

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

JUNE 2019



The annual Chinowa for People and Pets was held on Sunday June 2

MAHALO for your donations

Tom & Linda Agawa
Adele Cagle
Corniche Japan
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Takako Fraas
Clark & Gayle Fujihara
Eric Gair
Hawaii Doggie Bakery
Gary Holmes
Kai Igarashi
Seizo Imamura
Clinton & Lauren Imholtz
Arthur & Becky Isa
Atsuko Ishihara
Dean & Carlyn Kagawa
Toshio Kiyooka
James & Melba Kurashige
Keiko Kuraya
Nicki Libarios
Steve Miwa
Audrey Mori
Scott & Darcy Motoda

Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Adele Nakamura
Emily Nakata
Jeanette Nakata
Matthew Nakata
Craig & Diane Nishida
Clyde & Gail Nishimoto
Darryl & Jess Nitta
Reid & Stacy Okumura
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Chris Takahashi
Hiroyuki & Hiromi Uchida
Ramie Uyehara
Takao & Mio Ugai
Lisa, Lena & Cosmo Yafuso
Takashi & Yuka Yamaguchi
Dale Yamamoto



A House Blessing was performed on June 9 for Scott and Darcy's newly constructed condo.

A House Blessings is an ancient tradition meant to express gratitude and invite positive energies into your home.

Your space reflects and affects your inner life. A House Blessing purifies and cleanses old negative energies, making way for a positive and balanced atmosphere which encourages friendship, prosperity, growth on many levels, success, happiness, peace and protection.

Private Blessings



So many happy and wonder filled times ahead for the two of you...Congratulations!



Congratulations on your new bundle of joy! May your world be filled with love



Safe Birth Blessing cultivates positive energies for a safe birth experience and helps the mother-to-be feel empowered for her new role in life as a mother



A blessing was performed on June 4 for friends from Osaka.



Baby Blessings are meant to express appreciation for the miracle of a new life and for protection of the child



A Car Blessing was performed on June 3 for Matthew and Emily

MAHALO Volunteers

June 1 Saturday Kell Komatsubara

Marilyn Naitoh

Chad Enoki

Shinken Naitoh

Mitsuru Igarashi

Craig Nishida

Pam Igarashi

Diane Nishida

Arthur Isa



Joshie, a 12 year-old West Highland Terrier has been a regular at the shrine's Pet Blessing for about 10 years.

On March 29, a long distance blessing for healing was performed by Rev. Takizawa for Joshie who was hospitalized for over 6 weeks for seizures, breathing problems and acute pancreatitis.

We were delighted to see a healthy Joshie at our Pet Blessing on June 2 !!!



MAHALO volunteers

June 2 Sunday

Albert Cabatingan
Cassie Carlyle
Renee Carlyle
Chad Enoki
Kei Enoki
Gayle Fujihara
Jeff Fujioka

Stacie Hata
Mitsuru Igarashi
Kai Igarashi
Pam Igarashi
Brenna Imada
Arthur Isa
Arthur Isa Jr
Becky Isa
David Jimenez
Kobe Womens College
Galen Komatsu
Kell Komatsubara
Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Craig Nishida

Diane Nishida
Carole Omura
Stuart Pang
Danny Song
Naomi Teramoto
Sharon Toma
Jasmine Umeno
Anna Yamana
Yusuke Yamana



Konpira Dogs

In ancient Japan, animals have often been thought of as spirit messengers of the deities and certain animals were associated with certain *kami*.

The fox is associated with Inari, dove with Hachiman, chicken with Amaterasu the Sun Goddess, the rat with Daikoku, deer with Kasuga shrine, the ox with Dazaifu Tenmangu and the white snake with the deity Benten.

Through the centuries, the Japanese have developed a sense of being "at one" with nature and natural phenomenal.

Animals, also members of the community of life, have co-existed with humans since the beginning of time.

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

religious pilgrimages.

Ise Jingu and *Kotohira-gu* were the two top destinations. The pilgrimage to *Kotohira-gu* or *Konpira-san* 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 "*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.

Honolulu Shinto Renmei Memorial Day Service

The Honolulu Shinto Renmei's annual Memorial Day service was held on Sunday, May 26 at Punchbowl Cemetery, Makiki Cemetery and Moiliili Cemetery.

Memorial Day, which originated after the Civil War, commemorates the sacrifices of those who have fought and died in the American armed forces.



On May 11, 1950, President Truman issued a proclamation calling on all Americans to observe Memorial Day as "a day of prayer for peace."

Since the end of WWII, the Honolulu Shinto Renmei has observed Memorial Day with

services at three cemeteries - Punchbowl, Makiki Cemetery and Moiliili Cemetery.

At Moiliili Cemetery, **Dr. Shinken Naitoh** greeted the participants and extended a few words, as the shrine was in charge of logistics for the 2019 Memorial services. Mahalo to **Diane Nishida**, VP of the shrine and **Marilyn Naitoh** for their participation.



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

CALENDAR

Masa Nakaoka, founder of Nakaoka Painting and father of **Scott Nakaoka** is renown in the local Boxing circle as a trainer who opened up his office building to youths to keep them off the streets and to engage them in physical fitness.

The Hilo native established the gym in Kalihi in the early 80s with hopes of giving back to the community that supported his painting business.

His gym closed a few years ago but the generosity that Masa Nakaoka showered, left indelible marks in the hearts of many youths.



Congratulations to Stuart Pang, a long time volunteer for the shrine



Congratulations to Jensen Yasui, recipient of the shrine's 2018 scholarship

July

- 1 - 7 9 am - 4 pm
Tanzaku wish tags for Tanabata available in the shrine
- 7 3 pm
Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

August

- 3 1 pm
Cleanup & Prep
- 4 10 am - 2 pm
Back-To-School Blessing

September

- 1 9 am
Reservations accepted for Shichigosan
- 28 1 pm
Cleanup & Prep

Maintenance

The Painting Project was completed on 5/23. The fresh coat of paint puts the buildings in a new light and also gives an extra layer of protection against direct precipitation damage.

Mahalo nui to **Mike Lee** for fabricating and attaching the roof decoration to the hall roof. A piece of wood was cut and chiseled by hand to replicate the decoration from the original shrine built in the 1920s.

Mahalo nui to **Scott Nakaoka Painting** for an incredible job by an awesome crew and the "lift" to the top to attach the roof decoration.



One of the toilets in the preschool's bathroom had a variety of leaks and problems.

After removing the toilet and inserting a plumbing camera to inspect the state of the pipes, it was discovered that the old deteriorating cast iron flange and pipes had cracks. A simple toilet replacement became complicated.

Tony of Magaling Kubetero dug up the bathroom floor under the toilet and found an outdated plumbing system from the 1960s. Corrosion and deterioration led to the cracks in the cast iron pipes.

Cracked or broken sewer pipes are frustrating but a problem that needs to be addressed immediately. The age of the pipes will increase the length of time required for repairs.

