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# The White Way

Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji is the center of Shin Buddhist spiritual growth, learning, and compassionate service to our Community.

Temple Office: (808) 949-1659 <a href="mailto:mhm@MoiliiliHongwanji.org">mhm@MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="www.MoiliiliHongwanji.org">www.MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">Moiliili Hongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mhm@MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">www.MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mmm@MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mmm.mem</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mhm@MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mww.MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mww.MoiliiliHongwanji.org</a> <a href="mailto:mbm.mem">mmm.mem</a> <a href="mailto

## A Father's Day Message



On June 18, many people in Hawaii and throughout the world will be celebrating Father's Day. Here in Hawaii we have the wonderful tradition of outdoor barbeques at the homes of freinds and family members deciding on what to bring for the yearly get-together and what to get for our Dads.

Originally, Father's Day all began in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to complement Mother's Day. It is said that the first Father's Day was observed in a church in Fairmont, West Virginia on July 5, 1908, but it didn't become an official holiday until 1966 by President Lyndon Johnson. Then, it really became popular when Macy's, major shopping centers, supermarkets and all the other advertisers picked up on it. Now, a one-day event has become a three-week event.

Some interesting tidbits I would like to relay to you. Maybe you know some of them. In Argentina, there is an attempt to change the day to coincide with the date when the "Father of the Nation" Jose de San Martin became a father. In Costa Rica and other Catholic countries, it is celebrated in honor of St. Joseph. In Taiwan, it is observed on August 8, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month. In Mandarin Chinese, the pronunciation of the number 8 is *ba*. This pronunciation is very similar to the character read as *ba* which means papa or father. The Taiwanese therefore, usually call August 8 by its nickname, *Baba Day*.

Years ago I wondered when I was going to celebrate my own Father's Day. Although throughout most of my childhood and adult life when we celebrated this day, it was in honor of my father. I remember that as a young boy, we wished our grandfather a "Happy Father's Day" and all he did was laugh.

However, I feel very fortunate that I was able to celebrate Father's Day for my grandfather and later my own father until I was 60 years of age.

While it is very important for each of us to reflect deeply on what our fathers and both parents have gone through to nurture us and make sure we were always within their sphere of influence and care, we should also reflect on the causes and conditions that have enabled us to be born in this world.

In our Red Service Book, we often read the words from Homages or Kikyomon. Hard it is to be born into human life; now we are living in it. Difficult it is to hear the Teachings of the Blessed One; now we hear them. If we do not gain emancipation in this present life, we may not be free from ill-faring in the ocean of births and deaths for kalpas. Then at the end it goes on, "Even through myriads of kalpas, hard it is to hear such excellent and profound Teachings. Now we are able to hear and receive them. Let us try to understand the Tathagata's Teachings.

Through the Teachings of the Buddha, we come to understand that we are what we are through our fathers and mothers. The life that we have is our own life and nobody else's. It is my life and mine alone. If there are any changes or if we can make any changes, then it would not be us. Change our parents and we would not be here. Change any circumstance and it would not be us.

Although this one day of the year we honor our fathers with gifts, cards, candy, flowers, pancake breakfasts or a dinner out, and this is a wonderful tribute to them, they are really opportunities for us to realize how I have neglected and taken my parents for granted the rest of the 364 days of the year. They have given of themselves unselfishly for all these years asking for nothing in return. Their unconditional love, tough love when necessary, is universal.

The analogy of Amida Buddha's love as compared to that of our parents is often quoted. However, Amida's Compassion is extended to everyone, no matter who they are, with no conditions attached. It is given freely.

In the Tannisho, Chapter 5, it says, "I, Shinran, have never once uttered the Nembutsu for the sake of my father and mother. The reason is that all beings have been fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, in the timeless process of birth-and-death. When I attain Buddhahood in the next birth, each and every one will be saved."

This is the Buddhist ideal of the universality of Buddha in all beings. Shinran's understanding is that all sentient beings had been his father, mother, sisters and brothers during his innumerable past lives. Not in the literal sense, not in the physical reincarnation sense, but in the Buddhist universalism that transcends all social, racial, ethnic, political obstacles. We are one. The gratitude we show to our parents should be extended equally to all beings.

Most of us have warm feelings and stories or memories of our fathers. Fathers are not just someone who provided the genes that shared in our physical makeup and characteristics, but are also the ones who provided watchful support and guidance day in and day out.

Mark Twain once said, "When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to twenty-one, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

A Happy Father's Day to all.

**The White Way** is the newsletter of the Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, located at 902 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96826. It is printed monthly and the deadline for submission is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the issue date.

