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GOJI

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NEWSLETTER

of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
hawaiiibetsuin.org

2019 Slogan:

Embrace Change:
TRANSFORMATION
(Walk in Peace)

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Yuika Hasebe
Rev. Joshin Kamuro
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

New Year's Greetings from the Monshu

At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you all.



Last year, Japan was hit by frequent natural disasters like torrential rains, typhoons, and earthquakes. Other countries including Indonesia and the US were also visited by devastating earthquakes, tsunamis, and major hurricanes. I would like to convey my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives through the natural disasters and express my sympathy to everyone affected. We must also never forget that armed conflicts and terror attacks as well as severe starvation is making it difficult to live and lives are being lost every day.

In my message entitled, A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower which I presented on October 1, 2016, the first day of the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition, I have stated, "by trying to live according to the Buddha Dharma, ...we can live to the best of our ability, aspiring to live up to the Buddha's Wish." In agreement with this proposal, beginning last April, our organization has launched a campaign against poverty under the slogan, "Dana for World Peace— overcoming poverty to nurture our children."

Unable to part from our self-centered mentality, we are simply foolish beings, incapable of attaining supreme enlightenment through our own strength. It is all through the salvific working of Amida Tathagata that we are enabled to realize our selfishness. Furthermore, because of this self-awareness, with the hope of responding to the Buddha's boundless compassion even just a little, we are enabled to aspire for everyone's happiness and make a sincere effort in dealing with the many difficult problems of bitter reality in this world.

In this New Year, as we receive the Dharma and recite the Nembutsu, let us make every effort to acknowledge and cope with the reality we face.

January 1, 2019

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

New Year's Message from Bishop Eric Matsumoto Aloha Kakou and Happy New Year! "NAMO AMIDA BUTSU"

Our Theme & Slogan for 2019 is Embrace Change: Transformation (Walk in Peace). It is our last year with the theme of "Embrace Change." Have you noticed a change in yourself? Have you noticed a change in our organization (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii/Hawaii Kyodan)? Have you noticed a change in the world?

Indeed, these are complex and challenging questions to answer. Perhaps an answer we can all agree upon is "Not enough." Yes, how difficult it is to change for the better because my ego continues to get in the way. An important aspect of "Walking in Peace" is to become aware of my limited self, but

rest assured that there is hope. A great hope, the encouragement of Namo Amida Butsu, The-Buddha's-Name-That-Calls (Myogo) and The-Buddha's-Name-Which-I-Call (Nembutsu). Amida Buddha fully understands the plight of this spiritually foolish "I" full of imperfections and thus reaches out, unconditionally, vowing never to forsake with the promise of attaining the Perfect Peace of Nirvana with birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment (at the end of this finite life). However, the journey of "Walking in Peace" begins from the moment when True Entrusting occurs.

A Foremost Scholar of Jodo Shinshu, the late Rev. Jitsuen Kakehashi, explains, "The 'turning of the heart' means forsaking the human-centered way of thinking and placing the teaching of the Tathagata at the center of our thought. Being saved means that with the Dharma-centered values, a new view of life is established in ourselves." "In our daily life, we are liable to be dictated by self-centered thoughts, but in the mind of Nembutsu practitioners who are saddened and pained by this reality, there is a recurring transformation in which with the heart and mind of the Tathagata's great wisdom and great compassion, we come to look back at our own thoughts and behaviors." "... we come to reflect on our self-centered thoughts, reject our blind passions and make efforts to see things and live our lives in a way that can be approved by the Tathagata."

As I have often emphasized, the life of a Shin Buddhist is one of responding in gratitude to the unprecedented and unparalleled Wisdom and Compassion of Namo Amida Butsu by reciting the Nembutsu in awareness, joy and grati-



tude that I am embraced just as I am with all my limitations and we try to live our life guided by the Dharma in grateful response to Unconditional Compassion until our life culminates (at death) with our entering the Pure Land of Perfect Peace and Happiness at which time the ultimate transformation to Perfect Buddhahood occurs. Or, more simply, out of gratitude, as The Golden Chain of Love shares, "I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words and to do pure and beautiful deeds knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also that of others. May every link in Amida Buddha's Golden of Love be bright and strong and may we all attain Perfect Peace."

