



1727 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

# GOJI

Vol. 72, No. II



NOVEMBER 2017  
NEWSLETTER  
of the

Honpa Hongwanji  
Hawaii Betsuin

[www.hawaii.betsuin.org](http://www.hawaii.betsuin.org)

2017 Slogan:

Embrace Change:  
Action  
(Open Communications)

BETSUIN  
MINISTERS

Chief Minister  
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff  
Rev. Yuika Hasebe  
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann  
Rev. Joshin Kamuro  
Rev. Sol Kalu

## Betsuin Eitaikyo Service Scheduled for November 12th

“Thank the Gift From Your Dharma Teachers -  
Meaning of Eitaikyo Service”

Speaker will be Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

The annual Eitaikyo Service is generally known as the Sangha Memorial Service in Hawaii. The purpose of observing this major temple service is to thank the deceased members. We recall the wondrous contributions of those members who supported the Betsuin Sangha in appreciation for Amida’s boundless compassion. We especially remember those ministers and lay members who were willing to share the art of living in the Nembutsu with the temple members must be remembered. Eitaikyo Service, then, is a precious opportunity for us to thank the gift from the Dharma teachers.

The guest speaker for this year’s Sangha Memorial Service is the Rev. Tatsuo Muneto, retired minister of the Hawaii Kyodan

### Brief Biography: Reverend Tatsuo Muneto

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto was born and raised in Hiroshima, Japan. He came to Hawaii in August, 1965 and was assigned as the Assistant Director of Hawaii Kyodan Department of Sunday School. In 1967, he received a scholarship from the Hawaii Kyodan and enrolled at Claremont Graduate University in California where he completed an MA program in Religion and Asian Studies.



He returned to the Hawaii Kyodan in 1970, and, over the next forty-five years, was assigned to temples in Honolulu, Big Island and Kauai. During this time, he went to India twice and to China on pilgrimage tours. He hopes to return to China, again, in a few years.

In 1995, Rev. Muneto published a book entitled “Dharma Treasures, Spiritual Insights from Hawaii’s Shin Buddhist Pioneers” which is available at the HHMH Bookstore.

Rev. Muneto retired from the Rimban’s position at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on December 15, 2015 after fifty years of service to the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha.

The Betsuin office  
will be closed  
on Friday,  
November 10th  
in observance of  
Veteran’s Day



## Dharma Message: “Sangha Memorial Service (Eitaikyo)” Shaku Arthur Kaufmann

The Japanese term Eitaikyo is an abbreviation of the words “Eitai dokyo” which means “Perpetual Chanting of the Sutras.” It is a type of memorial service dedicated to the memory of those who have preceded us; those who had, over the years of their lives, contributed to the support of the Three Treasures of Buddha, the Enlightened One, Dharma, his teachings, and Sangha, the community of those who followed the teachings of the True Pureland School of Buddhism, Jodo Shinshu.

Although we have a system of memorial services that go up to the 50th year after the passing of an individual,

often times the family, who may not be Buddhist, will no longer have memorial services for their family member(s). So, in order to remember these people, a Sangha Memorial Service is held in recognition of the contributions made to the local Sangha.

This tradition of remembrance, although started by other denominations, is recorded in the Hongwanji-tsuuki, a Hongwanji record, as early as 1678. It was noted in this record, however, that the perpetual chanting of the sutra would be an impossibility due to the nature of time and events in this life, so this eventually gave birth to the monthly and then annual Sangha Memorial Service.

The Sangha Memorial Service can be viewed as a tool to help us to attain one of the Shinshu goals which is to “awaken to gratitude.” This means to awaken to our indebtedness and thereby express our gratitude.

Although each Sangha Memorial Service is usually dedicated to that particular local Sangha, our true indebtedness goes far beyond the local. First, Shakyamuni Buddha started the Wheel of Dharma turning here on earth, Amida Buddha gave his universal vow of Enlightenment, then the seven patriarchs encouraged us to follow the Pureland Path, Nagarjuna and Vasubandhu from India, T’an Luan, Tao-ch’o and Shan-tau from China and Genshin and Genku from Japan where the teachings evolved into Shinran’s True Pureland School.

We can further reflect on the efforts of the people of 18th Century Japan, who, despite the turbulence of



their times, supported and sustained the True Pureland Teachings to the people of the 19th Century who, having come to Hawaii from Japan, requested priests be sent here where a 130 year history was accomplished. During all that time it was the Sangha who safe guarded and supported the Hongwanji temples in Hawaii, thereby, preserving the teachings over these many, many years.

