

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

FEBRUARY 2021



A House Blessing was performed for a shrine friend on 2/2

DONATIONS

Dan & Chie Aramaki
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Kei Enoki
Dale Hiramoto
Yurie Ho
Arashi & Pam Igarashi
Art K. Isa
Arthur Isa
Rodney & Sharon Isa
Mike Lee
Steve Miwa
Blake & Eri Murakami
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Robert Piemme
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Brendan Toyoshima
Nicholas Tsutsumi
Valerie Tsutsumi
Asuka Tsuzuki

2021 is the year of the Metal Ox.

The Metal Ox year is a time for honesty, hard work, duty and discipline. Like the Ox plowing the field - success is achieved by diligent work and conscientious effort.

The metal elements like clean, tidy, positive environments - so begin 2021 by cleaning, reducing clutter and maintaining a sanitary environment throughout the year.

Metal elements rule the lungs. If you smoke, this may be an opportune year to quit.

The Ox is a powerful animal who has the ability to transform the negative challenges of 2020 into positive outcomes.

Daring new concepts will not fare well. Tried-and-true methods will bring a bountiful harvest in fall 2021.



RAT - fewer hardships this year

OX - Reap the benefits of the efforts you've made over time

TIGER - work hard and stay focused

RABBIT - don't be frustrated if things are taking longer to come to fruition

DRAGON - stay focused and refrain from meddling

SNAKE - career goals can be attained

HORSE - maintain control in personal interactions

SHEEP - challenging year - stay positive

MONKEY - difficult year that requires hard work and discipline

CHICKEN - favorable year of stability and success

DOG - persevere through the minor roadblocks

PIG - many opportunities for career advancement

Kanreki celebrates that point in our lives when we return to the Chinese Zodiac sign under which we were born.

Kanreki is a time to re-evaluate our lives, when we may begin to face our mortality, make transformative changes and reaffirm a sense of gratitude for the goodness and richness of our years.

The *Kanreki* blessing can be wonderfully life-affirming. Instead of seeing the 60s as a time of loss, see it as a time to listen to the callings of your soul.



Kanreki Blessing was performed for a shrine friend on 2/3

Setsubun or Bean Throwing was performed on 2/14.

In ancient times, the beginning of each season was called *Setsubun* and various rituals were performed for the removal of negative energies.

Setsubun merged with a Chinese practice of demon exorcism called *Tsuina* sometime during the 12th century.



CALENDAR

MARCH

- 7** **3:00 pm (CANCELED)**
Sake Appreciation Festival
- 28** **3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

APRIL

- 24** **1:00 pm**
Clean up & Prep
- 25** **3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Spring Thanksgiving Festival & Scholarship Awards



GOKITO Private Blessings



A Family Blessing was performed for shrine friends on 1/20



Welcome to the world, Randy!!



A Remembrance ceremony for shrine friend Karen Fujishima Lee was conducted on 2/8.



Congratulations on a new job, new city and new beginnings!



Anzan Safe Birth blessing was performed on 2/8

Although our love is constant - - our thoughts, feelings, regrets and memories can change as every death anniversary passes.

A Remembrance ceremony was a wonderful way to honor Karen - who left an amazing legacy.

.....Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories

Yakudoshi years are said to hold many physical and emotional challenges, especially *Hon-Yaku* (Major *Yaku*) years which are 42 for men and 33 for women.

Crisis is an opportunity for growth and *Yakudoshi* is a time to look within yourself, recognize and acknowledge the changes, take stock of your life and set new goals.

Yakudoshi blessings are meant to reconnect your spirit within to help you through the challenges and may be performed using the Japanese age system of *kazoe* or western system of *man*.

2021 Group Kanreki and *Yakudoshi* blessings have been canceled. Please contact the shrine for a private blessing.

**Maeyaku
Pre-Yaku**

**Honyaku
Yakudoshi**

**Atoyaku
Post-Yaku**

MEN

1998

1997

1980

1981

1980

1979

WOMEN

2004

2003

2002

1990

1989

1988



A virtual *Yakudoshi* blessing was performed on 2/9 for a shrine friend in Taiwan. Her parents offered *tamagushi* on her behalf.



A *Yakudoshi* blessing was performed for a shrine friend on February 8

Shubun no Hi or the Spring Equinox falls on March 20 this year. It was formerly known as *Shunki Koryo Sai* or the Spring Festival for imperial ancestors, a tradition imported from China.

This tradition of imperial ancestral worship in China appears on ancient documents from about 2500 years ago. Ancestral worship for the masses were observed a few days after the imperial ancestral worship day in a festival called *Ching Ming*.

Imperial ancestral worship was adopted in Japan during the 12th century and was changed following Japan's Constitution in 1948 which separated church and state. The name of the non-religious holiday was officially changed to *Shunbun no Hi*.

Many families still visit the graves of ancestors on *Shunbun no Hi* to clean them and place flowers.

It's also a day to make and share *Ohagi* rice cakes your ancestors.



HUNKY DORI

Meaning: Perfect or just fine

Origin: On July 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry steamed into the harbor of Edo (later Tokyo) in his *Kuro-fune* black ships, ending 250 years of isolation of Japan from the rest of the world.

Yokohama became the center of foreign trade since its opening in 1859 and prospered after the Meiji Restoration of 1868. *Honcho-dori* street in the *Tsurumi-ku* district was chosen as the site of foreign settlement.

Perry's sailors venturing out in search of entertainment often found themselves lost in a maze of alleys when returning to their ship. However, once they found *Honcho-dori*, which led to the dock, everything would be **Hunky dory**. **Hunky dory** is said to be the Americanized pronunciation of *Honcho-dori*.

MAINTENANCE

Every structure requires maintenance to ensure optimal performance over its life cycle.

Maintenance is a continuous activity and the shrine's maintenance project for 2021 is repairing the deeply spalled concrete walkway above the hall.

In the spring of 1962, the shrine finalized the sale of 30,786 sq. ft of shrine land to the State for the construction of H-1.



With no space to expand out, shrine officers opted to go up.

Instead of adding a story on top of the existing priest's quarters, they jacked up the building 16 feet and tucked another story underneath, to house the social hall.

Over time and with increased exposure to the elements, untreated pieces of concrete have spalled, cracked, frayed, chipped

and fallen from the walkway.

Spalling not only affects the aesthetic appearance of the walkway, but also affects the structural performance and stability.

The risk is falling and damaging property or even worse, hitting a person walking below.

The spalling was identified a few years back and was being monitored these past few years.



Presently, the spalling damage is seemingly about 1/3 of the thickness of the concrete.

Usually, if the damage is greater than 1/3 of the depth, new steel rebars must be reinstated and a full depth restoration would be required.

Minor repairs were done over the years until a full-repair date could be agreed on by both the shrine and the preschool.

Structural hazards were verified by a structural engineer last year who recommended immediate attention to the problem.



The "Walkway Project" began on 2/16. Weather permitting, the project will take about 7 - 10 days to complete.

On February 15, all play apparatus was removed from the area directly below the walkway. Rev. Takizawa swept, scrubbed and hosed off the walkway and patio area below in preparation for the installation of the shoring and scaffolding the next day.

On February 16, the area directly below the walkway was cordoned off to prevent anyone from

entering and in case of collapsed debris. The entire patio and second floor walkway area was also barricaded.

Using a saw, hammer and chisel, a portion of the walkway was inspected. The damage was greater than 1/3 of the depth.

The entire area of the walkway will be removed during the next few days to expose the disintegrated rebars.



(to be continued in the March issue)