In 2019, embraced, nurtured and inspired by the Buddha's 12 Lights, may we be encouraged to contribute towards a more peaceful, compassionate and harmonious world until we enter the "Land of Immeasurable Light" and the "Land of All-Knowing Wisdom" only to find "my" enlightened Great Self returning (from Pure Land of Peace) to aid others in their quest for the Perfect Peace of Nirvana. Namo Amida Butsu (Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion).

In Gassho/Anjali,

Eric T. Matsumoto, Bishop
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



GOJI

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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.

New Year's Message from HHMH President, Pieper Toyama Embrace Change: Transformation (Walk in Peace)

It is my hope that the 2019 theme speaks to all of us personally. At the heart of the theme is the call for us to transform ourselves and from this profound change to walk in peace. The transformation we seek is borne out of awareness. As our awareness allows us to see, hear and feel with clarity, we come to know all that is given to us in our lives. Our appreciation of life itself becomes a real and true experience. And when we become aware of the preciousness of our lives, the ordinary is transformed into a miracle of perfection. This is the transformation we seek: to see our lives as miracles because of the forces and people known and unknown have created the causes and conditions for us to be alive in this very moment. In these moments of transformation, we can only say, Namo Amida Butsu. And it is in this instant we walk in peace.

The reality is that these moments of transformation are short-lived because our self-centered egos wrench us back to attend to our attachments and our unreasonable desires. But this should not deter us from being open to the next moment of transformation and the next and the next, even though they may be so short-lived, for each is a step in peace.

As 2019 unfolds one day from another, it is my hope that we will all find perfection in ordinary moments and in that perfection a profound appreciation for our lives. In that morning cup of coffee, in the smile of the cashier at the supermarket, in the "shaka" sign of a grateful motorist you allowed to merge into traffic, in the quiet loneliness of an empty house, in the Sunday morning greeting of a fellow temple member,

in the laughter of your child, in the glow of the setting sun, I hope you feel the perfection of life, the perfection of your life. I hope in that instant your life is no longer ordinary but is transformed into a miracle. And I hope you walk in peace with the only sound on your lips, "Namo Amida Butsu." Such is my hope for you in 2019.

Namo Amida Butsu
Pieper J. Toyama, President



New Year's Message from Hawaii Betsuin President, Dexter Mar IMUA! Onward into the Second Century

As we welcome 2019, I want to pause before we plunge into the new year to first express my sincere thanks to each and all of you for supporting the activities of our temple, sangha and community. During my first year as Betsuin President, I was honored to see close-up the extent and variety of the many affiliated organizations, clubs, groups, staff and supporters that make up the Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. I am especially grateful for the hard work on our Fundraising campaign, facilities repair and maintenance (the lounge repairs look great!), and emergency programs.

The new year offers the opportunity to reflect upon the purpose of the Betsuin and why we are here.

In his 1918 essay, "History of the Hon-

gwanji Mission in Hawaii," Bishop Yemyo Imamura wrote that in his first 20 years, cultivating Nisei children to be well-educated American citizens and developing strong, supportive communities to nurture families were top priorities. "We seek to share with others the wisdom and compassion of Amida Tathagata. By doing so, we shall work toward the realization of a society in which everyone is able to live a life of spiritual fulfillment."

As time passes by, it is easy for us to forget the main reason why we have our temple. We lose sight of our main goal of realizing spiritual fulfillment by becoming near-sighted and self-centered. We forget that our core value is SHARING our values with others.



Bishop Imamura created a foundation of a family-friendly, community-oriented, inclusive Betsuin that nurtured families, opened the temple doors to all people and religions, especially other Buddhist sects.

As we begin our 101st year, in this temple building let us remember our legacy and move forward (IMUA!) by rekindling the Imamura spirit!

New Year's Greetings From The Hawaii Betsuin Ministers & Staff

"Turn Misfortune Into Prosperity"

Rimban,
Toyokazu Hagio

Last year all over the world natural disasters. No peace while we live in this world. Therefore, we Buddhists should aspire thus: "At the end of life, we will transmute to the Pure Land and attain Buddhahood, 'That is how we will be able to "Turn misfortune into prosperity"'"



New Year's Greeting Rev. Joshin Kamuro

My family and I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the kind support we received throughout 2018, and extend to all of you our New Year greetings. At the beginning of this year, let us introduce one of our favorite Buddhist teachings: "Wa Gen Ai Go" (Gentle in countenance and loving in speech) to you. If you greet people with thoughtful words and a smiling face, your counterpart would likewise

respond with kindness. One smile at a time, you would be able to make the world around you a warmer place. So please let us begin the New Year with thoughtful words and a smiling face for a brighter community and the world. Our dana of pleasant face and affectionate words make others smile each and every day.

