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HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN BULLETIN

January 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

Rinban: Kenjun Kawawata
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Wa is published monthly by Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for its members and friends. Comments, articles and other items for publication consideration are welcomed.

Editor: Ken Saiki

RINBAN'S MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR



Happy New Year! First of all I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you who supported the Betsuin over the past year. Without your support, we could not have such a meaningful year at our temple.

Last year we celebrated our Betsuin's centennial and observed the 750th Memorial Service for our denomination's founder, Shinran Shonin. It's been a hundred years since Higashi Hongwanji Betsuin was established in Honolulu and generations have come and gone. Now the Betsuin is being sustained largely by our 3rd-generation members who are at the center of our temple programs and activities.

The Higashi Hongwanji temples in Hawaii were established by our members' deepest wishes, which is the same as the Buddha's innermost aspiration, *Hongan*, the aspiration for awakening to the truth and having a meaningful life. The Buddha's wish has always been working, allowing our temple to exist for over 100 years. We could feel and see the working of the Dharma and the Buddha's innermost aspiration in all of our temple services, activities, and in our daily lives.

"Listening to the Dharma" means listening and revealing this wish, *Hongan*, in our lives. This is the tradition that we must continue and hand down to future generations. This year, we take our first steps towards ensuring this tradition continues for the next 100 years and beyond.

In Hawaii, traditional temples and churches have been facing a decrease in membership and have a difficult time maintaining their sangha and congregations. Our Betsuin is facing the same situation. To help reverse the trend, our District is focusing on raising ministers and lay leaders, and providing educational programs, such as the Dobo Retreat program, which consists of public lectures and gatherings.

Thus we are working to step forward into a new era to create a new sangha for the future generations. For the next decade, we will be focusing on new educational programs for raising home-grown ministers and temple leaders.

At the same time we will also try to make our temple more open for our community. We will continue to provide opportunities to share the dharma and other activities, such as cultural programs and community services, and seek ways to expand our outreach.

For the future activities of the temple, we really need your support and your participation. Therefore, I would like to ask for your continuous support of and cooperation with the Betsuin.

I also wish that you will listen to the dharma together with us and have a meaningful year in 2017.

Thank you very much.

In Gassho,
Kenjun Kawawata



Getting together to pound mochi is an annual tradition at the Betsuin. John Ishikawa and Rev. Kita take turns pounding and turning the mochi. Photo courtesy Rev. Koen Kikuchi

Members try mochi pounding the good, old-fashioned way

Early Saturday morning Dec. 24, as the mochi rice steamed merrily in their pots, the wooden *usu* and *kine* were soaking in water in preparation for the day's mochi pounding.

Members and friends joined in the fun of fulfilling their annual mochi needs this traditional way, supplemented by a pair of convenient, back-saving electric mochi-making contraptions.

By the end of the morning, we had enough mochi for all to take home, decorate the temple altar and use for *ozōni* after the Shūshō-e service.

Nothing's wasted, of course, as any leftovers and scraps are turned into *kakimochi*, a popular snack item during our Tuesday movie nights.

Get your fix of Mom's homemade *ozōni* after New Year's service

What could be more traditional for many Hawaii families on New Year's Day than a steaming hot bowl of *ozōni*? Whether your family's favorite recipe features chicken, pork, fish, shrimp, clams or just veggies, a chewy mochi treat will be waiting for you at the bottom of the bowl.

Homemade *ozōni* is also a Betsuin tradition following our Jan. 1 Shūshō-e

service, when we welcome in the new year with resolve. Come check our *ozōni* out and see how it compares with the soup Mom used to make.

It's the perfect complement to the *toshikoshi soba* we hope you enjoyed after our bell-ringing and Jōya-e service on New Year's Eve.

Jan. movie *Sweet Bean* confronts heartbreak with compassion

The 2015 movie, *Sweet Bean* (also known as *Sweet Red Bean Paste*, *Azuki* and *An*) begins with the elderly Tokue (Kirin Kiki) begging for a part-time job at a struggling *dorayaki* store run by debt-laden Sentaro (Masatoshi Nagase). As a result of the delicious *an*, or bean paste, that Tokue boils down while talking to the *azuki* beans, the store becomes very popular and thrives.

Tokue learned how to make sweets while living in a leprosy sanatorium. Her bent fingers, however, arouse suspicion. Rumors about her illness spread, the store's customers flee and Tokue has to quit. One day, Sentaro and Wakana (Kyara Uchida), a junior high school student and regular customer, decide to visit Tokue...

The movie earned numerous domestic and international awards, including the 2015 Kinema Junpo

"Best 10" (#3); 2015 Tama Film, Hochi Film, Japan Academy and Asia-Pacific Screen Best Actress Award (Kirin Kiki); 2015 Tama Film and Yokohama Film Festival Best Actor Award (Masatoshi Nagase).

Showtime: 6:30 pm, Tues., Jan. 24, 113 min. Color. Japanese audio, English subtitles. Free admission. Light refreshments, or bring to share!

