1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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MAY 2022
NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

2022 Slogan:

"Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others"

BETSUIN MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Fuku-Rimban
Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Gotan-E to be Observed at the Betsuin on May 15th

The Jodo Shinshu Honpa Hongwanji Sect is observing a very special holiday this month called Gotan-E. Gotan-E commemorates the birth of the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, Shinran Shonin, over 800 years ago. It was Shinran Shonin's spiritual awakening and entrusting in the Vow of Amida Buddha, when he encountered his Dharma teacher Honen Shonin, that set in motion the founding of the Jodo Shinshu sect which became the most widely practiced branch of Buddhism in Japan. It has also taken roots in various countries around the world such as the USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Nepal, and even parts of Europe.

Rev. David Nakamoto

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin set aside May 15, 2022 to observe and celebrate the birth of Shinran Shonin. The service will commence at 9:30 am via combined hybrid family service. The guest speaker for this special major service will be Rev. David Nakamoto, retired minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Rev. David Shunzo Nakamoto graduated from the University of Hawaii with a B.A. and MSW and received tokudo ordination in 2003. Prior to his ordination, he worked at Beretania Florist owned by his parents Shigeichi and Yukie Nakamoto. He also worked for the Department of Health, Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center, retiring after 35 years of service.

After ordination, Rev. David was assigned to the Kapolei Buddhist Sangha, Waipahu Hongwanji from March 1, 2004 to July 1, 2008. From January 1, 2009 to January 1, 2010 he served at Wahiawa Hongwanji, then at Kailua Hongwanji from January 1, 2010 until his retirement from the ministry, on September 10, 2017. Rev. David Nakamoto is married to Rev. Irene Nakamoto, who also received tokudo ordination in 2003.

More About Shinran Shonin

According to traditional biographies, Shinran was born on May 21, 1173 to Lord and Lady Arinor Hinoi, from a branch of the Fujiwara clan, and was given the name Matsuwakamaro. Early in Shinran's life his parents both died. In 1181, desperate to know what happens after dying, he entered the Shōren-in temple near present-day Maruyama Park in Kyoto at age nine. Modern historians contest the identity and date of death of Shinran's parents, suggesting he ordained alongside his father due to instability from the Genpei War. He wrote this poem on entering: "Like the cherry blossom, the heart planning on tomorrow is ephemeral indeed—what sudden storm may not arise in the middle of the night." Acutely aware of his own impermanence, he was desperate to find a solution. He then practiced at Mt. Hiei for the next 20 years of his life. Letters between his wife and daughter indicate that he was a Tendai dōsō ("hall monk"). According to his own account to his wife Eshinni (whose letters are preserved at the Hongan-ji), in frustration at his own failures as a monk and at obtaining enlightenment, he took a retreat at the temple of Rokkaku-dō. There,

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Dharma Message: "Our Spiritual Parents"

Rev. Sol Kalu

One of the things that cannot be denied by any person on earth is the fact that he or she has or had both a mother and father. Even if a person grew up in an orphanage or was abandoned as a baby and reared by someone else, still, for a person to be born in this world and take on a human body and form requires two people – a mother and father, even if the both aren't married to each other. That's the biological cause of being born. And thus, the term biological parent. That is the minimum definition of what a parent is. It also applies to the animal world as well, so all sentient beings without exception have parents. But in human beings and other higher life forms, parents do the additional function of nurturing the young, providing food and training in order to ensure the survival of their offspring into adulthood. This is the classic and full definition of parents as the foundation of the basic unit of society called the family. Although in the animal world, parenting skills are purely instinctive; humans have a much more complex and evolved ways of raising their children to full maturity.

