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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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JANUARY 2023
NEWSLETTER

of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

2023 Slogan:

“Building Healthy
Sanghas: Sharing Joy
Together”

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Acting Chief Minister
Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa



New Year's Greeting OHTANI Kojun, Monshu

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

In view of the Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022, as Nembutsu followers who have deeply inscribed in our hearts and minds Shinran Shonin's message of “May there be peace in the world,” we firmly stand against the military infringement of the other nation's sovereignty, and also aspire for immediate return of peace in Ukraine.

Over the last year, COVID-19 continues to be a global pandemic. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are undergoing treatment. I would also like to express my respect and sincere gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and other frontline medical professionals who have been engaging in the treatment of infected people, as well as all essential workers who have made it possible for us to continue with our lives.

The pandemic has forced us to learn firsthand that we will continue to be confronted by unexpected situations even in modern times despite technologies both in science and medical fields being highly developed. Sakyamuni Buddha, who passed on the Dharma to us, made clear that there is no life nor entity in this world that lasts forever. This truth, the principle of impermanence, has never changed even in this time and age approximately 2500 years since his time. Another fact that does not change is our inability to accept this truth as it is, and because of this, we continue struggling.

This is the very reason why, regardless of the pandemic, we can rely on the Jodo Shinshu teaching clarified by Shinran Shonin, which guides us as a spiritual foundation that enables us to move forward even when being overwhelmed with difficulties. A gathering at the temple with Amida Buddha as its center provides a great opportunity to receive the Dharma as well as an occasion in which people can support and reassure one another as fellow practitioners who follow the same teaching.

I hope you will continue to share the teaching within the greater society through various ways and your temple will or continue to serve as a place where people can gather and find comfort in its activities. I humbly ask for your understanding and cooperation in support of your temples. I would like to conclude my new year's greeting with my heartfelt appreciation to you all.

January 1, 2023

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Bishop 2023 Bishop's New Year's Message My New Year's Resolution is...



Let me take this precious opportunity to wish you a sincere "Happy New Year!" More than any other time of the year, the start of the year is a time we are filled with hope and expectation for a brighter and better year.

While, we may have personal desires and goals for myself, let us not forget to also have more inclusive aspirations and goals which embraces all others. In the words of Mitsuo Aida, whose calligraphy piece for Gan (or Negai in vernacular Japanese) is reproduced here, he says

very different from personal wishes centered only on oneself are wishes such as: may there be no wars, aspiring for peace and harmony in the world, and may our human contrivances not contribute further to the contamination of our natural environment of the land, sea, and air. When we sincerely embrace these sorts of wishes, they are referred to as "Gan" (or aspirations or vows). If held deeply in our hearts, even the tiniest aspiration will be reflected in our eyes and faces. May we embrace vows and aspirations within our means and contribute to a brighter prospect for our future.



of Buddha-Dharma, "No enryo (Don't hesitate)" would be my recommendation. Let it flow from the depths of your being outward and allow it to be known to others. This is, one way, we are able to share our joy. Needless to say, this "Sharing Joy Together" is not limited to our close circle of family and friends, but it does start with them.



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 (goji@hawaiibetsuin.org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (808-536-0919). 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.

The opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.

GOJI STAFF:

Editorial: Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Shingo Furusawa, Japanese section editor Production: Colleen Kunishige, David Atcheson; Circulation: Colleen Kunishige, Elmer Cagaoan; Contributing reporters from Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Green Team, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, Betsuin Board and Social Concerns, and the Kyodan.

When I look at Mitsuo Aida's calligraphy above, I am reminded of Amida Buddha's 48 Vows especially the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha which promises "If those who entrust themselves to my Vow should not be born [in my (Pure) land], I shall not become Buddha." which expresses Amida Buddha great aspiration by conditioning the Buddha's own Supreme Enlightenment with the Enlightenment of all others including you and me. Could there be a greater wish or aspiration? Please reflect on this matter.