あん

刑務所から出所したのち、どら焼き屋「どら春」の雇われ店長となった千太郎（永瀬正敏）の店に、徳江（樹木希林）という女性がやって来る。その店で働くことを強く希望した徳江を千太郎は採用。徳江が作る粒あんが評判となり、店は大繁盛。そんな中徳江は、つぶれたどら焼きをもらいに来ていた女子中学生のワカナ（樹木の孫、内田伽羅）と親しくなる。ところがある日、かつて徳江がハンセン病を患っていたことが近所に知れ渡り…。

賞歴：第89回キネマ旬報ベスト・テン 第3位、第7回TAMA映画賞、第40回報知映画賞、第39回日本アカデミー賞、第9回アジア太平洋スクリーンアワード：女優賞（樹木希林）、第7回TAMA映画賞、第37回ヨコハマ映画祭：男優賞（永瀬正敏）、その他。

監督：河瀬直美、公開：2015年、カラー、言語：日本語、字幕：英語、映時間：113分、1月24日(火)午後6:30時、入場無料。



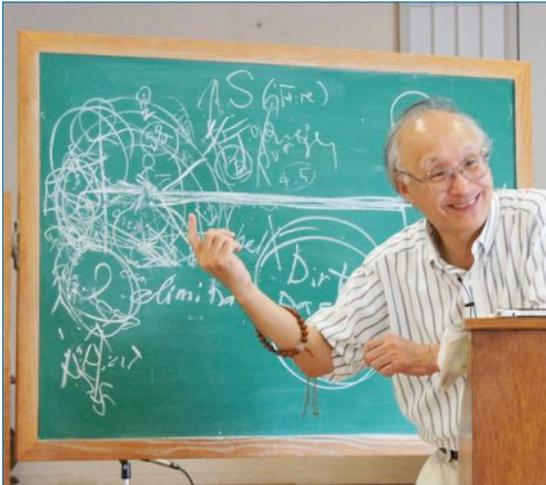
HIGASHI HONGANJI HAWAII DISTRICT



2017 DOBO RETREAT PROGRAM DISTRICT DHARMA GATHERING

We wish to invite you to attend the 2017 District Dharma Gathering of Higashi Honganji Hawaii District. We will invite Dr. Nobuo Haneda, the head of the Maida Center, Berkeley as our guest speaker. The theme of the Gathering is "Awakening to Your Deepest Wish" Please send the application form below to the Hawaii District office or to ministers of your local temple.

Date:	Saturday, February 4, 2017
Time:	10:00 am — 4:00 pm
Speaker:	Dr. Nobuo Haneda (Maida Center of Buddhism)
Location:	Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin 1685 Alaneo Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 Phone: (808) 531-1231, Fax: (808) 531-1231
Theme:	"Awakening to Your Deepest Wish"
Fee:	\$10.00 (payable to Higashi Honganji Hawaii District)



Dr. Nobuo Haneda Biography

- 1946 Born in Nagano, Japan.
- 1968 Read Shuichi Maida's work and became interested in Buddhism.
- 1969 Graduated from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.
- 1971 Studied under Revs. Gyomei Kubose and Gyoko Saito.
- 1979 Received Ph.D. from University of Wisconsin.
- 1979 Lecturer, Otani University, Kyoto, Japan.
- 1981 Lecturer, Buddhist Educational Center, Chicago, IL.
- 1984 Head Professor, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley, CA.
- 1987 Researcher, Numata Center, Berkeley, CA.
- 1997 Director, Maida Center of Buddhism, Berkeley, CA.

If you have any questions, please contact your local temple or the district office at:

Higashi Honganji Hawaii District Office
1685 Alaneo Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: (808) 531-1231, Fax: (808) 531-1231, Email: admindaloha@higashihonganji.org

..... Detach Here

I would like to participate in the 2017 District Dharma Gathering.

Name

Temple

GO GREEN in 2017!

Most of us have implemented several ways of "going green" at home to help reduce the impact on our environment. In many cases we save money at the same time. At the Betsuin we, too, have joined the cause, practicing recycling and switching to energy-saving lighting where possible.

Getting your monthly WA bulletin by email instead of on paper may be another way to conserve resources.

To switch to an electronic version of our WA newsletter, send an email, with subject line "Email WA," including your name and addresses, to the Betsuin at betsuin@hhbt-hi.com.

Then starting next month, your WA will arrive in your email inbox instead of your regular mailbox.

BONUS...it'll be in color, too!

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR 2017

According to Buddhist tradition, special anniversary memorial services, or *nenki hoyo*, are observed during certain auspicious years following an individual's death. In 2017, the following anniversary memorial services are traditionally held for those who passed away in these years:

2016	1st anniversary	一周忌	<i>isshuuki</i>
2015	3rd year memorial	三回忌	<i>sankaiki</i>
2011	7th year memorial	七回忌	<i>nanakaiki</i>
2005	13th year memorial	十三回忌	<i>jyuusankaiki</i>
2001	17th year memorial	十七回忌	<i>jyuunanakaiki</i>
1993	25th year memorial	二十五回忌	<i>nijyuugokaiki</i>
1985	33rd year memorial	三十三回忌	<i>sanjyuusankaiki</i>
1968	50th year memorial	五十回忌	<i>gojyuukaiki</i>

Anniversary services may be held at the temple or some other more appropriate location of your choosing, such as at your home. Holding the service at home is especially convenient for people who may have health or transportation issues. In fact, home services are very common in Japan. Our ministers will be happy to accommodate your preference.

