

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha • Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

FEBRUARY 2023



Cultural traditions connect us to our past and creates a sense of continuity across generations. This ohana is a source of inspiration as they have been nurturing and strengthening an unbreakable bond created by those that have gone before them.

MAHALO for your generous Donations

CALENDAR

Dan & Chie Aramaki
Junka Bringas
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Akina Emery
Omar & Joyce Faufata
Jon Faufata
Scott Faufata Ohana
Bryson & Reiko Goda
Lisa Hamura
Arthur & Becky Isa
Rodney & Sharon Isa

Islander Sake Brewery
Japan Airlines
James & Melba Kurashige
Bryant Lau
Matt & Jenn McNeff
Steve Miwa
Roy Morioka
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Earl & Toyoko Okawa
Lois Okawa

Akiko Sanai
Emi Sato
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Chihiro Shozuya
Robert Stallings
Michael Tamashiro
Naomi Teramoto
Teruko Towata
Shizuai Tsu

MARCH

5 2 pm

Sake Appreciation Festival

APRIL

15 1 pm

Cleanup and preparations

16 2 pm

Spring Thanksgiving Festival
Scholarship Awards

MAY

7 2 pm

Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

26 8 am (INTERNAL)

Memorial Day Service

Setsubun literally means "the changing of the seasons. "

When seasons change, people are at their most vulnerable physical state and often catch colds, influenza and other illnesses.

Setsubun is meant to purge the home of negativity and to keep disease and misfortunes away.



GOKITO Private Blessings

Sake, a byproduct of rice has long been a vital part of Japanese culture.

A blessing was performed for the Islander Sake Brewery on January 29 for their opening of a new brewery.

The new brewery is at the Hapuna Golf Course in the Mauna Kea Beach Resort complex on the Big Island.



vibrant culture of sake crafting.

Chiaki Takahashi, the president of the brewery is a PhD research scientist who taught at Japan's National Research Institute of Brewing.

Sake brewed in the US has been diverse and exciting.

Her goal is to share her knowledge and techniques of sake brewing with the next generation of sake brewers.



Islander Sake Brewery was established in Honolulu in 2020 with a vision to contribute to the rich and

Ohana NY Festival

The shrine participated in the annual Ohana New Years Festival sponsored by the Japanese Cultural Center on Sunday, January 15.

Due to COVID-19, the last festival was last held on January 13, 2019.

The festival is a great



way for the community to come together to celebrate the new year and Hawaii's cultural diversity.

MAHALO Volunteers

- Bryson Goda
- Marilyn Naitoh
- Shinken Naitoh
- Diane Nishida
- Linda Shinsato
- Naomi Teramoto



GOKITO Private Blessings

A House blessing was performed for a rental unit in Kahaluu.

The landlord discovered the deceased tenant in her unit. Discovering the remains of tenant is an overwhelming experience, however she was also shocked at the state of the unit - - - 100s of cigarette butts strewn all over the floor, bathroom that hasn't been cleaned in 14 years, junk piled high in the kitchen and living room floors, ceilings and walls dripping with nicotine, etc.



Flight is a miraculous gift to humanity.

Although airlines faced a difficult environment during the pandemic - JAL continues to provide a prompt, safe and secure travel experience for all passengers.

A New Years Blessing was performed on 1/18.



The police was called and the Coroner determined the death to be of natural causes. Being a landlord doesn't just entail maintenance, repairs and collecting rent. There are also tenant-related issues to deal with, including untimely deaths of their

tenants.

Negative energy is particularly powerful in a home where trauma occurred and this landlord was anxious to have the house blessing performed as soon as the former tenant's personal property was removed.



GOKITO Private Blessings



Annual Kanai Anzen Family blessings were performed for shrine friends for a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.



Shingan joju blessings for the realization of one's wishes were conducted for shrine friends



Rituals like Yakudoshi blessings help to unlock the cultural and spiritual gifts from our ancestors.



A car blessing was conducted for shrine friends

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 you life and set new goals.

SAGICHO - burning of the old omamori and ofuda

The annual *Sagicho* was performed on Sunday, January 22.

Sagicho is an ancient ceremony originating in China to express appreciation to and purify by burning old **Juyohin** which includes *ofuda*, *omamori*, *kumade*, *hamaya*, porcelain decorations and *hamayumi* that were blessed at a shrine or temple.

Renewal is central to Japanese



tradition and as such, we renew *Juyohin* such as omamori and ofuda at the beginning of the year.

When you visit the shrine at *Hatsumode*, we would appreciate your depositing old *omamori* and other *juyohin* in the hut by **January 7** of each year.

All plastic casings and metal decorations are painstakingly removed prior to *Sagicho*, to prevent toxic fumes from harming

the environment.

This year the shrine collected 52 shipping boxes full of old *juyohin* which required around two weeks to prepare them for proper purification and burning.

Mahalo Nui to all that participated in *Sagicho* for their kokua in prepping and burning all the items.



With the overwhelming number of items that are turned in, we are no

Visit our website at www.jinja.us

longer able to accept items that were not blessed at a shrine or temple. That includes:

- *kadomatsu*
- *Ihai* tablets (for proper disposal, *ihai* should be returned to the Buddhist temple that performed your ancestor's funeral)
- *Mochi*, *Saiwaigami* paper, New Years decorations
- Souvenirs and *omamori*-like items from retail stores
- personal items - clothing, letters, jewelry, books, dolls, etc.

Please discard packaging from the *omamori*, explanation cards, newsletters and calendars from shrines and temples.

Mochi should be consumed. If you

are unable to bring old *omamori* to the shrine or if you have new years decorations, *kadomatsu*, *mochi* that you would like to dispose - place the items not accepted by the shrine in a bag, sprinkle Hawaiian salt or any sea salt over it, thank the *omamori* for their protection and discard it with your regular trash.

Mahalo for your *kokua* in perpetuating the traditions of *Sagicho*.

MAHALO VOLUNTEERS

Bryson Goda
Arthur Isa
Arthur Isa, Jr.
David Jimenez
Masako Jimenez
Serena Jimenez

Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato

Throwback Memories



Sagicho ceremony 2006



Sagicho ceremony 2007

View event photos at: www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu

MAINTENANCE

Cracks in concrete depends on many factors. It may indicate significant structural distress, settlement cracking, thermal stress, weathering and corrosion of reinforcement.

The shrine walkway showed signs of spalling. Steps were taken on 1/24 to prevent further spalling and eventual corrosion of the rebar.

The walkway surface was power washed, spalled areas grinded - preparing it for the pouring of concrete.



An intruder entered shrine property with a can of gasoline in the early morning hours of January 15.

Rev. Takizawa found the intruder sprawled out on the steps of the hall.

When asked to leave the premises, the intruder

became violent and attempted to throw gasoline on the Reverend.

HPD was called but the intruder left before they arrived.

The intruder was not a familiar face - - left on a Biki bike, was shirtless and shoeless, with red shorts.