

On March 24, 2008 Ed Joseph held the second Origami Workshop for the residents of Olaloa Retirement Community. Ed began studying Origami after taking a short-term mission trip to Japan with Cornerstone Fellowship in 2005. Ed has learned that Origami is not only an art form but it has numerous practical benefits for seniors. It is inexpensive and can be done almost anywhere. It is stimulating mentally and good exercise for those arthritic fingers. It will help to teach you patience.

The paper crane has become an international symbol of peace in recent years as a result of its connection to the story of Sadako Sasaki. She was two years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, August 6, 1945. Sadako was diagnosed with Leukemia, "the atom bomb" disease. A Japanese legend says that anyone who folds a thousand paper cranes would be granted a wish. Sadako hoped that the gods would grant her a wish to get well so that she could run again. She folded paper cranes until she died on October 25, 1955 at the age of twelve.

In 1958, as a result of a nationwide effort by children a statue of Sadako holding a golden crane was unveiled in the Hiroshima Peace Park. The children also made a wish which is inscribed at the bottom of the statue and reads: "**This is our cry, This is our prayer, Peace in the world**". Today, people all over the world fold paper cranes and send them to Sadako's monument in Hiroshima.

Ed Joseph is organizing The First Annual Origami for Peace Project to Hiroshima. Anyone wishing to work on this project and join the coalition should leave your contact information with Ellie at the Olaloa office (808 626-2323). Once one thousand paper cranes have been folded they will be sent to the Hiroshima Peace Park as prayer and expression of our wish and hope for a peaceful world free from the threats of nuclear bombs.

"Blessed be the peace makers." (Matthew 5:9)