

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

JULY 2019



Students from Sacred Hearts Academy's Religion class made their annual visit to the shine on July 5

MAHALO

for your donations

Thomas & Linda Agawa
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Fabian Furukawa
Alan Higashiyama
David & Mayako Hsiang
Rodney & Sharon Isa
David & Masako Jimenez
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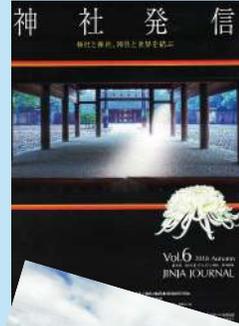
Mahalo Nui to **Mike Lee** for his donation of several steel shelves.

Tent pipes and accessories for shrine events are now stored in the basement maintenance storage area, organized by pipe length and canopy size.

The shrine was featured in the Autumn edition of *Jinja Hasshin*, a magazine aiming to connect Shinto with the global community.

The author, **Rev. Takakazu Maeda** has dedicated his life to the research of Shinto shrines outside of Japan, especially those that were established in the state of Hawaii.

Before the outbreak of WWII, there were over 50 shrines in Hawaii, with the majority on the island of Oahu. Presently, there are 4 on Oahu, 2 on Maui and 1 in Hilo.



Visit our website: www.jinja.us

Gokito Private Blessings



A House Blessing was performed for Evan & Leni at their newly built condo



A House blessing was performed on 7/21 for a new home in Makakilo



A Healing Blessing was performed for Yoshi, a Boston Terrier



A Beiju 88th Birthday Blessing was performed for Alan, a shrine friend on 7/13.

In Shinto, there are many passages of later life and rituals that support and guide people through the

spiritual dimensions of those passages.

Bei, the Kanji character for rice is written using the *kanji* characters for 8 - 10 - 8 and is often referred to as the "rice birthday". *Ju* means longevity.

The color that represents Beiji is gold.

It is said that the vast rice fields in Japan turn a brilliant gold color when the rice is ripe and ready to harvest.

View events pics at: www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu

Congratulations



Congratulations to **Rev. Masa Takizawa** for completing 25 years of service at the shrine.

A native of Nagoya, Rev. Takizawa began his tenure as the 12th *Guji* (Chief Priest) of the shrine on June 1, 1994.

Rev. Takizawa is a graduate of Chukyo University, Nagoya and completed Shinto Studies at Kogakkan University of Ise in 1992.

He served at Shiroyama Hachimangu shrine in Nagoya prior to serving at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu.



Cassandra Carlyle is pictured with Senior Judge Susan Oki Mollway of the US District Court for the District of Hawaii

Congratulations to the shrine's loyal volunteer and 2018 scholarship recipient **Cassandra Carlyle** on winning the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Civics Contest.

The contest offers high school students in the US and Pacific islands an opportunity to win cash prizes while learning about the role of the judicial branch.

This year's theme was "The 4th Amendment in the 21st Century - What is an 'Unreasonable Search and Seizure' in the Digital Age?"



Congratulations to **Kilala Hall** - the shrine's 2019 scholarship recipient on her graduation from Kaiser High School



Congratulations to **James Yonemura**, a 2016 shrine scholarship recipient on his graduation from Seattle University - Albers School of Business

TANABATA - one of the Five Sekku

From ancient times, the Japanese have embraced the awes of nature by celebrating the changing of the seasons.

Among them are five major festivals called *Go-sekku*. They are *Jinjitsu 1/7*, *Joushi 3/3*, *Tango 5/5*, *Tanabata 7/7*, *Choyo 9/9*.

TANABATA (July 7)

The present day celebration of Tanabata is actually a combination of several festivals:

- 1) Chinese tradition called *Qixi* (*Kikoden* in Japanese) where young women and men wished for skills in sewing, craftsmanship and penmanship
- 2) Ancient Japanese ritual of Tanabta-tsume where Shrine Miko maidens wove cloths for the *kami*, on a loom called *Tanabata*
- 3) Chinese legend of the cowherd

and the Princess (also known as *Chilseok* in Korean)

4) One of the Five Sekku - Tanabata, a festival to pray for protection from the heat and pestilence of summer

Tanabata gained widespread popularity among the general public and by the 18th century was being observed by most of the population.