On the spiritual level, we have parents too, in the form of Amida and Shakyamuni Buddha. Shakyamuni Buddha and Amida Buddha are regarded by Shinran, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu sect of Buddhism, as our spiritual father and mother respectively. Through Shinran's wasan or poems that he wrote, he is reminding us that Shakyamuni Buddha and Amida Buddha are trying to lead us to Enlightenment. Shakyamuni Buddha is regarded as the father figure because he represents the wisdom aspect of Buddhahood. Shakyamuni Buddha tried all the difficult meditative practices to arrive at his awakening to the Truth and Enlightenment and so he is the father aspect, wisdom. Amida Buddha on the other hand represents the motherly side of the compassion aspect of Buddhism. Although Amida Buddha can represent both the wisdom and compassion aspect, it is because of the Primal Vow that saves all beings regardless of who or what they are, in other words, the all embracing salvation is none other than Boundless Compassion, that makes Amida Buddha a more motherly figure, caring for her children. In Buddhism, unlike the other major religious traditions we are treated more like adults, the teaching of the Buddhas are not commandments that we strictly have to follow but rather they are guidelines to a happier life. The Buddhas only point the way, the choice is entirely up to us to make. Buddhism is more like saying to us: "These are the ways for you to avoid painful suffering in life, please try and follow them if you want a happier, peaceful life." There is no threat of punishment in Buddhism for not following the precepts. The Buddhas never punish, they are enlightened beings devoid of such negative qualities. Their teachings enable us to understand life as it really is in order for us to make the proper choices. If we choose to follow the wrong path, we are punishing ourselves because we are planting the seeds of unwholesome karma whose fruit we will eventually reap. Isn't that what most parents say to their almost grown-up children? They would say: "I can only advise you on which path you walk in life, you are already adults, you can decide for yourselves. My words are only advice, a guide for you to make the right choice."

Very much like our human parents with some exceptions, the Buddhas never criticize us for the ugly nature of our being filled with blind passion but as true parents accept us for what we are, despite our weaknesses and imperfections. Like parents who continually strive for the well-being of their children, we go to the Buddhas for their wisdom, leading the way to Enlightenment. To them we express our gratitude for their parental boundless love and compassion.

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
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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.

GOJI STAFF:
Editorial: *Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Shingo Furusawa, Japanese section editor* Production: *Colleen Kunishige, David Atcheson;* Circulation: *Colleen Kunishige, Elmer Cagoan;* 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.*

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

President's Message: Alan Tomita

Hi All!

As we begin a new year, I am honored and excited to be your newly-elected president of the Hawaii Betsuin. We have an excellent Board of Directors this year and will continue the great work of the previous administration. I would like to thank the outgoing officers for a job well done.

We have been busy reorganizing our committees, collaborating with our new Executive Director, and addressing the ongoing challenges of the Betsuin. Some of the top challenges the Betsuin is currently facing are how to increase membership, generating funds to operate and maintain the temple, and communicating openly with the congregation.

For the past 35 years our leaders and congregation worked together and completed the following projects…

- $1.5 million for the renovation of the Hondo and Annex temples for the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the temple.
- $1 million for the construction of the Middle School building at Hongwanji Mission School.
- $1 million for the acquisition of the back properties and construction of the back parking lot for the new Pacific Buddhist Academy building to be established.
- $500,000 for the renovation of the Annex Dormitory for the start of Pacific Buddhist Academy.
- Planning, designing, and constructing of the elevator.

The above accomplishments were possible because of you, the congregation and friends of the temple, who served on various boards and committees, donated your time and services, contributed and raised monies, and provided the fellowship that made belonging to this temple worthwhile and enjoyable for all. The temple would not exist without you.

We need to continue to work together to move our temple forward and grow. We all want the temple to thrive for the next 100 years. Let's think about how we can meet the challenges and how important the temple is to us.

Please feel free to contact me at **atomita@hawaii.rr.com** if you have any questions or ideas. I look forward to working with all of you soon!

In Gassho,
Alan Tomita

Message from the Executive Director, Jon Matsuoka

I have spent the greater part of the first month on the job talking to an array of people associated with the Temple and Hongwanji community to get the lay of the land. In doing so a picture of Betsuin's status and needs are coming into focus.

