Daifukuji Soto Mission

A Light in Our Community



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

June, 2017

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.



Obon Service

Sunday, June 25 9:30 a.m.

Guest speaker: Rev. Shinsho Hata

Throughout the summer season of Obon, Buddhists remember their departed loved ones and family ancestors with gratitude and offer prayers and toba in their memory. As a Sangha, we gather to offer our support to those who are observing their departed family member's first Obon or hatsubon.

The following are the names of the departed for whom this will be a first Obon:

Robert Shozan Bowman, Takao Honda, Rowena Inaba, Ayako Iwamuro, Christo Izumi, Shizuko Kabei, Ernest Kawakami, Jean Kunimura, Takeshi Matsumoto, and Doris Nozaki.

All are invited to attend Daifukuji's Obon service on June 25th at 9:30 a.m. The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Shinsho Hata, minister of the Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission. Please join us and plan to stay for the fellowship luncheon following the service. Lunch will be prepared by Fujinkai Team III members & volunteers.

Donations of flowers are appreciated. Please drop off flowers by Friday, June 23.

Toba request forms are due June 1. Please see or call Rev. Jiko (322-3524) if you need a form. The form is available on the last page of the May newsletter and on the temple website. Go to www.daifukuji.org & click on "archives" to find the May newsletter.

In Memoriam

To the family of the late **Sharon Ikeda** who passed away on April 25, 2017 at the age of 66, we send thoughts of comfort and peace.

To the family of the late **Ernest Kawakami**, who passed away on May 4, 2017 at the age of 80, we express our deepest sympathy.

To the family of the late **Ethel Sasaki**, who passed away on May 13, 2017 at the age of 92, we send our sincere condolences.



Welcome, New Members

Our sangha extends a warm aloha to the following new members:

Huong Lam & Derk Hawkins Dale Kabei & Gretchen Watson-Kabei Yuri Matsumoto

Edward Fetzer

New members are always welcome. For information, see Rev. Jiko or visit our website: http://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf.



Mahalo to the Z a z e n k a i members who cooked our Hanamatsuri lunch.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Thank you very much to Dale and Desiree Shiraki of Shiraki Dry Cleaners for donating the laundering of our 33 Kannon Pilgrimage table cloths and floor runners.

The Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association thanks the following individuals for their generous donations to the UHSSWA Country Store Fundraiser: Evelyn and Jack Tabata and Sakae, Setsuyo, and Mitsue Oshima for the macadamia nuts; Jien McLaughlin and Mike and Mildred Iwamuro for the avocados, Matsue Ikeda for the starfruit preserves; Shirlene Yoneyama, Verna Fukunaga, & Dale and Larry Yoshiyama for the Kona coffee; Buddha's Cup Coffee for the assortment of rum cakes; the samu group for the bananas, Jack and Evelyn Tabata for the chili peppers, and Fujiko Akamatsu for the shoe bags.

The members of the Daifukuji Baikako express a warm mahalo to Ernest Sasaki and Stephen Tanaka for extending and installing the nine instrument tables used by the choir.



Domo arigato to Dale Kabei & Gretchen Watson-Kabei for donating a splendid set of Boy's Day carp to the temple. Thank you to

Brian Yamamoto, Jack Tabata, Tyrone Ohta, and Robert Chai for figuring out how to hoist the majestic fish in celebration of c h i l d r e n everywhere.





Baccalaureate Ceremony Coming Up on May 28

On Sunday, May 28, there will be a blessing of the high school graduates who are the children and grandchildren of temple members. We will also be honoring graduates belonging to Kona Daifukuji Taiko. The blessing will take place following the morning's Memorial Day Service which begins at 9:30 a.m.

The following graduates will be honored at this year's ceremony and luncheon:

Lei Beth Arai, Ian Denzer, and Geoffrey Hand

All are invited to attend the Memorial Day Service and blessing of the graduates and to stay for lunch. Lunch will be prepared by Fujinkai Team II and volunteers.

Donations of flowers for the service are appreciated and may be dropped off on May 26 or May 27.

Note: The Daifukuji Family Sangha will be selling mango pickles and 100% Kona Coffee during lunch. Please support this **Sunday School fundraiser** which is made possible through the generous donations of Dale and Larry Yoshiyama.

Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony to be Held *Sunday, June 4th* 1:00 p.m.