The opinions expressed by the individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Moiliili Hongwanji Mission.



## JUNE IS BURSTING OUT ALL OVER!

The gentle month of May came to a close with the **dedication ceremony** on May 21 of our new **statue of Shinran Shonin,** founder of Jodo Shin Buddhism. The dedication fell precisely on Shinran's birthday.

Gotan-e, May 21. The statue was made possible with the generous donations of our Sangha. Shinran was bedecked, local style, with beautifully woven ti-leaf lei and long plumeria lei for this occasion, thanks to Ann Nakata. Rev. Bert Sumikawa was the mover and shaker of this project. We thank him for dreaming big, and for his vision, action, and determination.

Our precious preschoolers participated in their minisize **Graduation Ceremony** on May 26, after many rehearsals. Parents, family and guests proudly watched the thirty-two students march into the Hondo to "Pomp and Circumstance," complete with tiny caps and gowns. What an endearing sight! Preschoolers always bring energy, curiosity and joy to our temple. Thank you to our teachers and staff for preparing them as they get ready to move on to their BIG schools. Wherever their paths may lead them, we hope their memories of Moiliili Hongwanji Preschool will bring smiles to their faces.

During the last week in May and into June (May 24 – June 4), Moiliili Hongwanji served as the host temple for **Family Promise of Hawaii**, a nonprofit organization. Families are carefully screened to have a safe place to sleep, good food and generous hospitality. Cheryl Yasunaga and Rona Fukumoto have been coordinating the Family Promise stay at MHM. Temple members sign up to provide breakfast or dinner to the families and/or to sleepover on designated days. Other temples of the Honolulu District (Betsuin, Jikoen, Kailua) share in providing meals on other days of the week, as well as sleeping over. It is a joint effort, and we thank all

participants for their generous service and help to Family Promise. Good news – most of these families successfully escape homelessness and transition to sustainable independence.

June comes charging in with a flurry of activities at Moiliili Hongwanji! All eyes and focus are on Moiliili Hongwanji's Bon Dance (June 30) and the Moiliili Summer Fest (July 1) at Varsity Circle. Everyone's kokua is needed during the last week of June . . . everything from stringing BBQ sticks to preparing food in advance, to setting up/cleaning up the Bon Dance area. All committees are on "full steam ahead" as members sign up to volunteer, and sign up for food or monetary donations. Please contact Emma at the office. Any help, big or small, will be deeply appreciated. Only on Friday, Ann Nakata will be introducing the infamous "flying saucer" (limited supply) made popular at bon dances on Kauai. Come check it out before it runs out!

Saturday's **Moiliili Summer Fest (MSF)** is our biggest **Outreach Project** as we join forces with other Moiliili Community organizations. In the past, more than 10,000 people came to dance, eat, and have a good time with family and friends. Coyne St. will be closed for vendors of all varieties on Saturday and free parking at UH Manoa and shuttle service will be available. Our Concession and Retail booths will open at 5:00 p.m. both nights, and end at 10:00 p.m.

Namu Amida Butsu, Nancy Shimamoto, President

### **Letters to the Editor**

We welcome your thoughts, ideas and suggestions on topics of interest to our temple members. Of course we must keep all letters respectful and we reserve the right to edit or choose not to publish any communications we consider inappropriate.

Please email your **Letters to the Editor** to communications@moiliilihongwanji.org (or post addressed to White Way Editor c/o Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, 902 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96826) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the issue date.



## Caregiver Support Group – "A Gift"

Project Dana's Caring for the Caregiver Support Group has provided support group meetings and counseling to family caregivers for the past sixteen years.

The support group provides a safe environment for caregivers to discuss and learn about caregiving and its challenges. Caregivers share that being around other family caregivers is a valuable gift they receive from the support group. As a long time member describes "In daily life you can be with close friends or even family members but you can feel so alone. Just sitting among other caregivers at our meetings give us a sense of 'aha' or 'sigh', they understand. It's not just me, its normal". Another participant shared that they've become more compassionate and cherish caregiving for their loved one as they learned from other caregivers' different ways to take care of themselves, and turn negative feelings to positive actions. In the support group, family caregivers teach, learn, and support one another.

Family caregivers also receive one-on-one support through counseling. Counseling provides an opportunity for caregivers to address their individual stresses and needs. It may be focused on providing a sympathetic ear or offer guidance and connection to different community resources or services available.

The support group meets on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at the Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin Social Hall. We welcome family caregivers who are caring for a loved one 60 years or older at home. If you or someone you know would like to participate in this support group please contact Project Dana at 945-3736.

