

Origins

No. 300 August 2016



The 43rd Hawaii Spiritual Development Course was held from June 19 to July 14. Mr. Kevin Susnar from Haleakala Church completed the program.

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii

RELAY ESSAYS

by Bishop & Mrs. Yamanaka & Board of Directors

Colin Saito

In this year of the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama, it is my prayer that we are all striving to ‘dig up the root’ of the teachings in order to gain insight and understand our own causality better to change what needs to be changed and help us move closer to the attainment of the Joyous Life world.

Since I first taught Shuyoka in 1988, many questions were asked by the students, which raised more questions in my mind as I searched for the answers. There was one question, which until today, has not been answered by anyone and that is the question of the translation of the “Osashizu, The Divine Directions.” As one of the three Sacred Scriptures, only a very small portion of the 20,000 plus writings has been translated. What worries me is that no one can answer the question: “What is Church Headquarters’ plan or intention for the Osashizu?” I am not the only one who is worried about Tenrikyo’s future. As history teaches, the Christian Bible was finally written down more than 400 years later and by then much human thought had become intermixed into the teachings. I pray that Tenrikyo does not position itself to repeat that same mistake.

The Mikagura-uta and the Ofudesaki were both written directly by the hand of Oyasama but She gave instructions to have scribes record the Divine Directions in the Osashizu. Why did Oyasama give instructions to write down these Words that came from Her mouth as well as the Divine Directions

from the mouth of the Mediator, Izo Ihuri? I feel that these Words of Oyasama as well as the dialogue that went on between human beings and God the Parent can be very useful as a learning tool to further advance our spirituality.

Allow me to share an example of utilizing the Osashizu to gain spiritual awareness. It all began with someone asking me a question about how to interpret afflictions on our body according to the left or right side. In search of the answer, I opened the book “An Anthology of Osashizu Translations” and within a few minutes, came upon this Osashizu of June 3, 1890, which answered the question. It reads:

On the affliction of Jinhichi Masuda’s left eye:

*Sah, sah, in the afflictions of the body, there is **no “left” or “right.”** I had taught you a little about this previously. I said that left is My guidance and right is My anger. But left and right are both the body. Sometimes I give a light notice of My intent through a serious illness. At other times I show My profound will through a slight illness. When an affliction strikes you, you will wonder about the cause. It is natural for you to wonder. However, you need not worry about your affliction at all. I fully accept you if you understand My single-hearted desire for the salvation of humankind.*

Osashizu, June 3, 1890 (morning)

Ah, here was the answer: Whether ‘left or right’, whether it is God’s ‘guidance or anger’, it is still the same person. What really matters is that we understand that the single-hearted intent of God the Parent is to save all of us human beings, God’s children.

Curiosity led me to check Divine Directions that came prior to this and turned the page once back and came across this Osashizu of May 13, 1890. It reads:

*There are many who think, “Why, after all this effort I have put into my faith...” This will not do. Sincerity is lacking. There is nothing to accept. If you react with dissatisfaction, things will become dissatisfying. Remember joyous acceptance. There is **no acceptance for dissatisfaction**. If you react with dissatisfaction, everything will become dissatisfying to you. There is nothing to accept other than joyous acceptance. Only when there is sincerity does the mind settle in joyous acceptance. There is nothing to accept other than joyous acceptance. Joyous acceptance is sincerity. Sincerity is the principle of heaven. Being the principle of heaven, sincerity is surpassed by nothing. Please understand this principle. **Osashizu, May 13, 1890** (supplemental volume)*

This Divine Direction is proving to be a life-changing one for me! It is absolutely AWESOME! It totally rules out any

possibility of any other mind, thinking, or thought pattern...other than the mind of joy! I now realize that this very important attitude of ‘joyous acceptance’ is what has been missing in my lifestyle!

God says, **“There is nothing to accept other than joyous acceptance!”** There is nothing other than the mind of joy because in the STATE OF JOY, THERE IS NOTHING BUT JOY! There is no room for dissatisfaction. Therefore, there is “no acceptance for dissatisfaction.” Period! Nada! Nashi! None! THERE IS ONLY ROOM FOR JOY!

