#### JULY 2012



# Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

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President: Mr. Glenn Hamamura & Minister: Kojun Hashimoto

# Welcom Welcon Welc

Come and welcome Reverend Kojun Hashimoto and his family to their new temple.



#### Aloha!

Hello! Dharma friends.

I am Rev. Kojun Hashimoto. I am assigned to the Wahiawa Hongwanji as resident minister starting June 16.

So, first of all, I would like to introduce my family and me.

You can see a young handsome man? This is I. I am 39 years old. Nine years have passed since I came to Hawaii. Before I came to Hawaii, I have worked at Kagoshima Betsuin for 6 years in Japan.

When I was in Kagoshima, I got married, and have two pretty children. My wife's name is Takako. She is ?? years old. (you may guess her age.) She was born in Kagoshima, Japan. She has practiced calligraphy (Shodo) for many years. She is a very good calligrapher. So, in the future, she plans to start a calligraphy

class (Shodo class). Please join the class if you have an interest in calligraphy.

My daughter's name is Kano. She is 11 years old. You may be surprised to see how tall she is. My son's name is Shoshi. He is 9 years old. He is little bit shy boy. They are very cute children like their Father, right?

Anyway, we are anxious for you to come to the temple so we may meet with all of you.

So, let's us enjoy and share the Jodo Shinshu together.

"YOROSHIKU ONE-GAI SHIMASU."

Thank you. Mahalo, Rev. Kojun



# Welcome!!!

#### Sunday, June 17, 2012

We had a very good turnout of members who greeted the Hashimotos upon their arrival at Wahiawa Mrs. Hashimoto was overcome with happy tears, which probably teared up others (including me). We celebrated Shoshi's 10th birthday with cake and ice cream. which was a surprise for him. Shoshi immediately connected with the younger Acohido boys. Kano connected with Luanne's daughter, Maria. Very good chemistry.



A very celebratory welcoming party. We really made them feel like celebrities (of Wahiawa). After the welcome, Glenn presented the Hashimotos with the keys to the residence. Glenn and key renovation committee members took the Hashimotos on a tour of their new residence. In gassho, Arlene

2



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WHM newsletter is published by friends of the Dharma. Volunteers are welcome to serve on the committee. Please send comments and change of address to WHM office or email at news@wahiawahongwanji.org.

Roy Higa, Editor



# President's Message

Glenn Hamamura

#### JULY 2012

I am preparing this newsletter before the Bon Dance, and before the arrival of the Hashimoto family to our temple, and so some of my messages will need to be in the August column.

We completed the residence renovation on time. Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, the residence is ready for the Hashimoto family. As is typical in this kind of major renovation, there were unanticipated issues to overcome, and even with these, the project stayed on schedule due to the quick thinking and response of the renovation team. Our interior decoration team then took over and purchased the basic furnishings for the residence. The temple car is also ready.

As I am preparing this note, we are just completing the setup of the yagura for the Bon Dance. With our new yagura introduced last year, the process was more efficient. The basic frame of the yagura is now towed up from the garage, and then assembled. This saves time and labor.

The team that has worked on the kitchen renovation (started last year) has completed the final milestone, which was the permit inspection by the Department of Health. We passed that inspection, and we now have a 'Certified Kitchen' for the first time at the Hongwanji. This means we have more flexibility with regards to events that provide food to the public, and do not need to use the process of 'temporary permits' anymore, which we had been following for probably four decades or more.

There are multiple events being planned to welcome the Hashimoto's to our temple family. One of the first will be refreshments following the first service in July, on Sunday July 1<sup>st</sup>. Call the office after the Bon Dance more details.

The transition journey which began in January is ending, and is expected to be completed on June 16, 2012. Many, many temple volunteers worked hundreds of hours each to ensure that our basic services and our activities would continue, and they are all to be thanked. We will end this journey on Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>, with the Hatsubon service, and to help us complete the circle, we will have invited Reverend Kevin back to officiate the service.