#### Wise Words from a Volunteer

The following words, thoughtfully written by a Project Dana volunteer, a student at U.H. who shares his thoughts on spending time with a 102 year old elder.

"My mind is blown away with the tales of heroism, romance, and courage, that the elder feels he could share with me. Every week is something old and something new.

To all you volunteers out there, cherish the time you have with your companion and be thankful for being able to share a moment with them. Unless you are a history major, the differences today than the times of our kupuna will shock you in the most unbelievable way. That is, take the time to ask. Don't be shy. Project Dana has taught me many things in these past months: compassion, empathy, patience, and gratitude towards everyone in my life. I look forward to continue my services for this noble cause".



#### **BON DANCE HELP NEEDED**

We will need some volunteers for our Annual Bon Dance, either before during and after the event. If you can help us in any way please contact our temple office or you can reply and let us know when and which area you might be interested in. The Bon Dance will be held at the Old Varsity Theater from 5PM to 10PM on Friday, June 30,

and on Saturday, July 1, when it will be part of the Moiliili Summer Fest.

**SET UP & TRANSPORT EQUIPMENTS** - to assist in transporting tables, chairs, grills, concession supplies to Varsity from temple, putting up signs, and setting up chairs around the yagura. *Shifts:* (LUNCH PROVIDED) 10:00AM to 3:00PM & 2:00PM to 5:00PM

**MOCHI MAKING** - assist in making An Mochi *Shift:* Noon to 4:00PM

**SPAM MUSUBI MAKING** - to assist in making spam musubi, cooking spam and wrapping. *Shifts:* 3:00PM to 5:00PM

**KITCHEN HELP/CLEAN UP** - to assist in cooking shoyu pork, chili, & rice. Also to help in washing pots & pans

Shifts: 1:00PM to 5:30PM & 5:00PM to 11:00PM

**PARKING** – to assist in parking control, checking for parking passes and make sure only those with parking passes or names are allowed to park at the Church of the Crossroads parking lot *Shifts:* 3:00PM to 7:00PM & 6:30PM to 10:30PM

**CONCESSION SET UP** - assist in setting up tables, chairs, grills, supplies, drinks, may assist in taking orders, cooking, & serving foods

Shifts: 2:00PM to 6:00PM

**CONCESSION** – to assist in taking orders, collecting money, serving food, breakdown, taking equipment back to temple and cleaning up *Shifts:* 4:00PM to 8:00PM & 7:30PM to 11:30PM (or earlier)

**GAMES** – to assist in the fish pond with prizes, collecting money, setting up & breaking down *Shifts:* 4:00PM to 8:00PM & 7:30PM to 10:30PM

CLEAN UP CREW & BREAKDOWN – to assist in cleaning up during and after the event with trash and recyclables, breaking down chairs, taking equipments back to the temple, breaking down the lights & lanterns from the Yagura *Shift:* 6:30PM to 11:30PM



## **OH! THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!**

You'll be on your way up! You'll be seeing great sights You'll join the high fliers Who soar to high heights.

-Dr. Seuss

A week of fun and memorable activities will be held for our graduates from May 22 - 25. Some activities include a pajama



party and an ice cream party. For the entire student body a "Mini Fun Fair" will be held at our preschool on Wed, May 24th. The children will be treated to popcorn. shave ice, games and prizes and other goodies! Our busy week culminates with graduation on Friday, May 26, 2017.

The children in Mrs. Kuniyuki and Mrs. Nagata's classes have been practicing for their "Big Day" and are full of excitement and anticipation. This year will be presenting diplomas to 32 proud graduates. We celebrate the Class of 2017 for their many accomplishments, joyful spirits and endless energy!

During their time here the children have honed important skills---like sharing, working together, compassion, expressing needs and the joy of making new discoveries and strengthening skills. We hope they cherish the many warm memories and that they developed a passion for learning that will carry each of them to great heights! Congratulations Class of 2017! We wish you all the best!

Submitted by: Cori-Ann Uwaine

# BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS—JUNE 2017

On April 23, the BWA sponsored the Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Service with guest speaker Mernie Miyasato-Crawford. We thank Mernie for her very heartwarming and inspiring message sharing her deep appreciation of her family and her Buddhist roots. Thank you to Cyndi Osajima and Cynthia Ogasawara for coordinating this service, and thank you to members for your generous donations to the Eshinni Fund.

Congratulations to Chika Matsumoto who recently graduated from the Pacific Buddhist Academy. Chika spent her younger years along with brother Caden here at Moiliili, and we watched them grow with great pride. Chika will be attending Pacific University in Oregon in the fall.