In gassho,

Joshin, Minako & Yuma Kamuro

New Year's Message

Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Embraced by Amida Buddha's Great Compassion, I wish you all to have a wonderful 2019. Thank you very much for your support, help, and kindness during the year 2018.

We will encounter many joys and tears in 2019, but let us not forget that Amida Buddha is always there for us. Together, let's explore the new year and appreciate each unrepeatable day!!

Goodbye, 2018!

Rev. Sol Kalu

At the closing of year 2018 and beginning of 2019, I would like to thank the members of the Hawaii Betsuin sangha, my fellow ministers, and many other people whom I have encountered during the year, for their support and encouragement to continue on my work in propagating the Nembutsu teaching in Hawaii. I hope that the year 2018 had been a very happy, productive and meaningful year in the lives of those who hear and

practice the Buddha Dharma.

Whether a year that recently passed was either a good or bad year is not to be judged or graded. A year is just a segment of time in the vast stream of eternity. However, applying human judgment on the events that happened in 2018, I would say that year 2018 was not one that I would fondly cherish.

Besides having to face a major family crisis in the mainland, there was also the need for me to adjust to changes brought about by shifting temple personnel, clumsy minor accidents in the workplace, and worst of all, spending two scary days and nights in the hospital for palpitations and chest discomfort. True that there were also many positive things that happened to me in 2018, and many lessons learned but it is best not to look back, just move on forward to a better, happier 2019 and relegate the year 2018 to the dustbin of history.

A happy and prosperous year 2019 to all! Live long and prosper!
Namo Amida Butsu!

Happy New Year!

Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Since I began to work at your temple last July, six months have already passed. Since then, I have been helped and supported by many of you. I always appreciate your warm kindness. I will continue to try my best to share the Buddha Dharma with you, so I would like to ask for your continued help and support this year!

Gassho.
Shingo Furusawa

Donations Needed for Rummage Sale!

The Betsuin BWA members send a heartfelt mahalo to all of our members and friends who have, in past years, generously donated countless items for the Rummage Sale of Hawaii Betsuin's Taste of Hongwanji Spring Bazaar. Although our desire to assist the Betsuin with its fundraising is as strong as ever, because we ladies are getting a little older and are moving a little more slowly, we welcome assistance, especially with sorting and pricing, during our two-week prep period preceding the Taste of Hongwanji.

For the Rummage Sale, we would be most grateful for donations of items in good saleable condition, especially in the following categories:

All Clothing: for Men, Women, and Children

Accessories: scarves, belts, shoes, purses, jewelry, etc.

Linens: bed linens, table linens, curtains, etc.

Housewares: dishes, bowls, glassware, stove cookware, microwaveable cookware, serving containers, storage containers, etc.

Electric cord items: kitchen and home appliances, phones, calculators, etc., in working condition

Sporting Goods: golf clubs, balls, bags, fishing rods, tennis racquets, small coolers, lanterns, etc.

Fabric & Craft: fabric yardage, yarn, beads, baskets, etc.

In addition, many patrons come to the Betsuin in search of Asian items, either in the Rummage Sale Treasures section or at the Bontique in June so we would love to receive the following:

Japanese clothing: adult and children's kimonos, yukatas, happi coats and accessories, etc.

Asian art: scrolls, woodblock prints, paintings, prints, etc.

Asian collectibles: dolls, display pieces, lacquerware, etc.

Asian ceramics: dishes, bowls, tea sets, etc.

Asian objects: trays, fans, coin purses, decorative knick-knacks, etc.

Ikebana: vases, containers, kenzans (frogs), clippers

Again, we wish to thank you for your wonderful support for so many years. You have contributed immeasurably to the success of the Rummage Sale and Bon-tique sales! Please bring your donations to the Betsuin Office.