Just like in the Seated Service part I, when we do the ‘hands in prayer’ gesture while saying the word ‘ashiki’, we do this because there is no ‘ashiki’ in God’s world. Therefore, with the use of the **‘hands in prayer’** gesture, we are being taught to visualize the “Paradise of the Joyous Life World”, which is free of any negativity or ‘ashiki’. Like-wise, in the Joyous Life world, where everyone is living in joy, there is absolutely no room for dissatisfaction when everyone is in the feeling of joy!

Continuing with my curiosity, I thumbed backward again and I came across this Osashizu of May 6, 1890. It taught:

*I shall accept anything you do each day so long as your mind allows you to present the world with a convincing example through the way you lead your life... I shall fully provide for you in every matter if you go on the path of single-heartedness with God while maintaining a mind that effortlessly makes the world feel that you **provide a***

convincing example through the way you lead your life.

Osashizu, May 6, 1890 (partially alternative translation)

God instructs us to become a ‘**person of example**’ through the way we lead our lives according to the teachings. If you truly understand the teachings, it should naturally emanate from your very being without even saying a single word from your mouth!

As a follower of the Tenrikyo teachings, let us become such a person of example, who can convince others through your actions alone!

Lastly, in the Osashizu of February 8, 1892:

You must make this resolve, first and foremost. Listen and understand well...I

am not talking about repentance for the past. What you need to do is to resolve all situations that lie ahead.

Osashizu, February 8, 1892 (excerpt)

We must settle our mind, first and foremost, and then God the Parent will work unlimited blessings throughout the universe. Settle your mind first and then receive blessing.

It all started with a simple question of wanting to know, which is like ‘digging up the root’, which led to the discovery of these wonderful Osashizu and the inspiration that was received from reading them. But I must now be a person of example and begin to implement this understanding into my life by making a firm resolution to change my thought patterns in order to release my ‘mind of complaints’ and replace it with the mind of ‘**gratitude and joy.**’

46th Annual TENRIKYO BAZAAR

*Sunday, August 28, 2016, 8:30AM ~ 2:00PM
at Tenri Cultural Center (2236 Nuuanu Ave.)*

RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS

8/14 (Sun) - 8/24 (Wed) Receiving donations at Tenri Cultural Center 10am-4pm

We are not accepting electrical/electronic items and furniture.

Scripts will be available at Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii
Or your NEAREST TENRIKYO CHURCH

Please note that separate tickets are required for BBQ Chicken.

Further information: Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii

TEL: 808-595-6523

July Monthly Service Prayer

Appearing before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, I (Shugo Yamanaka) Bishop of the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii speak with reverence on behalf of the Hawaii congregation.

God the Parent, You revealed Yourself to this world by receiving Oyasama as the Shrine and taught us the Truth of all things, guiding us on the path toward the Joyous Life. We are living in joy and high spirits as we constantly feel Your blessings and trust in the guidance of the everliving Oyasama each and every day. At the same time, we are putting forth our efforts to grow spiritually to accord with Your intention. Today is the day we are granted to conduct the July Monthly Service at this mission headquarters. We the service performers will unite our hearts as one to perform the Seated Service and the Dance with Hand Movements joyously while earnestly praying for world salvation. We will be joined by our brothers and sisters of the path in Hawaii who have looked forward to this day and have gathered here today, in singing the Songs for the Service in unison and high spirits. As You watch us, we hope You will be spirited as well.

The Hawaii Spiritual Development Course, which was held with 1 participant from the 19th of last month, completed successfully on the 14th of this month. Tenri Forum 2016 was held on the 15th and 16th of this month with 50 participants from Hawaii. Along with other participants from English speaking countries, they were able to share their enthusiasm for world salvation and enhance their awareness and sense of mission as Yoboku. The Oyasato Seminar started on the 9th of this month and is presently in session with 6 students in Course I and 2 students in Course III from Hawaii. Together with their counselors, they are spiritedly learning Oyasama's teachings and putting them into practice. Also the Young Men's Assoc. International Hinokishin Corps is to be held from the 18th through the 24th and 21 members from Hawaii Chapter will be sweating and planting valuable seeds of sincerity in Jiba. Furthermore, about 90 people including the Tenri Judo Club members will be returning to Jiba for the Children's Pilgrimage. It is our hope that the young members, who will be carrying the Path in Hawaii in the future, will directly experience the truth of the Jiba and receive the truth of the Parent as they sweat and plant valuable seeds of sincerity in Jiba during the midsummer days.