Further, let us make manifest our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Theme & Slogan for 2023 which is "Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Joy Together." As Shinran Shonin rejoiced in one of his poems, The light of compassion illumines from afar; Those beings it reaches, it is taught, Attain the Joy of the Dharma, So take refuge in Amida, the great consolation.

Do not keep that joy and happiness of the Nembutsu hidden within you. Culturally, for many of us, being reserved and somewhat stoic is a culturally emphasized trait, but when it comes to the Joy

To conclude, once again, I hope you detached Gomonsu's "Our Pledge" from last year's Hawaii Kyodan Calendar and have it where you and others can see and recite it daily as it shares how we can live our life together. As I express my best wishes to you for a happy, joyous and meaningful New Year, please join me in awareness, joy and gratitude of Great Wisdom and Compassion which guides, nurtures, and embraces us (eventually transforms with birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment), to recite Namo Amida Butsu or The Buddha's Name Which I Call (in gratitude) in response to Namo Amida Butsu or The Buddha's Name That Calls Me (to entrust). Namo Amida Butsu. Thank you and, once again, "Happy New Year" from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's Office of the Bishop.

In gassho/anjali,
Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Bishop
January 1, 2023

Warren Tamamoto

President's New Year's Message for 2023

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



Happy New Year! Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and in good spirits as we enter the New Year, 2023. The COVID-19 situation in the USA has improved over the past year with the development of effective and safe vaccines and antiviral treatments. However, over 1 million Americans (and much more worldwide) have died since the pandemic started in 2020. The COVID-19 virus still results in serious illness and death for susceptible people. Therefore, we must continue to be cautious and respectful of others. Simple guidelines that we can follow include vaccination, staying home when sick, handwashing and wearing masks when close to others. Please try to be safe as we reopen our temples.

As we move into the new year, we will reflect often on our theme and slogan for 2023, "Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Joy Together". As we reflect, let us remember the concept of ondobo-ondogyo as a guide to our thoughts and action. Shinran used this phrase to explain that we are all

fellow travelers, or companions on the Nembutsu path. Shinran saw himself as an ordinary person, a bombu (foolish person) walking the Nembutsu path along with his Dharma friends. In Shinran's view, we are all equal. As fellow travelers, we share each other's joys and sorrows, each other's burdens and celebrations. In ondobo-ondogyo, there is a profound sense that we are equal and interdependent. Also, with the spirit of ondobo-ondogyo there is a natural experience of gratitude as we give support, and we are in turn supported by the presence of our fellow travelers.

As we look back on our journey for the past few years, let us express our appreciation to our ministers and temple leaders for their dedication, resilience and creativity in sharing the Nembutsu teachings with our community under difficult circumstances. And, let us continue on our journey in joy and gratitude for Amida's universal and unconditional compassion for all.

With Gassho,

Warren Tamamoto
President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Betsuin
New Year's
Services
New Year's Eve
Sat., Dec. 31, 2022
11:00 P.M.
New Year's Day
Sun., Jan. 1, 2023
10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 2023 Betsuin Speaker Schedule

1/1/2023 (Sunday)

10AM New Year's day

Eng Bishop E. Matsumoto

Japanese Rev. Y. Hasebe

1/8/2023 (Sunday)

8AM Rev. Hasebe

9AM Rev. Hasebe

10AM Rev. Kalu

1/15/2023 (Sunday)

Hoonko

8AM Bishop E. Matsumoto

9:30AM Bishop E. Matsumoto

1/22/2023 (Sunday)

8AM Rev. Baba

9AM Rev. Kalu

10AM Rev. Furusawa

1/29/2023 (Sunday)

8AM Rev. Furusawa

9AM DS Teacher

10AM TBD

**If you have any questions,
please call the Betsuin office
(808) 536-7044**

New Year's Greetings from the Hawaii Betsuin Ministers and Staff



Rev. Yuika Hasebe,
Hawaii Betsuin
Acting Chief Minister
Happy New Year!

Under Amida Buddha's Great Compassion, I hope all of you are having a peaceful new year. With your help and support, Hawaii Betsuin stands strong as the place Dharma flourishes.

