



# Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Makawao Hongwanji Mission P. O. Box 188 Makawao, Maui, HI.—96768 Ph: 808-572-7229 e-mail: makhon@hawaiiantel.net

February 2013

Reverend Sol Kalu, resident minister

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI MISSION  
P. O. BOX 188  
Makawao, HI.—96768

Address Service Requested

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»

«C/O»

«Mailing Address»

«City», «State». - «Zip»

February 3 - 8:30 am Flag Raising  
9:00 am Service - **SCOUT SUNDAY**  
**Speaker: Mr. David Tanaka**  
Teacher, Kalama Intermediate School  
Troop 18 Eagle Scout

Lunch to follow @ Social Hall



*Chinese New Year*



February 10 - 9:00 am

Family Service

Toban: BWA

***Car Wash after Service by United  
Jr. YBA (donation) @ MHM***

February 17 - 9:00 am  
Family Service  
Toban: Dharma School



February 24 - 9:00 am

Family Service

Toban: Kyodan

If you wish to receive our Newsletter through e-mail, please provide us with your e-mail address to:

**[makhon@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:makhon@hawaiiantel.net)**

# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209

Web: [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) Email: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

JANUARY 1, 2013

### New Year's Greeting



#### *Immeasurable Light and Life.*

Reciting the Nembutsu, we welcome the new year. I express my warmest greetings to you. Following the East Japan Great Earthquake, one year and ten months has passed. More than a hundred thousand people continue to live in evacuation center housing, unable to return to their homes. Personally, I find the events of the Seven hundred fiftieth Memorial for Shinran Shonin and East Japan Great Earthquake to be inseparable.

I am sure that each person directly affected by the natural disaster has his or her own sufferings and is being faced with various problems and tasks. It goes without saying that support and recovery efforts are important. However, with this as an opportune time, as a fellow earthly being, I would also like to reflect on the fundamental issues we all have in common. What we need to reconsider is how we have easily come to accept our common values and ways of perceiving things, regardless of whether we are conscious of it or not. For example, there is the notion that development in science technology and economic competition increases happiness. Although technological advancements and economic strength may be immediate solutions for simple issues at hand, stopping there can result in something else becoming overlooked. That is our infinite humanly cravings, our limited intelligence, and our lack of harmony with the greater nature. This is an issue that is deeply connected with Buddhism.

The beauty of Mt. Fuji and other mountains and valleys are all results of volcanic activity and earthquakes. Although nuclear energy may appear to be an efficient prescription for the immediate situation, not only does it become a problem when an accident occurs, but with our current technological skills, we are unable to safely dispose of radioactive wastes. We cannot simply pick and choose just what is convenient nor do we have the power to control nature. It is my hope that the measures we take will not simply end up as temporary solutions. But rather, they will help to make a positive change in our social values and reflect on our own standards and realize a sustainable society.