Together we vow to accord with the intention of God the Parent, whose desire is for all humankind to live the Joyous Life, and as instruments of Oyasama we will walk firmly on the Path of single-heartedness with God, single-hearted joyousness and single-hearted salvation here in Hawaii. All of us, who have been drawn to this Path, are determined to continue making daily efforts to grow spiritually by always engaging ourselves in hinokishin, spreading the fragrance of the teachings, and salvation work, so as to respond firmly to the intention of the Parent. May You, God the Parent, accept our sincerity, and we ask that You guide us further towards the advancement of the Path in Hawaii and the reconstruction of the world into the truly peaceful Joyous Life World, even a day sooner, where everyone will come to know of the Parent of Origin thus awakening to the truth of universal brotherhood & sisterhood and live together in harmony helping and caring for one another. Together with all present, I sincerely pray that You bless us so.

Mission HQ July Monthly Service Sermon

Rev. Hironori Yamamoto Head Minister of Lehua Mission Station

Today, I would like to express my appreciation for having the opportunity to spiritedly perform the July monthly service of the Mission Headquarters of Hawai‘i together with all of you.

On this occasion, for the first time I was asked to deliver the sermon here at the mission headquarters. I would like to share with you things I have personally learned up until now, my personal thoughts at this time, and my goals from here forward.

I was born and raised in Tenrikyo Himiya Branch Church located in Miyazaki prefecture in Kyushu, Japan. After completing middle school I attended school in Jiba together with my elder brother at the Tenri Seminary High School. Upon graduation, I continued my education at the Tenri Daini Junior Seminary.

It was an ‘all boys’ school system from that golden age in Japan, when if a senior student insisted something was black, even though it was clearly white, the junior would better agree it was black. It was a memorable time when young inexperienced students were completely disciplined. At any rate, it was a time of dedication and learning in Jiba when free time was scarce, and we were surrounded day and night by many senior and junior students.

I spent my days at this integrated Tenrikyo school system that was established to cultivate a firm religious educational spirit. When I look back at what I learned during



my 8 years at the Tenrikyo Seminary High School and the Daini Junior Seminary, I can say in one word that I learned to “be attentive”. From the time I had to wake up both the seniors and juniors in the morning until bedtime at night, I always had to be attentive and prepared. ‘To do what we were told to do is ordinary, but I was also taught that to do things before being told, is true sincerity’ In this way I was disciplined to always ‘be attentive’ and to always apply my efforts toward ‘connecting with others’.

Recently there is a saying in Japan, ‘the spirit of hospitality’. In order to cultivate that spirit of hospitality which offers the highest hospitality possible, I feel that it is important to be able to anticipate before asked what you can do to bring joy to others. I feel we are taught this through the story ‘Being Awakened in the Morning’ As written in the Anecdotes of Oyasama, “There is a great difference in merit between being awakened and waking up someone else.” During my school years I was naturally able to cultivate personal joy in anticipating the

needs of others, learned what needed to be done to bring them joy and thereby creating a connection with others.

After my 8 years of schooling, upon graduation from the Tenrikyo Daini Junior Seminary, many choices were presented to me. Amongst them was to be dispatched to the Mission Headquarters of Hawai‘i. This was 22 years ago, and on April 1, 1994, I was dispatched to the Mission Headquarters of Hawai‘i. It was only a month and a half before the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the mission headquarters, and we were awaiting the arrival of the third Shinbashira and his wife. Every day many people within the congregation came to do hinokishin. I remember this like it was yesterday, how energetic and lively a time it was. However, it was during that busy time, the day after I arrived at the mission headquarters on April 2nd that I was taken to Kuakini Hospital in Nu‘uanu. Of course it was my first time overseas, I had just arrived in Hawai‘i and I didn’t understand a word of English.

Actually, there was a part of me that questioned, “Why am I here in Hawai‘i?” It was against my actual wishes and I just couldn’t come to an agreement with my situation. With those feelings in my heart, I was admitted to the hospital and was diagnosed with what we considered a ‘harakiri illness’, namely, appendicitis. At that time, I came to a realization that I must settle my mind and persevere.

