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2008 Molokai Obon Festival

The Guzeiji Soto Mission of Molokai hosted the annual Bon Festival, welcoming home the spirits of the departed. The two-day observance began with memorial services at the Kapaakea Cemetery. The afternoon and evening Guzeiji Soto Mission in Mango Lane were conducted by visiting Rev. Roy Ryosho Kokuzo from Waipahu Soto Sen Temple Taiyoji.

On Saturday morning Bon Dance practice was led by bon odori teacher Helen Kishi and a Taiko workshop conducted by Helen Faye Komagata were open to the public.

Saturday evening the Rev. Kokuzo led a brief service to open the Bon Dance. Somei Taiko, Aiea Taiko and Hawaii Matsuri Taiko members brought the popular Taiko performances to the yagura (tower) inviting the Molokai community to follow some of the familiar bon dances and enjoy some of the modern beats. Inside the Mitchell Pauole Center Hall, members of Soto Mission set up cultural exhibits and the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH) brought their outreach program of make and take crafts for young and young at heart. Using stamps and a fabric strip, hachimaki (headbands) was a popular activity. Gyotaku, fishprinting with JCCH volunteer director Derek Iwata was a hit with Molokai youngsters. Mrs. Ryusetsu Kokuzo demonstrated sumi-e (brush painting) and helped keiki write their names in kanji (shodo).

Through the Guzeiji Soto Mission's exhibits, the Japanese values and the Ganen Mono first immigrants brought to Hawaii beginning in 1868 - those following learn and honor our ancestors through "Okage Sama De" ("I am what I am because of you.")

MOA of Maui's Normal Oshiro brought buckets of carnations for everyone to make a miniature flower arrangement. Creating paradise through flowers, according to the teaching MOA founder Mokichi Okada.

If you missed this year's observance, remember, the summer months, July through August is Bon Festival and on Molokai, it's usually chicken hekka, taiko, bon odori and time for family reunions. The colorful festival takes place around the islands, celebrating families, tradition and life.

Photos left to right: Helen Kishi, Mrs. Ryusetsu Kokuzo, Boy's Day customs and Buddhist Values display
MORE photos on pages 2 & 5




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Bon Festival ... with thanks for help and support from
 Oahu Soto Mission members.



photo above: Luke followed Derek Iwata's instructions carefully and looked happy with the gyo-taku!
 below: Following Festival chairperson Lisa Takata, children enjoyed success with origami art.





Molokai's Forum For Freedom Individual's Sovereignty vs Slavery

by George Peabody ph. 558-8253 email:

"We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."—

**Bill of Rights 2nd Amendment:
"A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."**

Wake up militia! Use it , or lose it ! Got your gun, yet?

"...with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, or fortunes and our sacred honor."

(Unanimous Declaration of Independence)

If you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed, and, if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than live as slaves.

"The people cannot delegate to government the power to do anything which would be unlawful for them to do themselves."- John Locke

"Those who make peaceful change impossible, make violent change inevitable." -- Robert F. Kennedy

"Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." T.J.

Enforce the Bill of Rights !

"And how we burned in the camps later, thinking: What would things have been like if every Security operative [insert your favorite alphabet Gang DEA, BATFE, H.S., TSA, FBI, IRS, NSA, CIA, LEOs etc. here], when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive and had to say goodbye to his family? Or if, during periods of mass arrests, as for example in Leningrad, when they arrested a quarter of the entire city, people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling in terror at every bang of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing left to lose [neither do you now] and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever else was at hand. The Organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and transports and, notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst; the cursed machine would have ground to a halt!" -- The Gulag Archipelago, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

McCain and Obama are anti-2nd Am

If the Constitution for the united States of America, the real Law of the Land that defines and limits what the Administration and Congress and Judiciary can do, meant anything to the Democrats and Republicans, Obama and McCain would not be even considered for the office of President because they violate their Oath of Office with impunity every day. And, they both are opposed to the 2nd Amendment Right to Keep and Bear Arms, known to American Patriots as the paladium of all Rights intended to be used to enforce all the other rights guaranteed to The People against tyranny by traitors in high offices.

