gassho, Satoshi Tomioka

## A time of appreciation...

With this year's Eitaikyo Service, we remember the departed members of our Sangha Community and express appreciation for what they did to make our Temple life possible.

Eitaikyo is about remembering, but it is also about appreciating. When we observe memorial services, one of the things we are able to realize is that everything we receive in life—including life itself—is truly a gift. The main thing that makes it possible for any person to live a full and creative life is the realization: "I exist only because of the limitless and unearned benevolence I am receiving at this moment, every moment." This is the teaching of interdependence. When we truly realize interdependence, we cannot help but want to express gratitude to all

beings. And to understand the debt of gratitude we owe to others means that we have begun to desire the happiness of all beings. And that is truly the Buddhist path, that is the Nembutsu Way.

This November, as we remember the past members of our temple through our Eitaikyo services, let us reflect and express our gratitude for their great benevolence in providing us this wonderful place to hear and encounter the Dharma. Let's remember that their kindness was directed—not only toward this

"Eitaikyo is about remembering, but it is also about appreciating."

temple—but for the sake of all suffering beings. As we have received the Dharma, let us not neglect to support our temple's mission, for the sake of others who might, fortunately, be able to meet the Nembutsu teaching here. And let us remember that the most important way to honor past temple members is to quickly entrust ourselves to Amida's Great Compassionate Vow and live the Nembutsu teaching every moment of our lives.

Namo Amida Butsu.

# News from the Betsuin's Buddhist Women's Association

## Didn't Sign Up for the Blood Drive? You can still help by donating refreshments!

On Saturday, November 16, 2013 the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin BWA is sponsoring a blood drive together with the Boy Scouts Troop 49, Cub Scouts Pack 49, Dharma School, Girl Scouts, Hongwanji Mission School and Pacific Buddhist Academy. We would like to thank the many people that have signed up to donate blood and have already reached our goal of 65 appointments!

If there is anyone that would still like to support the blood drive but did not sign up, we are looking for refreshments for the donors. Refreshments can be dropped off at the Betsuin office on Friday, November 15 during office hours or on Saturday, November 16 between 6:00AM and 9:00AM at the Betsuin Social Hall. Please contact Cheryl Sora (382-9561 or email at [cheryl.sora@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.sora@gmail.com)) or Miki Saito (221-0137 or email at [saito.miki.t@gmail.com](mailto:saito.miki.t@gmail.com)) to donate refreshments.

### IMPORTANT BWA NEWS!

The **12th BWA STATE MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE** will be held on may 3-4, 2014 in Kona.

All BWA members who are interested in attending, please call Florence Wasai at 247-1326 or Sharyn Sekine at 487-9443 by November 10th. Detailed information will then be sent to you. We hope many of you will sign up and participate in the conference.

## A Special Day Sight Seeing Shuri Castle In Okinawa June Iwahashi

It was Sunday, October 13, 2013, our last day in Okinawa before flying back home to Hawaii the next morning.

Fujiko Motobu and I missed going to Shuri Castle with our tour group due to having taken Thursday afternoon off by going to visit Fujiko's relatives, Dr. Shoichi Motobu, an orthopedic surgeon, and his two daughters. The doctor, his daughters and Fujiko had many things to talk about their relatives and ancestors. Later we were treated to a most delicious and

authentic Okinawa cuisine for dinner.

On Sunday after breakfast, Fujiko and I ventured on our own as we caught the cab to Shuri Castle. At the entrance, we received a map and we walked up the many irregular stone steps being careful not to slip and get hurt in order to reach each gate, so we could stop and stamp our maps to indicate our progress.

Shuri Castle was constructed around the 14th century. It became the royal

seat in 1406 for King Shio Hashi, who united the kingdom. The castle served as the heart of the politics, foreign diplomacy and culture of the Ryukyu Kingdom for approximately 500 years until Kin Sho Tai, the last ruler of the kingdom abdicated the throne to the Meiji Government. Various items were brought to Shuri Castle through the trade with China, Japan, and Southeast Asia and where the distinct culture of Ryukyu blossomed through the arts such as lac

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Owen Lee Oshima  
Pre-Need Counselor

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## Seeing Shuri Castle continued from page 4

querware, dyes and textiles, ceramics and music.

Shurijo Castle was reduced to ashes in the Battle of Okinawa in 1945, but restored in 1992. The Castle, painted in brilliant vermilion represented the rebirth of the history and culture of the Ryukyu Kingdom.