For someone like me who was taught that ‘the biggest sadness is not to be disciplined’, even though I had been disciplined to be

always attentive and considerate, with that experience I further received a message from God. Thereafter, I was given two more opportunities to be dispatched by the Overseas Department to work at the Mission Headquarters of Hawai‘i, and after leaving the department I received approval for permanent residency and came to Hawai‘i for the fourth time. Then in November of 2013, I fulfilled my desire of opening a mission station. Thus, I have been in Hawai‘i for a total of 15 years, and all of this was not due to my own personal wishes. Rather it was a path I was guided on through messages I received from God the Parent.

While I was stationed at the mission headquarters during my time with the Overseas Department, I was assigned as a staff member for the Oyasato Seminar designed to nurture human resources in the faith. And presently, I continue to contribute in this area. Since its establishment in 1984, from Hawai‘i, a total of 155 students have participated in the English Courses of the Oyasato Seminar. And this summer, 8 students have returned to Jiba during the hot summer in Courses 1 and 3, earnestly learning the teachings. I am delighted that as I am here delivering this sermon, many young people are sowing seeds of sincerity in Jiba participating in the Oyasato Seminar, the Young Men’s Association International Hinokishin Corps and Tenri Forum 2016. Again, I would like to question, what is ‘Sowing Seeds of Sincerity’? We are taught that ‘sowing seeds of sincerity’ is to dedicate yourself for the sake of others and the world,

not to make material matters your prime objective, and to single-heartedly apply your efforts with sincerity.

In the Mikagura-Uta, The Songs for the Service,

As this Residence is the field of God, Every seed sown here will sprout. Song VII: 8

In the Divine Directions, it is written,

Each seed of delight sown day after day will multiply ten thousandfold and bring a settling each day.

December 19, 1891, night

By devoting oneself to single-heartedness with God the Parent, a single seed of sincerity will surely produce a great harvest.

And here we are taught there is no need for prior anticipation and the importance of dedicating ourselves in ‘sowing the seeds of sincerity’.

Two years ago, the Hawai‘i Students Association was established. Presently they have a sleepover at the mission headquarters on the day before the monthly service and engage themselves in hinokishin. This is a new style of sowing seeds of sincerity. Many of the students also participate in the Oyasato Seminar program, where they can receive the Truth of the Sazuke during the program, which enables them to be born again as Yoboku. I would like you to encourage as many as possible to participate in this program.

At the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama, the

Shinbashira stated in his sermon,

“Having completed the Oyasama 130th Anniversary Service and begun thinking about our work ahead, I strongly feel that there is a particularly urgent need to nurture and train human resources that can carry the path forward in the times ahead. More specifically, I believe that it is necessary to devote our energy to nurturing Yoboku who will work to build the Joyous Life World and to increasing the number of such Yoboku.”

I once again realized the importance of dedication and administering the Sazuke upon hearing the Shinbashira emphasizing the keywords “to nurture and train human resources”.

The Monthly Service at the Mission Headquarters is certainly a day that I look forward to. It is a day to attend the service, to connect with friends in the congregation, a day when children can attend Sunday School, participate in the Aloha Band practice, the students association and the Joy Workshop. For me it is a “joyous life day” when activities and meetings are held, and I can strongly feel the effort of ‘sowing seeds of sincerity’ and the ‘nurturing of human resources’.

I think that the only way to save others or to be saved when you experience illnesses or troubles, lose your way, or come to a forked path is to return to the starting point and sow seeds of sincerity. If you dedicate true sincerity to Jiba, to this mission headquarters, and to each church and mission station, I believe the seeds you sow will surely sprout.

I would now like to ask your opinion on the changes and progress of this generation?

Compared to the time when I went to school and experienced having many people around me, we had no freedom, never watched television, and there were no computers or mobile phones, it is difficult to imagine how much it has progressed and changed. I am sure you are all aware, the progress in computer technology from then until now has made things easy and we can accomplish things we were never able to before. The human intellect has become unnatural and there is a problem with the population intelligence. Furthermore, with the size evolution, there are all kinds of things you can do on a mobile phone. It will also further progress and decrease in size. That micro technology will decrease to what is considered a nano size which is one/billionth (1/1,000,000,000) of a meter. And this nano technology is already actively conducting cancer treatments utilizing nano medical diagnostics. This is an evolution based on computer technology made possible by human intelligence. In this era filled with information regarding the progress in computer technology, I wonder how we will be conducting salvation work.