Here are themes that emerged from my conversations:

- There is a clear disconnect between growing interest in Buddhism in Hawai`i and nationwide, and a steady decline in Honpa Hongwanji membership;
- Growth in Buddhism is occurring outside the Japanese American community -- a community in Hawai`i that is quickly aging and diminishing in size;
- There is strong concern that as we grow and diversify, we continue to honor those that came before and built the Temple;
- That growth, including use of facilities, is consistent with Buddhist values and practices;
- In order to be viable, there is a need to expand and develop revenue streams beyond membership and service fees;
- There is an upswell of change and innovation related to Buddhist-based social services, social concerns, literature, outreach and inclusiveness, occurring under the umbrella of Buddhist Churches of America;

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BWA News and Events

LEARNING JAPANESE LANGUAGE: LESSON 1

To learn the days of the week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday in Japanese: Monday is Getsuyoube or tsuki hi or moonlight; Tuesday is Kayoube or kaji no hi or fire; Wednesday is Suiyoube or mizu no hi or water; Thursday is Mokuyoube or the name of a person, Mokubei; Friday is Kinyoube or kin no hi or golden day; and Saturday is Doyoube or doro no hi or full of dirt. Thus, as a child I learned it as "Tsuki yo no ban ni, Kaji ga a'te, Mizu mo'te koi Mokubei san, Kintara otoshite, doro mogure." In English this would be, "On a moonlight night there was a fire, bring some water, Mokubei, he dropped his balls that picked up full of dirt."

Something that I learned yesterday, I have already forgotten, but some things that I learned as a child, I still recall and make use of them. The younger you are, the more you can learn and remember. Poems are great things to teach youngsters as well as mathematical calculations. I am certain that if the youngster is taught to recite the sutra he will remember until he is 80+ years old, and an 80-year-old grandma who has been reciting the sutra every Sunday still cannot recall every single line except the last, Namo Amida Butsu.

The coronavirus pandemic taught us a lot of lessons. It was not that great to be confined alone during the pandemic, for without human interaction, we lose a lot of intellectual ability. We have become very cautious about others. Having to wear masks has taught us many lessons, those with the illness will prevent the virus from passing on to others. Those without the illness and wearing the masks will help them from catching the horrible virus. Nevertheless, those who are hard of hearing have suffered a great deal. Deaf people cannot make out what others are speaking when the other person is wearing a mask.

When the temple Sunday services began to be seen and heard on the computer, it was obvious that there was no audience at the temple for the minister; however, he wore his mask and spoke. To the deaf audience it was completely frustrating to try to endure such a setup. The deaf could not make out what the minister spoke about. If they need to continue wearing masks, perhaps every minister should be given an individual snap-on mike so that they can be heard in any condition. Of course, they should continue to speak slowly, loudly and clearly.

Only when you are deaf can you understand the agony and frustration that one has to go through in listening to the sermons as well as speech of others. It is not grumbling of old people, but until you yourself experience the deaf situation, it is hard to relate to them. Let us be compassionate and understanding with patience and treat the poor elders who are suffering deafness with kindness. The agonies experienced by all of us during this period of the coronavirus, has taught us that life is too short to be mean, selfish, and self-centered. This was a good time that we learned to be kind to all, be gentle and compassionate, spread your good will with a nice smile, and not to forget to recite the Nembutsu as often as we can. Let your best heart emerge and lead the way for the rest of your life.

Fujiko Motobu

When the coronavirus pandemic subsides, let us hope that the Kyodan will organize some get-togethers of the entire membership, the young Dharma school age children through the seniors, and have some fun sessions together. There are some very talented musicians, dancers, etc. hidden amongst us. They should have the chance to entertain the group and have fun. The more activities that are held at the Betsuin, the more people may gather here rather than going elsewhere.

The Betsuin should also consider providing a shuttle bus service, especially on Sundays for the services. There are many seniors who have given up driving and are at a loss on transportation. A reasonable bus fare should be of no burden to the members.

Making Hawaii into a SMOKE FREE STATE, by prohibiting smoking and vaping is being pushed by some youth organizations today, and we should support them. It would be wonderful if Hawaii were to be smoke free. People who want to give up smoking can come to Hawaii for that reason. Young people's health is more important than mere money-making for the merchants. Consumption of alcohol is another aspect to prohibit. It is now being told that men should not exceed more than two drinks a day, and women, just one drink a day.