Shinran Shonin explained that Amida Buddha's Compassion and Wisdom are like a great torch, a torch to guide us and illuminate our path. The world is dark without light, and we can't tell where we are heading. When we look around our community and the world, we should ask ourselves where we are heading and what do we truly want. Is the world heading toward peace and is our community a harmonious one? If it is not, how can we make it so? 2022 was a challenging year, and I am sure 2023 could be a harder one, but I would like to welcome it with the feeling of hope and aspiration together with you. As the light breaks the darkness, Amida Buddha's Compassion and Wisdom breaks our fears, concerns, and egocentric views. May the light bring comfort and courage for us to move forward as the place of Dharma where true peace and harmony spread.

Happy New Year!

Thank you very much for your help and kindness last year.

I would like to ask for your continued support this year.

In Gassho,
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Alan Tomita,
Hawaii Betsuin
President

Happy New Year to the
Hawaii Betsuin ohana!



New Year's Message from Rev. Sol Kalu

"When the tides of life turn against you, and the current upsets your boat, Don't waste those tears on what may have been, just lay on your back and float"

This is a funny, but meaningful, excerpt from the classic TV comedy series "The Honeymooners". This sums up all of my experiences of 2022. It has been a tough, rough year that may have permanently changed my health and outlook in life. Having survived Covid 19 and a litany of other health issues, the year 2022 taught me many things about the Dharma which I preach but failed to see its impact in my own life. I sincerely wish all members of the Sangha, especially those who have been very supportive of me during the difficult times of my illness, a very happy and prosperous new year 2023. I owe you all a debt of gratitude. Thank you so very much! Whatever difficulties lie ahead in the coming new year, however, I leave everything to Amida Buddha. I'll just lay back and float in the Ocean of Boundless Compassion. Namo Amida Butsu!

Happy New Year from the Hawaii Betsuin Ministers and Staff!



BWA News and Events

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU. People who were born in the year 2023, 2011, 1999, 1987, 1975, 1963, 1951, 1939, 1927 etc. are rabbits or usagi under the Japanese Zodiac. Rabbits are elegant, poised and refined beings, and when they love a person it is for life. Intelligent and perfectionist, they are often successful in their professional careers. If you are a Rabbit, you are admired. You are compatible with those with zodiac signs of dogs, pigs, and sheep. However, you do not get along with roosters. The other Zodiac signs are Rat, Cow, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Rooster, Monkey, Dog, and Boar. There are twelve signs. In Japanese we would say Nezumi, Ushi, Tora, Usagi, Tatsu, Mi, Uma, Hitsuji, Tori, Saru, Inu, and Inoshishi.

Let us hope that year 2023 will bring peace and harmony to all. For the Japanese, this is the year of the RABBIT, and it should be a lot of fun and happiness rather than anger and hostility that the year of the Tiger had brought forth last year. Those of you who were born under the Rabbit year, have a nice year.

SHINRAN'S NAME. Most of you men have one name, the name that you received when you were born. Women who are married have two names, the one which was given to you at birth and then the one that you got when you married your husband. If you married more than once, you got more than one last name and may have accumulated many names in your lifetime.

Shinran Shonin had nine names all together. He was born on May 21, 1173, to Lord Arinori and his wife Lady Kikko, and was named MATSUWAKA-MARO. He never uttered a single word until he was two years old and the first words spoken were, "Namo Amida Butsu." His father died when Matsuwaka-maro was

Fujiko Motobu

four years old, and his mother passed away when he was eight years old. Even at the young age, the orphan had an aspiration to be born in the Pure Land to be with his parents. He had the determination to become a disciple of the Buddha and accompanied his uncle and visited the Venerable Jichin and told him of his intention. Jichin saw the young boy's determination, so that evening he performed the rite of Tri-saranagamana, when the boy was 9 years old. He was given the name HANNEN by Jichin. He applied himself closely to learning and religious training on the sacred Mount Hiei for twenty years.

