

# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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JUNE 2014

### JINJI – MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS

**Rev. Yuika Hasebe**, who is on leave of absence since February 2013, will be assigned to the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as its Associate Minister as of July 1, 2014.

**Rev. Tomo Hojo**, the Associate Minister of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, will be assigned to the West Kauai Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as of August 16, 2014.

### CONDOLENCES

**Mr. Akira Sonny Omonaka**, a member of Honomu Hongwanji Mission, passed away on May 9, 2014. Mr. Omonaka served as the Vice President of Honomu Hongwanji Mission for a long time. The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of JIN-KOU-IN 深広院 was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented at the Funeral Service. "JIN-KOU" means "the one who deeply and widely helped others" in recognition of his exemplary service to the temple and the community, just as Amida Buddha's Compassion reaches out to all beings and forsakes none, by which so many greatly benefitted.

**Mr. Harold Makoto Date**, a member of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, passed away on May 9, 2014. Mr. Date served as the board member for both Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of KOU-SHOU-IN 光摂院 was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented at the Funeral Service. "KOU-SHOU" means "the one who luminously embraced others" in recognition of his dedication and effort to always care about others and look after their welfare just as the Buddha's Light of Compassion warmly embraces all who sincerely entrust.

### MESSAGE FROM MR. ALTON MIYAMOTO

I want to thank our Headquarter staff for sponsoring and coordinating the Aloha Luncheon held on May 10, 2014. I was truly touched that the room was packed with over 170 attendees. I was especially thankful that many of you, even those who couldn't attend the luncheon, chose to send in donations to the Pacific Buddhist Academy on this occasion. Pieper and I would like to thank all of you for your generous contributions totaling over \$7,300.

I am grateful for the presentation of certificates and gifts from Honzan, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, State Minister's Association, Hawaii State Federation of Honpa Hongwanji Lay Association, Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations, Hawaii Federation of Jr. Young Buddhist Associations and the Pacific Buddhist Academy.

I am especially grateful for the support and guidance that were given to me over the past six years. To the Bishop and the Headquarter staff, Immediate Past President Fred Nonaka, Board of Directors, Committees, Districts, organizations, temples and members thank you for all your hard work and dedication. While I will still be involved with many statewide issues, we do have a new leader, full of energy and ideas. I ask you to support Pieper Toyama and continue supporting PBA. In Gassho

Alton Miyamoto, Immediate Past President

## 12<sup>th</sup> STATE BWA MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE

The 12<sup>th</sup> State Buddhist Women's Association Membership Conference was held on May 3-4, 2014 at the Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay on the Big Island. In attendance were 250 BWA delegates from the Honolulu United, Oahu United, Maui United, Kauai United, Hawai'i United as well as ministers representing various temples throughout the State of Hawai'i. This year's Conference theme was "Peace and Oneness of Life" and was hosted by the Hawaii United BWA. Delegates attended workshops on making lauhala bracelet, recycled crafts, yoga, and a tour of the Sheraton Keauhou grounds. Mr. Duane Kurisu, CEO of AIO, was the keynote speaker who spoke on a person's obligation and how to successfully complete tasks.

The general meeting was conducted by Janet Honda, Federation BWA president, who also acknowledged BWA's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year with special recognition of past federation presidents, Fusae Kiyokawa, Rose Nakamura, Carol Yamamoto, and Donna Higashi.

This State Conference is held every four years prior to the World Buddhist Women's Convention and the main business is to discuss the upcoming World Convention. The 15<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Women's Convention will be held on May 30-31, 2015 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, hosted by Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Women's Federation.



*Photo taken by A. Imai*

## YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT 6

This year's Young Adults Retreat will be held on August 8-11 at Camp Kokokahi in Oahu. Please find the application form attached.

The Young Adults Retreat is a retreat for 18-35 year olds interested in learning about or continuing their experience with Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Over the course of the retreat, participants will not only learn about Buddhism, but also get to learn some culture as well as a little about themselves. There will be fun games and activities for participants to either develop new friendships or build upon the ones they may already have. If there are any questions, please contact Jake Chang at [youth@honpahi.org](mailto:youth@honpahi.org).

## BSC SUMMER SESSION 2014

The Buddhist Study Center will be holding the Summer Session on July 28 through August 1, 2014 (No weekend sessions). Reverend Marvin Harada from the Orange County Buddhist Church will be giving a lecture titled, "Resolving Life's Problems through Buddhism". **For more detailed information and registration, please see the attached file.**

## YOUNG BUDDHISTS BEACH RETREAT

August 2, 2014, 9:00am-3:00pm, Waialua, HI  
For ages 12-35

Mingle with the BSCFC, hang out at the beach, eat good food, and have a Dharma discussion with Rev. Marvin Harada. Please RSVP to Jamie at 973-6555 or email [bscassist@honpahi.org](mailto:bscassist@honpahi.org) by July 18.

## JASON CABOT

Jason Cabot, a graduate of Kaua'i High School and Honolulu Community College, was injured on Oahu in a swimming accident last year, resulting in paralysis from his chest down with limited movement of his arms. In the months since, Jason has twice been to Craig Rehab Hospital in Colorado and continues physical therapy on Kaua'i, where he currently resides. His father, Gilbert Cabot, has been the scoutmaster for Lihue Hongwanji's Boy Scout Troop 83 for many years. The Cabot family is not a Hongwanji member. With hard work, cooperation, and generosity of members of LHM and non-members from the community, several fundraising events were held including a craft fair, food sales, car wash, and golf tournament. A check was recently presented to the Cabot family to help with their expenses. LHM expresses their deepest gratitude to everyone on Kaua'i.