It has become an era where medical treatment is being administered by microscopic technology made possible by human intelligence for the rampant spread of physical and mental illnesses. However, from here forward, in regards to medical treatment for mental illnesses, I am wondering if salvation is possible through methods evolved through human intelligence.

As Yoboku we must press forward in our effort toward ‘nurturing human resources’

and ‘administering the Sazuke’, yet even if there is evolution in medical treatments and human intelligence robots, I feel that true salvation can only be done by human beings. Those who need salvation and we Yoboku both borrow our bodies from God and we have the free use of mind. I feel it is the seasonable time for us to press forward and increase our ‘awareness’. Now, in order to increase our ‘awareness’, specifically what must we do?

In the Songs for the Service, it is written,

A single word can be hinokishin, I simply sprinkle My fragrance around.

Song VII: 1

As taught here, we must reach out with a single word to many people, and I feel it is important that we also listen. Recently, robots have been programmed to conduct conversations. They are programmed with specific vocabulary and analyzed meanings and they are able to answer using words that bear no emotion. I do not feel this is sufficient.

We as human beings are able to talk to people and understand their situation and the assistance they need. As Yoboku we can clearly understand the kind of ‘awareness’ that is not possible with a robot. This ‘awareness’ will allow us as Yoboku to apply importance in connecting with others, and I feel it will connect to a salvation which will allow us to administer the Sazuke. Although things in the world are constantly changing, the teachings of the path will never change

because of ‘gratitude’ from the past until now, the reality of moderation, and the effort of ‘helping one another’. We must reaffirm the key words, ‘gratitude, modesty and helping one another’, make ourselves aware of the importance of ‘training and nurturing human resources’, and I hope that we can establish a training system that will further nurture Yoboku to administer the Sazuke.

It is important to sow seeds and dedicate ourselves at Jiba, the mission headquarters and our churches. And we must learn to be fond of Jiba, the mission headquarters

and churches even more by believing and understanding the teachings of the path. If we believe in the teachings, people will surely move. Also, I would like to cultivate together with everyone, a unique system in Hawai‘i that will ‘train and nurture human resources’ and ‘nurture Yoboku who can administer the Sazuke’. This is my personal starting point and goal towards the 140th Anniversary of Oyasama.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Hawaii Shuyokai Reflection by Kevin Susnar

Last November I arrived on Maui coming from Seattle to begin a new life. However, coming to a rock way out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with only two back packs and twelve dollars to my name, was not my original plan nor was it something more practical minded people would set out to do but life is what happens to us while we're busy making other plans. Such was my case.

I met a friend who like me had grown weary of life as he had been living it and he suggested I go to Maui with him. He came out a couple months prior to my arrival.

I had never been to Hawai‘i before, knew no one here but it's sunny and warm, tropical in fact and here in Seattle, it's November, with an unusual amount of rain fall already and very cold. I had already become sick. I leaped into the dark abyss. Wind whipped by me, and the velocity of my jump picked up. With my eyes popping out of my head and a joker smile, I managed one thought: "this is either going to turn out really cool, or really bad."

Five and half hours later arriving on Maui, my first of many challenges to come, how to get out of the airport and find my way to the town center. Within forty-five minutes of my arrival, I got off the bus at the mall and walked over to the library and I found my friend. Amazing to say the least. He introduced me to the locals and got me hooked up with shelter. I was on my way.

My last job was in nursing, so I ran an ad in the Maui newspaper for a live-in care giver. I got one call and ended up next door to Haleakalā Church, caring for a Japanese woman. I saw the Tenrikyo sign at the church but did not realize that Tenrikyo was a path I investigated over 25 years ago, when I was looking into Eastern Philosophy back in Seattle after becoming discontent with the teachings of my former religion.

My caregiving job ended about one month later after the lady had passed away for rebirth. Rev. Tad of Haleakala church had approached me about my plans and I didn't know myself.