SHAKKU was his third name, given to him by Honen Shonin. Shakku from 4th Master, Do-Shaku and Ku from 7th Master, Gen-Ku.

ZENSHIN was his fourth name con-

ferred by vision of Prince Shotoku, from the 5th Master Zen-Do and the 6th Master, Gen-Shin.

YOSHIZANE FUJII was his fifth name, a secular name given in year 1207 at age 44 in Echigo.

TOKU was his sixth name that he chose for himself, declaring himself as neither monk nor layman.

GUTOKU was his seventh name. Gu usually preceded Toku, meaning ignorant.

SHINRAN was his eighth name. The name was composed of Ten-Jin of the 2nd Master Jin-Shin and Don-Ran, the 3rd Master.

continued on page 6



BWA Gratitude: Year End Gathering First Large Get Together In the Age of the Pandemic

Cindy Alm



We closed out the year with a joyful Year End Gathering. Mahalo to our planning committee chaired by Jo desMarets for a fun in-person event. Thank you for your support and participation in 2022.

We look forward to seeing you on Jan 15 for our first General Membership Meeting for 2023, and at our membership events and meetings, and temple and community service activities throughout the year. Happy New Year!

BWA continued from page 5

GUTOKU SHINRAN was the ninth name he used the rest of his life. He died on January 16, 1262, at age 89. (In other writings it is mentioned that Shinran died at age 94, so it is not certain what is the true date of his birth and death).

His names were an expression of gratitude to the Nembutsu teachings, and especially to the Pure Land Masters for the gift of Amida Buddha. (Information from Illustrated Life of Shinran Shonin Founder of Shin Buddhism, TORIN SHOBO, 1961).

WHO READS THE GOJI NEWSLETTER? I am sure you never thought of this prior to now when I questioned you. We always assumed that our church members were the only ones reading the GOJI newsletter each month, but

you are mistaken. I received a very nice note from Mary T. of Torrance, California saying that she enjoys reading the Goji each month when her relative passes on the newsletter to her when she is done reading it. She especially enjoys the BWA articles, for which I am very grateful. In other words, there are many readers of the GOJI scattered all over, wherever the newsletter is delivered to. I also appreciate the comments made regarding the newsletter, for we seek any ideas for improvement. Thank you Mary, for your nice comments.

HUMOR: YOU NEED TO EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN



What two words when combined contain the most letters? I shall give you a few minutes to figure it out. The answer is Post Office.

Fujiko Motobu

The second story is about a pet dog. Ichiro lived alone and had a dog for his companion, but one day the dog died. He went to the temple and saw the minister, so he asked him, "Reverend, my dog died and I would like to have a funeral service done for him. Can you do it?" The reverend answered, "I am sorry, but we don't do funeral services for animals. Maybe if you go down the street you might find another church and they may perform funeral services." Ichiro then asked the reverend, "Would \$5,000.00 be enough for the funeral service? That's all I have right now." The reverend answered, "Oh I didn't know that your dog was a Buddhist. I can perform the service for the dog right here, whenever you would like me to do it." So Ichiro had his dog's funeral service performed at the Buddhist temple and the dog was given a Buddhist name
(from the Myogo)

Open Invitation to All...

4th VIRTUAL STATE DHARMA SCHOOL GATHERING
Sunday, February 19, 2023
9:00 am – 12 noon

 **"Sharing Joy Together"** 
2023 Honpa Hongwanji of Hawaii Slogan

9:00 AM: SERVICE
Dharma Message by
Acting Rimban Yuika
Hasebe of Honpa
Hongwanji Hawaii
Betsuin


**9:40 AM: DHARMA
SCHOOL & ADULT
BREAKOUT ROOMS**

**10:30 - 11:00 AM:
MAIN ROOM -
DS/Adult Groups**

**11:00 AM:
DS FAMILY
SESSION ENDS**

**11:10 AM: DS
TEACHERS/
EDUCATORS
SESSION:**
Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki
presents a new
Dharma School
Resource/Open
Sharing of successful
DS activities