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Eshinni

Kakushinni

Eshinni / Kakushini Day
Mother's Day service
Sunday May 8
Combined service with Dharma School
via Zoom and in-person
starting at 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Charlene Kihara
Collection for Betsuin Youth Services

Update On Betsuin Covid Operations And Protocol

In-person Sunday Services: Starting April 10, 2022 with our Buddha Day Service, we have been presenting the adult, English-language service as a "hybrid" service, meaning you are invited to attend in person in the hondo, or from home via Zoom.

Funerals and memorial services: We have removed specific limits on number of attendees, subject of course to hall/room capacity and the families' comfort levels.

Columbarium visits: Simplified sign-in at the office still required, no temperature check.

Ongoing health and safety measures: If attending in person, please note that we are for now still requiring masks indoors. Hand sanitizing stations will be conveniently located to encourage use. Also note that we are not starting up refreshments in the Social Hall just yet.

Affiliated groups and programs are also welcomed back, subject to room availability and comfort level of group/program members.

Consistent with communications from the City & County, risk assessment is a personal and group responsibility.

What is permissible per the county or temple may or may not be appropriate for you our your group. If you have any questions, please contact the Betsuin office.

More About Shinran continued from page 1

while engaged in intense practice, he experienced a vision in which Avalokitesvara appeared to him as Prince Shōtoku, directing Shinran to another disillusioned Tendai monk named Hōnen. In 1201, Shinran met Hōnen and became his disciple. During his first year under Hōnen's guidance, at the age of 29, Shinran attained enlightenment, or salvation through Amida's Vow. Though the two only knew each other for a few years, Hōnen entrusted Shinran with a copy of his secret work, the Senchakushū. However his precise status amongst Hōnen's followers is unclear as in the Seven Article Pledge, signed by Hōnen's followers in 1204, where Shinran's signature appears near the middle among less-intimate disciples. During his time as a disciple of Hōnen, Shinran caused a great stir among society by publicly getting married and eating meat. Both practices were strictly forbidden for monks, but Shinran took these drastic steps to show that Amida's salvation is for all people and not just for monks and priests.

Shinran died in Kyoto in 1263 at the age of ninety. Kakushinni was instrumental in maintaining the mausoleum, and passing on his teachings, with her descendants ultimately becoming the Monshu, or head of the Hongwanji Temples built around the Mausoleum. (from Wikipedia)

For more information on the life of Shinran Shonin and the history of the development of the Jodo Shinshu path, the Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i Bookstore has an excellent selection of titles on these subjects.

Executive Director's Message continue from page 3

- There is a need and desire to change the structure and design of Sunday services at Betsuin – especially in ways that attract younger and more diverse cohorts;

- Segments of the Board see Betsuin as a place of fellowship, while others look to Betsuin for spiritual grounding and fulfillment;

- The Board in general is primed to move forward but is stalled by internal conflict and disagreement; and

- There is consensus that Strategic Planning is needed to develop a common vision along with goals and objectives so that we know where we're going and how to get there.

In my assessment, the Betsuin is an organization in transition. Conflicts and disagreements on how to proceed are a natural part of the change process and to be expected. The most important thing we can do is accept change and manage it in ways that preserve qualities that are sacrosanct while moving forward to grow a more viable and sustainable sangha. Like climate change, it is imperative to try something new before the window of opportunity closes.

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Mahalo to presenters at the 2022 Hawaii Betsuin Earth Day Service, our 6th annual! Pictured are Lehua Matsuoka (opening oli), Jon Matsuoka (emcee), Dennis Sekine (Dharma School message/storytelling), and Kamuela Enos and Miwa Tamanaha (adult message). Kamuela and Miwa read a poem by Puanani Burgess entitled "Kākou," meaning all of us together, and then each offered reflections on kākou. The service was presented both in person and via Zoom, and we intend to make a version of the Zoom recording available soon.

BWA News contnued from page 4

Obesity is another factor that we need to watch and once we become obese, it is indeed difficult to lose the unwanted weight. It is physical and mental exercises as well as what you eat that makes the difference. The Sunday refreshment table ought to watch what are being served, and go easy on too many sweet things (although they are so yummy). Are you all drinking at least eight cups of liquid in a day? You do not want to dehydrate. Try to go easy on the use of sugar and substitute it with honey whenever possible.
Let's hope the people will all get their shots and vaccines to stay away from the coronavirus and hope that we can get back to our church services on Sunday soon. Stay healthy in mind and body.

