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‘WA’
harmony

HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN BULLETIN

7
July 2017

HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

At Higashi Hongwanji, we remain true to our origins as an open Sangha, welcoming anyone who wishes to learn more about the Jodo Shinshu tradition of Buddhism.

A registered 501(c)3 organization

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Editor: Ken Saiki

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AT OBON

Rinban Kenjun Kawawata

Here comes obon dance season! I hope that you enjoy yourself at the obon dances at various temples and elsewhere in the community. We should remember, though, that obon is a time to honor and express our thanks to our ancestors. Without our ancestors, we could not have or receive our life.

How many ancestors do you think you have if you went back 10 generations? You, your two parents and your four grandparents already represent three generations. As shown in the diagram below, for you to be born, there were 2046 people’s lives before you in just the previous 10 generations. Here’s the math, in case you’re interested: $(2+4+8+16+32+64+128+256+512+1024=2046)$.

Your friends, of course, also have the same number of ancestors behind them. If a single one of our ancestors was not born, we would not have been able to be born and exist here and now.

It is a very rare chance to be born as you are and it’s very difficult to meet people and the friends who surround you. Each individual life is sustained by many people, things and other lives.

Think about a hamburger you eat for lunch, consisting of a bun, meat, vegetables and condiments. There are many people and other lives behind

Ancestor Pyramid of 10 Generations

If just a single one of your 2046 ancestors over 10 generations was not born, you would not exist today.

2 Parents
4 Grandparents
8 Great-grandparents
16 Great-great-grandparents
32 Great-great-great-grandparents
64 Great-great-great-great-grandparents
128 Great-great-great-great-great-grandparents
256 Great-great-great-great-great-great-grandparents
512 Great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandparents
1024 Great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandparents

the hamburger but you don’t usually see them. For your bun, a farmer grows wheat, from which a mill employee makes the flour, which a baker, in turn, uses to make buns. For your hamburger meat, a farmer raises the cows and people who work at a meat processing plant turn the raw meat into ground beef.

Truck drivers deliver all the ingredients to the hamburger stand and its employees make your hamburger. Then your hamburger arrives at your table and you are finally able to eat it. We don’t know precisely how many people’s lives are involved in getting your hamburger in front of you but we know there are many.

Then you say, “Itadakimasu” and you begin eating. “Itadakimasu” is an expression of your gratitude to other lives that sustain your precious life. “Thank you very much to the many sacrificed lives which sustain my own life. I humbly receive this hamburger.”

At obon we express our thanks to whole lives, conditions, ties and relations. This obon season, we enjoy bon dancing. Bon dancing is our expression for the joy of living, gratitude for our ancestors and all lives that sustain each individual life. At a bon dance, we re-encounter our ancestors and old friends. It’s also the place you can meet new friends.

Therefore, I would like to invite you and your friends to our Obon Service on Sunday, July 9 at 10 am and our Bon Dance on July 14 and 15. We will express our gratitude to our beloved ones who died before us. Please come and enjoy bon dancing with us.

I wish that you will have a meaningful Obon time and enjoyable summer.

Thank you in gassho,
Rinban Kenjun Kawawata



Rinban Ken Kawawata

The Manto-e Tradition: Decorating the summer sky with "10,000 lanterns"



Long ago in India, wherever the Buddha delivered a sermon, the sangha—those who came to listen—would each light a candle. The sangha became so numerous that on these occasions, the lights came to be called *Manto*, or 10,000 lights.

The tradition of Manto-e was started in Japan about 1,200 years ago during the reign of Emperor Shomu. Once a year 10,000 lights were lit in honor of the Buddha around the Todaiji Temple in Nara.

Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii celebrates the tradition of the Manto-e at our bon dance. Our Manto-e service is held at 6:30 pm on July 14 and 15 at the foot of the yagura. With your help, we'd like to decorate the summer sky with "10,000 lanterns."

With your donation of \$20 for each lantern you may wish to offer in memory of a departed relative or friend, we will write his or her name, along with your name as the donor, on a small tablet to be hung from each lantern. The custom-made lanterns from Japan can be picked up and are yours to keep after the bon dance.