Please call the Betsuin office at 531-9088 if you'd like more information about scheduling anniversary memorial services.

SHOTSUKI OBSERVANCE FOR JANUARY

Our monthly shōtsuki service in remembrance of temple family members who passed away in the month of January of a previous year will be held this month on **Sunday, January 8**.

Edward K. Anami
Kazuko Arakawa
Janet Emiko Cho
Shirley Shizue Curek
Nobuyuki Fukunaga
Harold Katsumi Hamamoto
Darrell Kazumi Higa
Masaichi Higa
Rose Chieko Hirata
Arthur T. Hiroshima
Shigeko Hosaka
Betty Midori Hoshino
Sadami Ikeda
Dorothea Fujiko Inoshita
Sadame Ishida
Yoshie Ishimatsu
Harry Yukiya Iwanaga
Yuhiro Iwasaki

Takumi Kajioaka
Dwight Kalani Kamae
Harriet Ichiko Kawakami
Mabel Shinano Kihara
Tetsuo Koga
Kimiko Kubo
Takeo Maekawa
Tamiko Koshobu Mashima
Naka Mesaku
Yuiko Michioku
Jitsuo Mimuro
Grace Tamie Mitsuka
Masayuki Miyasato
Seiyei Miyasato
Jane Nobuko Miyashiro
Sharie Keiko Miyazaki
Noboru Miyazaki
Masayuki Mori

The following list includes temple members whose deaths occurred this month during the past 25 years.

Please call the office at 531-9088 if you have any questions about the listing.

James Shigeru Murotake
Masao Nakahara
Gary Tadashi Nakasato
Shizuko Nakasone
Shigeto Nishimura
Colleen Chizuko Nishiyama
Neil Hichiyoshi Nishizawa
Leatrice Sakayo Nomura
Toyome Ogata
Ichiji Okamoto
Elsie Tokie Takafumi Okawa
Hiromu Okihiro
Shizuka Onishi
Isamu Oshiro
Masao Oshiro
Shizue Otsuka
Sadao Shinkawa
Kiyoshi Shinsato
Akino Shirabe
Itoko Sueyoshi
Alice Hatsumi Sur
Hideko Takaki
Nobuyo Tanaka
Jean Tanaka
Tome Tokunaga
Tadakazu Tsuda
Richard Masato Uchida
Violet Shigeko Uyesato
Richard Yoshio Wataru
Jean Toshiko Yamamoto
Kikumi Yamato
Susumu Yamauchi
William Hideo Yamura
Elsie Kaoru Yoshimura
Lester Saburo Yoshino



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TEMPLE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JANUARY

1/1	Sun	10 am	New Year's Day service - <i>Shūshō-e Ozōni</i> after service
1/8	Sun	10 am	Shōtsuki memorial service/ Sunday school
1/8	Sun	12 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese Fukuhara conference room
1/10	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
1/12	Thu	7 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in English Fukuhara conference room
1/15	Sun	10 am	New Year's family service
1/15	Sun	12 pm	Betsuin board meeting Fukuhara conference room
1/17	Tue	7 pm	O-kō: Dharma discussion at Kaneohe
1/22	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school
1/22	Sun	12 pm	Art of Paper Folding class led by Jeanne Kawawata
1/24	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
1/24	Tue	6:30 pm	Movie night: <i>Sweet Bean (2015)</i> Fukuhara conference room
1/28	Sat	10 am	Shinran Shōnin memorial service
1/29	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school

FEBRUARY

2/4	Sat	10 am	Joint Dharma Gathering Betsuin Otani Center
2/5	Sun	10 am	Shōtsuki memorial service/ Sunday school
2/5	Sun	12 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese Fukuhara conference room
2/9	Thu	7 pm	The Larger Sutra study class led by Rinban Kawawata in English Fukuhara conference room
2/12	Sun	10 am	New Year's family service
2/12	Sun	12 pm	Art of Paper Folding class led by Jeanne Kawawata
2/14	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
2/19	Sun	10 am	Nirvana Day service/Sunday school
2/19	Sun	12 pm	Betsuin board meeting
2/21	Tue	7 pm	O-kō: Dharma discussion at Betsuin
2/26	Sun	10 am	Sunday service/Sunday school
2/26	Sun	11 am	General membership meeting & New Year's party at Otani Center
2/28	Tue	10 am	Shinran Shōnin memorial service
2/28	Tue	3 pm	Ukulele class/band practice
2/28	Tue	6:30 pm	Movie night: <i>Our Little Sister (2015)</i>

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.