NOW FOR SOME HUMOR: Sally was driving home from one of her business trips to Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car. Resuming the journey, Sally tried to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman. The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.

"What is in bag?" asked the old woman. Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said, "Good trade." THE END.

Headquarters Connections

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Statement on the invasion of Ukraine

released by Bishop Matsumoto and Committee on Social Concerns

https://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/2022/03/26/ukraine-statement-032522/

March 25, 2022

We have watched in sadness and horror the destruction caused by the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine. Our hearts go out to all those directly involved in and affected by this conflict. The senseless loss of human life and the trauma of war will have lasting repercussions on so many for we are all interconnected.

The poisons of greed, hatred, and ignorance are at work in our world causing immense suffering. Shinran Shōnin, the founder of Shin Buddhism reflects on our capacity for unwholesome and destructive actions, "Human beings are such that, maddened by the passions of greed, we desire to possess; maddened by the passions of anger, we hate that which should not be hated, seeking to go against the law of cause and effect; led astray by the passions of ignorance, we do what should not even be thought." Illuminated by the Buddha's Light, we reflect on our human proclivity for violence as we actively cultivate the conditions for peace and the well-being of all people.

We should acknowledge that we are all too often swayed by fear, insecurity, distrust, and doubt. As peoples and nations of the world, we should come together to deeply hear each other's concerns with the aspiration to alleviate suffering, assuage historic wounds, and work towards creating a lasting security and peace for the entire world.

Guided by the Buddha's Teachings, we deeply lament this war and compassionately call for an immediate end to the conflict. We support humanitarian aid for victims and have made donations to Doctors Without Borders and World Central Kitchen for their work on the ground in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Let us all support relief efforts and call for an end to the aggression and violence.

As Shinran Shōnin encouraged during a troubled time in the past, "I hope that everyone will, deeply entrusting themselves to the nembutsu and firmly embracing prayers [for peace in the world] in their hearts, together say the nembutsu." May the light of all-inclusive wisdom and all-embracing compassion guide our thoughts, words, and actions along the difficult journey to peace.

Bishop Eric Matsumoto
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns

[Note: the HHMH Committee on Social Concerns has donated $1250 to Doctors Without Borders and $750 to the World Central Kitchen on behalf of Ukraine.]

Photo: Frame from a YouTube video, "In the streets of Kharkiv, Ukraine-2022 Bach Cello Suite no 5 in C minor BWV 1011, Prelude," https://youtu.be/lQHzO11LcKU.

Headquarters Connections is compiled by Hawaii Betsuin Board members Steve Lohse and Cindy Alm.

Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota

Virtual services and Dharma School activities are held on Sundays at 9:00 am via Zoom. All Honolulu Dharma School families are always invited to attend. We have had participants from Hawaii Betsuin and Jikoen Hongwanji in attendance on a regular basis. Many thanks to our Dharma School students for helping us with emcee duties and aspiration reading; Cora and Vincent Saito,Talin Giang, and Chris Leu.

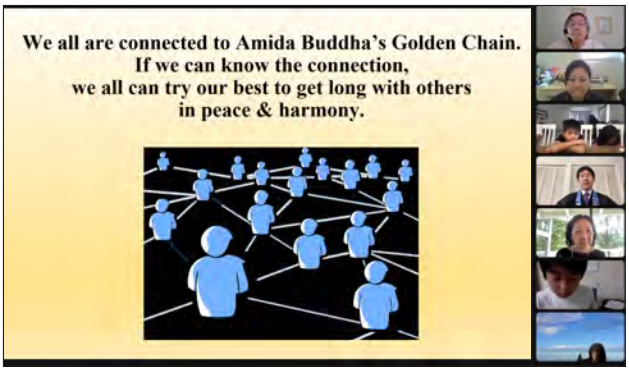
On Sunday, March 13, Reverend Shingo Furusawa talked about the first section of the Golden Chain of Love. He said we are all connected by Amida Buddha's Golden Chain of Love. If we can know the connection, we can all try our best to get along in peace and harmony. For our Dharma School activity, everyone made a paper chain, then we took pictures holding the chains and linked everyone together to show that we are all connected.