I put my trust in God the Parent. He had taken an interest in my situation, and saw something in me that sparked a desire to reach out to me. In loving compassion and with great parental concern, he mentioned that he had prayed about my situation and he was wondering if someday I would like to do what he does, salvation work, and I said that would be really cool.

I always felt the desire to live for something bigger than myself. To contribute in some way that would help make this world a little bit better by my having been here in spite of my feeling inadequate and somewhat confused as to what to do with my life. I had no other long-term plans with my life so I was open to whatever direction God the Parent was leading me in. After hearing about the Spiritual Development Course in Honolulu, at Mission Headquarters, I eagerly desired to attend.

I started attending both morning and evening services as well as the Monthly Service at Haleakalā church. I started learning the hand dance and reading books such as the Doctrine of Tenrikyo and the Life of Oyasama. I also started studying the Japanese language, all while continuing to receive such warm, kind and parental care from Rev. Tad.

Ten weeks later after my pre-training at Haleakalā Church, I arrived at Mission Headquarters as the only student for the Spiritual Development Course. This was both advantageous and somewhat lonely at times, as I had no one to compare my feelings with. I was blessed with wonderful instructors who I grew fond of and I felt comfortable talking and sharing with them. They were able to help clarify some important doctrinal points and nurture my confidence.

The teachings easily resonated with me. I

peered under large rocks and looked under them and I was able to expand my perspective and see a much broader reality laid out before me. Things that had occurred in my past that used to baffle me, suddenly I began to understand why. I was growing more in the acceptance that everything that has and continues to happen to me has a reason, a purpose, a cause and that nothing was to be judged but only accepted joyously while making any corrections I needed to along the way.

I gained a deeper understanding of my causality and a deeper trust that God the Parent was working in my life by placing me where I needed to be and that I had to go through what I had experienced in order to bring me to where I was at present.

I was able to challenge myself in new ways from learning the sacred dances, playing the musical instruments and struggling everyday to learn and adapt to cultural protocol. I had moments of Great Doubt, frustrations, and raw feelings of self-consciousness. Like clouds overshadowing the sun, I knew these were only temporary manifestations of my cloudy and undisciplined mind and if I refused to grab onto them, eventually the sky would become clear again and I would once again feel confident and self-assured in my journey.

It was all part of a process of my spiritual, mental and emotional maturity. Taking it one day at a time, sometimes one moment at a time, with daily efforts of contribution and dedication. That which seemed too big to surmount could be accomplished by piecemeal, baby steps, and persistence each day growing closer to my goal of a new life, the joyous life.

I saw my mistakes and failures as learning opportunities. Coming from the Western world

and being immersed in a new culture, a new religion, a new language and ways of doing things, presented me with a whole new set of challenges and obstacles to overcome.

You see, failure is not an option, it is an imperative. Jumping into the abyss teaches you so many things about yourself regardless of whether it turns out really good or "perceivably bad", but if you don't jump, you don't learn, or grow. You slide further into the oblivion of safety, security and stagnation.

Over steep mountains, through tangles of thorns, along narrow ledges, and through brandished swords, if you come,

Yet ahead through a sea of flames and a deep abyss, you will arrive at a narrow path.

After following the narrow path step by step, you will come to a broad path. This is the trustworthy main path.

Ofudesaki 1: 47-49

This journey is a life-long process, not an event and the watchwords are Resilience and Patience. Not to expect too much too soon and allow discouragement to set in.

I am sure I've taken away much from my experience than am conscious of at this time and only in time will my efforts be made manifested by the actions I see in my daily life.

There is an eastern spiritual term "the fragrance learning", which means a kind of unintended absorption. Just as passing by an incense burner can imbue the clothing with fragrance, so are we affected unconsciously by the atmosphere of a place, just by happening

to be there.

As the teachings of Tenri-O-no-Mikoto slowly dissolve from my consciousness down into subconsciousness, they will be the future seeds that with great care and constant effort, will sprout and bear fruit. Thus ever drawing me nearer to the heart of Oyasama and God the Parent. Enabling myself to be a useful timber in the aid of Salvation work. I'm grateful for the things that didn't work out the way that I once wanted them to. In the words of Douglas Adams; "I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I've ended up where I needed to be."