These two so called leading candidates for President believe government is more important than individuals. They are constantly admonishing their audiences to put personal interests aside and to join them in some altruistic crusade for the "greater good." Obama speaks of his need for Americans to "come together again behind a common purpose." John McCain asks people to join him if they "believe in a national purpose that is greater than our individual interests." Why would they say such fascist things, unless of course they are infact fascists promoting a fascist regime? Why should our government or our nation have goals?

People seem to have forgotten that America was created by people specifically for the purpose of protecting an individual's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness— and to otherwise leave us the hell alone.

There is the problem of overwhelming military power being used to shape the destiny of other nations. But that was never what America was supposed to be about. The uniqueness of America is the focus on individualism.

Do we Americans need McCain/Obama's admonishments to work together? Hell no! Even back in the 19th Century, Europeans marvelled at how Americans loved to work together; join churches, guilds, charity, business and neighborhood groups. The point is that in America, we determine how and why we work together, not so called political leaders.

The essence of America is a respect for the dignity of the individual. A qualified candidate for office of President must understand that, and be able to demonstrate an ability and commitment to develop domestic and foreign policy that is consistent with individual liberty. So far, McCain and Obama are not even close to doing the things that make America unique and a great Republic.

Question Authority or we will lose our God-given, unalienable Rights to a regime of Tyrants.....again. Lock and Load !

Gun Rights Refresher

1. An armed man is a citizen. An unarmed man is a subject.
2. A gun in the hand is better than a cop on the phone.
3. If guns cause crime, then pencils cause misspelled words.
4. "Free" men do not ask permission to bear arms.
5. If you don't know your rights you don't have any.
6. Those who trade liberty for security have neither.
7. What part of "shall not be infringed" do you not understand?
8. The Second Amendment is to enforce the other 9 Amendments.
9. 64,999,987 firearms owners killed no one yesterday.
10. Guns only have two enemies; rust and politicians.
11. Know guns, know peace, know safety.
12. No guns, no peace, no safety.
13. You don't shoot to kill; you shoot to stay alive.
14. 911 - government sponsored Dial-a-Prayer.
15. Assault is a behavior, not a gun device.
16. Criminals love gun control -- it makes their jobs safer.
17. If guns cause crime, then matches cause arson.
18. Only a government that is afraid of citizens prohibits guns.
19. You only have the rights you are willing to fight for.
20. Remove the people's right to bear arms, you create slaves.
21. The American Revolution was about gun control.

Crimes of Politicians Must Be Stopped by The People (You are The Militia)

The crime on our streets is a tiny fraction of the crime in the offices of our politicians and bureaucrats - the massive majority of crime is committed by the criminal classes in power. Just look at the constant abuse of power in our State government offices and you will realize the extent of crime in Government. Just consider just how many BILLIONS of dollars a day Government extorts from the people and how little WE get in return; and just how comfortable the politicians make themselves at the expense of the peoples they extort!

The goal of the founders of America was to restrict government within severe limits and to protect the rights of sovereign individuals. Government has NO rights!

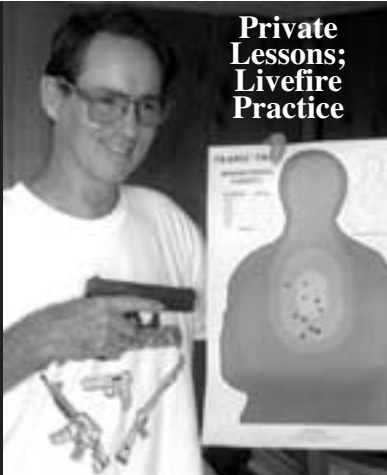
Judges are impeachable. Furthermore, judges may be removed immediately for violating oaths of office, involvement in conspiracies, extortion, and failing to uphold their duty to the common law. Judges can also be arrested, they are not exempt from this nor are any other officials, including the President of the United States.