We joined the combined Spring Higan service on March 20, with Reverend Mieko Majima from Kapaa Hongwanji as the guest speaker. Our Dharma School activity focused on rolling a die to select balance activities (standing on one foot, balancing a pen on your finger, building a card house using three cards, etc.) to commemorate the spring vernal equinox in which daylight and nighttime hours are equal.

Jovie Yoshioka was the Dharma speaker for March 27th and shared a read-aloud book video, "A Little Spot of Kindness," by Diane Alber. We asked the Dharma School students to share stories from a personal experience in which something great happened to them, or they witnessed something wonderful, or an inspirational story they heard. They shared some really nice experiences such as appreciating the time and effort that baseball coaches put in to coach the players, a news story about people helping to release a whale that was stuck in a fishing net, students helping their parents to clean up or carry groceries, and sharing appreciation for grandmothers who cook delicious meals.

We will be continuing our virtual Dharma School services and activities on Sundays through May 22.

Please join us when you can. We welcome all ages!



First Ever, Betsuin "Trees, Please" Big Success! Native Trees and Plants Given to Sangha Members to Nurture and Grow - Its All About Being Green!

Trees, Thank You! Thank You to everyone who made our Trees, Please! project (April 15-17) a successful and fun part of Hawaii Betsuin's Earth Day celebrations! Thank you to the Malama Learning Center that supplied the native trees and plants and with whom we look forward to future activities, see Malama Learning Center. Thank You to Mindy Jaffe, who supplied the worm compost, see Worm Ohana. Thank You to the volunteers who transported the plants and set up, staffed, and cleaned up after.

Thank You especially to all who adopted plants during this 3-day event. We started with 50 plants, all found good homes with Sangha gardeners, and the final dozen went to Ma'ema'e Elementary School for Family Day. As we celebrate our interdependence with all life and own the impact of our behavior on future generations, let's build an Earth Touching Sangha grateful for every day as an Earth Day!

Submitted by Steve Lohse
Betsuin board member and chair of the statewide Green Hongwanji Committee

Life of Nembutsu enables us to appreciate every encounter

Shinran Shonin's Birth 850 00 Jodo Shinshu Teaching

Honzan to Host Shinran Shonin's 850th Birthday In 2023! Contact the Betsuin office for more information!

Scouting News Boy Scout Troop 49

This month was very productive at Troop 49. During the month of March, the troop still held its weekly in-person meetings where various activities were conducted. The new badger scouts are off to a great start and are starting to advance through their Boy Scout journey. This month's theme was "Back to Basics," scouts learned valuable skills such as how to tie various knots and how to create, start, and sustain a fire. These skills are essential to every Boy Scout.

The troop also held its Court of Honor where scouts were rewarded and acknowledged for their hard work in scouting. Scouts were awarded various rank advancements and merit badges. Along with these advancements, Scouts that were elected in the Troop Elections held in February were sworn into their new leadership positions. This new leadership team will be the scouts leading the troop for the next six months. They have courageously taken on their positions and will mentor the younger scouts and keep the troop functioning at a high level. During this Court of Honor, we also had two scouts who were recognized for earning the highest Boy Scout rank, Eagle Scout. Welkin Williams and Jason Ebesu obtained the rank of Eagle Scout and have now started a new chapter in their journey in life.

New Leadership:

Senior Patrol Leader:	Colby Fujino
Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders:	Caden Matsumoto and Dylan Uchino
Quartermasters:	PJ Lau and Caden Fujino
Troop Guide:	Andrew Shen
Librarian/Webmaster:	Dillon Pang
Scribe:	Darian Pang
Shark Patrol Leader:	Ty Sunahara
Shark Assistant Patrol Leader:	Trevor Ota
Cobra Patrol Leader:	Vincent Saito
Cobra Assistant, Patrol Leader:	Talin Giang
Scorpion Patrol Leader:	Sean Furuta
Scorpion Assistant Patrol Leader:	Eric Gay Jr.
Eagle Patrol Leader:	Davin Okino
Eagle Assistant Patrol Leader:	Cohen Sakamoto

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Betsuin Board Reviewing Columbarium Policies and Facilities: Seeking Your Input

Have you visited the Hawaii Betsuin Columbarium in recent years?