Hawaii Betsuin's 2019 Talk Story Program

Alan Goto

In 2019, Hawaii Betsuin plans to offer a TALK STORY session on the Saturday preceding each major Hongwanji Sunday service. The first major service of the year is Shinran Shonin's Memorial (Ho'onko) on January 20 with Bishop Eric Matsumoto. On Saturday, January 19, Bishop Matsumoto will also participate in the TALK STORY from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Annex Temple. Please plan to attend this free event. More information is forthcoming.

The other major services are for the spring equinox (Spring Higan, 3/17); Shakyamuni Buddha's Birthday (Hanamatsuri, 4/7); Shinran Shonin's Birthday (Gotane, 5/19); Obon (7/7); autumn equinox (Autumn Higan, 9/22); and Sangha Memorial Service (Eitai-kyo, 11/3). The morning TALK STORY sessions on the preceding Saturdays take the place of the traditional Otaiya evening services.

TALK STORY is a unique local cultural experience in which people share their life experiences and develop relationships that build and strengthen communities. At the Hawaii Betsuin, we invite special Dharma teachers to lead a dialogue that furthers our awareness, understanding and experience of the embrace of wisdom and compassion. Historically, Rennyō Shonin (8th Head of the Honpa Hongwanji) effectively spread the teachings of Shinran Shonin (Founder, Jodo Shin School) through facilitated dialogue sessions referred to as "Ko Groups."

Some TALK STORY events will include presentations by resource speakers on current global, national and local issues. At these sessions, Dharma teachers will provide complementary Buddhist

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Honolulu United BWA Presents 2018 Dana Award to Kahauiki Village

It was a sunny morning, Nov. 19, 2018, as we BWA members from Hawaii Betsuin, Jikoen, and Moiliili gathered at Kahauiki Village, near Sand Island, for an



event that made the day even brighter. Honolulu United BWA President, Donna Higashi, presented the 2018 Dana Award of \$1,000 to Duane Kurisu, a businessman who is carrying out his vision to provide permanent affordable housing for homeless families. The HUBWA Dana Award is a three-year commitment; Kahauiki Village will also receive \$1,000 in 2019 and in 2020. Some of our former participants in Family Promise have become residents of Kahauiki Village and they say for them, "It is a dream come true."

HUBWA Dana Committee Chair, Liane Wong, made the arrangements for our group to visit Kahauiki Village. We had "chicken skin" at the prospect of being led on a tour of this plantation-style village by Duane Kurisu, himself! After the presentation, Mr. Kurisu, who quickly became Duane to us, explained that he had conceived of Kahauiki Village as a place where families bond with their community and embrace the values of "generosity, trust, dignity, and honor," plantation community values that strongly influenced Duane as he was

growing up on the Big Island. Back then, he said his family was part of Honomu Hongwanji Mission's membership.

According to Duane, the prefabricated houses were originally emergency homes for tsunami victims in Tohoku, Japan. Design features were added to give the homes a plantation look and metal roofing was selected which allowed for the installation of solar panels. The sun is used to generate nearly all of the project's electricity, including the sewer system!

In the beginning, Duane admitted to feeling alone in his mission. It was a revelation for him to see that many others were willing to stand shoulder to shoulder with him. Most of the materials and labor to develop the housing units were donated and the first phase was completed last January in an amazing six months! In time, this project is expected to house over 600 adults and children. To us, Duane's stories about the many who stepped up to volunteer their resources were touching examples of selfless giving, dana, in action.

As Duane led us on the tour, he pointed out a fellow working in his rig in a dirt field. Duane persuaded him to climb down and meet us. How surprising to discover that this fellow, Russell Yamamoto, has family ties to Hawaii Betsuin! Russell's company, RMY Construction, is the general contractor of the Kahauiki Village project. His company has done all of the grading, foundations and on-site infrastructure. Duane described Russell as "a good man with an immense heart." Our group watched, delighted, to see Russell play with some of the

children nearby. Russell echoed Duane's sentiments in saying, "For me, it's about the children." Duane took us to see the PACT-run daycare center and preschool, part of the plan to provide not just housing but a community network of support.

This visit to Kahauiki Village was eye-opening and inspiring. Remembering how Duane and Russell warmly shared stories about the residents picking up trash and the children watering the trees, we were able to see that values of "generosity, trust, dignity, and honor" have guided this project throughout its development and are now Kahauiki Village community values.