Do the people have the power to do this? Yes, the people have the power to do everything to defend our country against all enemies foreign or domestic politician, and government has no power to say otherwise. Fascist bureaucrats might send out its armed marauders, but a huge group of The People (Militia) armed with guns as guaranteed their Right to keep and bear arms by the 2nd Amendment is likely to stop them unless the governments decide that it is time to begin mass killings of all people who believe in the rights of Man.

Wake up ! Enforce the Bill of Rights !

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Exercise the 2nd Amendment.

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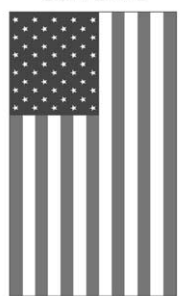


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Molokai High School EVENTS

August 8, 2008 Official count day! Please have all of your children attending classes by this date. The school's official enrollment affects funding and staffing. If your child will not be able to start school by this date, please contact the school so we can account for every student. Students who are currently enrolled at MHS are expected to return next year. Any student who has not attended classes by the official count date will be released from the school as a truant/no-show. This implies the involvement of Family Court.

August 13, 2008 Senior Requirements Ohana Night at 6 p.m. in the MHS Library.

Learn about the Senior Project and Graduation requirements. Parents of all high school students are highly encouraged to attend. Light refreshments and door prizes will be provided.

Federal Marijuana Decriminalization?

A federal marijuana decriminalization bill to Remove Federal Penalties for the Personal Use of Marijuana by Responsible Adults has been introduced to Congress. "The federal government should stop arresting marijuana users,"

Frank said as he stood before Congress.

20 million Americans have been arrested on marijuana charges, 830,000 in 2006 (<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2006/index.html>). Of those, nearly 90% were for simple possession. In addition to the jail time and other costs imposed on offenders, marijuana law enforcement costs society more than \$7 billion a year. Existing laws aimed at marijuana users punish otherwise law-abiding citizens and sick people whose doctors have recommended the drug, and waste law enforcement resources, Frank said. They also amount to an unwarranted intrusion into the private lives of Americans, he said.

Here is the text of the bill in its entirety:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no penalty may be imposed under an Act of Congress for the possession of marijuana for personal use, or for the not-for-profit transfer between adults of marijuana for personal use. For the purposes of this section, possession of 100 grams or less of marijuana shall be presumed to be for personal use, as shall the not-for-profit transfer of one ounce or less of marijuana, except that the civil penalty provided in section 405 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 844a) may be imposed for the public use of marijuana if the amount of the penalty does not exceed \$100."

There is absolutely nothing wrong with the responsible use of marijuana by adults and this should be of no interest or concern to the government. The vast majority of marijuana smokers are adults who cause no harm to themselves or to anyone else, so there is no reason for the state or feds to be involved, except to make efforts to stop irresponsible use. Responsible alcohol drinkers are not arrested. That should be our policy with marijuana as well, but, there were more than 11 million marijuana arrests since 1990, that's more than for "all violent crimes combined. Marijuana prohibition is "one of the most destructive criminal justice policies in America.

STOP the WAR on DRUGS!

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More Obon Festival 2008 photos
July 12, Mitchell Pauole Center

photo below: Sarah and her mom appreciated the shodo Kokuzo sensei guided her little hands to brush stroke.



photo above: This year Norman Oshiro of MOA of Maui brought plenty carnations and recycled film canisters and pill bottles for vases, for making flower bouquets for mom.

below: Charlene Yamamoto JCHH volunteer taught origami and osold "Okage Sama De" T-shirts celebrating our ancestors.



photo at right and below: First you make a hachimaki to wear, then you follow dancers around the yagura.





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