The importance of your membership in the Sangha is never to be underestimated. Along with the Buddha, the Dharma and you, we have received these teaching which afford each and every one of us the possibility of Enlightenment.  
Namoamidabutsu



### 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 by e-mail (execdir@hawaiibetsuin.org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (536-0919). Address submissions 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.

## Betsuin BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

### MONSHU KOJUN OHTANI'S VISIT TO HAWAII BETSUIN

September 10, 2017 was a very memorable day for those of us who attended the 100th celebration of Hawaii Betsuin. The recently ordained, young Monshu, Kojun Ohtani, attended and gave a congratulatory talk at the 9:30 morning service. The combined service included the Dharma School children and parents, and the Betsuin choir, and their singing added to the beautiful service.

After the service concluded, and the participants flowed down to the social hall for refreshments, the Monshu and his attending minister-aide stood near the stairway leading into the social hall. I was fortunate in having had the opportunity to chat with the Monshu and even shook his hands. We chatted because I had met him a couple of times few years ago while he was still a student at the university and was visiting in Honolulu, and I had met him in the social hall. I had also had the opportunity in meeting his father, the retired Monshu when he was here at Hawaii Betsuin for the 125 Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin celebration. I had walked into the Kyodan office on a Sunday morning just prior to the service, and there I met the Monshu Koshin Ohtani and had the opportunity to shake his hands. In 1938 when I first went to Japan, I went to Kyoto and had my affirmation rite done by the present Monshu's grandfather, who was the Monshu at that time. Having had the opportunity in meeting three generations of Monshu, I felt that I had something to chat with the present Monshu. Being in Hawaii, in American soil, I did not even realize that shaking hands with the Monshu

is not permitted in Japan. Lucky I live in Hawaii!

### 2017 JOINT EDUCATION AND MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE OF THE HONOLULU UNITED BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30.

A very successful and interesting conference, co-chaired by HUBWA membership and Educational committee members was held at Hawaii Betsuin. An interesting array of speakers and panelists brought forth very profound and interesting facts of our environment. The guest speaker was David Atcheson, Hawaii Betsuin Green team convener and Hongwanji web consultant. Dave was born and grew up in the state of Washington. He was active in the Boy Scouts and varied outdoor activities. He graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English with creative writing emphasis. He met his wife Penny (Kumagai) from Utah and married her in 1995. Their daughter, Koki was born in 1997, and they settled in Honolulu in 2011. Penny has been Dave's biggest influence and supporter in Jodo Shinshu teachings. He is an environmental advocate and also involved with technical projects such as website development. He is fully certificated in programs in composting/soil building and permaculture design. He is the secretary of the Hawaii Betsuin Board of Directors.

Other conference panelist-speakers were MARK MANUEL, who is the Pacific Islands Regional Coordinator for the NOAA Marine Debris Program. He oversees and coordinates marine

debris removal prevention, emergency response and research projects. He spoke about the pollution that is in the ocean. MELISSA MATSUBARA, who serves as the Board of Directors Vice President for Kanu Hawaii, a volunteer-based non-profit organization focused on helping to support for a stronger Hawaii. She is the daughter of Ben and Arlene Matsubara and has been a member of Hawaii Betsuin all her life. Her grandfather and uncles in Hilo were the strong supporters of Hilo Hongwanji where they did the huge and beautiful flower arrangements at the altar for many years. She was an active member of the Junior YBA and YESS camp and YBICSE participant. She was also a Young Buddhist exchange student to Japan. She studied, worked and lived in Japan, Australia, Italy, Turkey and Chile. She has her BA and MA degrees from Universities in Massachusetts. She is currently the Director of Study Abroad at Hawaii Pacific University. Her talk focused on Kanu's projects. AMY EGGERS, who was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, and her husband and two sons moved to Hawaii in 2007. She works at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) managing at the Genetics and the Microscope labs. She has learned about marine biology and has developed great appreciation for the ocean environment. The three panelist's presentations were very interesting and educational. Many of us were not aware of the amount of pollution that is destroying many living organisms in the ocean.

DANA AWARDS were presented to the following organizations. Perpetual: Project Dana, 1st year: Project Vi-

**continued on page 5**

## Memories of Sensei Al

Dexter Mar

My memories of Al started in his “emeritus” stage of life during his final decade of life. His journey of many decades from Philadelphia to Japan to Boston to Oregon to Hawaii to California preceded the culmination of his journeys in his beloved Hawaii.