MANTO-E LANTERN APPLICATION FORM 万灯会提灯申込書

Here's my donation of \$ _____ for _____ lanterns in memory of:
Name 名前 _____ Dharma name 法名 _____

Donor's name 寄付者名 _____ Phone 電話 _____

Make check payable to Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
1685 Alaneo St., Honolulu, HI 96817 • ☎ 531-9088

It's Bon Dance Time!

President Faye Shigemura

Why do you go to a bon dance? Some would say, "To greet and send off the spirits of my great ancestors," or perhaps a more Jodo Shinshu-like, "To express gratitude to those who came before us." *Not!*

When I was growing up in Kalihi, I couldn't contain my excitement as I watched people streaming in to the temple yard on bon dance night.

The cool factor...

Teenagers were the "COOL", an active part of the bon dance. The older teens, girls gathering in one section, boys in another, eventually merged to one group as the night wore on.

The finale, the "Fukushima Ondo," was always the favorite for youths. As the "normal" dancers kept up the beat on the outer circle, this band of energetic teens seemingly exploded into the inner dance circle like a herd of stampeding elk. The dance then became a youthful version of Fukushima Ondo, and was called "Beccho." The increasing speed toward the end of the song added to the frenzy. *Kakko ii!*

These days, the "cool" has expanded to include young children, pre-teens, and even older post-teens, including post-auntie and -uncle ages.

Bon Appétit!

Good eats has always been an excuse to spend the evening at bon dances and ours is no exception! Whether you're in the mood for a sumo-sized Hawaiian plate or nishime with saimin and just some cooling shave ice, this is the place. We've got you covered!

Calling all volunteers!

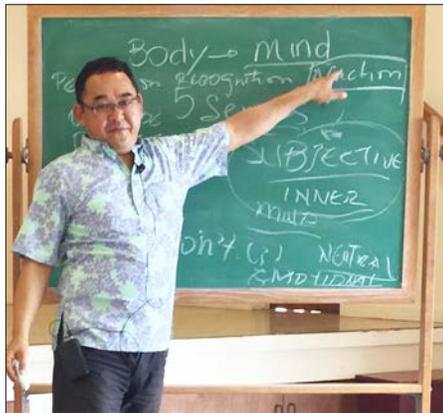
We're in the count-down stage, and it's ALL HANDS ON DECK! We can always use help with food preparation. We start prepping from Wednesday 7/12 with the stringing of BBQ sticks at 10 am, and Thursday 7/13 would be vegetable chopping, starting at 10 am on 7/12.

Our food concessions open at 5:30 pm, so that means cooking from 3 pm on Friday and Saturday.

Please call the temple at 531-9088 if you are free to help, and we can get you placed on our schedule board. Donations are also welcome. If you are not able to come to the temple, we can pick up your donations, and receipts will be issued for tax purposes. *Mata kotoshimo ganbarimasho!*

Be there or be square!

Whether you can help or not, we look forward to seeing you and all of the island's "cool" folks at our Higashi Hongwanji Betsuin bon dance on July 14 and 15, Friday and Saturday!



Rev. Marcos Sawada led discussion at the Local Dharma Gathering "Awakening to Your Deepest Wish," held in Otani Center at the Betsuin on Sat., June 3.

Summer obon season offers many opportunities to take part

While the Betsuin's Hatsubon/Bon and Manto-e service schedule is listed in our calendar of events, there are other opportunities to attend and/or volunteer your help at various bon observances being held throughout the District.:

July 1: Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji bon dance (6:30 pm following 6 pm service) 247-2661

July 15: UJSH obon memorial service for pioneer immigrants at Makiki cemetery (9 am) 941-5889

July 21-22: Waimea Higashi Hongwanji bon dance (7:30 pm following 6:30 pm Hatsubon service

on Fri., 7 pm Urabon service on Sat.) 338-1847

July 28-29: Palolo Hongwanji bon dance (6:30 pm following 6 pm service, Hatsubon service July 16 at 10 am. 732-1491

Aug. 12: Hilo Higashi Hongwanji bon dance (7 pm following 6:00 pm Hatsubon service, 10 am Ulla Bon service Sun. Aug. 13) 935-8968