*Ohtani Koshin*

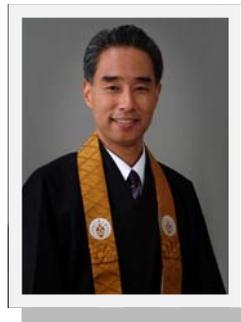
OHTANI Koshin

Monchu

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

### Bishop's New Year's Message

With the Nembutsu upon my lips, a Happy New Year to All! As we begin a new year, I extend my most sincere best wishes to you. As we start the year, let us take a moment to ponder our 2013 Slogan and Theme which reads "Path of Entrusting: Living the Teachings." Rennyō Shonin shared "Ever in sight of Amida Buddha's Teachings, let us always humbly reflect." When I think about it, much of Buddhist Teachings is not really so extraordinary, although there are exceptions. In a way, it can be said that the extraordinary part of Buddhist Teachings is how ordinary it is and yet as I reflect "How difficult it is to live this Teaching." As an example, interdependence, we have heard this word over and over and yet how hard it is to truly, one hundred percent, live interdependency. Go-monshu says "*Among the basic tenets of Buddhism is the teaching of pratitya-samutpada: all things are interdependent, interconnected, and intricately joined together. While this is true of human life, it is also true of life outside the human sphere, as well as things outside of life itself, with nature as a whole being connected in this way-this is the truth of pratitya-samutpada.*" "*Pratitya-samutpada, thus, offers a valuable way of looking at things when we seek to address today's problems of environmental destruction, armed military conflict, and other events where countless lives are lost; not merely human lives alone.*" If we are truly guided by this Teaching of Interdependency, we should feel a connection with all existence and happenings around us. We should not think "That has nothing to do with me" or "That's not my problem." Of course, practically and realistically, we cannot be fully involved in everything, but the Dharma does promote within us this feeling of being connected with all others and thus makes a big difference in how we perceive what is happening in life and the world. The perspective is "We are in this together. How can I make a difference?" Whether it is a problem and/or solution, we see our relationship with it. We are not totally disconnected with anything or anyone. Everything and everyone exists in an intricate web of existence each affecting and being affected by the other. It is this feeling of oneness and togetherness that the Buddha-Dharma fosters within us.



A perfect example of this oneness is Amida Buddha. Amida Buddha does not distance itself from the bonbu/foolish being and instead totally embraces the foolish being who entrusts. As Gomonsu says *“To save all, is the reason for Amida Buddha’s existence. This is how Shinran Shonin thinks and feels.”* Well, this may be the extraordinary part of Shin Buddhist Teachings in which the foolish being “as-we-are” is promised enlightenment with birth in the Pure Land as Rennyō Shonin shared. What greater expression of Compassion is there than being accepted “as-we-are”, imperfection and all and thus the reason why we respond in gratitude by trying to be better persons by living with the Dharma as our guide.

To conclude, our trying to live the Dharma is also a means by which others can come to know and appreciate the Buddhist Teachings. Let us provide the opportunity for others to encounter the Buddha and share the Dharma with others. I believe, whether we are Buddhist or not, we can all avail ourselves to Wisdom and Compassion and be guided and inspired by it. It is my hope that 2013 will be a year in which we, who do call ourselves Buddhists, will truly see the significance of “Living the Teachings.” Let us reflect “Am I saying the Nembutsu? Am I praising the virtues of the Buddha?” Like Shinran Shonin and many before us may we continue to recite the Nembutsu of Gratitude for Amida Buddha’s Unconditional Compassion and praise Amida Buddha’s Virtue so all may hear about Great Compassion. A very Happy New Year to all and I encourage you, your family and friends to listen to the Dharma and may we be active in our community so all lives may be enriched by Wisdom and Compassion. Namo Amida Butsu and Happy New Year!

In gassho,  
Eric Matsumoto



## **PRESIDENT’S NEW YEAR’S MESSAGE**

Aloha and best wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year! 2012 was special in that it was the kick-off for our strategic planning committees. While it has taken us two years to organize and get enough volunteers for this important effort, it will take a lot more work to develop and implement plans to meet our strategic goals. We experienced more shortage of ministers and the closing of Kahuku Hongwanji. While these incidents can be viewed in a negative way, they can result into positive actions. The shortage of ministers has increased the interest of the lay members to participate in programs to assist the ministers. The closing of a temple is similar to a company downsizing to stabilize itself before expanding once more.

As we downsize we must also have a plan to invest and expand in the future. Our strategic planning committees are working on that plan. There are also positive indications that things are turning around. PBA is close to meeting its initial capital campaign goal and start construction of a new building. While it has taken longer than desired to raise the funds because of the economic times, the interest and support of PBA’s program has steadily increased. It has truly been a team effort of the PBA staff and Board of Trustees; however, it wouldn’t have been possible without the leadership and creativity of our Head of School Pieper Toyama, who will be retiring at the end of this school year. We are truly grateful for his vision and leadership and hope he will continue to be active in other roles/positions.