We first met, like many others, at a lecture by Rev. Tennes who asked Al to join in. At first, his teachings seemed way over my head, but his sincerity and expertise were undeniable. Meeting Al inspired me to dive into all of his many writings in books, essays and his website. Gradually I learned. How fortunate those circumstances created the opportunity to learn from a true Master of Shinran’s teachings and world religions.

Our relationship grew greatly around the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Futaba Memorial lectures in 2009 via a support role that later developed into a leadership role. At “Al’s elbow”, his influence grew and knowledge flowed. Planning the lecture series with him, who to invite and what subjects might work best, provided many insights on thoughts about Shinran and Jodo Shinshu. Always evident was Al’s enthusiasm and passion to have Buddhist scholars and authors share their wisdom with Hawaii Hongwanji. His insistence that speakers be published authors reflected his respect for the editorial process to craft solid works for thoughtful consideration. His “intellectual integrity” has guided me on the Shin Buddhist path. It’s been a wonderful opportunity to help Al and Dottie’s vision and perpetuate the Futaba Memorial Lectures.

We grew closer during his “hospice” years when he kept asking “why am I still here?” I’d always reply with

“you’re here to teach us more!” And he would treat me to some “Shinran moments”. When he began feeling “useless”, Richard Tennes, Clyde Whitworth and I started “Al’s KO” group at Kailua Hongwanji temple on Thursdays each week. A steady group of students met each week for a year to discuss Shinran’s teachings and learn from sensei Bloom. The weekly “Al-fest” was a wonderful “one time, one moment” (Ichigo-ichie) gathering held in the spirit that it might be the last time with Al. Al’s energy was always much higher after our 2 hours together, which included a tasty potluck lunch and an hour of discussion on Tannisho and Shinran’s thought. We semi-joked that Al was “channeling” Shinran for us, because we really felt we could hear Shinran’s deepest intentions when Al shared his 50+ year connection to Shinran Shonin.

As I accompanied Al on his final steps along the White Path, I did not sense any fear, only gratitude and love. When he moved from his Kailua home hospice care to St. Francis Hospice in Nuuanu, he was so happy to be able to help his family have more time for themselves. His purpose for living was to help prepare them, and all of us, for our lives after his passing. Al was a true bodhisattva, always thinking of others. His final lessons were not about words but through his actions of grace, humility, and gratitude. In his final days, he most often just said, “I love you” to his family and visitors. We will always love you too, Al, and have you in our hearts, always. Namo Amida Butsu.



Rev. Dr. Alfred Bloom  
(1926–2017)

Excerpted from the article:

### “Buddha’s truth was in teaching”

Rev. Alfred Bloom  
Honolulu Advertiser.com  
February 9, 2008

“The issue of Buddhism is enlightenment, or awakening to the truth of life. It means to question our customary perceptions and viewpoints and to awaken from delusion. Deluded understanding narrows and discourages search and questioning. We are in delusion when we refuse to listen to others’ ideas; or when we refuse to dialogue.

The awakening from delusory thinking challenges people to be open-minded, to be flexible but also to be aware of delusive beliefs and opinions. Today we are all familiar with “spin,” propaganda and disinformation: intentional efforts by people to mislead others to implement their agendas.”

## Betsuin BWA News and Events continued from page 3

sion Hawaii; 2nd year: Hale Kipa; 3rd Year: Ohana Arts. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) was presented to each organization, totaling four thousand dollars .

REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE WORKSHOPS were held for all participants.

HMMH BWA State Convention will be held here in Hawaii in 2018, and in 2019 the World Buddhist Women Convention will be held in San Francisco.

POINTS #21 - 30 ON HOW TO LIVE LONGER CONTINUED FROM THE OCTOBER GOJI

#21. DRINK LESS. Generally more than one drink a day for women and more than two for men leads to a shorter life span. One way to cut your intake is to pour red wine into a white wine glass, which is narrower. Studies at Cornell University's Food and Brand Lab found that people poured 12% more into red wine glasses.

#22. SAVE YOUR PENNIES. Having money can help you live longer. A Stanford study found that people whose income was in the top 1 % lived nearly 15 years longer than the ones in the bottom 1%. Healthy behavior in the upper income group included less smoking and lower obesity rates.

#23. OR MOVE TO ONE OF THESE STATES: If you are not wealthy, consider moving to California, New York or Vermont, where studies show that low income people tend to live the longest. Loma Linda, Calif has the highest longevity, thanks to vegetarians who live 8 to 10 years longer than the rest of us. Nevada, Indiana and Oklahoma have the lowest life expectancy, less than 78 years.