At about our third stop, we met a young man whom I approached and asked where he was from. He was from Saitama ken, Japan. I also asked if he came alone or with friends or family. He replied he was alone so I asked if he minded that two 84 year old ladies from Hawaii could do the tour with him. For a second he was taken by surprise and responded, "EEEdesu yo", okay for us to tag along with him. We introduced ourselves and learned that he was a postal worker, 28 years old and his name is Souichi Araake.

Let me explain here that I actually



started to talk to him because he had extensive scars on his face and neck and I felt a deep compassionate and sad feeling for someone who must have suffered a great deal. We later learned that he was nine years old when he was accidentally showered by steam (pressure) and burned while trying to bathe in the furo. I

later asked him if he felt intimidated to have a strange old lady talk to him and he replied bashfully, "somewhat."

Nevertheless, Souichi was a super kind and thoughtful gentleman, who went out of his way to look after Fujiko and me. All along the way he was unbelievably helpful and fun to be with. After exploring for two hours, we stopped to have lunch together. Half hour later, we continued walking for another hour till we came to the starting point and completed exploring Shuri Castle.

Imagine our surprise and gratitude when Souichi offered to give us a ride in his rented car back to our hotel. We were thoroughly touched by this very sincere, warm and kind young man. We will never forget him.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU.





## News From Boy Scout Troop 49

### Jason Fujita's Eagle Scout Service Project

On Saturday, September 28, 2013, Troop 49 Boy Scout Jason Fujita lead a team of 40 Scouts, leaders, and parents to work on his Eagle Scout Service Project at Hongwanji Mission School (HMS). The volunteers dug out and potted 13 palm plants from the garden area by the HMS gym. The soil was tilled and leveled. Then a two-inch layer of lawn and garden blend soil was added on top of the existing soil. Finally, a stepping stone pathway was made for easy access to the garden. The goal of the project was for Mrs. Weisberger, HMS Environmental Science teacher, to have an area to incorporate gardening in her class curriculum so that she could teach the importance of sustainability. As part of HMS's green initiative, the HMS garden will provide a great learning experience for the students. Since HMS has been so supportive of the Scouting program, this was Jason's way of giving back to the school. He coordinated this project with the head of the school and vice principal.

Jason faced a lot of uncertainty in planning this project. He had doubts on

whether or not the palms were able to be removed and if they would even survive after being potted. Another unknown factor was whether or not the project would be completed within the six-hour projected timeframe. However, with the help of the workers and efficient time management, the project was done one hour before the scheduled time. As a result of this project, Jason learned how to delegate work and micromanage. Seventeen-year-old Jason is a senior at Punahou School where he is involved with the Robotics team and Wind Ensemble. He also takes music lessons in piano, clarinet, and composition and plans on studying music composition in college. Jason has been in Scouting since age 6, joining the Pack 49 Cub Scouts as a Tiger Scout. Scouting has played a huge role in Jason's development. Because of the Scouting program, Jason has learned to break out of his introverted self and take advantage of every opportunity to learn and grow. In line with the Scout motto, Jason feels that the most valuable lesson a Scout can learn is to "be prepared." The project's success



was attributed to his organizational skills and preparedness. Jason is very proud for completing his Eagle Project as just a few months ago he thought he would never be able to accomplish it. Jason would like thank the Troop 49 Scouts who helped him with his project. Due to the shortage of Boy Scouts toward the end of the project, Jason is grateful for the hard work and support of the remaining Scout leaders and parents. Congratulations, Jason, for successfully completing your Eagle Project!

## Honolulu Century Ride

### Douglas Yanagihara, Troop 49 Boy Scout



Several Troop 49 Scouts working toward their Boy Scout Cycling merit badge participated in the Honolulu Century Ride, on Sunday, September 29, 2013. They fulfilled the merit badge requirement of bicycling a 50-mile course at this event. Scouts and parents had a very early start at Kapiolani Park and continued on Kalaniana'ole Highway toward Hawaii Kai, up Lunalilo Home Road and around Koko Crater to scenic Sandy Beach; the 25 mile turnaround point. All of the Scouts chose to forge on to accomplish the 50-mile ride, which took them to battle headwinds up to Makapuu Point Lookout. They persisted on through Waimanalo and the local roads of Kailua to bicycle to their half-way point at Kailua Intermediate School. In high spirits un-dampened by the windward downpours, they returned leeward along the same course back to Kapiolani Park in under 8 hours. Congratulations to these hearty scouts who completed this arduous bike course.

## 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](mailto:hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com),

or by calling the Betsuin office at 536-7044.