We all understand that our organization cannot function without volunteers. Temples are finding it difficult in finding members willing to be on the board of directors and/or officers. It is difficult to get people into leadership positions at the temple level and even more so at a statewide level. The length of time it took to get volunteers for our strategic planning committees indicates that our members are busy and the temple/organization is not a priority in their lives as it was with the Issei and Nissei.

It is a Catch 22 situation. The long range goal of the strategic plan is to make the temple/organization a priority in our members’ lives. But not enough members are willing to take leadership roles because the temple/organization is not a priority in their lives. Therefore all we can do is to ask you to believe in our strategic plan and get involved in all levels of the organization, especially in leadership roles. Without your help, we will be unable to grow for our future generations.

We are truly grateful for the many hands that help us at all levels of our organization. Let us show our gratitude and lessen their burden by offering our help. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your patience, understanding, cooperation and support. Your participation is crucial in our leadership role for the international propagation of Jodo Shinshu.

In Gassho,  
Alton H Miyamoto,  
Hawaii Kyodan President



## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Hoonko observance is the special service to commemorate the passing away of Shinran Shonin, and depending on whether the old Japanese lunar calendar is used or the western Gregorian calendar, typically this holiday is observed either in November 28<sup>th</sup> (as in the Higashi Hongwanji tradition or early January from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> (as in the Nishi Hongwanji tradition). This observance began when Shinran's daughter Kakushin-ni carried on the administration of Shinran Shonin's mausoleum, and her succeeding descendants, who ultimately became the monshus or the head abbots of the Hongwanji, continued the tradition. Hoon'ko is a combination of 2 words, "hoon" means 'return of gratitude and 'ko' means gathering or also means "clarifying the meaning of". That being the case, the main reason for observing Hoonko is not just to reflect and pay honor and respect to Shinran Shonin but also an opportunity to think of gratitude in general, on the anniversary of the death of the founder of our Jodo Shinshu tradition.

Throughout his life before and after his exile, Shinran Shonin, taught the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha and the Nembutsu as an expression of gratitude for the Buddha's boundless wisdom and compassion, the realization of which he did not attain during his 20 years of hard, ascetic training under the Tendai school of Buddhism. We all know the story of how Shinran spent 20 years of difficult practice in Mt. Hiei, in the Kyoto region of Japan, and despite his diligent practice, he could not achieve any breakthrough in his quest for enlightenment. But, what exactly is the enlightenment that Shinran sought in his practice?

Some even say that the pure land is right here in this realm we are living in now, the realm of delusion or samsaric existence. These arguments may be valid from the perspective of non duality. He aspired for birth in the Pure Land so it is logical to say that for him, Shinran, the Pure Land is real.

Although Shinran Shonin taught and encouraged people to aspire for birth in the Pure Land, his idea of how to attain birth or the salvation of Amida Buddha is different from his contemporaries. Traditional Pure Land teachings say that birth in the Pure Land is decided upon a person's passing away, that the dying person should and must focus his mind pointedly to the Pure Land to enable his rebirth there, the slightest doubt will doom the dying person to be reborn into a lower realm of existence. And at the moment of death, Amida Buddha and 2 other Bodhisattvas will appear before the dying person to escort him to the Pure Land. For Shinran, salvation comes not at the time of death but while the person is still living, and that is through receiving the entrusting mind or "Shinjin". With true entrusting, one's dark mind and worries about his next life, is cleared and therefore follows the joy and serenity of being grasped, never to be abandoned by Amida Buddha. "Shinjin", according to Shinran is the right cause for birth in the Pure Land.

That birth or salvation happens while we are still living, not after death, it is imperative for us to cultivate that entrusting mind, in this life. This is referred to as "heizei gojo" in Japanese, meaning completing the cause of our birth in the Pure Land in everyday life. It means that the moment we receive shinjin in our everyday life (that's heizei) our birth in the Pure Land is settled (that's gojo). Shinjin being the decisive cause of birth in the Pure Land, the question now is: should we worry about getting it? Should there be a sense of urgency in receiving the entrusting mind or heart? Actually, no. We have to remember that shinjin is something we receive from the Buddha rather than something we try to attain ourselves through our own self power. There is no set formula for receiving shinjin quickly. To say for example that "if I do this and that, then I can receive shinjin faster is not what Shinran Shonin taught because this is self power or jiriki and it is done with a calculating mind, called "hakarai" in Japanese, rather than entrusting everything to the Buddha. Jiriki is the exact opposite of tariki or Other Power, which is relying on the Buddha for enlightenment. Shinjin is supposed to come to us.

