

Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2014

Hatsumode 2014

賀正

Akemashite omedeto gozaimasu
- Happy New Year!

We hope you were all able to savor the sense of spiritual renewal that Hatsumode and other new years rituals have brought, and look ahead to the year with hope and optimism.

Unlike the Year of the Snake, the Year of the Horse is said to bring much optimism and opportunities. Energy is high, production is rewarded and decisive action, not procrastination, brings victory. There are opportunities galore this year, but you must act fast.

Some notable people born in the Year of the Horse are - Oprah Winfrey, Japan's Prime Minister Shinji Abe, Warren Buffett, Jackie Chan, Vice President Joe Biden, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, TV's Judge Judy, L.A. Laker Kobe Bryant, Calvin Klein, Howard Stern, Clint Eastwood, Steve McQueen, Harrison Ford, Sean Connery, Ashton Kutcher, Denzel Washington, Adam Sandler, Halle Barry, Jerry Seinfeld, Tamlyn Tomita, Director Ang Lee, Martin Scorsese, Ron Howard, and James Cameron, Mike Tyson, Muhammad Ali, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Barbra Streisand, Paul McCartney, and John Legend

Join with us in this wish and prayer for the new year -- that humans will progress in appreciating and respecting diversity across religions and cultures, be in better relation with each other and in greater harmony with Nature, of which we all are part.



View more shrine photos at www.flickr.com/photos/kotohira-dazaifu

WHERE ANCIENT TRADITIONS THRIVE

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha
Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

MAHALO for your generous donations

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Hiroshi Yamaji
Richard Yoshinaga



JCCH Ohana Festival

The shrine participated in the annual JCCH Ohana Festival on 1/19/14

MAHALO VOLUNTEERS

Bryson Goda
Bob Harada
Tom Jannuzzio
Marilyn Naitoh
Diane Nishida
Jill Nishida
Naomi Teramoto



Shrine Visitors

Shirokiya

The shrine was invited by Shirokiya to share the culture and traditions of the Japanese new years with their customers.

Mahalo to the volunteers who helped on January 10 - 12.

Bryson Goda	Shinken Naitoh
Kathy Hamada-Kwock	Diane Nishida
Bob Harada	Sherrie Kalua
Marilyn Naitoh	



Faculty and students of the Pacific Lutheran University of Tacoma, Washington led by Professor Erik Hammerstrom visited the shrine on January 21.

The group was welcomed with a *Seishiki Sanpai* ceremony, followed by a short lecture on Shinto by Rev. Takizawa and serving of *omiki* by Bob Harada.



Upcoming Events

Kanreki Blessing

February 16, 2014
1:00 pm

Tsukinami-sai



2/16 Sunday
3:00 pm

Tsukinami-sai

March 2, 2014
Sunday 3:00 pm

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

Visit our website at www.e-shrine.org for updated information on events

Osechi Ryori - Oshogatsu delicacies

Many of us in Hawaii eat *osechi ryori* on New Year's day.

Osechi dishes are prepared to last a few days so the women of the household can relax during the first three days of the new year.

Japanese are particularly fond of specific foods on auspicious occasions because of fortuitous plays on words, or the association of a name with words related to good fortune:

- Kuromame (黒豆, black beans) means *mame ni hataraku*

or work hard. Working hard is a virtue in Japan. It also connotes being healthy enough to work hard.

- Kazunoko (数の子, herring roe) to be blessed with many children, ensuring the perpetuation of the lineage/

- Kurikinton (栗きんとん, sweet chestnuts) are bright yellow in color, connoting wealth.

- Buri (ブリ, yellowtail fish) is considered lucky for promotion at work because it is a *shusse uo* (出世魚, fish that are called dif-

ferent names as they grow).

- Tai (鯛, red seabream) rhymes with *medetai* (めでたい, or auspicious). Tai is considered the king among fish in Japan.
- Kobumaki (昆布巻き, rolled kelp) rhymes with *yorokobu* (喜ぶ, joy).

- Renkon (レンコン, lotus root) will enable you to look at the future because it has holes in it.

- Ebi (海老, shrimp) signifies aging because they have *hige*

(ひげ, mustache) and a curved body. Eating them is believed to bless one with longevity.