We'll take some time to relax after the Bon Dance (one week), and then activities will start up in July. The Shin Buddhist project (part of our temple) will be hosting a three day conference in Honolulu in August, and the summer will have other events for your interest and engagement.

In Gassho

Glenn Hamamura

#### Dharma Talks

By Rod Moriyama

#### **Gentle Grace**

Matsuko Muranaka died on April 5, 2012, the same day as her son's and my son's birthday. She was 95 years old (September 9, 1916-April 5, 2012) and lived a full life. To everyone who knew her, Mrs. Muranaka was the gentlest and kindest person one could ever meet. She was an amazing cook and worked in the school cafeteria making cookies and desserts. We all remember the mouth watering pies and delicious shortbread cookies. Girls who worked in the cafeteria (all children worked in the cafeteria on a rotational assignment in those days) clamored to work with Mrs. Muranaka because she was so nice... and made the "ono stuff."

Her daughter Ann and I were classmates, and reminiscing after the funeral, Ann shared this story. They lived next to Wahiawa Elementary School on Ridge Avenue. Her father and his mother and siblings had built their home without running hot water to save money. They had a "furo" in back and had to make a fire every day to heat the water. This was common in those days. Nearby, there were small apartments.

One afternoon when Ann was around 8 years old, she heard a commotion in the back of their home. A young, tall, haole soldier was noticeably upset about something and was storming toward their house. Apparently, the smoke from the "furo" fire had ruined his wife's freshly washed laundry hanging out to dry. Ann's anxiety grew as she heard him running completely around the complex and stomping up the driveway. Ann was watching all of this occur, and being a little girl, she was really scared. He started pounding on their door and Ann quickly ran to her mother to tell her what was happening. Mrs. Muranaka calmly opened the front door and listened to his tirade. When he finished, she quietly explained about the "furo" and said, "I'm so sorry for all the trouble we've caused you. Please let me redo your laundry." The young man was completely stunned and disarmed by her simple act of humility and compassion. He mumbled about it being 'quite all right' and promptly left for his house.

Mrs. Muranaka turned and immediately went to her kitchen. She took out all of her cooking utensils and baking ingredients and immediately started baking. Upon completion, she packed up the cookies and pie, and carried them to the neighbor. You can imagine the surprised look on the young couple's faces as they answered the door. Before them was a very slender, tiny Asian woman who bowed deeply and presented them with all of these warm, homemade goodies. It was the beginning of a lasting relationship!

Reverend Taitetsu Unno in "Gratitude: Its Source and Power" said:

"Even though my life on the horizontal plane (everyday living) may never be truly fulfilled and eventually end in old age, illness, and death, as long as the vertical plane (moments of awakening) sustains me at every point in the course of life, I have arrived, I live in completeness."

Listening to this story was a moment of awakening for me I am grateful to have known such a wonderful person...a true "Buddha" in our life!

In gassho, Rod Moriyama



# Temple News

#### **Family Day**

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> we are celebrating Family Day so we'd like to invite the young and the young at heart to temple service. The special Dharma speaker will be Laurie Rubin, a remarkable young lady who has overcome many challenges and yet has gone on to accomplish tasks we would think impossible. You'll be able to hear first hand how she has been able to do it. Also she'll be singing a song, with lyrics she has written about her struggles, and the music composed by Jenny Taira. Presently she is working with Cari Taira Lee and Jenny Taira on the Ohana Arts program at the Hongwanji Mission School.

After the service we will be having activities in the social hall following the theme Laurie has shared in service. I don't want to let the "cat out of the bag", just come to learn and enjoy.

As always we will be having a delicious lunch to finish off the Family Day festivities soooo – make sure you save July 22<sup>nd</sup> on your calendar to attend the Family Day service and activities at Wahiawa Hongwanji.