Shinran lived to a ripe old age of 90 years. Through his teachings, his writings, he expresses his joy of living the nembutsu teachings, of his deep and sincere entrusting of the Buddha and his confidence in his future rebirth in the Pure Land. Death was no longer something that he feared. Of that, he had said: "When I die, throw my body into the Kamo river. Let it be feed for fish." The dissolution of the body is no longer significant to a person who is assured of rebirth in the realm of peace and tranquility.

Let us reflect on the life of our founder Shinran and the way of salvation by Amida Buddha that he experienced and shared with his many followers, including us in this present age. We remember him in our thoughts and express our gratitude to Shinran for opening Buddhism to all people, regardless of social rank or status, truly in accord with Amida Buddha's universal wish for the enlightenment of all sentient beings.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Sol Kalu



# President's Message

Happy New Year. I do wish that everyone is in good health. Let us count our blessings and not dwell on the negative things. Life has always been tough. We just have to be even tougher. Never give up. This motivational speech has been brought to you by Makawao Hongwanji Mission. If you feel a need to pay your gojikai (dues), it is \$240.00 for the year. This is a suggested amount. We will be happy to accept any amount that you can afford. MHM will not drop you from our membership list because of your inability to pay.

Our New Year's Party was a great success. I want to thank Ed Yamamura for being our chairperson and to everyone for working so hard. We were overwhelmed with donations for our door prizes. To all of you that donated and/or helped, thank you.

I want to thank all of our past officers, auditors, and advisors for your help and dedication last year. And to our newly installed officers, auditors, and advisors, I want to thank you for accepting your positions. Just as important, I want to thank all of our members, non-members, and affiliated organizations for your help and support when we needed it. A special **mahalo** to Reverend Sol Kaku, our resident minister, and to Janie Karimoto for being our temple secretary. By working together we can overcome just about anything.

Now that the elections are over, I heard that Texas wants to secede from the U.S. That is not going to happen. However, did you know that Texas, Arizona, Nevada, and New Mexico were at one time a part of Mexico? You can tell by the names of the cities. There's Los Angeles, Las Vegas, San Antonio, Santa Fe, Santa Cruz, and of course, Santa Claus. I'm telling you this so that you would be better informed. After all, you wouldn't want to look dumb, would you?

See you next month,

**Mike**



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## BWA Begins the Year

Thank you Jean Nishida for showing us how to make a omiyage bag (looks like furoshiki style). Now we can carry our trays of goodies to church in "style".

For the church New Year's Party/Installation of Officers on January 20, Chairman Edwin Yamamura was happy to have assistance from BWA ladies in the kitchen, conducting the church service, decorating the social hall, and sharing door prizes. Everyone worked harmoniously and joyously.

Welcome to new BWA members Lynn Fujimoto, Rie Taketa, Ruth Tokumaru, and JoAnn Wong. Our annual New Year Luncheon will be on Feb. 24 at Kojima Sushi in Pukalani, 11:00 after church. Cost will be announced.

Mark your calendar for April 20, Maui United BWA Spring General Assembly at Dani's in Wailuku. We will be going to visit Roselani Place before the luncheon at 11:00.

See you at our yearly activities. Dues of \$25 are due now.

Thank you to the new groups bringing refreshments on Sunday.