Daifukuji members Lawrence Goff, Teri Hollowell, Derek Nakamura, and Sharon O'Conner will be receiving the sixteen precepts along with their Buddhist names in a Soto Zen Buddhist confirmation ceremony officiated by Rev. Jiko on Sunday, June 4th at 1:00 p.m. Sangha members and friends are cordially invited to attend the ceremony.

Temple & Grounds Clean Up

Sunday, June 11 8:00 a.m..



Members and temple groups, kindly lend us a hand in cleaning our temple and grounds for O-Bon. We'll begin with a short meditation inside the temple at 8:00 a.m.

Please bring rags, buckets, gloves, and garden tools labelled with your name. Refreshments will be provided.

Any amount of time that you are able to offer will be appreciated. These big clean up days are held twice a year. Questions? Call Shaun at 936-9815.



New Ojuzu in Gift Shop

By Clear Houn Englebert

Oh, happy day! We found an importer for excellent ojuzu in presentation boxes. The prices range from \$13 to \$32. The black ojuzu in the center of the photograph is only \$13 and it's a very nice ojuzu. We received one of each kind, and we'll be able to reorder. From the same distributor we got ojuzu cases and some altar supplies at very reasonable prices.



Classes on Zen Meditation and Mindfulness: June 10 & 17

Daifukuji Soto Mission will offer two free classes in June: "Mindfulness" on Saturday, June 10, and "Zen Meditation" on Saturday, June 17. Each class is from 8 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. and preregistration is required. The classes will be taught by **Clear Houn Englebert.** There will be time for questions. There will

also be a review of the related resources in the temple library.

Mindfulness is the simple, repetitive effort of bringing one's attention back to the task at hand throughout the day and, although it's simple to define, doing one thing at a time is difficult to practice. Mindfulness is "where the rubber meets the road" for Buddhist practice. The class will include: suggestions for recentering oneself, being mindful in difficult situations, and dealing with bothersome thoughts.

The meditation class will include correct posture on a cushion, bench, or chair and etiquette in a meditation hall. There will be special emphasis on what to do with your mind during meditation. The main form of meditation in Soto Zen is *shikantaza*---just sitting. It is simple but difficult, because there is nothing to rely on except your own willpower. This class will end with a meditation session.

These practices are essential parts of Zen training and, together with keeping the precepts, lead to the "goalless goal" of awakening.

Please call the temple office to register: (808) 322-3524





Jizo and Kannon-ko Services

Wednesday, June 21 10:00 a.m.

Every year in June, a service is held in honor of Jizo Bosatsu whose great compassion is depicted in the form of the stone bodhisattva which sits in the beautiful red shine outside the temple. Jizo Bosatsu, also known as Ojizosama, is regarded as the protector of travelers and children. Portrayed as a pilgrim monk, he holds in his hand a wish-fulfilling gem. *Kotoba* will

be read in memory of deceased babies and children. To offer a prayer for a deceased baby or child, please give his or her name to Rev. Jiko prior to the service. The Jizo-ko service is held in front of the Jizo shrine outside.

The Jizo-ko service will be followed by the regular monthly Kannon-ko service. All are welcome.



O-Bon Festival 2017 at the Keauhou Shopping Center

Saturday, June 10, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Free Admission

Dancing, Taiko Drumming, and Food Sponsored by the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple For more information, call (808) 323-2993.

June Dharma Programs





Dharma Study Classes

There will be no Tuesday afternoon Dharma study classes during the months of June and July. Weekly classes will resume on August 1. (Tuesdays from 4:00 -5:00 p.m.) All are welcome.

Buddhist Movie Night - Thursday, June 15 7:00 p.m.

Zen Buddhist teacher, Joan Halifax Roshi, will be featured in the next segment of the DVD "Eastern Mystics: Discovering the Sacred in the Ordinary." There's no charge. Bring a mug for tea.

Family Sangha Service: Sharing the Dharma with Children - **Sunday, June 4 at 9:30 a.m.** Child-friendly 45-minute service which includes yoga, zazen, chanting, singing, & Dharma lessons. For children of all ages and their parents & grandparents. The Family Sangha will go on summer break during the rest of June and the month of July. A new Dharma school year will begin on August 6.

Zazen (Meditation)

- * Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. 7:20 a.m.
- * Thursdays, June 8 and 22 from 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

Both morning and evening sessions include 20 minutes of chanting. Donations may be placed in the box on the incense table.