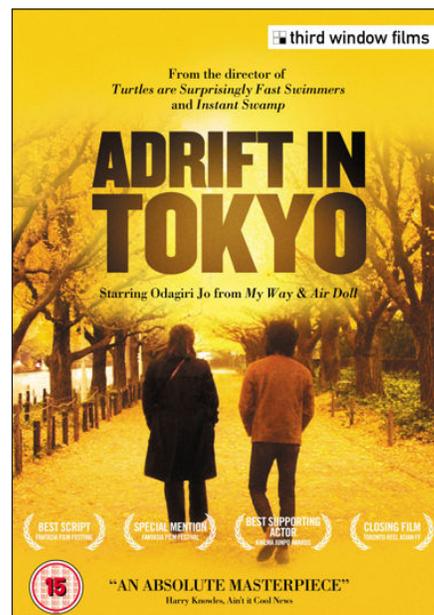
Laughter awaits at every corner in July's movie, *Adrift in Tokyo*

Fumiya Takemura (Tomokazu Miura) has been a university student for eight years and owes money to loan sharks. One day, Aiichiro Fukuhara (Joe Odagiri) comes to collect the loan, which Fumiya cannot pay. So Fukuhara makes a proposition: He will cancel the debt and pay ¥1 million as long as Fumiya agrees to walk with him across Tokyo from Kichijoji to the Kasumigaseki police station, where he intends to turn himself in for a crime he deeply regrets. Not having much choice, Fumiya accepts the deal.

The duo starts to bond and this charming film directed by Satoshi Miki reminds us that the world is full of small and large beauties. From *The Japan Times* review: "a masterpiece... a great comedy from start to finish." Todd Brown of the indie news website *Twitich* called the movie "one of the

five best films in the world for 2008." Awards include the 12th Fantasia International Film Festival Best Script (Satoshi Miki) and Special Mention of the Jury (Odagiri and Miura duo) and 81st Kinema Junpo Awards Best Supporting Actor (Tomokazu Miura).

Also stars Kyoko Koizumi and Yuriko Yoshitaka. Showtime: 6:30 pm, Tues., July 25, 101 min. Color. Japanese audio, English subtitles. Free admission. Light refreshments, or bring to share!



転々 (てんてん)

大学8年生の竹村文哉(三浦友和)。借金を抱えており返済の当ても無い彼に、借金取りの福原愛一郎(オダギリジョー)が、「借金をチャラにする代わりに自分の東京散歩に付き合って欲しい。」と持ち掛ける。更に、その報酬として100万円を貰えると言われ、胡散臭さを感じながらも福原の提案を受け入れ、2人の散歩が始まる。

受賞歴：2008ファンタジア国際映画祭：脚本賞：三木聡、審査員特別賞：オダギリジョーと三浦友和のデュオ；第81回キネマ旬報日本映画助演男優賞：三浦友和；その他。

監督：三木聡；出演者：オダギリ、三浦、小泉今日子、吉高由里子；公開：2007年、カラー、言語：日本語、字幕：英語、映時間：101分、7月25日(火)午後6:30時、入場無料。



Dharma school happenings: While the adults attend Sunday service across the hall, the children huddle together in the conference room at Sunday school. Jeanne Kawawata describes the illustrations from the picture book favorite, *Where the Wild Things Are*.



In the Spotlight

MARGARET HAMACHI

*Margaret Hamachi has been on the Betsuin board of directors since 2014. The chocolate chip cookies she prepares each week for after-service otoki are legend. People keep coming back for more and some jokingly ask if there's some habit-forming ingredient in them. **Wa** finally caught up with busy Margaret and asked her to tell us a little about herself to share with other temple members.*

You might say I was born into Buddhism. I grew up in West Covina, which is east of Los Angeles.

My parents were active in the Buddhist church, so as a kid I always went to the temple on Sundays.

I have fond memories of Obon, performing Obon odori as soon as I could walk. My mom says I would watch and copy, so I was always one step behind.

I also remember watching the "grown ups" get sworn in as temple board members, holding candles as part of the installation ceremony. Now that's me!

I still feel like a kid, as I am learning a lot from fellow board members, especially Faye, Ken and Ed, who give so much of their time and knowledge to the Betsuin. I hope to be able to contribute in a small way, to help sustain the temple for generations to come. This is one of the issues the board is discussing at the moment.