With sincere gratitude, I would like to say thank you and say how very grateful I am for the Bishop and his wife as well as to all the staff members at Denchodo who took such good care of me and made sure I was taken care of.

I will always remember their loving stewardship and gentle parental guidance that they have extended towards me, and for giving me this opportunity to find purpose and meaning for my life so that someday I can help others along this joyous path laid out for us by our everliving beloved mother Oyasama who continues to watch over and care for us with such Great compassion - ever mindful of our existence.

*So far you have wandered such a long way.
So perhaps you are very tired of it.*

*But now a definite place for worship has made it's appearance so be convinced of it!
Ofudesaki 1:55-56*

Thank you very much.

Tid Bits

Associations' Reports

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Many people from Hawaii sowed seeds of sincerity at the Jiba this summer by attending the Oyasato Seminar, Tenri Forum 2016, International Hinokishin Corps and Children's Pilgrimage. This summer will end with the Tenrikyo Bazaar. My friend called to say, "I can't wait to see Tenrikyo people at the bazaar. They are so kind and friendly." Let us bring joy to visitors with the mind of hospitality taught by Oyasama.

Nuuanu Hale Visitation

August 13th (Sat) 9:30 a.m.

Monthly Meeting (at TCC)

August 15th (Mon) 9:00 a.m.

*We will be having Bazaar Hinokishin after the meeting.

Bazaar Hinokishin at TCC from 9:00am

August 16th: Making of Tsukemono

August 17th: Packing the Tsukemono

August 20th: TCC General Cleanup

Aug. 24 to 27: Making of Konnyaku

Aug. 25 to 27: Making of Oden & Tenpura

August 27th: Making of Yakisoba

*Thank you to all the ladies for sewing the new items at West House.

*August Narimono Practice will not be held.

The August Monthly Service luncheon hinokishin is assigned to Honjima group. Mahalo!

BOYS & GIRLS ASSOCIATION

Annual Bazaar

I would like to call on all BGA members to help wherever they can. Bazaar hinokishin can be a fun family activity, but parents and adults, please supervise them and avoid areas of safety issues, such as parking lots, cooking fires and heat, running and horse play in crowded or active areas.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CLUB

Annual Bazaar

August 28th (Sun)

The bazaar is coming around the corner! YWC members, let's scout bakers and recipes for the baked goods booth!

*Please bring baked goods donation to Dendocho by Saturday, August 27 at 10:00am or we can arrange to pick up. Please call #778-5484 if you would like to arrange donation pick up.

Follow in Kokan's Footsteps

September 24th (Sat) 9:30 a.m.

Location & contents are to be announced soon.

All Tenrikyo Nioigake Day

Monday, Sept. 5, 2016 9am - 11am at Paki Community Park

Cleaning Hinokishin will also be held at the park.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Greetings from Kyle Kikuchi, new chairman

Aloha and Mahalo Tenrikyo Hawaii congregation! On July 24th after the closing ceremony of the International Hinokishin Corps held in Jiba, I received my official appointment as the Tenrikyo Hawaii Young Men's Association Chairman from our President Daisuke-sama. I am very humbled to lead such an amazing group of young men. After talking to our Sewahan or group counselors during the International Hinokishin Corps, the Hawaii group had the reputation for being the most cooperative and energized for the 6 day event. Even though we had little sleep and toiled in the summer heat our group never lost heart or complained. We were led by the amazing Lewis Nakao and Bert Kawasaki! They both stepped up on short notice to be our group leaders and made sure everyone was taken care of. Also Lincoln and Jefferson Okada did a great job translating our daily tasks. Also a big THANK YOU goes out to Moses Nakao, our Commander in Chief for the last 3 years. He was instrumental in coordinating the logistics for our participation in this year's International Hinokishin Corps with a total attendance of 21 Young Men from Hawaii. Moses made sure our group was always prepared, that we always

had cool drinks on hand and that we were safe. Our reputation was a reflection of the quality of Yoboku we are blessed to have in Hawaii. As I officially start my term as YMA Chairman, I cannot express how grateful and blessed I am to be a part of this amazing organization. My brothers abroad and here at home have shown me the way to be a better Yoboku, Husband, Brother and Son. After witnessing their sincere dedication and efforts these past 2 weeks I am inspired and encouraged to do my best and honor those who have come before me. And finally I would like to thank my Wife, Michelle for her patience and efforts that have kept me grounded and realistic. Without her I am nothing.