Shakyo & Shabutsu Art Meditation - Saturday, June 3 from 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Mindfully tracing the Heart Sutra & pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas in silence unifies body, breath, and mind. All supplies provided. By donation.

The Gay Sangha - Friday, July 2 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

A Buddhist group open to all, with a particular invitation to gay women and men and their families and friends. Meditation and discussion. Call (808) 328-0329 for information.

T'ai Chi

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for information: (808) 345-1492.

Japanese Singing with Takako Sensei to Begin Again

Want to learn Japanese? Enjoy singing in a group? Takako Oxley Sensei will be resuming her song sessions with a class on **Wednesday**, **June 7**

from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. in the social hall. There will be no class in July. Starting August, classes will be held on the first Wednesday of the month. All are welcome. Classes are free.

Takako Sensei teaches popular Japanese songs and explains their lyrics. This is a fun way to learn Japanese. For information, call Takako at 989-8085 or send her an email oxleyj002@hotmail.com.



To purchase tickets, contact the:

UH Hilo Performing Arts Center

(808) 932-7490 https://hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/theatre/tickets/

Bazaar Mahalo from Rev. Jiko



Dear Daifukuji members and supporters,

Okagesama de, thanks to all of you, we've just held another successful bazaar and our Building Maintenance Fund has been replenished. I bow deeply, acknowledging with gratitude everyone's hard work, generous donations, and tremendous team spirit.

It was delightful seeing new members "learning the ropes" of bazaar work from seasoned members and also seeing folks of all ages pitching in and helping each other. Before my eyes, I saw our Soto Zen teachings in action: giving, kind words, beneficial deeds, and cooperation. It was heartwarming. I couldn't be more grateful.

I sincerely thank our bazaar co-chairs Joyce and Stephen, the department heads, and ALL of the many volunteers and community members who contributed to our bazaar's success. The bazaar financial report will appear in a future newsletter.

With gratitude, in gassho,

Rev. Jiko

Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund

Aloha Members

Thank you for your continued generosity in support of our Legacy Endowment Fund.

Donors March 10, 2017 – April 18, 2017 (in chronological order)

Wayne Fukunaga, (Anonymous Donor), Darren Harada, Gladys Arase, Glenn Sasaki, Larry Sasaki, Yoko and Hiro Otsubo, Velvet & John Replogle in Memory of Jason Skipper, Reiko Sekine in Memory of Kenichi Sekine, Gilbert & Mildred Kaneko in Memory of Katsui Kaneko, Stephen Kaleopono Norris, Amy Nishimoto in Memory of Frank S. Nishimoto, Charles & Corrine Koseda, Ernest & Hideko Kawakami in Memory of Kiyoshi & Nobuyo Kawakami, (Anonymous Donor), Myles & Jean Ikeda in Memory of Hansa Miyata, Yaeko Miyata & Hisaharu Ikeda, Teruo & Toshie Hanato, Toshio & Kikuyo Ushijima in Memory of Carey Takashi Ushijima, Susumu & Setsuyo Oshima in Memory of Kanesaburo & Matsu Oshima



Mahalo to all of the members of the Daifukuji Samu group!

Your gift becomes a legacy because only the interest earned on it may be used, and then only for the maintenance of our temple buildings & grounds. Our Samu group works very hard every Friday to clean & maintain our home. Thanks to them & other volunteers who generously contribute their

time & efforts, our temple is kept in its beautiful state. Our Endowment will help provide the funds for materials & equipment we need to continue this work. This benefits not only us now, but future generations who will also enjoy & care for our home. For this, we are truly grateful. Thank you.

In Gassho,

Wade Yasuda

Chair, Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Trustees

Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Trustees

Avis Yamamoto Brian Yamamoto Keith Olson Wade Yasuda



Sensei Winifred Kimura

Bon Dance Classes for Everyone

Daifukuji's Bon Dance sensei Winifred Kimura will be offering free classes on the following dates from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the temple's social hall. All are welcome.

Monday, June 19

Tuesday, June 27 Thursday, June 29

Tuesday, July 4 Thursday, July 6

Are you a beginner? Don't worry. Winifred Sensei will help you get started. Just enter the circle of dancers and follow along the best you can. Dancers of all ages and abilities are welcome. Refreshments are welcome, too.



For more information, call Winifred at (808) 322-3296.