Popular customs relating to *Tanabata* varies by region but all involves the writing of wishes.

The custom was to use dew left on leaves to create the ink used to write wishes. Bamboo is thought to have become part of the *Tanabata* tradition for its propensity to grow straight and tall, with upward stretching branches bearing the wishes to heaven.



Tanabata was observed at the shrine from July 1 - 7. *Tanzaku* rectangular tags and tags of various shapes were available to visitors to write their wishes for the annual celebration.

A stubby Duraglas beer bottle was found under the concrete foundation of the hall by the plumbers.

The bottle stands approximately 7 inches and is made of a thick amber colored glass.

No Deposit No Return Not to be refilled is embossed on the bottle. A logo and several numerals are embossed on the bottom.

While researching the bottle, it was discovered that it was manufactured by the Owens-Illinois Glass Co. headquartered in Toledo, Ohio which began glass operations in 1896.

The logo on the bottom consists of a Diamond and oval mark entwined, with an I in the center.

The style of the logo on the bottom of the bottle was used by the Owens Illinois Glass Company from April 29, 1929 to 1954.



The numeral 6 on the left of the logo designates plant number, which is Charleston, West Virginia.

The 5 on the right of the logo denotes the year of manufacture - 1945.

The beer in this bottle was most likely a Schlitz. Schlitz was the best selling beer in the 1940s until its demise in the mid-1970s for adding silica gel and using a process called accelerating batch fermentation, which produced an unnatural and toxic product.

August

- 3 1 pm
Cleanup & preparations
- 4 10 am - 2 pm
Back-To-School Blessing

September

- 1 8:30 am - 4 pm
Online Reservations accepted for Shichigosan, Jusan Mairi, Totose no Oiwai and Seijin Shiki (For details visit: www.jinja.us)
- 28 1 pm
Cleanup & Preparations
- 29 3 pm
99th Annual Autumn Thanksgiving Festival

Maintenance

As reported on our June newsletter, the Bathroom Project went from routine repair to a complicated mega project with multiple moving parts.

The original cast iron plumbing built in the 1960s has reached the end of its lifespan.

Millions of houses built before 1975 have cast iron pipes. At best, these pipes will last for 40- 50 years, but corrosion can cause damage even earlier.

Cast iron was largely used for pipes



until the 1980's. It was the preferred pipe material throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, and was even used as far back as the 17th century at the Palace of Versailles.

Cast iron is an alloy of iron, containing other elements like carbon and silicon. While it can be more brittle than pure iron, it is extremely durable and can withstand high amounts of pressure.

The downside of cast iron pipes is that

they are susceptible to corrosion, which causes 25% of pipe failures. Depending on the environment, corrosion can damage pipes in as little as 20 to 30 years.

Today, plumbers typically use plastic PVC. This material is said to last up to 100 years.

A plumbing camera was pushed through the sewer pipe under the social hall from a clean out to the sanitary main, performing an entire sewer lateral inspection.



Maintenance continued

The cast iron pipes had holes and cracks in several places and disintegration in most areas resulting in leaky toilets and water pooling underneath the social hall building.

Over the long-term, it will dissipate the soil and cause parts of the ground to sag. Water will eventually penetrate through mud and rocks and erode the ground underneath causing a sinkhole.

The Board took immediate action to repair and replace the pipes before it led to further foundation damage.

The Bathroom Project continues with jack-hammering through the building's slab and creating trenches in the boy's bathroom and patio area.

Using the same path and pitch, new PVC pipes will be connected and placed on top of properly re-compacted fill.

Meanwhile, a rolloff was brought in for concrete disposal.

A special service is being used to pick up the contaminated soil for off-site remediation and proper disposal.

Two Porta-Potties were brought in to keep the site safe, functional and up to code.

The project will be taking longer than



Boy's bathroom on 6/13

usual as work can only be done at night and on weekends.

Mahalo Nui to all our supporters as these maintenance projects to preserve and perpetuate the shrine are only possible through your generous donations.



Boy's bathroom on 6/23