#### Dharma School

In July we will be having Dharma school on July 1, 8, and 22. Look in the newsletter for more information about other activities on those days.

#### St. Stephen's Food Pantry

We will collect food on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for the June food collection. We collected quite a lot of food for the Pantry. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. The Buddhist Women's Association collects monthly to support the Food Pantry, too.

#### **Daily Dharma**

I see life has lots of challenges (sufferings). Every day I encounter some challenges where I need to show my gratitude, patience, empathy, understanding, compassion, tolerance, sympathy, sharing, and interdependence, especially with my family. Not always do I display the positive side but from the teachings. I try to practice these positive virtues. When I do, the

family seems happy and energy seems to flow calmly within us. I find that it all begins with me.

By Enid Ushijima from *Dharma Ties*, 11/11/2011

#### WHM WELCOMES HASHIMOTO FAMILY

Join us on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> for Rev. Hashimoto's first Sunday Service as our new Resident Minister. Following the service we invite everyone to join in our Somen Nagashi activity. It will be a good time to test your chopstick skills. So get out those chopsticks and start practicing! It could make the difference in how much and how soon you eat lunch that day!!!

#### BWA JULY MEETING by Evelyn Komori

Please note that our July membership meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> will begin at 10 a.m. in the social hall. Following a short business meeting, a simple lunch will be served to welcome Rev. Kojun Hashimoto and his family to Wahiawa Hongwanji. This is an excellent opportunity for all BWA members to extend an "Aloha" to the Hashimotos so please make an extra effort to be there on July 8.



Barcode to our website created by Annette Kakazu. www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

#### Did you know...

Buddhism is the fourth largest religion in the world today. Other facts about Buddhism are as follows:

- The three jewels or three refuges of Buddhism are - The Buddha, the Sangha or the monastic community and The Dharma or truth or teachings.
- The four noble truths of Buddhism are Life is filled with suffering, this suffering is caused by human desires and attachments, suffering can be eliminated and this can be done by following the Eight-fold path.
- The noble eightfold path is Right beliefs, right aspirations, right speech, right livelihood, right conduct, right effort, right mindfulness, right meditational attainment
- The four reminders of Buddhism are Human life is precious, death is inevitable, the laws of karma cannot be avoided and suffering permeates all existence.



#### **Chicken Long Rice Simple Version (EJK** (Elaine Kawamoto) Version 2)

1 packet Costco Chicken wings (5 wing)

2 Tablespoons cooking oil

thumb size piece ginger root, minced

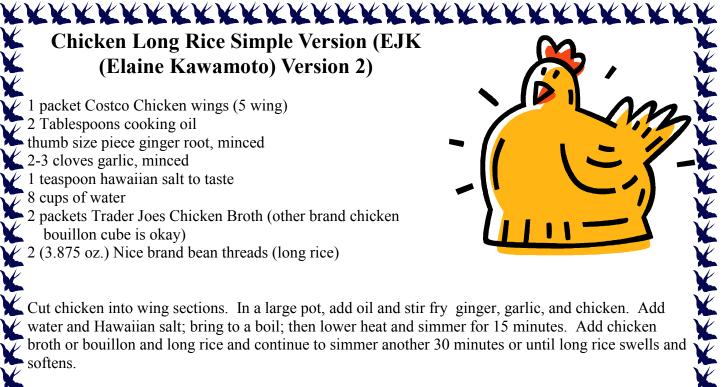
2-3 cloves garlic, minced

1 teaspoon hawaiian salt to taste

8 cups of water

2 packets Trader Joes Chicken Broth (other brand chicken bouillon cube is okay)

2 (3.875 oz.) Nice brand bean threads (long rice)



Let chicken into wing sections. In a large pot, add oil and stir fry ginger, garlic, and chicken. Add water and Hawaiian salt; bring to a boil; then lower heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Add chicken broth or bouillon and long rice and continue to simmer another 30 minutes or until long rice swells and softens.