After our visit, Duane wrote to us that he was delighted to be with our group – "I particularly enjoyed your Buddhist Women's Association members because we seem to have so much in common. Thank you very much for honoring Kahauiki Village with the Dana Award. We are humbled by your hearts in the way you chose us for the Award. Thank you and your group for the generosity of your time and resources to help former homeless families with their basic needs in a dignified way."

Wendie Yumori

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and Jodo Shinshu perspectives on those issues. These events provide Hongwanji ministers, lay members and non-Buddhists an opportunity to engage in dialogues about a variety of issues and concerns based on Shinran Shonin's teachings – "What would Shinran Shonin say?"

These TALK STORY events will be planned to expand our understanding and experience of living the Nembutsu Way in the 21st century.

BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL BWA MEMBERS.

Let's welcome the New Year with full of zest and enthusiasm and make the new year a great one for all of you. Some of you will be attending the world convention in California and will be touring all over the West Coast. It will undoubtedly be an exciting and adventurous journey for all of you. Good luck and have a great time.

HO'ONKO, SHINRAN SHONIN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

JANUARY 20, 2019: Mrs. Hagio's flower arrangement students will be displaying their beautiful flower arrangements, and Mrs. Saigusa's Sumie students of Hawaii Betsuin will be displaying their sumie arts in the social hall on Saturday evening and Sunday. All church attendees, while having refreshments, should enjoy the flower and sumie displays. Men and women who are well-disciplined in mind are able to produce beautiful cultural art work. Come and enjoy the displays.

TO LIVE A LONG LIFE: THE IMPORTANCE OF 10 YEARS FROM AGES 70 TO 79

Did you know that ages from 70 to 79 are in the category of "Dangerous Age Group"? During this age there are about two health problems per month for the elderly people. The 80 and 89 is as stable as the 60-69 group. 70-79 is the dangerous period. During this period various organs decline and geriatric diseases, hyperlipemia, arteriosclerosis, hypertension and diabetes may appear. Practicing "10 ones everyday" will help you, so practice

the following.

1. A pot of water: Drink a glass of water 3 times a day: **FIRST CUP** After getting up in the morning drink a glass of water on an empty stomach. We lose a lot of water during our sleep due to invisible sweating and urine secretion. **SECOND CUP:** after exercise. For old people you can add a pinch of salt and sugar. **THIRD CUP:** Glass of water before going to bed. When people sleep sweat glands are draining water. When the water is reduced too much the blood viscosity is increased. Drinking water will help against angina, myocardial infarction and other diseases. Drink at least 8 cups of water per day.
2. A bowl of porridge: In a 14 year Chinese study conducted at Harvard University on 100,000 people found that a bowl of about 28 grams of whole grain cereal porridge per day can reduce 5% mortality and 9% chance of getting cardiovascular disease.
3. A cup of milk: Known as white blood. Nutritional value to the body with calcium, fat and protein.
4. An egg: Eggs are the most suitable food for human consumption.
5. An apple: apples have effects of lowering cholesterol, losing weight, preventing cancer, aging, enhancing memory and making the skin smooth and soft. **RED** apples have effect of lowering blood lipids and softening blood vessels. **GREEN** apple has the effect of nourishing liver and detoxifying and can fight depression, and **YELLOW** apples have a good effect on protecting vision.
6. An onion: onion is nutritional

and helps lowering blood sugar, lower cholesterol, prevent cancer, protect against cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases and bacteria, prevent colds, and supplement calcium and bones. Eat onions at least 3 or 4 times a week.

7. A piece of fish: Chinese nutritionists have said, eating four legs is worse than eating 2 legs; eating 2 legs is worse than eating no legs. 4 legs refers to pigs, cattle, and mutton. 2 legs refers to poultry such as chicken, duck, goose. And no legs are fish and vegetables.

8. Gentle walking: This has a magical anti-aging effect. A 30-minute walk a day can get rid of the danger of adult disease.

9. A hobby; Having a hobby will broaden the horizons of interest of the elderly. They will love and cherish life.

10. Good mood: old people should maintain good emotions. When you become old, it is not worth getting nasty and bad mouthing others or getting angry. Talk nice things about others and oneself. Remember all the good things in life and laugh a lot. Have a twinkle in your eyes and smile.

Thank you to Carol Ogino who contributed this article for us to share.