Feb. 3 Scout Sunday

Feb. 10 Sweet Peas

Feb. 17 American Beauty Rose

Feb. 24 Pink Dahlias BWA Luncheon

March 3 Peonies

March 10 Gardenias BWA Meeting

March 17 Morning Glories

March 24 Water Lilies

March 31 Birds of Paradise



**February & March 2013 Memorial Anniversaries**  
**(Please call the temple office to schedule your service—572-7229)**

**1st Year Memorial Service 2012**

February - None

**Year Memorial Service 2012**

March 02 Doris Miyoto Nakamoto  
 March 24 Tokihiko Hamai

**3rd Year Memorial Service 2011**

February 04 Edward Fubito Hirai  
 February 09 Hiroshi Matsui

**3rd Year Memorial Service 2011**

March 13 Tatsue Hedani  
 March 23 Teichi Yamada  
 March 31 Laura Masae Taketa  
 March 21 Shizue Matoi

**7th Year Memorial Service 2007**

February 05 Sueko Matsunaga  
 February 07 Akira Hedani  
 February 08 Ethel Mitsue Okazaki  
 February 16 Yoshimi Uchiyama  
 February 20 Mitsie Mitsuko Abe

**7th Year Memorial Service 2007**

March 07 Tamie Doi

**13th Year Memorial Service 2001**

February 05 Grace Sachiko Hiyakumoto  
 February 28 Katsue Aoki

**13th Year Memorial Service 2001**

March 20 Wesley Noboru Kunimitsu

**17th Year Memorial Service 1997**

February 01 Shizue Oishi  
 February 02 Kikue Nishida  
 February 14 Mitsuji Terada  
 February 15 Wakano Ropyyakuda

**17th Year Memorial Service 1997**

March 20 Haruko Watanabe

**25th Year Memorial Service 1989**

February 03 Ruth Oshie Hamada  
 February 18 Charlotte Yuriko Warrick

**25th Year Memorial Service 1989**

March 15 Tsuneyo Kawahara

**33rd Year Memorial Service 1981**

February 11 Yasuno Hamamoto

**33rd Year Memorial Service 1981**

March 02 Jack Shigeichi Matsunaga  
 March 31 Saju Takishita

**50th Year Memorial Service 1964**

February 28 Makino Takemoto

**50th Year Memorial Service 1964**

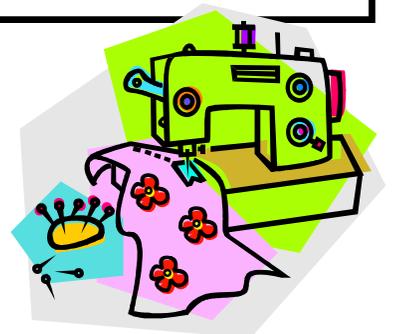
March 04 Kiyome Otani  
 March 05 Mitsuo Tabata

**MAKE IT MONDAY SESSIONS**

It's time to learn some new ideas... sewing, cooking, crafts and more. Make it for yourself or your family. Make it for someone else or make it for the next church bazaar sale. Jean Nishida will share her ideas with us. Time will be Monday morning 9-12, but come at 8:30 for sutra chanting if you wish.

Make It Monday Sessions are scheduled for: **March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3.**

**If you are interested, please call Marilyn Morikawa at 572-7445**



MAKAWAO ("MHM") HONGWANJI KYODAN MEETING  
January 9, 2013

**Call to Order:** 7:05 P.M. (president not present)

**Present:** Reverend Kalu, Diane Kosaka, Clyde Hamai, Calvin Higuchi, Sharon Higuchi, Sharon Nagoshi, Marilyn Morikawa, and Carol Yamamura.

**Secretary's Minutes:** No minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Budget for 2013 will be presented at the general membership meeting.