#### Optional Ingredients to enhance taste:

Green onion, finely chopped. Use as garnish just before serving. 1 can (6.5 oz) minced or diced clams can be used to add taste to broth.

Gathering 2012 Vision
In three short days, participants
will leave with strategies to realize
a Shin Buddhist community in
their lives.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Location Buddhist Study Center 1436 University Ave Honolulu, HI 96822

**Dates** 

Friday Afternoon August 10th, 2012 through Sunday Morning August 12th, 2012

Fee

\$100 (\$85 for early bird registration by July 15, 2012)

Registration fee includes Friday and Saturday dinners, and lunches on Saturday and Sunday. Conference participation is limited to

the first 85 registrants.

Please visit or call the WHM office for registration form and information.

### <u>REALIZING A SHIN BUDDHIST</u> <u>COMMUNITY</u>

One of the most challenging things in life is to take an idea, or a concept, and convert it into action. It can be in business, education, health, and life. The Buddhist Study Center (BSC), in collaboration with the Shin Buddhist Project of Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, is sponsoring Gathering 2012. We are planning an exciting weekend of sharing experiences and just having fun. To explore the conference theme of "Realizing a Shin Buddhist Community," we will focus on the parallels of a discipline known as Habits of Mind and Buddhism. We will explore how these concepts and values are made "habits" in our lives through panel discussion with religious scholars, as well as interaction with participants.

Gathering 2012 will feature world renowned Buddhist scholars: Dr. Alfred Bloom, Professor at the University of Hawaii and author of The Promise of Boundless Compassion; Rev. Koyo Kubose, Director of Bright Dawn Center of Oneness Buddhism; and Dr. Kenneth Tanaka, Professor of Buddhism at Musashino University and author of Ocean. They will share their perspective of Buddhism in a panel discussion in light of Habits of Mind. We will then interactively explore how Shin-Buddhist concepts can be practically integrated into our everyday life. This conference is being held in conjunction with the BSC's 40th Anniversary.

# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii & Buddhist Study Center— A Mindful Sangha Present: <u>Young Adults Retreat 4</u>

**What:** A retreat for young adults to learn about Buddhism and how it can help their lives. This year we will focus on what a mindful Shinshu Sangha can look like.

Who: Young Adults between ages 18-35

Where: Buddhist Study Center & Camp Kokokahi,

Oahu

When: August 10-13, 2012

**How:** For more information e-mail Jake at youth@honpahi.org or go to the website at www.tinyurl.com/buddha-yar

#### **Highlights**

- Make new friends or reconnect with old friends
- Meaningful discussions on Buddhism and life
- Lesson on Taiko Drums
- Relaxing environment

# WHM CALENDAR JULY 2012

Sat	7	14	21	78	
Fri	9	13	20	27 6:30pm-Movie	
Thu	5 1pm-Dharma School Teacher Mtg	12 Hosha 7pm-Club Asoka	19 11am-Hospital Visitation (PD)	26 Hosha	
Wed	4 INDEPEND- ENCE DAY	11	18	25	
Tue	8	10	17	24	31
Mon Tue	7	6	16	23	30
Sun	1 Service-Rev Hashimoto <b>10:00a Somen Nagashi</b> Dharma School	8 Service-Rev Hashimoto 10am-BWA Mtg Dharma School	15 9am-Spk-Dexter Mar 10am-Board Mtg	22 9am-Family day-Spk-Laurie Rubin Dharma School	29 Service-Rev Hashimoto

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission 1067 California Avenue P.O. Box 860265 Wahiawa, HI 96786-0265

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#### Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm-Dharma GP mtg	1pm-Dharma School Teach- er Mtg	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 HOSHA Club Asoka Mtg	10	11
12 10am BWA Mtg	13	14	15	16 11am-Hospital Visitation (PD)	17	18
19 10am-Board Mtg	20	21	22	23 HOSHA	6:30pm- Movie	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	