We are tasked with the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the Tenrikyo Seinenkai in the next 2 years to reflect on ourselves and our relationships. Loosely put, according to Daisuke-sama, we cannot be effective Yoboku if we have problems at home between parent and child and husband and wife. We all need to reflect the model of Earth and Heaven in our daily lives to truly bring God happiness. With that said, I have a large task at home, of being a more engaged and present husband and son. I hope as I work on myself so will you all, together united in Oyasama. Mahalo everyone for your love and support and I look forward to serving you all to the best of my abilities. From the bottom of my heart.

Report for Disaster Relief Donation for the Earthquakes in Kumamoto & Ecuador

In response to the earthquakes in Kumamoto and Ecuador, Hawaii Dendocho collected a total of \$6,373 in relief donation by June 30th. \$5,000 out of the total amount was delivered to Church Headquarters in April and \$1,373 to Tenrikyo International Network for Mutual Help (Kokusai Tasukeai Net) of Tenrikyo Overseas Department in July. Thank you very much for your precious donations!



The Hungry Reporter

I love the tangy flavor of beef stroganoff so I became rather excited to find a version that was less in fat content. Greek yogurt gives the same tang as sour cream and the low-fat cream cheese adds thickness. You wouldn't know the difference from the fattier beef version. Just make sure your yogurt is plain and not vanilla or flavored. Serve over noodles or rice.

Greek Yogurt & Chicken Stroganoff

Ingredients:

2 Tbsp Butter, or as needed

1 1/2 Cups Fresh Mushrooms, sliced

1 Onion, chopped

2 Cups Chicken Stock, divided

2 Tbsp All-purpose Flour, or as needed

2 Cups Plain Greek Yogurt

4 oz Reduced-fat Cream Cheese, cut into pieces

1/2 lb. Cooked Chicken, shredded

Directions:

1. Melt butter in a skillet over medium-high heat. Saute mushrooms and onions in hot butter until soft and caramelized, about 5 minutes.

2. Pour 1/2 cup chicken stock into the skillet and bring to a boil while scraping the browned bits of food off of the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon.

3. Gradually stir flour into mushroom mixture; cook and stir until light golden brown, about 30 seconds. Add remaining chicken stock to mushroom mixture; simmer, stirring occasionally, until sauce thickens, about 5 minutes.

4. Stir yogurt into sauce; add cream cheese and stir until cheese melts and sauce is thickened, about 2 minutes. Stir chicken into sauce and cook until heated through, about 5 minutes more.



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August Calendar 2016

1 st	Mon	Monthly Nioigake Day around Dendocho	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
3 rd	Wed	Bishop to return to Hawaii		
4 th	Thu	Bazaar Booth Head Meeting	Mission HQ	9am & 7pm
8 th	Mon	Kanako Maegawa to arrive to help with the Bazaar (until Sept. 1)		
		TCC Monthly Service	TCC	9:30 a.m.
		WA Comm. Meeting	Mission HQ	7:00 p.m.
9 th	Thu	Monthly Community Hinokishin	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
13 th	Sat	WA Nuuanu Hale Visitation	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
15 th	Mon	WA Monthly Meeting	TCC	9:00 a.m.
		Yoshitaka Iwata to arrive to serve as the new seinen		
17 th	Wed	YMA Meeting	Rainbow Hale	7:30 p.m.
20 th	Sat	TSA Hinokishin & Sleepover	Mission HQ	6:30 p.m.
21 st	Sun	Mission HQ Monthly Service	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		Sunday School	Mission HQ	
22 nd	Mon	Kamina-nagashi in Waikiki	Waikiki	10:00 a.m.
26 th	Fri	Yohaishiki (26th day service)	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		YMA The Life of Oyasama Study Session	Mission HQ	7:00 p.m.
27 th	Sat	Prayer Service for Bazaar	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
28 th	Sun	Tenrikyo Bazaar	TCC	8:30am - 2pm