**Sensei Report:** Japanese school began again on 1/8/13.

**Affiliated Organization Reports:**

**Boy Scouts** – No report

**Cub Scouts** – Will provide desserts at New Year's Party and will be on site at 10:30 a.m.

**Dharma School** – No report.

**Jr. YBA** – No report.

**Judo** – No report.

**Project Dana** – Seminar to be held at Kaunoa in February.

**Pre-School** – Kekaulike basketball team to help paint the fence around the property.

**BWA** – No report.

**Committee Reports:**

**Repairs & Maintenance** – Repairs sheet passed out. Sheet will be placed in the monthly bulletin.

**Properties** – Looking for gutter repairman. Gutter in front of the temple is broken.

**Buddhist Education** – No report.

**VP of Activities** – Requesting for ideas for activities.

**Old Business:**

**Haleakala Solar** – No report.

**New Business:**

**New Year Party**- Sharon Nagoshi in charge of the service.

**Makawao Farmers Market** – No insurance available

**Legislative Assembly** – February 8 & 9, 2012. Request made for attendees.

**Third Friday** – Sharon Higuchi reported the income. There will be no Third-Friday parking for January, February and March, 2013.

**By-Laws Committee** – To meet in February.

\*Note: No motions were made nor voted on.

**Announcements:**

Next meeting: February 13, 2013  
Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

In Gassho,  
/s/ Carol K. Yamamura



**EnhanceFitness coming to Makawao Hongwanji soon!**

EnhanceFitness is an innovative, multi-component physical activity program with demonstrated health benefits for older adults of different physical abilities. It is low-cost (\$10/month, meets 3 times a week, an hour at a time), highly adaptable (Kahului Union church has participants from their 50s into their 90s), and research tested, this program has been proven to be safe for physically unfit and frail older adults. It is also suitable for active older adults with important strength, balance, endurance and flexibility components.

A major goal of EnhanceFitness is to help people enjoy life by being physically active. Classes provide an opportunity for older adults to be with friends and meet new people. It reduces the risk of falls, it maintains or improves physical functioning, and participants have lower health care costs than non participants.

The class size is limited to 25. Makawao Hongwanji members only will be given the first month of the program to sign up. After that, the class will be opened up to the public. Give Peggy Kono a call at 264-4504, or look for her at church. She can answer your questions, and give you the sign up paperwork. Classes should begin in March or April.



## SHINNEN ENKAI

By: Edwin

To all volunteers and participants, Makawao Hongwanji thanks you, we thank you, Amida Buddha thanks you. Arigato.



**Maui United Jr. YBA  
Sponsoring a Car Wash  
February 10 - after service (10:00 am)  
At Makawao Hongwanji (front of temple)  
Cost: donation**

*FEBRUARY 16, 2013 (Saturday)  
KAUNOA SR. CENTER  
9:30 AM - Noon*



*Universal Spirit of Dana (Selfless Giving)  
With Reverend Sol Kalu, resident minister  
Makawao Hongwanji Mission*

*“A Caring Presence”  
Dr. Michael Cheang, Assistant Professor  
Family & Consumer Sciences Department  
University of Hawaii at Manoa*

*No Cost - - - Donations accepted  
Call one of the following for reservation.*

*572-7229 (Janie)  
661-4032 (Phyllis)*

*871-4160 (Joan)  
871-8178 (Betty)*

## February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 am <b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b> Toban: Jr. YBA	4 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	5	6	7 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	8	9 <b>CLEAN UP TEAM #2</b>
10 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: BWA	11 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	12	13  <i>7 pm KYODAN MTG</i>	14 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	15	16
17 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: Dharma School	18 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	19	20	21 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	22	23 <b>CLEAN UP TEAM #2</b>
24 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: Kyodan	25 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	26	27	28 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo		

## March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 am Hongwanji Day Toban: Jr. YBA	4 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	5	6	7 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	8	9 <b>CLEAN UP PUKALANI</b>
10 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: BWA	11 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	12	13  <i>7 pm KYODAN MTG</i>	14 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	15	16
17 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: Dharma Sch	18 8:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	19	20	21 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	22	23 <b>CLEAN UP PUKALANI</b>
24 9:00 am <b>SPRING OHIGAN</b> Rev. Earl Ikeda Moiliili Hong Toban: Kyodan	18 258:30 am Sr. Program 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	26	27	28 9:30 am Preschool 2:45 pm Japanese Sch  7 pm - Judo	29	30
31 9:00 am Family Svc Toban: Kyodan						