



Rinzai Zen Mission Newsletter

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花祭りを振り返って

今年の花祭りは四年ぶりに私たちのお寺で、エンターテインメントもビンゴゲームもある賑やかな行事となりました。二年前は東日本大震災の直後で静かなお祝い、日本からもどなたもお見えになる事ができませんでした。前日の夕食会は宗務総長ご夫妻、星先生、千坂先生から沢山お土産を頂戴しアラン名護会長ご家族のバーベキューに舌つづみを打ち、花祭りの当日は沢山の景品をもらって帰る事になりました。袋の中には神代先生が全員に行き渡る様にとスーツケースいっぱい持って来ていただいたフリカケが入っていたはずですが。宗務総長様の御法話は私たちの心の奥深くにいつまでも残る有り難いものとなりました。今回は名護会長ご夫妻のご寄付のおかげでずいぶん贅沢な接待が出来ました。そして日本からの各先生からは沢山のご寄付を頂戴しました。私たちのお寺と満徳寺が一緒になって小さな行事を始めたつもりが皆様のおかげでとても立派な年中行事に育ちました。本当にありがとうございます。長く続けていけます事を願っています。



Pouring sweet tea over baby Buddha



The Most Reverend Matsui giving his heartfelt dharma talk

Looking back at Hanamatsuri

In 2011, we could not have the entertainment or bingo game to enjoy like every other year because of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. So, we really enjoyed this year's Hanamatsuri at our Mission with our guests from Japan. The Secretary General of Myoshinji, The Most Reverend Matsui with his wife Akemi became very familiar faces on Maui at this time of year, just like our old friends Rev. Hoshi and Rev. Kajiro. Because of the big repair project in Japan, Rev. Chisaka was absent from our activity for the last two years but this year graced us with his beautiful chanting voice at our altar. The gifts they brought from Japan were so overwhelming at our dinner the night before Hanamatsuri. Our president Alan Nago and his family brought their big BBQ equipment and fed us very well. The Rev. Chisaka's report of our donation to Miyagi was very detailed and it was truly meaningful for us to know of the recovery of Tohoku.

Without question, the Secretary General's Dharma talk was the highlight of the Hanamatsuri service. The interpreter had a hard time because of his own tears and could see many attendees' as well.

Everyone got three *omamori* (good luck charms) from Hoshi Sensei and one of them was 24k gold plated. Someone came to return it later in the day, saying "I do not deserve one." We just say thank you to our old friends. The Rev. Kajiro carried so many furikake in his suitcase that he was questioned at the airport. So was Rev. Chisaka who carried one hundred gold plated *omamori*. (So heavy!)

Because of President Alan Nago's generosity and Mantokuji members' two days of cooking, we had a wonderful lunch. Thanks also to Maui Ryukyu Culture Group's entertainment. Our Hanamatsuri was an impressive one to remember. We hope that Paia Hanamatsuri will keep going like this for years to come and keep our Buddhist community together. Thank you to everyone who helped make this Hanamatsuri a successful one.

Schedule

May 12(Sun) Happy Mother's Day! No cleaning.
19(Sun) 10:00 am Service
27(Mon) Memorial Day Service at Veteran's Cemetery in Makawao

June 9(Sun) Cleaning day
16(Sun) 10:00 am Service, Father' Day lunch & Obon meeting

August 17(Sat) is our OBON. Mark your calendars and tell your family and friends.