

Hanashimashou

話しましゅう

A Joint Newsletter from Maui's Japanese Community

JANUARY-MARCH 2012
EDITION

VOLUME VIII, ISSUE 1

Dates to Remember:

Jan. 28 – **Japanese Cultural Society Shinnen Enkai**, 5:00 p.m., Maui Beach Hotel

Feb. 1 – **Public Meeting to Discuss 2012 Maui Matsuri**, 7 p.m., Kahului Hongwanji Mission Social Hall

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March 11 – **Maui Kumamoto Kenjin Kai Shinnen Enkai**, 10:30 a.m., Maui Beach Hotel

March 2-4 – **18th Annual Honolulu Festival**, Waikiki

March 8 – **Paia Mantokuji Mission 35th Annual Bazaar**, 7-11 a.m., Paia Mantokuji Mission grounds

March 31 – **Deadline for submissions for next issue of Hanashimashou**

April 15 – **Japanese Cultural Society of Maui Scholarship Application Deadline**

May 4 – **Maui Matsuri Kick-off Event**, 6:30 p.m., Queen Kaahumanu Center Stage

May 11-12 – **12th Annual Maui Matsuri**, University of Hawai'i, Maui College

Newsletter is accessible via the internet by visiting the

Shinnen Enkai celebrates Year of the Dragon

The Japanese Cultural Society of Maui (JCS Maui) will welcome the Year of the Dragon at its annual Shinnen Enkai (New Year) dinner on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the eleair Rainbow Room at the Maui Beach Hotel. The Shinnen Enkai will begin at 5 p.m. with the traditional otoso (sake welcome) with no-host cocktail hour to follow. Dinner is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Cost for the buffet dinner is \$45, \$20 for children ages 6-10, and free for children ages 5 and under. Tickets are available through the Maui Box Shop and Credit Associates in Wailuku Party Paradise in the Maui Mall, and Sanrio at Queen Kaahumanu Center.

The event will highlight the past year's events and programs sponsored by JCS Maui, install the organization's newly elected officers, and will feature performances by Japanese dancer **Dazzman Taguchi** of Honolulu.

Hiroshi Arisumi and **Rev. Torako Arine** will be honored as the JCS Maui Nihon Bunka Awardees for 2012. Selected by the JCS Maui Board at a recent meeting, Arisumi and Arine have contributed much to preserving and promoting the Japanese culture.



Hiroshi Arisumi



Japanese dancer **Dazzman Toguchi** (center), of Oahu, will wow the audience at the Shinnen Enkai on January 28.

Arisumi, a WWII veteran, will be recognized for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between Japan and the United States. Arisumi has been a generous benefactor to the Maui Japanese Communi-

ty Association and the Japanese Cultural Society of Maui and a steadfast supporter of their programs that promote friendly relations, cultural exchanges, and mutual understanding between Japan and the United States. As a surviving member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, he ardently

supported the effort to establish the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center on

Maui since the idea was conceived in 1985 until it opened its doors in 2006. In his role as President of the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, he continues to work on programs to teach the youth and inform the public about the valor of and the sacrifices made by the Nisei (second generation; Americans born to Japanese immigrant parents) soldiers during the Second World War.



Rev. Torako Arine

For decades, Arine, 98, the leader of Maui Jinsha Shinto Shrine, has held a Japanese-language service every first Sunday of the month, along with New Year's and Autumn Festival celebra-

tions. Arine's late husband, **Masao Arine**, headed the church during the early 1940s until his death in 1972. Shortly after that, she traveled to Japan to become a priestess and has been leading the church ever since. Thanks to Rev. Torako Arine, the Great Autumn Festival continues to this day See

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Maui Matsuri meeting set for Feb. 1

Maui Matsuri co-chairs Kay Fukumoto, Yuki Lei Sugimura, Rodney Ryugo, and Brian Nagami invite the general public to attend a meeting on Wednesday, February 1 at the Kahului Hongwanji Mission social hall at 7 p.m. to discuss the upcoming Maui Matsuri.

Those interested in volunteering for the kickoff event on May 4 and/or the 2-day event scheduled on May 11-12 are encouraged to attend. Food and craft vendors are also asked to attend to get information about booths.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) awarded a \$17,500 grant to the Maui Matsuri to sponsor the festival. An estimated 10,000 people attended the two-day festival in 2011.

For general information about the Maui Matsuri, call the Maui Matsuri hotline at 283-9999. For information specifically about food and craft booths, call Priscilla Yamamura at 283-4253.



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and showcases various aspects of the Japanese culture.

The January 28 event will also have a silent auction with proceeds to go towards the club's various projects. Any donations for the silent auction are greatly appreciated. To make a donation, call Sarajeen Tokunaga at 280-9810.

JCS Maui will also arrange to dress attendees who wish to wear kimono. To schedule kimono dressing to be held during the afternoon of the event, call Kay Fukumoto at 283-9999.

For more information on the Japanese Cultural Society of Maui Shinnen Enkai dinner, call co-chair Yuki Lei Sugimura at 870-8047.

