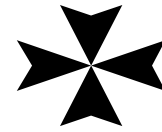




Knights of Service

The Newsletter of
The Knights of the Orthodox Order of St. John
Russian Grand Priory, Priory of Hawaii



Honolulu, Hawaii

1st Quarter of 2021

Sooriya Inspires the World

“The master copper artist known as Sooriya not only inspires many with his larger-than-life sculptures of whales and dolphins in Nānākuli, but also with his peaceful messages of caring for the earth and serving others with aloha.” - midweek.com

Knight of Honor, Sooriya Kumar made history by organizing and designing the largest copper whale sculpture in the world. The copper whale which is over 40 feet long with its calf are life-sized and they adorn the wall of the Kalanihookaha Community Center in Nanakuli on the Waianae coast of Oahu. The namesake of this community center is the late Dame of Justice, Dr. Agnes Kalanihookaha Cope, one of the original members of our Priory of Hawaii. – *continued on page 3...*



Knight Sooriya making a copper sculpture



Schooling for a Kenya Children's Home

The school that the children of Bethsaida Childrens' home suddenly closed down due to COVID. *Continued on page 7...*

Continuous Support to the Super Typhoon Victims in Guinobatan, Albay, Philippines

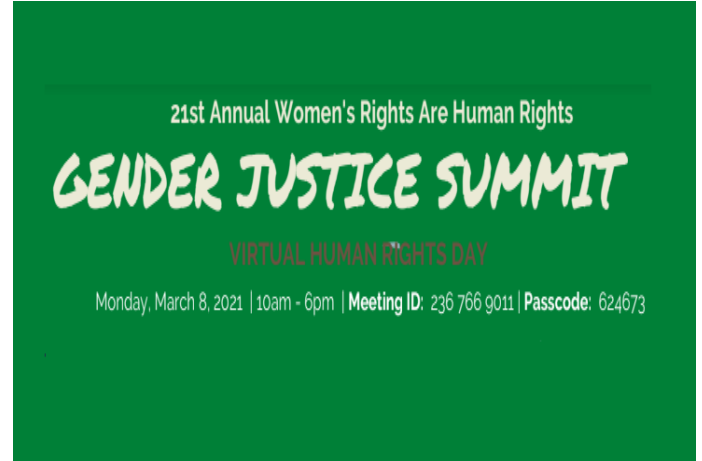
KOOSJ continues to support the victims of the Super typhoon in Albay, where over 200 houses were buried by the mudflow from the feet of the volcano... *continued on page 4...*

Helping the Food Bank of Hawaii

During the pandemic, the Food Bank is a crucial organization that helps people who are still struggling to pay their bills to get enough food on their table to feed their families. *Continued on page 2...*



Dame Joanne Tachibana and the United Nations Association, Hawaii Chapter sponsored the "Human Rights Day" on February 20. Then, on March 8, they sponsored the "Gender Justice Summit" in connection with "Human Rights Day"

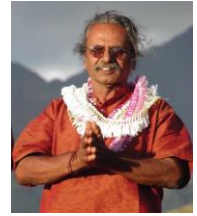


Serving the Poor Kids of Catanduanes, Philippines

The team has an annual visit to the kids who are residing by the seawall of the Island. It is a blessing to meet a new set of kids this time. We offered them little gifts, snacks, lessons, and fun games.



Sooriya Inspires the World



continued from page 1...

This was part of Knight Sooriya’s project called the “Kohala Ola Peace Project”. With his guidance this sculpture of a life size mother and child humpback whale were brought to life by many hands from the Wai’anae coast children and community, reaching across all oceans to include people from around the world. People from all walks of life, races, religions, and cultures from Hawaii and around the world will come together as one global Ohana (family). This project exemplifies Hawaii’s Aloha spirit and humanity’s cooperative nature in an effort to inspire peace, community, and environmental consciousness..Thousands of people including children and adults from all walks of life from all over the state,from other states and some foreign countries participated in hammering the copper into its final shape. Knight Alan and Knight Terry were able to help shape the whale at Knight Sooriya’s Mouna Farm in Waianae valley. Knight Sooriya was the cover story in Midweek on February 24, 2021.



Knight Sooriya Kumar's record-breaking life-sized copper sculpture of a mother whale with baby whale on the Kalanihookaha Community Center in Nanakuli, Oahu



Knight Alan Shintani with wife, Jennifer and Daughter Lili helping to make the whale.



Dr. Shintani's daughter Nickie shaping the whale with Knight Sooriya Kumar



Helping the Food Bank of Hawaii

Continued from page 1... The KOOSJ Priory of Hawaii continues to make contributions to the Hawaii Food Bank, the Maui Food Bank, the Kauai Independent Food Bank and the Food Basket, Hawaii Island's Food Bank.





Continuous Support to the Super Typhoon Victims in Guinobatan, Albay, Philippines

Continued from page 1... Little by little, the residents are getting by and as they go through the process of recovery, we are blessed to be part of their relief.





Helping the Typhoon Victims in Catanduanes, Philippines

The team traveled over the sea for four hours to reach the island of Catanduanes in the Pacific Ocean. This province is struck by typhoons over ten times a year. And last year, when super typhoon Rolly struck the country, they had the worst aftermath. KOOSJ sent help for the first time after the typhoon since it was very hard to go there due to the pandemic protocols and network signal issues. Nonetheless, it was a productive mission trip. The Lord is good!



KOOSJ Supports the Ministries in Cambodia in the Midst of the Outbreaks

The outreaches in the villages in Phnom Penh have been affected by the outbreaks around the city of Phnom Penh. The lockdowns have also affected the finances of our missionaries so KOOSJ have tried to support them to get by until they get into their feet again.



Pastor Ronald and the team has the heart to extend the mission in different provinces in Cambodia where there are no Christian churches or missions that have reached out so far. Here are some of the new village outreaches in Takeo where KOOSJ helps to feed kids and their poor families.

Schooling for a Kenya Children's Home

The children of Bethsaida Childrens Home were suddenly without a school. The school they were attending suddenly shut down in mid-year due to the economic consequences of the pandemic. They could only salvage the spring semester by quickly enrolling in a nearby government school. But there was tuition to pay and uniforms to purchase. Our Priory provided both tuition and uniforms for the 19 children and their school year was saved.



Here are the Children thanking KOOSJ for the school supplies that we provided for them.



Here are the children with their new (required) school uniforms that allow them to attend a new school after the school they were attending was shut down due to COVID-

Zion Children's Home Construction

At Zion Children's Home, which we have helped in the past, there was a very troubling development which resulted in them being evicted from their facility. The children are now being housed in the church and they are in the process of building a new facility. We have been helping them with basic building materials such as cement and masonry stones.



Ms. Zion with our Missionary Ephraim Kihahu with a thank you note to us from Kenya showing the bags of cement we purchased for them.



They have already started laying the foundation for their facility.

We have reached
18 Countries
with our service to humanity



We have reached:

Hawaii, Cuba, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Rwanda, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.



Please consider making a contribution to help continue the nearly thousand-year tradition of the Knights Hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem and allow this tradition to serve Hawaii and communities in need around the world.

We thank you for your interest and for sharing your chivalry, your generosity, and your aloha.

Please Donate

The check should be written to
“Knights of Service”
and mailed to
Knights of Service
50 S. Beretania St. C-119B
Honolulu, HI 96813