(p.s. I think people in Hawaii live long). #24. EXPEERIENCE SENSE OF AWE. Such as viewing the Grand Canyon, listening to Beethoven's Ninth, may boost the body's defense system according to research from the Univ. of Calif ,Berkeley. "That awe, wonder and beauty promote healthier levels of cytokines suggests that the things we do to experience these emotions, a walk in nature, losing oneself go music, beholding at, has a direct influence upon health and life expectancy". #25. GO NUTS. Eating 8 almonds or 6 cashews, 10 grams daily reduced risk of death by 23 %. Eating a handful of nuts weekly lowers the mortality risk for heart disease by 29 % and cancer 11%, respiratory disease 24%. Spreads didn't show same benefits. Sorry peanut butter fans. #26. FIND A PURPOSE IN YOUR LIFE. Those with the highest sense of purpose were 30% less likely to die. Doing something that matters, whether helping your children or interacting in a community is correlated with 7 extra years of life. #27. EMBRACE YOUR FAITH: Attending religious services once a week has been shown to add between 4 and 14 years to life expectancy. #28. VACATION. Not taking time off from work can be deadly. Men at high risk for coronary artery disease found that those who failed to take annual vacations were 32% more likely to die of a heart attack. Women who vacationed just once every six years were eight times likely to develop coronary artery disease or have a heart attack than those who vacationed twice a year. #29. CONSIDER MOUNTAIN LIFE: The University of Colorado

and Harvard School of Global Health revealed that people living in higher altitudes tend to live longer. Researchers think that lower oxygen levels might cause the body to adapt in ways that strengthen your heart and circulation. #30. GET A FRIEND WITH FOUR LEGS: Owning a pet, a dog in particular can reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure, even improve the odds of surviving a heart attack. Dog owners are more likely to be physically active, and less vulnerable to the effects of stress. #31-40 will follow in the December Goji..

NOW, FOR A GOOD LAUGH: An old man drove his Cadillac and parked in compact only stall. The parking attendant came to tell him the stall was for compact only. The old man told him "No worry, I comepac".

*The Wisteria Ballroom  
Dancing Club  
Invites You to Dance!*

*Mondays,  
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
in the Social Hall*



*Dances change every 8 weeks!*

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

## Create A Musical Center Piece!

We have kicked off our Centennial Year of Celebration! To make this Centennial year even more joyful, we'd like music to play a big part in this celebration. We invite you to create and perform a Centennial musical piece!

Please feel free to exercise your creativity – you could work individually or in collaboration with others. Your piece could be a lead sheet with lyrics, melody line, and chords for ukulele or guitar, or a conventional score with lyrics, melody line, and piano accompaniment. Instrumental pieces are also encouraged. The musical copyright would be yours.

Our Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin temple building, with its distinctive and widely-recognized architecture, will be 100 years old next year. Think about

the pioneering individuals who made a tremendous commitment to support the construction of our temple 100 years ago. Think about the dedicated ministers who have spread the Nembutsu teachings for 100 years in our Main Hondo. Consider how many folks have come through our doors to find their lives illuminated by the Dharma. What significance does this Centennial celebration have for you? What are the lessons of the past and what are the hopes for the future?

What we envision is a sharing of Centennial musical pieces/performances throughout the Centennial year. For example, you or your group may perform your piece at the HI Betsuin MusicFest



at the end of April, or at a special service, or at a designated Centennial event, etc.

If you are interested in participating in this Centennial Music Invitational, please contact Wendie Yumori at [wyumori@gmail.com](mailto:wyumori@gmail.com).

### Please join our week day Morning Service!

Hawaii Betsuin opens its door to everybody who would like to chant sutra.

Date: Monday - Saturday  
Time: 8:00 to 8:30 AM  
Sutra: Shoshinge

Shoshinge was written by our founder, Shinran Shonin, to encapsulate the teachings of Jodo Shinshu. It is an important sutra for Jodo Shinshu followers and encourages all to entrust themselves in Amida Buddha.

You are invited to join the Hawaii Betsuin ministers every morning from 8 to 8:30 AM to chant Shoshinge, the Gatha of True Faith.

Please feel free to join any time.

No reservation is needed. Walk-ins are welcome!  
If you have any questions, please contact the Betsuin Office.

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**



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

# Betsuin Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota

September 10 - Visit from His Eminence Monshu Kojun Ohtani.

Excitement was all around on Sunday, September 10 as the Betsuin Dharma School participated in the 100th year anniversary kickoff service of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin in the presence of His Eminence Monshu Kojun Ohtani.