Cabots (Jonathan missing) & a few committee members:  
Rev. Bruce Nakamura (2<sup>nd</sup> from left)

## BWA PARTICIPATES IN PAN-PACIFIC PARADE

Members and friends of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations participated in the Pan-Pacific Festival parade on Father's Day, June 15<sup>th</sup>. An enthusiastic group of purple-clad marchers carried cranes made by Jean Yamashiro of Jikoen and Norman Hirohata-Goto of Betsuin.

The message, "Share Peace," was beautifully illustrated on placards designed and made by Jo DesMarets of Betsuin. Josh Hernandez-Morse drove the PBA bus to accommodate BWA members who were unable to walk the entire parade route.

Spam musubi made by the women of Kailua BWA, oranges donated by Jikoen BWA, and water donated by President Janet Honda sustained the participants before and after the event.

Participation in the parade fosters relationships among BWA members from different temples, and also is a way for us to engage in and support community activities.

We would like to express our appreciation to all who participated in the event and to those who helped in planning, preparation, and communication.



## PACIFIC BUDDHIST ACADEMY SEEKS NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL

Pacific Buddhist Academy's current Head of School, Robert Cody, has accepted a position as Assistant Head of School at the American Community School, a K-12 school with 900 students in Doha, Qatar. PBA thanks him for his contributions and wishes him and his family well as they embark on this exciting new opportunity in international education.

The search is underway for a new PBA leader. PBA seeks an innovative, collaborative, resourceful Head of School who will build on the strength of the school's faculty, its outstanding academic programs, its unique peace education curriculum, and its commitment to Buddhist values to guide the school to new levels of excellence. The Head of School will lead the completion of a capital campaign for construction of a new

classroom building, increase student enrollment, strengthen the support of the school community, and enhance the school's long-term sustainability.

For the job description and application instructions, please visit <http://bit.ly/Tcd5qj>.

## PBA ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

Aloha, Pacific Buddhist Academy 'Ohana! Just about 10 days remain in Pacific Buddhist Academy's 2013-14 fiscal year and Annual Fund campaign. We need about \$20,000 to make our goal of \$120,000 by June 30.

Donations to the Annual Fund help PBA make up the difference in the actual costs of educating all our students. All your contributions create more opportunities for new generations of leaders in the service of peace to change the world.



To make a donation, [give online](#) or see the [How to Give page](#) on our website.

If you have already given this year, Mahalo! Additional contributions are always needed and welcome! Please know how much our students and their families appreciate your investment in them. As in past years, all graduates from the Class of 2014 were accepted into colleges and universities. Thank you for helping us strive to be an affordable, college-preparatory high school infused in Buddhist values that nurtures the whole student.

## CALL FOR SUBMISSION FROM CALENDAR COMMITTEE

### 2015 – Embrace Change: Awareness (Seek Opportunities)

We seek AWARENESS of our current situation and seek opportunities as a result of our understanding of ourselves, our community, and our needs.

The HHMH Calendar Committee would once again like to invite the temple members to provide creative works of art for the Hongwanji calendar. The works of art may include photos, drawings, poems, and even picture of things like sculptures and pottery. The pictures will need to be able to be enlarged to an 8x10 photo quality. We have found that cell phone pictures often do not work well for this calendar project. For each submission, please include your name, temple, and a paragraph with your reflection or thought that describes how the picture relates to AWARENESS.

Please encourage each other and your various temple organizations to start thinking about ideas to submit for the 2015 calendar over the upcoming summer months. How about even submitting something as a family or as a group? Dharma School, BWA, Jr. YBA, Project Dana, etc.? Members are not limited to just one submission, but please be sure to include a separate description for each submission. If you have questions, please leave a message for Yumi Suzuki at the Hongwanji Headquarters Office c/o Rev. Umitani at 522-9205 or email address: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org). For entry submissions, please submit directly to Alan Kubota at [lenscapes@yahoo.com](mailto:lenscapes@yahoo.com). He will also be able to respond to your technical questions. Thank you.

**The deadline for submissions is September 9, 2014.**

## CONGRATULATIONS, REV. HIROMI KAWAJI

A special recognition ceremony was held on May 29, 2014 at the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu to honor Rev. Hiromi Kawaji for his numerous contributions for the betterment of Hawaii-Japan Relations and between the cultures and people of Japan and Hawaii. In addition to his committed involvement with the United Japanese

Society of Hawaii, Hawaii Kyoikukai and Kagoshima Kenjinkai, his lasting contributions and dedication as a Jodo Shinshu minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii was personally mentioned by Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda who did the honors of presenting the Award to Rev. Kawaji on behalf of the Japanese Government. Congratulations, Rev. Kawaji and Family and thank you for your decades of dedication and commitment which has resulted in a better Hawaii.

## **US NAVY AND HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII**

Recently, on June 13<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Eric and Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto of Hawaii Kyodan were among the “key religious leaders” guests who were invited to attend an intimate dinner hosted by Rear Admiral Richard L. Williams, Commander of US Navy Region Hawaii and Mrs. Suzy Williams at their spacious and historic 100 year old residence at Pearl Harbor. It was wonderful evening of fellowship and getting to know each other in anticipation of future relations between the US Navy and the religious communities of Hawaii. Earlier, last year, Bishop and Executive Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani attended the Change of Command Ceremony at the USS Missouri Memorial Pier on Ford Island when Admiral Williams became the new Commander of the Navy in Hawaii. Our appreciation to Captain Sal Aguilera who coordinated the contacts with personally delivered invitations and also for his participation at our Interfaith Peace Day Service held at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin in September 2013. We look forward to working with the Navy to help meet the needs of Navy personnel especially those who are Buddhists or have an interest in Buddhism.