



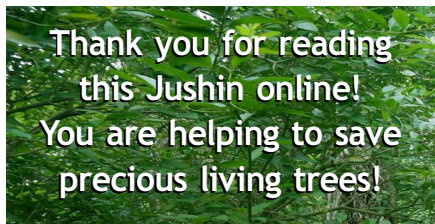
# Jushin 樹心

Web  
Anniversary Edition

October/November 2014  
Volume 4 Issue 5

## inside your Jushin

Chairperson's Message ..... 1  
 October 26 Ho-on-ko and  
 Temple Anniversary Service ..... 3  
 Set-Up Help Needed ..... 3  
 Looking Back Photo Album ..... 3  
 Minister's Message ..... 4-5  
 Hawaii District Ho-on-ko and  
 Special Kikyoshiki Ceremony .. 6  
 Ehime Maru Memorial ..... 6  
 Looking Back Photo Album ..... 7  
 Holoholo Adventure ..... 7  
 A-bombs and Peace Exhibit ..... 7  
 Oct-Nov Calendar ..... 8



Jushin publication is published  
bi-monthly by the  
Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji  
45-520 Keaahala Road  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
Tel (808) 247-2661

Resident Minister  
Rev. Hiroko Maeda  
Board Chairperson: Mary Matsuda  
Editor: Jim Dote

Temple email:  
kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org

Temple website:  
www.kaneohe.hhbt-hi.org

## Chairperson's Message

Hard as it is to believe, the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji was established in 1924 in what was once a sleepy and quaint little town. My how times have changed! Our rural little town – almost a village – is now considered a suburb of Honolulu and a desirable community in that it is just minutes away from downtown, Pearl City and just about anywhere connected by freeways and highways. We have a large shopping center and two small ones. We now enjoy many conveniences to boot, including city water, electricity and telephones! Who would've thought that Kaneohe home prices would ever rise to more than \$700,000!



In the 1920s Kamehameha Road was a single rocky road. We did not have continuous telephone service yet and some homes were still lit by kerosene lamps. Each afternoon neighbors heated their bath water by fire in large, ofuro tubs. One could see streams of wood smoke rising from Japanese homes.

Historically we can only wonder what events and thoughts led to the creation of the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji back in 1924. As we know, Amida calls and beckons us to the teachings and this call is ever-present.

*Continued on page 2*

## Chairperson's Message

*Continued from page 1*

Today, invisible and inaudible radio waves are constantly in the air around us. However, it is only until we turn on a receiver such as a radio that we can hear a broadcast. For those of the younger generation, isn't Wi-Fi only as good as the receiver you have in your iPhone or iPad? Although we cannot see or feel the millions of bits of information floating around us, the signals are ever-present and ready to enable us to gather more information, to begin dialogue with others, etc.



The formation of our Kaneohe temple undoubtedly was the result of a similar situation. Someone had a wish to have a place where they could enjoy the sutra chanting and hear sermons as they did in Japan. That person shared his wish with another and they, in turn, shared it with others. Soon, there were enough seekers of the same mind and heart who were able to establish what has come to be known as the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji.

Their wish to hear the Nembutsu and to recite the sutras was not self-motivated. Rather it was the calling of the Amida Buddha which the people heard which moved them to seek a way to receive the teachings of the grace of Amida. How grateful we are that they heard the calling of the Amida!

It is this spirit and gratitude we express with our 90th anniversary of this temple and the 50th anniversary of the "new" temple. We have heard the word, "Okagesama" so many times but as we know, a single word in Japanese speaks volumes. Okagesama is one of them. "Kage" means "shadow" and I always interpreted it to mean that it is in the benevolent shadow of those in the temple's and our ancestors' past that I have been able to live my life. For the compassion and challenges present in my life, I am grateful as this shadow comforts and teaches me how to live and to listen to the teachings of Amida.

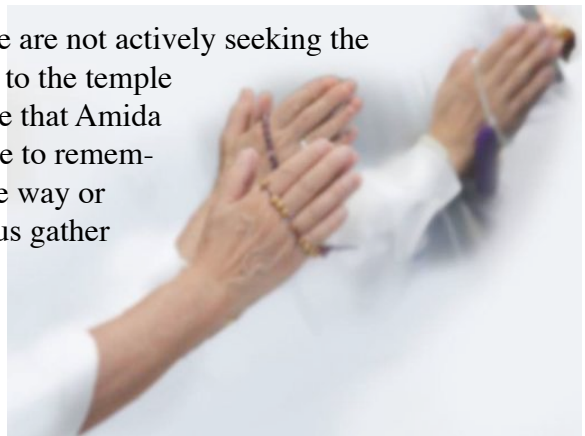


Photo by Mike Takashita

Reverend Marcos Sawada of our Hilo Higashi Hongwanji recently spoke at our September 14 Ohigan services and talked about how our shadows follow us. It was an "Aha!" moment for me for I realized that unless I were Peter Pan, my shadow is attached to me and is ever-present in everything I do! How wonderful that I do not have to make a conscious effort to remember my "okage." It is unequivocally part of my life!

I would venture to say that although we may think that we are not actively seeking the teachings of the Amida and we may not have as strong a tie to the temple as our ancestors, our shadow will remind us of the assurance that Amida is always calling us as it did our ancestors. It is now the time to remember these family members, ancestors and people who, in one way or another shaped your life and others in the community. Let us gather together on October 26 to honor and celebrate this gift!

*Gassho.*  
  
 Mary Matsuda





## Attend Kaneohe's Ho-on-ko Service and Celebrate our 90 & 50th Anniversaries

On Sunday, October 26, at 10 am, the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji will hold its Ho-on-ko Service and a special service to commemorate its 90th and 50th Anniversaries of the present temple facility. We invite you and family to attend. We have a lunch planned after the ceremony to provide time for all to enjoy each other's fellowship. The temple has mailed Jushin readers an invitation with a RSVP card a few weeks ago. Please reply by October 6 or 8, or by email.



1959 Temple was a community affair



1950s Visitation from Kyoto HQ



1960s Sensei!



### Help Needed Oct. 25 and 26 for Set up

Building the temple in 1964 could not have been done by just two hands: it took many hands. We again need your kokua and happy hands to help set up the temple and social hall on 9 am, Saturday, October 25 for our Ho-on-ko service and Anniversary gathering, to be held the next day. Many happy hands, like those that built this temple 50 years ago, are needed to help with light chores, flower arrangements and moving and setting up chairs and tables.

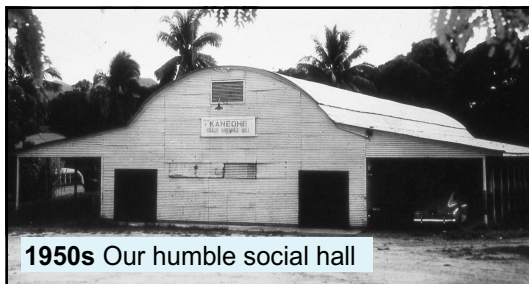
After the celebratory luncheon, strong hands will again be appreciated on Sunday, October 26, to move and store tables and chairs, sweep and mop the floor in the social hall, and general clean-up.



1963 Breaking new ground



1963 Many hands toil together in harmony



1950s Our humble social hall



1963 Building the main doors & entry



1964 Dedication of wishes fulfilled



# *The Torch of Aloha Buddhas: India to Kaneohe*

*Now, sunrise is later each day, and sunset is earlier each day. Even though we don't feel great temperature changes like other states, the summer weather slowly is becoming a little cooler.*

Wait a minute...summer can't end yet. We haven't observed our significant ceremony this hot summer. Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji reached 90 years since being established on August 9, 1924. Plus, the current building was dedicated 50 years ago on August 16, 1964.

For this special occasion, the temple is going to celebrate the two anniversaries during our annual Ho-on-ko service on Sunday, October 26. At this celebration, we will express our gratitude to those founding members of 1924, and the multitude of people who have kept the temple going from that time until the present. In addition, this day is not only for our pioneers, but it is also for each of us who has contributed to the temple. What the temple will be in future depends on what we do in the present. Please observe this memorable combined service with your family and friends, and enjoy the luncheon that follows.

Ho-on-ko is the memorial service for our founder, Shinran Shonin, who died on November 28, 1226 in Kyoto. Literally, "Ho-on" means "to express gratitude," and "-ko" means "learning and gathering." Therefore, the Ho-on-ko service is the opportunity for the Nembutsu followers to get together, listen to the teachings thoroughly, and express our gratitude to our Nembutsu predecessors including Shinran Shonin, who fulfilled their lives in the Buddha-Dharma and clarified the Nembutsu path. Every year, all Hongwanji temples observe this special service in Japan and in other overseas districts. Also the Ho-on-ko service traditionally takes place at each follower's house. So, the Nembutsu followers review their conduct in their everyday lives while reflecting on the teachings.

In Shinran's poem, Shoshinge, he concluded by saying, "*All great masters and leaders who have introduced us the Sutras, are trying to save us from the evils infinitely contaminating this world.*"

*Continued on page 5*

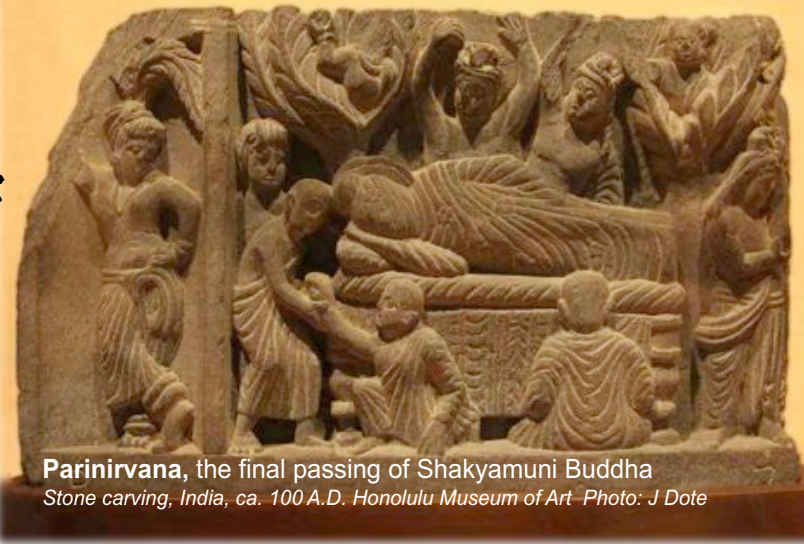
# The Torch of Aloha Buddhas: India to Kaneohe

Continued from page 4

Let us all jointly and with one heart — whether we be priests or laymen — only believe in what these wise men have taught us.” Needless to say, Shinran didn’t establish the Nembutsu path — there were footprints of the seekers to the Nembutsu path. He was guided to the essence of Nembutsu teachings by his master, Honen. So, the last sentence of his poem was his declaration as a Nembutsu follower to join the large stream of history on the Nembutsu path.

Shinran was very conscious of living in the age of *Mappo*, or Last Age of Dharma. It is said that *Mappo* was a time of declining quality of Buddhism and human life. *Mappo* was preceded by the periods of True Dharma and Counterfeit Dharma. In other words, *Mappo* was a time when the difference between the truth and delusion was vague. People couldn’t directly receive the Dharma teachings by Sakamuni Buddha since the cosmic time had passed after Sakyamuni Buddha died. Though Shinran practiced asceticism for twenty years of his life at Mt. Hiei, Shinran realized that he had been born too late to hear, receive, or share the Dharma due to living in the age of *Mappo*, or the difficult days of the Kamakura period. At the age of twenty nine, he was very depressed and miserable in his attempt to attain Buddhahood, and in the end, Shinran left Mt. Hiei.

A little after leaving Mt. Hiei, Shinran had the most important event of his life: He met his revered teacher, Honen, who was a monk at Mt. Hiei who also left the mountain. Honen started sharing the teachings with everybody—not only monks and nuns, but also all classes of men and women. In his book, *Dharma Breeze*, Nobuo Haneda, Ph.D., describes Shinran’s turning point: “When Shinran met Honen, Shinran saw a Buddha in him. But the Buddhahood that he saw in Honen was totally different from what he had anticipated. More than anything else, Shinran was moved by the fact that Honen was a humble student. Honen identified himself only as a student of Shantao.....Before Shinran met Honen, he had thought that a Buddha was a teacher, a respected and worshipped person.



Parinirvana, the final passing of Shakyamuni Buddha  
Stone carving, India, ca. 100 A.D. Honolulu Museum of Art Photo: J Dote

But now, having met Honen, he realized that a Buddha was actually a student, a respecting and worshipping person.”

In the midst of his feelings of frustration, Shinran met a true follower or student of Sakyamuni Buddha, Honen. Shinran witnessed a Buddha in Honen, who liberated the ego-self by living in the teachings of Nembutsu. Honen was humbled by seeing his own evil nature saying, “I am evilness and foolish,” — Namu (bowing) Amida Butsu (all of Life in the Light of Wisdom.)

So, Shinran finally encountered the Buddha, or the awakened one, who received and shared the Dharma in the *Mappo* period. Shinran remarks upon his immense impression in his writing, *Kyogyoshinsho*: “How joyous I am, my heart and mind being rooted in the Buddha-ground of the universal Vow, and my thoughts and feelings flowing within the dharma-ocean, which is beyond comprehension! I am deeply aware of the Tathagata’s immense compassion, and I sincerely revere the benevolent care behind the masters’ teaching activity. My joy grows ever fuller, my gratitude and indebtedness ever more compelling.”

Shinran clarified the life of Namu Amida Butsu, the profoundly joyful life of Buddha-centeredness within us. He never acted brave or splendid in his life — he just lived in Namu Amida Butsu, the teaching that was passed down by many Dharma students including Master Honen. And the gentle and graceful life of the Nembutsu seekers has continued in Kaneohe, here and now. The torch of the Buddha-Dharma never extinguishes and neither does our radiance of Life. **In Gassho, Rev. Hiroko Maeda**







Kaneohe friends lend a hand. Left to right: Donna Okazaki, Eleanor Tokunaga, Susumu Okazaki, Walt Herring, Rev. Hiroko Maeda and Gladys Sakata. Photos by Jim Dote

## Joining Betsuin to Clean Ehime Maru Monument

On a picturesque Kaka'ako park hillside overlooking the Honolulu waterfront, members and friends from the Hawaii Higashi Betsuin volunteer twice each year to clean and offer a Buddhist memorial service at the granite monument of the training ship Ehime Maru and the crew who died in Hawaiian waters.

In 2001 the Ehime Maru fishery training ship was hit by a rapidly surfacing US Navy submarine nine miles from Honolulu. The 191-foot long high school training ship, hit from below, sank quickly. Nine crewmembers, including four 17 year-old students, died. One student's body was never recovered.

This year, the Betsuin invited the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji to join the Betsuin's annual clean-up and memorial service, held August 31, after regular Sunday temple service.

Kaneohe Higashi members and friends who joined were: Liane and Paul Briggs, Jim Dote, Walt Herring, Alan and CharlAnn Nakamoto, Susumu Okazaki, Donna Okazaki, Gladys Sakata, Jane Sasabuchi,

Eleanor Tokunaga and Rev. Hiroko Maeda.

The hot August sun shone brightly on the solemn stone monument, its anchor pointing towards the direction of the impact. Utmost care was given in washing and drying the names inscribed in the granite. The ocean breeze floated the smoke from the osenko (incense) around the volunteers in gassho.

Finally, as Bishop Ken Kawawata rang the sutra gong it reminded all of us about the preciousness and fragility of life. *Namu amidabutsu.*



After cleaning the Ehime Maru monument by Betsuin and Kaneohe volunteers, Bishop Ken Kawawata begins a memorial service.

## Hawaii District Ho-on-ko Nov. 15 & 16

The Hawaii District Betsuin will have a special Ho-on-ko weekend starting at 1 pm on Nov. 15 and Ho-on-ko service at 10 am the next day. Lectures for the Saturday gathering and the Sunday Ho-on-ko service will be given by special guest speaker, Rev. Patti Nakai from the Buddhist Temple of Chicago.

This year, a Confirmation Ceremony (Kikyoshiki) will be officiated at the Betsuin on Sunday after the Ho-on-ko service.

Participation in a Kikyoshiki symbolizes one's confirmation of becoming a true follower of the Buddha by receiving his or her Homyo or Dharma Name. Fee is \$100. Participants will receive a specially selected Dharma Name calligraphed, a pamphlet explaining the meaning of the ceremony, a kataginu (layperson's sash), and a Shoshinge CD. The deadline for the application is October 31.

*Kaneohe members interested in participating in the Kikyoshiki and want more information, please contact Rev. Maeda as soon as possible using our contact on page 1.*

“*In the nembutsu, no self-working is true-working.*”  
Tannisho



**1962 – 1964** Some of our “true-working” pioneers, happy that the temple’s metal framing and roof are up.



**2004** Buddhist seekers attended Kaneohe Higashi’s 80th Anniversary commemorative service and Kikyoshiki.

## Holoholo Sunday

The Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji will start a new fun activity on Sunday, November 23. Holoholo Sunday promises to be a fun outing. Any kind of holoholo is fun, right?

Following the after-Sunday-Service refreshments in our kitchen, we will leave the temple by carpool to a destination that the group chooses and

return in 2-3 hours.

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes to Sunday service. Bring a spirit of adventure and some money for lunch. Call the temple office at 247-2661 if you have questions. Join in on the fun: Come go holoholo. Or, Go come holoholo.

## A-Bombs for Peace Exhibit Begins Oct 18



(HCRP) will open at Palolo Hongwanji on Saturday, October 18 and run everyday to Sunday, October 26. It is free, open to the public, and purely educational. It will feature videos and information about nuclear arms and peace. Over 600 high school and college students

“A-bombs Exhibit for Peace,” presented by Hawai’i Conference of Religions for Peace

have signed up so far to visit the nine-day exhibit.

The Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji and the Hawaii Buddhist Council encourage all to attend the exhibit.

You are invited to attend the special opening ceremony October 18, 10 am at the Palolo Hongwanji social hall. Hiroshima A-bomb survivor, Ms. Shigeko Sasamori, from California, will give the keynote speech, “Love and Peace.”

The closing ceremony will be held at the Palolo Hongwanji, 4 pm on October 26. Closing keynote speaker will be Dr. Charlotte Fram-

baugh-Kritzer from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Her speech is titled, “Peace Education for the Youth.” The closing includes a “Peace Prayer” ceremony.

Dinner and refreshments provided by the HCRP, will be served after the program. HCRP asks that you bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Hawai’i Food Bank.

Please contact Rev. Maeda if you wish to attend. For more information, please contact Masago Asai, the “A-bombs for Peace” coordinator at (808)395-9239.

Dove photo © Tomo Yun, used with permission

## Kaneohe Temple Service & Activities Calendar

### October

10/4	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
10/5	Sun	9am	Perpetual memorial SVC
10/6	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
10/11	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
10/12	Sun	9 am	Sunday Service Bishop Ken Kawawata Discussion
10/18	Sat	8:30am 10am	Flower arrangement A-Bombs Exhibit opening ceremony @ Palolo Hongwanji
10/19	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
10/20	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
10/21	Tue	7-8:30pm	Oko night at Kaneohe
10/25	Sat	9 am	Set up for Kaneohe's Ho-on-ko
10/26	Sun	10 am	<b><i>Kaneohe Higashi Ho-on-ko Service and 50th/90th Anniversary, lunch</i></b>
		4 pm	A-Bombs Exhibit closing ceremony @ Palolo and light dinner

### November

11/1	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
11/2	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
11/3	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
11/8	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
11/9	Sun		<b><i>Palolo Ho-on-ko No Kaneohe Sunday Service</i></b>
11/15	Sat	1pm	Betsuin Ho-on-ko gathering
11/16	Sun	10am	<b><i>Betsuin Ho-on-ko &amp; Kikyoshiki No Kaneohe Sunday Service</i></b>
11/17	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
11/18	Tues	7-8:30pm	Oko night at Betsuin
11/22	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
11/23	Sun	9am	Sunday Service NEW! Holoholo Day to follow
11/29	Sat	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
11/30	Sun	9am	Sunday Service Bishop Ken Kawawata Discussion

***Please visit our website often for interesting Kaneohe Higashi news,  
photos, and links to other temples' schedules, too!  
We are now on FaceBook, too.***

**Temple email: [kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org](mailto:kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org)**

**Temple website: [www.kaneohe.hhbt-hi.org](http://www.kaneohe.hhbt-hi.org)**