12:00 PM: END



**RSVP Deadline
is February 4.**
Click on the following link to
register:
<https://forms.gle/aBxYUgWvQsAW753k>
Any Questions? Please contact: Debbie
Kubota: dekub88@gmail.com

Gathering Zoom Link will
be emailed to participants
by Friday, **February 17.**

*A Commission on
Buddhist Education
(CBE) Project of
Honpa Hongwanji
Mission of Hawaii*

Monthly Nursing Home Visit: Winter Wonderland at Maluhia Hospital



We had great service together with residents of Maluhia and enjoyed the holiday decorations created by Jo for the folks at Maluhia Hospital! Thank you Jo, Sharon, Albert and Liane for your support sharing the dharma with our friends at Maluhia! (submitted by Rev. Hasebe)

2022 BWA Year End Gathering

Wendie Yumori

As Hawaii Betsuin BWA members, guests and ministers mingled at the BWA Year End Gathering on Dec. 11th, smiles lit up the room and joy filled the air. Event Chair, Jo desMarets, and her committee had transformed the social hall with festive holiday decorations and fun Santa inflatables and attendees were delighted to have their pictures taken at designated "photo spots."

Jo extended a warm welcome to all and, after Rev. Charlene Kihara's Words of Thanksgiving, folks were pleased to pick up special order Nijiya bentos and homemade namasu. Following lunch, the first offering of the entertainment

program was a game called A E I O and You. Twelve volunteers from the audience were each given either a vowel card or a consonant card. They were then instructed to listen to clues for a certain word, guess the word, and then arrange themselves to spell the word, e.g., RAMEN. Participants did an excellent job figuring out Japanese and Hawaiian words from the clues given and spelling the words correctly.

Acting Betsuin Rimban Hasebe and Rev. Furusawa teamed up with Bishop Eric, Rev. Baba, and Rev. Kihara to present a re-creation of the Stone Soup tale in a Betsuin town setting with the ministers as cooks. Folks in Betsuin town contributed vegetables to the Stone Soup to add flavor, color, and texture. The ministers noted that, just as each vegetable contributed something special to the soup, each person in the temple contributes something unique to the taste of the Dharma.

Prize Chair, Liane Wong, drew the names of many winners during the program. Folks were directed to select either from an array of gift cards or from many other prize items. The winner of the \$100 Grand Prize was Rev. Baba's six year old daughter!



For the Eightfold Path game, each person at each table was given a paper bag. Penny Atcheson told a story that touched upon Right View, Right Thoughts, etc., and she asked folks to pass the bag to the person on their right whenever she said the word "Right" and to pass the bag to the left whenever she said the word "Left." There was much laughter in the passing! At the end of the game, whoever held the bag marked with a sticker was the winner of the poinsettia. Every bag contained a lovely handbeaded origami crane ornament made by committee members.



Throughout the gathering, Jo's Craft Project table offered folks the opportunity to create colorful beaded ornaments. Toward the end of the program, the Hawaii Betsuin Project Dana Dancers performed an inspiring hula with a timeless message entitled "What a Wonderful World." BWA President, Cindy Alm, then presented her Thank You message in which she highlighted the significant projects and accomplishments of her tenure and thanked everyone for their support. In keeping with tradition, folks joined hands while singing a touching Hawai'i Aloha.



Jo closed the program with her Mahalo and Aloha message, expressing profound gratitude to all who contributed in so many ways to the BWA Year End Gathering. Warmest thanks to Jo and committee members, Claire Groom, Diane Marshall, Liane Wong, Penny Atcheson, Sharon Yokoyama, and Wendie Yumori. Diane M. said it best: "Many smiling, happy faces in our Betsuin town. Thanks everyone for bringing back the brilliance, wonder, and awesomeness."

Dharma School News

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We are so very grateful for our Dharma School families who have returned to join us for our in-per-

Debbie Kubota

put together purse/pocket-size notepad and post-it note holders to give to our sangha in appreciation for the holidays. Many, many thanks to



son services and activities. It's been so fun to be together again.