Kumamoto Kenjin Kai to hold Shinnen Enkai

The Maui Kumamoto Kenjin Kai will ring in the New Year at its annual *Shinnen Enkai* luncheon on Sunday, March 11, at 10:30 a.m., in the Elleair Rainbow Room at the Maui Beach Hotel. Registration will start at 10 a.m.

The program will feature Japanese karaoke singing by some of the club's talented members as well as Japanese classical dancing. The club will also honor those members who attained the age of 85 in 2010.

Tickets cost \$25 each and can be purchased at Credit Associates of Maui, Ltd., 1817 Wells St., Wailuku, or by contacting

HANASHIMASHOU

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Comments, suggestions, and submissions for the quarterly newsletter are encouraged, and may be forwarded to: lynn@araki-regan.com or by calling 280-1299.

St. Anthony wins mikoshi contest



St. Anthony Japanese language students won the 9th Annual Maui Mikoshi Design Contest sponsored by the 18th Annual Honolulu Festival scheduled to be held on March 2-4.

This is the first year that St. Anthony won the design contest.

Mentored by teacher Tokie Sidney, students and teachers will be flown to Oahu courtesy of Honolulu Festival and its many sponsors.

For more information about the Honolulu Festival, visit www.honolulu festival.com.

Nadao Makimoto at 276-8225, Elaine Ishikawa at 244-4568, or Dorothy Nakata at 878-3831.

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Message from Japanese Cultural Society of Maui Incoming President Rev. Jeffrey Soga



President Tiffany Iida

As my two years as President is coming to an end, I reflect back on all the wonderful memories, activities and achievements that the JCSM accomplished. The organization has continued to participate in the Maui Matsuri, Kepaniwai Japanese Garden Clean Up, Oshogatsu and Shinnem Enkai. We also hosted a candlelight vigil for the victim's of the Japan earthquake and tsunami, collected funds for the victim's of Japan, and became the non-profit organization for the Aloha Initiative.

To all members of the Japanese Cultural Society of Maui, I would like to thank you for your support over the last two years. It has been such an honor to have served as President and I am so grateful for all of your support. I would also like to especially thank those who served on the board (Irvin Yamada, Jeffery Soga, Nicole Fukumoto, Priscilla Yamamura, Lynn Araki-Regan, Keith Regan, Kallie Keith-Agaran, Rodney Ryugo, Brian Nagami, Leonard Oka, Richard Tadaki, Sara Jean Tokunaga, Krystl Ito-Lau and Spencer Lau). Without these dedicated board members, my two years could not be a success.

Although I will no longer serve as President, I will continue to be an active member of this organization and dedicated to help our incoming President, Reverend Jeffrey Soga in the upcoming two years. I am humbled by my experience and opportunity to serve as your President. I hope that you members have enjoyed some of our activities and meetings throughout the year and will continue your membership with the JCSM. Once again thank you for your support and friendship and I look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming events.

Arigato,

Tiffany Iida
President

JCSM scholarship applications sought

The Japanese Cultural Society of Maui (JCSM) will be accepting applications for its annual scholarship to be awarded to a graduating high school senior who promotes and perpetuates the Japanese culture through education and/or the arts. Those interested in applying for the scholarship may contact Tiffany Iida at tiida@hawaiianisp.com or 276-5444, or visit www.jcsmaui.com. The scholarship application deadline is April 15.

VA officials offer assistance

The Veterans Administration will hold a VA Town Hall meeting at the Velma McWayne Santos Community Center in Wailuku on Tuesday, Jan. 24 at 2 to 5 p.m.

The very top VA officials in Hawaii will be present so anyone who has specific problems or unresolved issues is encouraged to attend.

Paul Laub, President of the Maui County Veterans Council, assures veterans that action will be taken on your behalf.

Those who wish to email their issues and/or questions beforehand may email patria.teran-matthews@va.gov.

For more information, contact Laub at 808-442-2450.

Japanese gardens to be cleaned on Feb. 25

The Japanese Cultural Society of Maui will be holding its annual clean up at the Japanese Gardens at the Kepaniwai Park & Heritage Gardens in Iao Valley on Saturday, February 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Families are encouraged to attend to view the newest addition to the Japanese garden — a pine tree planted on August 6 in honor of the victims of the earthquake and tsunami that struck the Tohoku region of Japan on March 11.



Members and the general public are encouraged to attend according to event chair

Rodney Ryugo.

Those attending are asked to bring garden tools, trash bags, and portable chairs. A complimentary lunch and water will be served to all volunteers following the service project. To RSVP, contact Priscilla Yamamura at 283-4253 by February 22.

Paia Mantokuji Bazaar set in March



The Mantokuji Mission of Paia welcomes the public to its 35th Annual Bazaar on March 8, from 7 to 11 a.m.

Items for sale will include sushi, chow fun, baked goods, Spam musubi, ohagi, nishime and manju. Rummage items, crafts, plants, flowers and vegetables will also be sold. The event will take place at 253 Hana Hwy., Paia.

For more information, call Rev. Kenji Oyama at 579-8051.

KEKAULIKE ODORI



SATURDAY JANUARY 14

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM KKHS QUAD

FOOD. GAMES. BON DANCE. LIVE ENTERTAINMENT.

EVERYONE WELCOME!



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TO: