

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

MAHALO

Volunteers

Keng-Hsien Chao
Chad Enoki
Naia Enoki
Bryson Goda
Reiko Goda
Arthur Isa
Arthur Isa, Jr.
David Jimenez
Masako Jimenez
Serena Jimenez
Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Mitsunobu Ohashi
Fumie Sakakibara
Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato
Naomi Teramoto



The annual Sagicho - burning of the old omamori was performed on January 19

MAHALO for your Donations

Tom & Linda Agawa

Keng-Hsien Chao

Kay Cochran

Maya Cruz

Bill & Keiko Doughty

Michiko Ebanks

Omar & Joyce Faufata

Scott Faufata

Bryson Goda

Laurie Hill

Horiuchi Shoten

Rodney & Sharon Isa

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Matt & Jennifer McNeff

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Earl & Toyoko Okawa

Lois Okawa

Pacific Lutheran University

Robert Piemme

Akiko Sanai

Gary & Linda Shinsato

Wayne & Corinne Takara

Ryan Tatsumoto



Dr. Erik Hommerstrom and 16 students from the Pacific Lutheran University of Tacoma visited the shrine on 1/15 as part of their study tour of Asian religions in Hawaii.

Dr. Hommerstrom received his Masters from UH Manoa and his doctorate at Indiana University in East Asian and comparative religions.

Through this class, students are learning not only about religion but also the importance of place and its history, immigration and diversity.

This is the 3rd time that Dr. Hommerstrom has brought his religion class to Hawaii.

Visit our website: www.jinja.us

Sagicho - burning of the old omamori



Sagicho, also known as *Dondo-yaki*, *Ombe-yaki*, *Hokkengyo*, *Hochoji*, *Sankuro-yaki*, *Saito-yaki* is an ancient ceremony originating in China to express appreciation to and purify by burning old *ofuda*, *omamori*, *kumade*, *hamaya* and *hamayumi*. This year, *Sagicho* was held on Sunday, January 19 from 1:00 pm.

Mahalo to **Dee Shimamoto**, **Stacie Shimamoto** and **Linda Shinsato** for preparing the old *omamori* and *ofuda* for burning by painstakingly removing non-burnable items to prevent toxic fumes from harming

the environment. Mahalo nui to all that participated on 1/19 for their kokua in burning all the items.

We would appreciate your depositing all old *omamori* in the hut by **January 5** of each year.



We **DO NOT ACCEPT** *kadomatsu*, *Ihai* Memorial tablets, Butsudans, plants, foodstuff, *Saiwaigami* paper, *mochi*, New Years decorations from retail shops and personal items.

Mochi is to be eaten. Sacred Salt and Sand are to be used.



Packaging from the *omamori*, postcards and explanation cards from the shrine are to be discarded with your regular trash. Place *kadomatsu* and New Years decorations in a paper bag, sprinkle sea salt over it and discard it with your regular trash.



Private Blessings



Annual Kanai Anzen Family blessing was performed on 1/19 for long time shrine friends



Annual blessing for JAL was performed on 1/15 to bring safety and a favorable year for the company and its employees



These shrine friends receive a New Years blessing every year. May they be blessed with another bright, healthy and peaceful year.

The Ishihara clan honored their family patriarch Robert Ishihara with a *Beiju* 88th birthday blessing. *Beiju* became an auspicious birthday because the characters for the numeral 88 resembles the kanji character for rice - the essence of Japanese culture.

Wet rice cultivation is labor-intensive and required pooled labor, shared water resources and depended heavily on everyone in the village to work in harmony.

It is said that Japanese culture originated from wet rice cultivation where the concept of WA or harmony and consensus seeking shaped the group consciousness that the Japanese still embrace.



Private Blessings



An *Anzan Kigan* or Safe Birth blessing was performed on 2/1 to provide spiritual support for the mother on her journey of birthing.

The blessing is usually performed on the Day of the Dog as dogs are thought to give birth with little pain and complications.

The most famous place to pray for a safe birth is at Suitengu, Fukuoka - - one of the 7 shrines here at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu .



A car blessing was performed for our shrine president Shinken Naitoh on 2/2.

In Shinto, a spirit or soul is thought to inhabit all things - even cars. The blessing purifies any negative energies and invokes positive protective energies into the vehicle.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 9 1 pm
Group Kanreki Blessing
2 pm
Group Yakudoshi Blessing
3 pm
**Tsukinamisai Monthly service
& Setsubun Bean Throwing**

- 29 1 pm
Cleanup and Prep

MARCH

- 1 3 pm
Sake Appreciation Festival

APRIL

- 18 1 pm
Cleanup & prep

- 19 3 pm
Spring Thanksgiving Festival

Shrine Visitors



The Miyahara ohana from Hiroshima visited the shrine on 1/23.

Yumiko Miyahara is the daughter of Chief Priest Nobuyoshi Nishitakatsuji of Dazaifu Tenmangu Fukuoka.



Welcome to Masuo Horiuchi and family. The Horiuchis visited the shrine on February 6 to donate silk *otobari* or shrine valances that were custom made with the shrine's crest and a new outer robe for Rev. Takizawa.

The Horiuchis donated *otobari* curtains for both shrines last year, however, created a new valance with

crests on both sides for the area between the two shrines.

Horiuchi Shoten has provided fabric decorations for the Imperial Court since the early Showa period.

The deep purple curtains of the canopied thrones and other fabric decorations seen during the *Sokui no Rei* - Enthronement of the Emperor last year, were provided by Horiuchi Shoten.



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



A House Blessing was performed for a home in Mililani on 1/25 to express gratitude for the many wonderful years provided to the owners.

This home was originally blessed by Rev. Takizawa decades ago but now they are more empty bedrooms than occupants.

The owners have decided to bid farewell to Hawaii and enjoy their golden years on the mainland with their children.

In recent years, the shrine has seen many supporters downsize from a single unit home to a condo.

If your home is beginning to feel too large and you're looking for a living experience with less maintenance, downsizing to a condo may be your answer.

PROS

- No more yard work
- No more stressful commutes or spending a fortune on gas
- Luxurious amenities like pools and fitness centers
- Trade in excess belongings for endless entertainment

opportunities

- Make new friends in a new community
- If your home is already paid off, the sale of your house, plus cutting down on utility and maintenance bills could make the move a fiscally sound choice
- Added security in a condo

CONS

- Condo fees
- Less space for human and pets
- Reduced privacy
- Difficulty letting go of possessions and decluttering one's life.

Follow us on Instagram (kotohiradazaifu)

Yakudoshi - the challenging years

Yakudoshi years are said to hold many physical and emotional challenges, especially *Dai-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 at either the traditional Japanese age system of *kazoe* or western system of *man*.

It is recommended that *Yakudoshi* Blessings be performed in February of your birth year, rather than on or around your birthday.

If interested, please purchase a *Yakudoshi* kit: :

- Certificate for a complimentary blessing on February 9, 2020 at 2 pm (please arrive by 1:45 pm)
- Certificate for Ofuda
- Certificate for a Year of the Rat T-shirt
- Certificate for a *Yakudoshi* Omamori

You may also come to the shrine on Sunday 2/9 at 1:45 pm and purchase your kit prior to the blessing.

MEN

Mae-yaku (pre-yaku)

23 & 40 years old

Hon-yaku (Major yaku)

24 & 41 years old

Ato-yaku (post yaku)

25 & 42 years old

WOMEN

Mae-yaku (pre-yaku)

17, 31 & 35 years old

Hon-yaku (Major yaku)

18, 32 & 36 years old

Ato-yaku (post yaku)

19, 33 and 37 years old

Celebrities who died during *Yakudoshi* years:

Kobe Bryant (41) Athlete
Ted Bundy (42) Serial Killer
Karen Carpenter (33) Singer
Mama Cass (33) Singer
Gary Coleman (42) Actor
James Dean (24) Actor
Robert Kennedy (42)
Brandon Lee (42) Actor
John Lennon (40)
Carole Lombard (33) Actress
Jayne Mansfield (34) Actress
Lee Harvey Oswald (24)
Eva Peron (33) Politician
Elvis Presley (42) Singer
Kyu Sakamoto (42) Singer
Tupac Shakur (25) Rapper
Payne Stewart (42) Golfer
Paul Walker (40) Actor