For Temple Clean-up on Sunday, November 20, we all came together to clean up the Temple Annex. We had a great turnout. From cleaning up the onaijin, dusting the incense burner and stand, wiping down the floorboards and molding along the walls, cleaning the windows, vacuuming the floor, straightening up the chairs, making sure that all of the service books were in the chair pockets and cleaning out the podium and the music sheets in the organ bench, we all worked so hard! It was a time of fellowship, and our work got done so quickly with so many hands to help. We appreciate all of our Dharma School students and families who came out to support this year's event!

We took a break for Thanksgiving so that our Dharma School ohana could enjoy special family time together. On December 11 and 18, our students



Dharma School students helped with the annual temple cleanup in the annex hondo.



Mrs. Shally Giang (Talin's Mom), who spearheaded this project and worked so hard to prepare all of the recycled cardboard and materials. Quotes on being thankful and grateful were placed inside the front covers as a constant reminder of our appreciation.

We took another break for the Christmas and New Year's holidays and resumed our Dharma School services and activities on January 8.

Please join us as we welcome Jikoen Hongwanji for our joint Ho'onko service on Sunday, January 15 at 9:30 am with Bishop Eric Matsumoto as our speaker. We will be having a fun inter-generational taiko drumming activity after the service in the Social Hall, along with a light lunch.

As we ring in the New Year, we welcome all to join us for our Dharma School services and activities on Sundays. We look forward to having lots of fun and fellowship together in 2023!

Scouting News Girl Scout News and Events Emma Yonamine

Girl Scout Activities: Senior Troop 415

How to get "Rich"

The Girl Scout Senior troop 415

November 16, 2022: After school at 5:30PM, the senior scouts went to Central Pacific Bank for a lesson on "How to get Rich." Led by leader Sharene Urakami-Oyama, the four scouts learned three S's to become rich: Success, Spend, and Save. It was a very fascinating lesson and would be very useful for us, as upcoming adults. Our troop has finished our Girl Scout journeys and is now focused on learning as many new skills that would help us prepare for our Gold Award.



Turkey Trot

Girl Scout Troop 383 and 415, and Boy Scout troop 49

November 24, 2022: On a cold, rainy, Thanksgiving morning, the Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts, and the Boy Scouts volunteered to help with the Turkey Trot, an annual run hosted Thanksgiving Day by the Honolulu Marathon Clinic and the Mid-Pacific Road Runners club. This year over 125 runners participated in the annual event. A total of 12 scouts were stationed at either Kapiolani Park or the Triangle Park early in the morning to pass out water and Gatorade to the runners as well as medals and snacks at the finish. The Honolulu Marathon clinic also gave a generous donation to both the Girl and Boy Scouts. Thank you to all those who volunteered.



We're Collecting Aloha Shirts

The Betsuin BWA continues to collect aloha shirts for distribution to our military serving overseas. Please contact Jo desMarets (purpleldy2@aol.com) to donate aloha shirts or for more information!



Search for "Hawaiian Shirts for Deployed Soldiers" on Facebook to see photos of our heroes receiving their Aloha Shirts while serving in remote locations around the world!

"Hawaiian Shirts for Deployed Soldiers"



Scouting News:

On behalf of Troop 49, we would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and an amazing 2023.

The whole month of November was led by the Eagle patrol, with the theme of "STEAM". STEAM stands for "Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math." This theme was a great way to have all scouts use their knowledge outside of their general Boy Scout curriculum and to exhibit what they know from school.

The first meeting was a very familiar and famous activity known to the science classroom...The "Egg Drop". This is where the patrols devise/construct a protective device using limited materials then drop the egg from a high area to see if their device protected the egg. All devices were able to withstand all short distances, so they all advanced to the two story high drop. Seeing how high and how hard their structure may fall, they were anticipating cracked eggs. Somehow, none of the eggs cracked one bit! Teams were forced to take off one piece of their structure, and repeat the same drop again. "Splat!" All eggs cracked this time, and the meeting ended in a draw.

