

Volume 3 Issue 3

June 2013



WHERE ANCIENT TRADITIONS THRIVE

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

Chinowa for People & Pets 2013

A procession of humans, dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, and hamsters went through the Chinowa ring on Sunday, June 2 for the annual Pet Blessing at the shrine.

Some pets hung around for some “yappy hour” while others slurped Pet

Shave Ice.

As usual, all had a tail-wagging good time.

Mark your calendars for the next Pet Blessing Festival and Chinowa Ring of Renewal on **Sunday, June 1, 2014.**

View more event photos and TV news coverage at

www.flickr.com/photos/kotohiradazaifu

www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhzjMx2rkKg



Rest in Peace, Kuma

Kuma was your friend, your partner, your defender.

You were his life, his love, his leader. He was yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart.

MAHALO for your generous donations

Susan Amato
Gary Cox
Doughty Ohana
Kaori Fiack
Clark & Gayle Fujihara
Bob Harada
Hanayagi Dancing Academy
Hawaii Foundation
Stephanie Helbush
Lester Ho
Sayuri Horn
Mitsuru & Pam Igarashi
Kyoko Isa
Jessie Ito
Lorraine & Elsie Kadota
Robert Kakalia Cynthia Kim
Hidetaka & Risa Kojima
Elaine Komatsu
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Laura Sychowski
Judy Taketa
Kai Katsuna Uehira
Eric & Sayuri Van Rijsbergen
Pamela Wong

Dale Yamamoto
Brian Yamanaka Jr
Shinya & Satomi Yarimizo



Bon Voyage

Shrine volunteer, Jill Nishida left for Thailand on June 3 to teach English in Ubon Ratchathani, a north-eastern province near Laos.

Stay safe, but go beyond the guidebook!



MAHALO Volunteers

June 1 Saturday

Bob Harada
Arthur Isa Sr
Kyoko Isa
Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Karen Nishida
Jill Nishida

June 2 Sunday

Toi Baba
Alyssa Fujihara
Gayle Fujihara
Jeff Fujioka
Bryson Goda
Yasumi Gojo
Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Fdn
Bob Harada
Ena Hasegawa

HI Tokai Intl College

Emi Igarashi
Kai Igarashi
Arthur Isa Sr
Arthur Isa Jr
Kyoko Isa
Momoe Ishida
Saori Ishiguro
Haruka Iwata
Tom Jannuzzio
Lorraine Kadota
Elaine Komatsu
Kenya Kosugi
Yuko Kuge
Kenshi Kuromiya
Calvin Mai
Akane Miyazaki
Masatoshi Murakami
Marilyn Naitoh

Shinken Naitoh

Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Jill Nishida
Karen Nishida
Takato Ohara
Carole Omura
Ayaka Ota
Momoka Sakamoto
Jay Sakashita

Pauline Sakashita

Skye Sakashita
Stirling Sakashita
Naomi Teramoto
UH Manoa - NICE
Rio Watanabe
Hiroshi Yamaji
Nini Yang



Shrine Visitors



On June 13, Dr. Jay Sakashita of Leeward Community College accompanied 15 graduate students and their instructors from Washington University in St. Louis to the shrine.

As part of their Asian Studies program, they have traveled to Hawaii for several weeks to see and experience first-hand the affects of culture as it shifts contexts.



Konpira Dog

Congratulations

Shrine volunteers Stacie Hata & Alyssa Fujihara graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa on May 11. May your graduation be the beginning of a future filled with success and happiness!



Kotohira-gu is renown as the guardian *kami* of navigation, fishing, and successful business.

Prior to 1868, Kotohira-gu was known as Konpira Daigongen, both a Buddhist and Shinto sanctuary.

Since 1868, it's been known as Kotohira-gu, or more affectionately as "Konpira-san."

During the Edo Period (1603 - 1868) commoners were only allowed travel for the sole purpose of pilgrimages.

Ise Jingu and Konpira Daigongen were the two most popular pilgrimage destinations. The pilgrimage to Konpira Daigongen was called *Konpira mairi*.

Those who were not able to make the pilgrimage themselves, sent their dogs to Konpira-san on their behalf.

Offerings to Konpira-san along with the names and addresses of the owner and money to purchase food were placed in a bag with



Travelers caring for a Konpira dog

"Konpira Mairi" written on it and tied around the neck of the dogs.

The dogs were cared for by travelers who guided them until they eventually arrived at Konpira-san.

Upon the dogs arrival, prayers were offered for the donors and ofuda amulets were placed in the bag tied around the dog's neck.

The dogs were then fed, given a good night's rest and sent back to their owners in the same way they came.

Upcoming Events



A Piece of History

The chōchin lanterns used by the shrine are specially hand-made by the Miyoshi Chōchin Company of Kagawa prefecture in Shikoku, Japan.

Master Masanobu Miyoshi is the 11th generation owner and chief Chōchin artist of Miyoshi Chōchin.

All 11 generations of artisans have specialized in the Sanuki style of Chōchin lanterns, decorated with bright colors and bold patterns of deep religious symbolism.

Chōchin lanterns are said to have been brought back from China by Kobo Daishi sometime in 806 CE.

The chōchin has a frame of split bamboo wound in a spiral with paper or silk covering to protect the flame from the wind.

The spiral structure allows the chōchin to be collapsed into the basket at the bottom.

The Samuki style Chōchin lanterns were originally used by shrines, temples and pilgrims on their pilgrimage of the 88 temples of Shikoku.



11th generation artisan,
Masanobu Miyoshi

讃岐提灯は、弘法大師が中国からその技法を伝承されて香川県で発生したとされ、四国八十八ヶ所の奉納提灯として約10世紀の歴史があるといわれています。

そのため寺社特有の図柄や紋様を用い、絢爛極彩色に飾られた様々な讃岐提灯が宝物として神社仏閣に奉納されたものが現在も多数残されています。



Special chōchin lanterns made by Miyoshi Chōchin donated to the shrine by Dr. Shinken and Marilyn Naitoh