BWA YEAR END LUNCHEON

was held on Dec. 9th. Dianne Ida, chair for the year end luncheon planned on a very enjoyable, activity for all to enjoy. All the ministers, guests and BWA members, new and old, all seemed to have had a great time. The food was ample, surfeiting, and very delicious. Everyone should have enjoyed it all. There were lots and lots of drawings of lucky numbers, and

Continued on page 6

BWA News continued from page 5

these were mostly gift cards at various stores. The entire group participated in a hula, dancing to the music of "Hukilau." Sumie Sueishi and her Dana dancers helped in leading the group with the nice hula. Kristin Alm-Kamakahi was the surprise guest. She danced so gracefully to "Mele Ohana".

The ministers presented a comedy entitled, "Wasurenbo Shogun." It was so humorous, it should be presented again for all of us to enjoy. Our Betsuin ministers all have hidden talent. They are intelligent, personable and full of humor.

Dianne Ida's committee did a wonderful job in finishing the year 2018 for the BWA. Thank you very much.

DANA DAY COMING UP IN MONTH OF FEBRUARY. BE PREPARED

Here's to the Beautiful Wonderful and Amazing BWA! Wendie Yumori

As outgoing president of the Hawaii Betsuin BWA, I was asked by Fujiko Motobu to summarize what the BWA has accomplished during my two years at the helm. In looking back, I'd have to say that it's been very satisfying to fulfill responsibilities and reach goals. But what is most heartwarming and gratifying is the realization that it took all of us, pulling together, to do so.

At the beginning of my term in 2017, we learned of Hawaii Betsuin's plans to celebrate the centennial of our iconic temple structure and to kick off a fundraising campaign to address much-needed improvements to our facilities. Our BWA contributed wholeheartedly to this effort, donating \$15,000 to the Centennial Projects Fund in Nov. of 2017. We also decided to donate half the proceeds of three of our 2017 Mini Markets and half the proceeds of our four 2018 Mini Markets to the Centennial Projects Fund. The total amount that the BWA has contributed to date is an astounding \$18,408.83.

If the BWA stands tall in support of the temple, you are right there with us. Our BWA has been overwhelmed with the generosity of your donations during the BWA's month-long Dana Day collection! These donations support the Dana Awards which are given annually by the

Honolulu United BWA to four extremely worthy community organizations. Currently, our Dana Awardees include Project Dana (a perpetual awardee), Hale Kipa, Project Vision, and, our newest Awardee, Kahauiki Village.

We do all we can to support our temple's major fundraiser, The Taste of Hongwanji, by committing to two weeks of involved prep work for our ever-popular Rummage Sale. The 2018 Rummage Sale attracted a huge crowd – folks delighted in finding treasures at bargain prices! At Bon Dance time, BWA generates funds for the temple through Bontique sales of Japanese clothing, accessories, and many other Asian-themed items.

During the past two years, our BWA has become more aware of and involved in supporting green initiatives and we've enjoyed participating in the last two Earth Day Green Fairs. In our BWA, a Mottainai team has arisen to create items that encourage reduce, re-use, and recycle mindfulness.

Our BWA loves to see young folks participate actively in temple life. Every year, our Dharma School Ohana plans a very special Eshin-ni/Kakushin-ni Day Service for all of us. We collect

donations on that date for our wonderful youth programs and these donations are presented to Dharma School, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts at the Gotan-e service with BWA's mahalo and aloha.

This past July, in keeping with Buddhist teachings of harmony and inclusion, our BWA approved the revision of its Bylaws which included a significant change to the Membership statement. As a result of this revision, HI Betsuin's BWA membership is now gender inclusive. We are happy to have gained two new members, Mr. Rudiger Ruckmann and Dr. Benjamin Bruch, both staff members at PBA.

In the spring of 2018, two former PBA classrooms in the Annex were returned to BWA when PBA moved into its new facility. We quickly named the rooms Eshin-ni rm. and Lotus rm. What we wished for both rooms was to increase their functionality and attractiveness. We moved furniture, decluttered, painted, and cleaned, gearing up for an open house in Nov. The Mottainai team did a marvelous job with interior decorating and the doors of Eshin-ni rm. and Lotus rm. opened to the BWA general membership on Nov. 4. We are hopeful that these appealing new rooms will provide many opportunities for the BWA to learn and grow in Dharma friendship. On this hopeful note, we warmly invite you to learn and grow with us!