Boy Scout Troop 49

For the second and third meetings in November, we had a popsicle stick bridge competition. Similar to the egg drop competition, we separated into 3 patrols but this time scouts were given 2 meetings to complete and test their bridge. When the time came to test their well built bridges, Scouts used their Boy Scout knot tying knowledge to attach a 5 gallon bucket, and slowly added water to the bucket, until their bridge collapsed. All bridges were well built, surpassing the expectation of when it might collapse. Similar to the previous meeting, the challenge finished in a draw.

Giving back is something that the Boy Scout organization is renowned for, and was practiced multiple times in November by Troop 49. A very significant event was held on November 12, revolving around the Nisei veterans from the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Assistant Scoutmaster Dane Tse-Castro who coordinated this event, invited Troop 49 to participate by escorting the veterans and their families to the Pearl Harbor Memo-

Davin Okino, Troop 49

rial Theater for a presentation and to the Memorial by boat for a ceremony conducted by our very own Rev. Yuika Hasebe. Scouts were able to meet two living heroes in person Dr. Manago and Mr. Toda. Events like these are a great way for Scouts to honor those who have sacrificed for our country.

Troop 49 didn't stop at one service event in November. Together with the Cub Scouts from Pack 49 and the Honpa Hongwanji Girl Scout troops, Troop 49 participated in the annual Temple Clean-up at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. Scouts worked efficiently and very hard to clean all of the outdoor light fixtures and the outside walls of the temple, in addition to organizing the temple's Bon Dance trailer. In no time, the temple was looking spick and span. Amazing sight to see all scouting organizations and other affiliated organizations working together to give back to the temple who has given so much to us.

That's all for now... be on the lookout for more exciting news from Troop 49....



Obituaries: May, August, September, October 2022

05/27/2022	OKAMOTO, Emiko (97)
08/14/2022	TANAKA, Eric Akira (71)
09/29/2022	INAO, Joyce Toshie (97)
09/30/2022	KANESHIRO, Jean Hide (98)
10/05/2022	LIM, Fumiko (85)
10/08/2022	YASUDA, George Tatsuro (88)
10/12/2022	TSUGAWA, Stanford Kaoru (92)
10/19/2022	MURODA, Helen Akiko (90)
10/20/2022	IBE, Gerald Mitsugi (87)
10/23/2022	OKIHIRO, Hisae (96)
10/24/2022	KUROSU, Eleanor Setsuko (84)
10/25/2022	NISHIMURA, Goro Bob (93)

Hawaii Betsuin
**General Membership Meeting
 and New Year's Party 2023**
Sunday, January 29, 2023
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
 in the Social Hall
 1727 Pali Hwy Honolulu, 96813

Ticket Prices:
 Senior 65+ \$15
 Adult 18-64 \$20
 Child 5-17 \$2
 (includes \$10 subsidy
 from Sudhana Fellowship)
 Under 5 Free

Tickets Available from
 the Betsuin Office and Affiliate
 Organizations
 or via hhhb.link/NYparty23
 Deadline to Purchase Tickets:
January 22, 2023

Lunch by Shiro's
 Silent Auction*Entertainment*Games&Prizes

Hawaii Premiere

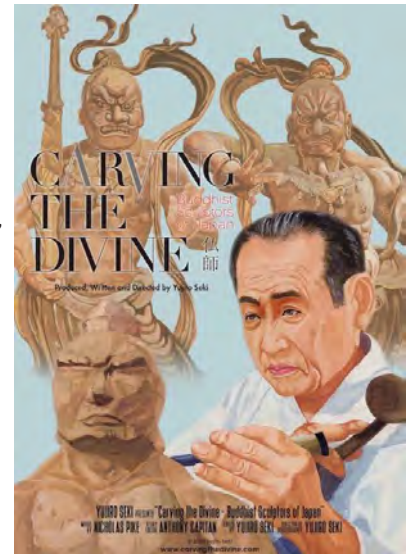
Carving the Divine

Award Winning
 Documentary Film
 Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023,
 11:30AM-2:00PM,
 Honpa Hongwanji
 Hawaii Betsuin
 Buddhist Temple,
 1727 Pali Hwy.
 (Enter via Lusitana Street.)
Open to the Public.