### Betsuin Cultural Classes and Activities for November 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9 am Project Dana Dance	2 10 am Hawaiiana  1 pm Taichi
3 8:00 – Rev. Muneto 9:00 – Rev. Tomioka 10:00 – Rev. Sumikawa 1:00 – Rev. Hojo	4 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life (Cancelled)	5 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life (Cancelled)  6-8 pm Judo	6 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercise	7 9 am Flower Arrangement 11:30 am Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	8 9 am Project Dana Dance  9 am – Sumie Class	9 10 am Hawaiiana  1 pm Taichi
10 8:00 – Rev. Tomioka 9:00 – Rev. Sumikawa 10:00 – Rev. Kaufmann 1:00 – Rev. Muneto	11 Veteran's Day (Holiday)  9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	12 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life  6-8 pm Judo	13 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercise	14 9 am Flower Arrangement 11:30 am Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	15 9 am Project Dana Dance	16 10 am Hawaiiana  1 pm Taichi
17 Eitaiyo Services 8:00 – Rev. Makino 9:30 – Rev. Makino 1:00 – Rev. Hojo	18 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	19 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life  6-8 pm Judo	20 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercise	21 9 am Flower Arrangement 11:30 am Sahn Bo Dahn 5:30 pm Choir Practice 6-8 pm Judo 7 pm Ballroom Dancing	22 9 am Project Dana Dance	23 1 pm Taichi
24 General Temple Clean – Up No regular Sunday Services	25 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life	26 9 am – 1:30 pm Rhythm & Life  6-8 pm Judo	27 9 am Japanese Class 9 am Wednesday Grp 7 pm Meditation 7 pm Bon Dancercise	28 	29 9 am Project Dana Dance  9 am – Sumie Class	30 1 pm Taichi

# Happy Thanksgiving!

## In Memoriam



September 2013

The Hawai'i Betsuin extends its deepest sympathies to the families of the following members who passed away recently. November the family members find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu. *Namo Amida Butsu*

## Hongwanji Radio Programs

November 2013

KZOO 1210 AM

Japanese Language

Saturday at 7:30 AM

- 2 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji
- 9 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto
- 16 Rev. Tomo Hojo
- 23 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 30 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji

## Betsuin Services Adult English Services 10am Services

- 03 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 10 Rev. Bert Sumikawa
- 17 Special Combined  
Eitaikyo Service at 9:30 am  
Rev. Shigenori Makino
- 24 General Temple Clean Up  
No Sunday Services

## Dharma School Service 9am

- 03 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 10 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 17 Special Combined  
Eitaikyo Service at 9:30 am  
Rev. Shigenori Makino
- 24 General Temple Clean Up  
No Sunday Services

## Nursing Home Services

- 07 Hale Nani – Rev. Hojo  
Hale Ho Aloha  
Rev. Kaufmann
- 08 Hale Pulama Mau  
Rev. Tomioka
- 14 Maluhia – Cancelled  
Liliha – Cancelled
- 22 Leahi – Rev. Muneto
- 28 Nuuanu Hale – Cancelled

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7/13 YAMAMOTO, Ruby Kazuho (96)      | 11 KAKUNI, Flora F. (89)             |
| 8/30 HASHIMOTO, Florence Teruko (85) | 11 MATSUO, Kimie Yamasaki (97)       |
| 1 INOUYE, Donald Manabu (78)         | 12 NISHIMURA, Sue Sueko (86)         |
| 2 SUEMATSU, Ine (94)                 | 18 YAMASAKI, Kiyoto (94)             |
| 2 TAKIGUCHI, Raymond Kaneichi (91)   | 19 FUKUDA, Namiko Suemori (84)       |
| 4 MAEDA, Sakiko Kawaguchi (89)       | 21 YACHIYO, Iki (96)                 |
| 7 SUENAKA, Shikiye Ethel (95)        | 22 IMAI, Masahiro (86)               |
| 8 YASUDA, John Keiru (86)            | 23 SUZUKAWA, Gerald Akira (94)       |
| 10 MIYOSE, Dave Hisao (57)           | 26 KAWAMOTO, Robert Teruo "Bob" (86) |
|                                      | 27 OKUDA, Elsie Shigeko (96)         |

### 2013 Memorial Service Schedule

2013 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2012 – 1 year	2001 – 13 year	1981 – 33 year
2011 – 3 year	1997 – 17 year	1964 – 50 year
2007 – 7 year	1989 – 25 year	1914 – 100 year

“With out my seeking,  
the Buddha seeks me;  
without my asking after it,  
great compassion asks after me.”

Rev. Koryu Kagai

南  
无  
阿  
弥  
陀  
佛

The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of unhindered 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