The Hawaii Betsuin maintains a place of perpetual peace for loved ones directly behind the main Hondo altar. Daily chanting is offered in their remembrance and in gratitude for their influence on our lives. The Columbarium is a place of serenity for peaceful reflection.

The Hawaii Betsuin Board of Directors is working on updating the Columbarium policies and procedures, and upgrading the facilities. In order to complete this task, the Board requests feedback on your experiences visitng the Columbarium or any ideas you may have to improve the Columbarium. The HBBOD is conducting a survey to better asses the needs of the Columbarium and its visitors. A survey is available via this link:

http://hhhb.link/columbariumsurvey

You may also request that a copy be sent to you by calling the temple office or pick up a survey at the office when you visit the Columbarium.

If you would like more information about reserving niche, please call the temple office at (808) 536-7044.

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!

See photos of our heros receiving their Aloha Shirts while serving in remote locations around the world on Facebook:
"Hawaiian Shirts For Deployed Soldiers"

Lead Abatement Project Completed

Lead paint abatement project: In the second two weeks of March, the Annex Temple and Annex Hall were closed for a lead paint abatement project. Peeling paint on the undersides of the roof above the Annex steps and walkways was carefully removed by contractors from Aina Environmental Group while a third party provided air quality monitoring. Concrete primer was applied to treated areas.

Mahalo to Austin Yamaguchi, a PBA alum who was our point of contact at Aina Environmental, as well as to the Facilities Committee and Betsuin staff member, Elmer Cagaoan, for coordination. Thanks too to affiliated programs and groups for their flexibility and patience while the Annex was off limits. Maintaining our beautiful temple is possible due the financial and in-kind support of our sangha members. Thank you! (Photo: John Toguchi)

Boy Scouts
continued from 10

In April, we will continue with reviewing our basic skills and be having an activity for the Onizuka Day of Exploration (ODE) at the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. The Onizuka Day of Exploration was on April 23, 2022 and Troop 49 had a booth where we did a fun and exciting activity involving S.T.E.M. Our activity was making bagged ice cream which involved a mixture of salt and ice to freeze the ingredients. At the event, there were also other troops and organizations showcasing other activities. Also, we have a one-night camp at Camp Ehrhorn at the end of the month, which will include a hike and other fun activities. It will be the Badger scouts' first time camping without their parents. All the scouts are looking forward to another fun-filled month of activities.

Radio Programs
MAY 2022
KZOO 1210 AM
Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM

07....Rev. Masanari Yamagishi
14....Rev. Shingo Furusawa
21....Rev. Tomo Hojo
28....Rimban Tatsuo Muneto

NOTICE:
(Updated Information)

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.

Information Regarding Sunday Services

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. Dharma School services remain Zoom-only at 9 a.m. 11 a.m YouTube "premieres" of the previous week's 10 a.m. Sunday service have been discontinued. 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, call the office. More information on updated COVID protocols is available on page 5.

In Memoriam

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

5/11/2020	YAMAMOTO, Glorian Tsuyako Shimizu (102)
9/7/2021	TAGAWA, Itsuko (90)
1/31/2022	SUZUKI, Hatsue (92)
2/3/2022	MIYAMOTO, Sarah Keiko (94)
2/13/2022	HAYASHI, Jane Taeko (94)
2/15/2022	HIRAE, Walter Shigeto (99)

MARCH 2022

01	YAMANE, James Minoru (80)
07	NISHIYAMA, Amy Emiko (72)
08	FUJIWARA, Clyde Tadashi (71)
12	IMAMURA, Kazuko (97)
12	SUMIDA, Yukio (85)
15	TAKAKI, Gladys Tomoe (96)
19	SUMIDA, Henry Akira (75)
22	OBA, Harold Kazunari (79)
24	MINATO, Edwin Kenji (82

2022 Memorial Service Schedule

2022 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2021: 1st year	2010: 13th year	1990: 33th year
2020: 3rd year	2006: 17th year	1973: 50th year
2016: 7th year	1998: 25th year	1923: 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