A fascinating look into the
 journey of mastering a
 1,400-year-old tradition of
 the *bussshi*. Yujiro Seki has
 captured on film a world
 unknown to most. The
 journey of becoming a master sculptor of Buddhist images is one in which one also
 gets to know oneself. Meet the producer, Yujiro Seki in person and a private viewing of
 the Amida Buddha image in the Main Sanctuary of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii
 Betsuin Buddhist Temple. Carving the Divine has been shown at 30 film festivals in 22
 countries winning awards at 13 festivals such as the Best Director Award of a Foreign
 Language Documentary at World Cinema Milan and premiering at the famous
 Raindance Film Festival in London.

Go to <https://youtu.be/ZBtdhue11UA> to view official trailer.

Sponsored by the: Buddhist Study Center, Hawaii Buddhist Council and the Honpa
 Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Buddhist Temple. For more information, please call 808
 536-7044 (HHHB Temple) or by email kwong@honpahi.org Donations accepted.



New Year's Party web page: <http://hhhb.link/NYparty23>

May I become at all times, both now and
 forever A protector of those without protection
 A guide for those who have lost their way
 A ship for those with oceans to cross
 A bridge for those with rivers to cross
 A sanctuary for those in danger
 A lamp for those without light
 A place of refuge for those who lack shelter
 And a servant to all in need.
 For as long as space endures,
 And for as long as living beings remain, Until
 then may I, too, abide
 To dispel the misery of the world.

SHANTIDEVA
 Indian master

From the book Peace Quotations & Aspirations;
 Compiled & Edited by Tammy Ruggles (page 65)

Radio Programs
JANUARY 2023

Japanese Language,
SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM

07...Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani &
Bishop Eric Matsumoto

14...Rev. Yuika Hasebe

21...Rev. Ryoso Toshima

28...Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

JANUARY SPEAKERS

Please see page 3

Information Regarding Sunday Services

Attendee limits for in-person funerals and memorial services are now based on room capacity and families' comfort levels. Other service options are available. Please call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044 for current information and to plan for your family's needs.

The 10 a.m. English-language services (as well as the occasional 9:30 a.m. combined services) are now open to in-person attendees. A Zoom option continues to be available. Also, the 8 a.m. in-person Japanese language services have resumed. The Betsuin Dharma School resumed on September 11, 2022..

Many past services are available for replay on the Hawaii Betsuin YouTube channel. For current information on Betsuin services, including Zoom connection details, see the online calendar at hawaiibetsuin.org. You may also check the Betsuin Bulletin sent by email on Fridays (subscribe at hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup/). Or, you can call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044.

In Memoriam NOVEMBER 2022

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

- 04 MARABELLAS, Ritsuko (84)
- 08 FURUMOTO, Waki (95)
- 08 SADOYAMA, Unke (103)
- 08 NAKAMURA, Ruth Okino (99)
- 13 ROBERTS, Tamiko Kusubae (74)
- 15 FURUHAMA, Janet Ayano (97)
- 15 HIGASHI, Kenneth Tadao (76)
- 16 IWAHASHI, June Omori (93)
- 19 YAMAMOTO, Nancy Teiko (91)
- 22 HIRAMOTO, Kelvin Katsumi (75)

Please see page 10 for more obituaries

Schedule Of Monthly Nursing Home Services (For The Residents)

Hale O Meleana

Service Every 2nd Friday At 10:30 A.M.

Maluhia

Service Every 3Rd Wed At 10:00 A.M.

**All other nursing Home Services
remain cancelled until further notice.**

2023 Memorial Service Schedule

2023 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2022: 1st year	2011: 13th year	1991: 33th year
2021: 3rd year	2007: 17th year	1974: 50th year
2017: 7th year	1999: 25th year	1924: 100th year

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