More than 40 Dharma School students, parents and teachers, accompanied by the Betsuin Choir sang the song, "This Day of Peace." The song was written by Teresa Jennings specifically for International Peace Day (September 21). What a beautiful song it was to share with the Gomonshu and the sangha attending our anniversary service.

Later that afternoon, several of our

September 22 - 2017 Peace Day Interfaith Service

It was a special evening for the Dharma School families to attend and participate in the 2017 Peace Day Interfaith Service. Once again, they serenaded the congregation with Teresa Jennings's beautiful song, "This Day of Peace." They were happy to have the Betsuin Choir join them in song. It was a fitting piece to perform for this special Peace Day service.

October 7 - Dharma School Parents' Talent Sharing

Under the direction of PTO President Thanh Giang, PTO parents will share their talents with others during this



101 (Alan Kubota).

We have many more fun and exciting activities planned this year for the Dharma School students and families. Please join us!




Dharma School students and families participated in the Confirmation Ceremony, Kikyoshiki, held at the Betsuin. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to be confirmed and given a Buddhist name by His Eminence Monshu Kojun Ohtani.

Dharma School Year. Thanh kicked off the series with "Computer and Internet Safety - Understand and know the threats before they get you." He provided great information for all of us to know about staying safe online. Future sessions will include Electrical Safety (Mikey Bradshaw) and Photography

Mahalo  
Nui Loa!

Betsuin  
Blood  
Drive



To Everyone Who Participated In The Blood Drive As Donors, As Volunteers And Contributors Who Donated Food for the Event!

**Hongwanji  
Radio Programs  
NOVEMBER 2017  
KZOO 1210 AM  
Japanese Language  
Saturday at 7:30 AM**

- 04 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto  
11 Rev. Joshin Kamuro  
18 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio  
25 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji

**Betsuin Services**

**Asaji Service 8:00 AM**

- 05 Rev. Joshin Kamuro  
12 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto (Eitaikyo)  
19 No services  
Temple Clean-up  
26 Rev. Yuika Hasebe

**Adult English Services  
10:00 AM**

- 05 Rev. Sol Kalu  
12 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto (Eitaikyo)  
19 No services  
Temple Clean-up  
26 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann

**Nicchū Service 1:00 PM**

- 05 Rev. Joshin Kamuro  
12 Rev. Yuika Hasebe (Eitaikyo)  
19 No services  
Temple Clean-up  
26 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio

**Dharma School  
Service 9 am**

- 05 Rev. Yuika Hasebe  
12 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann  
(Eitaikyo)  
19 No services  
Temple Clean-up  
26 Rev. Sol Kalu

**In Memoriam**  **SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

- 5/24/2017 OGINO, Walter Tsuneo (72) 09 TAKABAYASHI, Neal Nobuo (73)  
10 TSUKIMURA, Kaoru (83)  
1 FURUKAWA, Bernice Kyoko (85) 17 HAYASHI, Thomas Kenji (84)  
2 MATSUMOTO, Elaine Etsuko (79) 17 PARK, Aileen Michie  
3 ARAKAKI, Ryan Jay (44) Hayakawa (90)  
3 TAKEKAWA, Kayo (47) 19 MUKAIDA, Shigeo (95)  
4 AKISADA, Shoji (90) 24 SATO, Jane Eiko (95)  
6 FUJIMOTO, Larry Masayuki (100) 26 MATSUI, Jane Hatsune  
6 FUJIYOSHI, Gilbert Tetsuo (75) Fujiyoshi (97)  
6 MARUYAMA, Helen Saeko (90) 27 IKEDA, Mildred Asako (87)  
6 NIIMI, Dennis Setsuo (70) 27 TORIGOE, Betty Chiyono  
7 HIURA, Milton Tatsuo (62) Fujinaka (93)  
8 HASHIMOTO, Ellen Shizue (95) 28 ODO, Yoso (89)  
8 YASUDA, Teruko Saito (85) 29 TAKAHASHI, Alissa Riwon (9 mos)

2017 Memorial Service Schedule

2017 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2016 – 1 year	2005 – 13 year	1985 – 33 year
2015 – 3 year	2001 – 17 year	1968 – 50 year
2011 – 7 year	1993 – 25 year	1918 – 100 year

**Nursing Home Services for NOVEMBER 2017**

- 02 Hale Nani – Rev. Kaufmann  
Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Kalu  
09 Maluhia – Rev. Hasebe  
Liliha – Rev. Kamuro  
10 Kuakini – cancelled (Veteran's Day)  
23 Nuuanu Hale – cancelled (Thanksgiving Day)  
24 Leahi – Cancelled (Family Day)



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