The Hawaii Federation has selected two young women, Brandi Yamamoto (Kauai) and Kiaria Nakamura (Hawaii Island), to represent the Hawaii BWA in Japan this summer in the BWA Student Exchange program. Next year, Hawaii will host two representatives from Japan.

Our temple is hosting several homeless families from May 28 to June 4 as we participate with other Honolulu Hongwanji temples in the Family Promise program. Mahalo to members who are volunteering to setup, prepare meals and extend aloha to the families.

Our Bon Dance will be held on Friday, June 30 (Moiliili's bon dance), and on Saturday, July 1 (part of the Moiliili Summer Fest). Lots of help will be needed so please mark your calendars and volunteer in whatever way you can! BWA members are especially needed to help with making mochi and spam musubi. Lots of kokua is also needed for the concession and retail booths.

Our next BWA meeting will be held on Sunday, June 11, following the temple service. We hope to see everyone! The next oteire, cleaning of the altars, will be on June 21 at 9:00 a.m., If you would like to help, please join us.

Contributed by Jeanne Watari



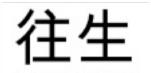
## **BRIGHT IDEAS!**

- Know of any tasty and inexpensive "Cheap Eats"...restaurants, hole in the walls, grab and go places?
- *Omiyage* Establishments?
- Service Oriented--Know a handyman, plumber, electrician, health practitioner, travel consultant, etc. that provide good service?

Call or email your referral and a brief description to our temple @ 949-1659 or communications@moiliilihongwanii.org.

I'm sure others would be happy to know of your referral.

- Our first Bright Idea from Roy Masuda



#### **BORN INTO THE PURE LAND**

Moiliili Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the following who have recently passed away:

- Ronald Toshiharu Komatsu, 97, on May 2
- Cynthia Tomiko Goto, 88, on March 28

May the Onembutsu provide solace to family members during this time of sorrow.

- "Free your heart. Travel like the moon among the stars.
   BUDDHA"
  - Jack Kornfield, Bringing Home the Dharma: Awakening Right Where You Are



#### **DONATIONS TO THE TEMPLE**

Sumiko Davis, Kiyoto Fujita, Doris Hamada IMO Yuriko Yoda, Jay Heyn, Wallace & Nancy Hironaka IMO Patches, Mochi & Chibi, Stanley K Kato IMO Masuno Kato, Anne & Osamu Kawabata, Eugene Makino, Janet Matsumoto, Ann Nakata IMO Buffy & Tweetie, Pauline Nishihara, Barbara Nomura, Wallace Ohta, Francis & Susan Okano, Mitsuko Sakamoto, Joanne Sakata IMO Shoichi Tamura, David Shimokawa IMO Asae Shimokawa, Sadae Tagami, Edward Tateishi IMO Chieko Tateishi

#### **DONATIONS TO NOKOTSUDO**

Clayton & Janice Sato, Thomas & Leatrice Sakamoto

#### **DONATIONS FOR 110th ANNIVERSARY**

Doris Hamada, Stanley K. Kato, Calvin Kuniyuki, Bert & Cynthia Ogasawara, Roy & Nancy Shimamoto

#### **DONATIONS FOR OHIGAN**

Chiyono Ebisu, Anne & Osamu Kawabata

#### **DONATIONS FOR GOTAN-E**

Thelma Ando, Frances Aoyama, Wesley Henry & Christine Jordan, Dorothy Colby, Chiyono Ebisu, Ernest Oshiro, Sumie Hamamoto, Edgar & Helen Hamasu, Donna Higashi, Toshiyuki Hiranaga, Wallace & Nancy Hironaka, Stanley K. Kato, Anne & Osamu Kawabata, Shinobu Kawano, Akiko Kie, Karen Kikukawa, Robert & Hatsue Kinoshita, Isao Kitagawa, Kathleen Komo, Patrick Komo, Satoru & Hideko Kumagai, Brian Kunimune, Yuriko Matsui, Glen & June Matsumoto, Daniel & Isabelle Matsumoto, Izuko Mikuni, Raymond & Violet Mimaki, Elaine Miyamoto, Momoyo Miyazaki,