**Girl Scout
Breakfast
Fundraiser
Help the Scouts
Travel to Europe
In June 2019
Sun., January 20th
8 am to 11:30 am
(Donation)**

Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota

Sunday, December 2 - Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day Service - Singing at Program

"You can count on me like 1, 2, 3...I'll be there"....The Honolulu District Dharma School families were there to sing at the program following the HBC Bodhi Day service, performing the Bruno Mars' hit, "Count on Me."

There was a large contingent from the Betsuin, which included musicians from the Dharma School — Cameron Kubota, Byron and Vincent Saito, Bradley and Lily Nomura playing ukulele, Cora Saito playing the flute, and Stacey Nomura playing the violin. The instruments were a perfect accompaniment to the singing.

The Dharma School families and Higashi Hongwanji Dharma Hawaiians also led the audience in singing "It's a Small World" and "Hawaii Aloha" to close the program.

Sunday, December 16 Holiday Party

Ho Ho Ho!...it's the most wonderful

time of the year. What a fun event for our Dharma School families. The Social Hall was filled with holiday crafts, food, fun and merriment. We had a wonderful time making gingerbread houses, crafting pinecone elf ornaments, taking selfies, singing Christmas carols, and culminating with a visit from our favorite white-bearded, red-suited Santa who brought smiles to young and old as he passed out gifts to our keiki. We also showed our gratitude to Auntie Laura Nakasone and thanked her for all of the years she dedicated to our Dharma School as our supervisor as well as Sunbeams director, by doing an encore performance of "Count on Me." It was a special day enjoyed by all!



Upcoming Dharma School Events for 2019:

Sunday, February 24 - Joint Honolulu and Oahu District Dharma Schools Activity—Details TBA

Sunday, May 5 - Intergenerational Picnic at Magic Island
Honolulu Temple Sanghas are invited to join us!



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- 05 Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani
& Bishop Eric Matsumoto
12 Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
19 Rev. Jeffrey Daien Soga
26 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji

Betsuin Services

Asaji Service 8:00 AM

- 06 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
13 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
20 Ho'onko Service
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
27 Rev. Shingo Furusawa

**Adult English Services
10:00 AM**

- 06 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
13 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
20 Ho'onko Family Service 9:30 am
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
27 Rev. Sol Kalu

Nicchu Service 1:00 PM

- 06 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
13 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
20 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
27 Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Dharma School 9:00 AM

- 06 Rev. Sol Kalu
13 Rev. Shingo Furusawa
20 Ho'onko Family Ser. 9:30 am
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
27 Rev. Joshin Kamuro

Everyone
Welcomed!



In Memoriam



NOVEMBER 2018

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

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| OCTOBER 20, 2018 | EGAMI, Kelvin Yasuharu (47) |
| OCTOBER 23, 2018 | FUJISAWA, Hiroshi (92) |
| OCTOBER 27, 2018 | TAMARU, Yukuno (99) |
-
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 02 NAGATOSHI, Chikashi (102) | 15 ALBERGOTTIE, Leila Chiseko (71) |
| 03 TOKUNAGA, Nora Misuye (94) | 15 URATA, Ernest Tetsuo (76) |
| 11 OKUDA, Jayne Masuko (84) | 19 FUJIMOTO, Stanley Mamoru (87) |
| 12 KIMOTO, Yoshio (100) | 19 FUKUMOTO, Teruo (93) |
| 13 DOI, Kay Ayako (96) | 25 BACKMAN, Susan Yachiyo (91) |
| 13 SHIBATA, Diana Mitsuko (89) | |
| 14 NISHIMURA, Elizabeth Tomeyo (93) | |

**Nursing Home Services
JANUARY 2019**

- 03 Hale Nani – Rev. Kalu
Hale Ho Aloha – Rimban Hagio
10 Maluhia – Rev. Hasebe
Liliha – Rev. Kamuro
11 Kuakini – Rev. Furusawa
24 Nuuanu Hale – Rev. Kamuro
25 Leahi – Rev. Furusawa

2019 Memorial Service Schedule

2018 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2018 – 1 year	2007 – 13 year	1987 – 33 year
2017 – 3 year	2003 – 17 year	1970 – 50 year
2013 – 7 year	1995 – 25 year	1920 – 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