I have a degree in Microbiology and am a Medical Technologist for Diagnostic Laboratory Services. I am that person who is testing your blood and urine when you kindly "donate" them as directed by your doctor. I



Margaret Hamachi

work the evening shift in the lab at Queen's Medical Center West Oahu, supervising the shift as well as doing patient testing.

I have three children, Cody, Paige and Hannah. We moved to Hawaii in 2005 while they were in their middle and high school years. Although they weren't crazy about moving at the time, I think they are happy to be where they are now and I am glad they learned about impermanence and perseverance at a critical point in their lives.

In my spare time, I like to read, relax at the beach and jog. I did the Great Aloha Run, Ekiden relay and Honolulu Marathon this past year.

I also got the travel bug (the desire to travel, not the disease) after trips to Japan and London. One of the books I read recently was by a Korean Buddhist monk, Haemin Sunim, titled, *The Things You Can See Only When You Slow Down*. When we always seem to be rushing from one thing to the next, and being somewhat self-absorbed—me, anyway—I find coming to the Betsuin grounding and a way to shift my focus by listening to the teachings.



SENIOR FALL SAFETY CLASS

The Aikido Ohana cordially invites you to a FREE SENIOR FALL SAFETY CLASS

According to the Hawaii Fall Prevention Consortium, falls are the leading cause of injury-related hospitalizations among Hawaii residents age 65 and older.

Although this class is designed with that in mind—to provide seniors with a method to receive falls safely—the class is open to all adults. The class covers:

- Strengthening/Limbering Exercises
- Understanding Balance/Unbalancing
- Aikido-Based Method to Receive Falls Safely
- Situational Awareness

WHEN: Every Sunday, 2 - 3 pm, except holidays and when other temple functions held (TBA)

WHERE: Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Otani Center (Punchbowl side of parking lot) 1685 Alaneo St., corner N. Kuakini St. Honolulu, HI 96817

WEAR: Loose-fitting comfortable clothing, such as sweatpants/T-shirt/training wear.

For more information, contact:

The Aikido Ohana

www.aikidoohana.org • 732-7066



HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
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TEMPLE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JULY

7/2	Sun	10 am	Shōtsuki service/Sunday school
7/2	Sun	12 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese
7/3	Mon	10 am	Betsuin study class
7/9	Sun	10 am	Obon/Hatsubon service/Sunday school
7/11	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
7/11	Tue	6 pm	Bon dance practice at Otani Center (6 pm: Ryukyu, 7 pm: Fukushima)
7/13	Thu	7 pm	The Larger Sutra study class (English)
7/14	Fri	6:30 pm	Mantō-e service/Bon dance
7/15	Sat	6:30 pm	Mantō-e service/Bon dance
7/16	Sun	9 am	Bon dance cleanup (no Sunday service)
7/17	Mon	10 am	Betsuin study class
7/18	Tue	7 pm	O-kō: Dharma discussion at Kaneohe
7/22	Sat	10 am	Oahu MAP class
7/23	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school
7/23	Sun	12 pm	Betsuin board meeting
7/23	Sun	12 pm	Art of Paper Folding class
7/25	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
7/25	Tue	6:30 pm	Movie night: <i>Adrift in Tokyo</i> - 転々
7/28	Fri	10 am	Shinran Shōnin memorial service
7/30	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school

AUGUST

8/5	Sat	10 am	Oahu MAP class
8/6	Sun	10 am	Shōtsuki service/Sunday school
8/6	Sun	12 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese Fukuhara conference room
8/7	Mon	10 am	Betsuin study class
8/8	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
8/10	Thu	7 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in English Fukuhara conference room
8/13	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school
8/13	Sun	12 pm	Art of Paper Folding class
8/15	Tue	7 pm	O-kō: Dharma discussion at Betsuin
8/19	Sat	10 am	District meeting at Betsuin
8/20	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school
8/20	Sun	12 pm	Betsuin board meeting Fukuhara conference room
8/21	Mon	10 am	Betsuin study class
8/22	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
8/22	Tue	6:30 pm	Movie night: <i>Key of Life</i> - 鍵泥棒のメソッド
8/27	Sun	10 am	BBQ chicken & musubi sale (no Sunday service)
8/28	Mon	10 am	Shinran Shōnin memorial service

Everyone is welcome to join the morning chanting held at 7 am daily (except on Sundays & the 28th day of the month) in the Betsuin main hall.