Michiko Motooka, Melvin & Karen Murakami, Doris Muraoka, Tomie Nakahara, Rose & Gwen Nakamura, Wendy Nakanishi, Myrtle & George Nakasato, Ann Nakata, Thomas & Betsy Nishioka, Ethel Aiko Oda, Bert & Cynthia Ogasawara, Lois Ohta, Marsha Okada, Francis & Susan Okano, Rev. Thomas & Michiko Okano, Gladys Okano, Philip Okubo, Yaeko Onuma, Thomas & Leatrice Sakamoto, Kenneth & Jean Sato, Kiyoko Sato, Linda Sesoko, Roy & Nancy Shimamoto, Jean Avako Shintaku, Alice Shiroma, George & Sumie Sonoda, Michael & Wendy Sorakubo, Karen Sumida, Howard Takaki, Itsuko Takamura, Jenny Takemoto, Tom & Jane Tamura, Satsuye Tanaka, George Tsugawa, Sachie Tsukamoto, Sharen Uyeunten, Edna Wada, Iris Wasa-Uehisa, Jack Watanabe, Jeanne Watari, Edward Yamasaki, Gene & Joann Yokota, Gale & Yoshiko Young

Moiliili Hongwanji is most grateful for your generous donations. If you would like to have a receipt for your donation, please call the temple office at 949-1659. Of use for funerals, memorial services, and other services are not listed. If you prefer that your name not be listed, please include a nte and we will list it as "anonymous."

## BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!

#### MOILIILI HONGWANJI BON DANCE

Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 5PM – 10PM Parking across Shinnyo-en, Friday only

### MOILIILI SUMMER FEST

Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 5PM – 10PM Old Varsity Theater Parking Lot Free Parking & Shuttle from UH Manoa, Saturday only

Limited Supply of Kauai Style Flying Saucers FRIDAY ONLY!



## **MOILIILI HONGWANJI CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **JUNE 2017**

- 4 **9:00AM** Sunday Remembrance Service **10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 5 **6:30PM** Bon Dance Practice
- 9:00AM Sunday Service Charlene Kihara
  Recognition of Dharma School students, grads &
  teachers
  10:30AM BWA Meeting
  10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 12 **6:30PM** Bon Dance Practice
- 9:00AM Sunday Service Father's Day10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 9:00AM Sunday Service Wes Henry10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 26 **6:30PM** Bon Dance Practice
- 28 **6:00-8:00PM** BBQ Stringing for Bon Dance
- 29 **6:00-8:00PM** BBQ Stringing for Bon Dance *Pre-School Closed for Bon Dance Prep*
- 30 **5:00PM-10:00PM** MHM Bon Dance Pre-School Closed for Bon Dance Prep

#### **JULY 2017**

- 1 **5:00PM-10:00PM** Moiliili Summer Fest
- 2 9:00AM SUNDAY SERVICE CANCELLED 10:45AM TALK STORY W/REV. CANCELLED
- 7 **7:00PM** Joint Bon Mairi Service
- 8 **10:00AM** Joint Bon Mairi Service **7:00PM** Hatsubon Service – *Rev. David Nakamoto*
- 9:00AM Obon Service Rev. David Nakamoto
   11:00AM Columbarium Obon Service
   4:00PM Moiliili Cemetery Obon Service
- 9:00AM Sunday Service10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 9:00AM Sunday Service10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 9:00AM Sunday Service10:45AM Talk Story with Rev. Bert

#### REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES & CLUBS

Mondays 10AM Quilting
Mondays 5:15PM Zumba
Tues/Thu 8AM Shoshinge Chanting
Tuesdays 6:30PM Meditation Service
2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Wed. 10AM Japanese Dharma Class
Thursdays 9:30AM Ikebana

Fridays 1PM Conversational Japanese

**For More Information:** Temple Office (808) 949-1659 **Subject to Change:** Please call the Temple Office to

confirm times & dates of any event.

Thursdays 5:30PM Zumba

## WHITE WAY RADIO: SATURDAY MORNINGS AT 7:45AM ON KZOO AM1210

Join us on Saturdays for White Way Radio on KZOO1210 at 7:45a.m. for inspiring messages from a variety of speakers. We are truly grateful for our White Way Radio Sponsors who make it possible to share the Dharma on the air every week.

#### **JUNE 2017**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u> / <u>Sponsor</u>
3	Rev. Richard Tennes / Mr. & Mrs. Roy Abe
10	Rev. Mieko Majima / Mrs. Thelma Ando
17	Rev. Kazunori Takahashi/ The Hirai Family
24	Rev. Sandra Hiramatsu / The Miyasaki
	Family

#### **JULY 2017**

- Rev. Satoshi Tomioka / Shigefuji & Matsumoto Families
   Mr. Joshua Hernandez Morse / Mr. & Mrs.
- Gene Yokota
  15 Rev. Alan Urasaki / Mrs. Jo DesMarets
- 22 Mr. Dexter Mar / Mrs. Edith Horii
- 29 Blayne Higa / The Harman Family

Contact the Temple Office at 949-1659 if you'd like to sponsor a broadcast, be a speaker, or volunteer to help produce the weekly broadcast