Daifukuji's Bon Dance will be held on Saturday, July 8. There will be an opening service at 6:30 p.m. followed by dancing until 10:00 p.m.



Bon Dance Schedule

Daifukuji Soto MissionJuly 8Keei Buddhist ChurchJuly 15Kona Hongwanji Buddhist TempleJuly 22Hilo Taishoji Soto MissionJuly 29Kona Koyasan Daishiji MissionAugust 12

Coming Up in July...

Daifukuji Bon Dance......July 8
Project Dana.....July 12
Kannon-ko Service....July 19
KDOC Orchid Show....July 23

Bazaar Evaluation Meeting

Sunday, June 25 12:30 p.m. Social Hall

A bazaar evaluation meeting will be held after the O-Bon service lunch on Sunday, June 25. All bazaar department heads and interested persons are invited to come to this meeting. Suggestions for improving next year's bazaar are welcome.

Mahalo for supporting the Daifukuji Family Sangha Dharma School







Blooming Orchids at KDOC Annual Orchid Show & Sale

by Fern Gavelek

The 35th annual Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club (KDOC) show and sale is 8 a.m.-2 p.m. **Sunday, July 23** at the Daifukuji Soto Mission Hall. The free event offers attendees a complimentary orchid boutonniere corsage—while they last.

This year's theme, "Orchids in Your Hawaiian Garden," offers educational displays on how to add beauty and fragrance to your outdoor space, plus a guided tour through the on-site Orchid Grotto. The grotto demonstrates how to beautify a problematic space that can be enjoyed from both inside and out. The anniversary show also offers a historical-themed exhibit, "Orchid Reflections, Past and Present."

Enjoy an elaborate and colorful display of live blooming cattleya, cymbidium, dendrobium, phalaenopsis, miltonia, vanda and more. Cameras are welcome.

Got growing questions? Veteran members staff a Question and Answer Booth where attendees can get expert advice on caring for orchids. The club boasts long-time members who have been growing orchids at different Kona elevations and in Ocean View.

The event offers an outdoor sale of high-quality orchid species and hybrids grown by club members and select Big Isle commercial growers. Club members will sell home-baked goods and drinks and membership info will be available.

The Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club is West Hawai'i's oldest orchidaceae organization with a mission to learn and foster orchid culture and promote fellowship among orchid collectors. The club meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Daifukuji Soto Mission Hall on Hwy. 11 at mile marker 114, just north of Kainaliu. Get club updates at www.facebook.com/orchidsinparadise. For further information, contact KDOC president Dick Kuehner: konakeenR@hawaii.rr.com, 808-328-9055.

52nd UHSSWA Conference

by Bobby Command, Daifukuji Board President

A rich man asks a Zen master to write something down that will encourage the prosperity of his family for years to come. It should be something that the family can cherish for generations. On a large sheet of paper, the master writes,



"Father dies. Son dies. Grandson dies." The rich man becomes angry when he reads the master's work. "I asked you to write something down that could bring happiness and prosperity to my family. Why do you give me something so depressing as this?" The Zen master looks at the prosperous man and said, "Would you like me to change the order?"

Think about "order." It is defined as "the arrangement or disposition of people or things in relation to each other according to a particular sequence, pattern, or method." It is also defined as "a state in which everything is in its correct or appropriate place."

You could make a case that either definition could fit the 52nd United Hawaii Soto-Shu Women's Association Conference, held April 22-23 at at the Waipahu Taiyoji just down the street from the shadow of part of Honolulu's rail project, and at the Ala Moana Hotel. While it was the first time I attended the conference, I immediately recognized order: discussions of current topics in Hawaii Buddhism, the learning and sharing of Buddha's wisdom, and most of all, the renewal of friendships that have been forged during a half century of conferences. Of course there was the annual special donation drive, a kind of farmer's market with items being sold from each island. Daifukuji represented Kona mostly with avocados and coffee, and like everyone told me, Kona's items usually sell out first.

The guest speaker for the dinner reception told us the story about the Zen master and the rich man. Dr. Jay Sakashita is an associate professor of religion at Leeward Community College and a lecturer in the religion department at UH Manoa. The theme of his humorous but very meaningful talk is the hottest topic among local Buddhist leaders these days, that of how to take a very good product — Zen Buddhism — and perpetuate it into the future despite a dwindling membership in many of the temples. Dr. Sakashita says in so many different words that times have changed, and we must change as well. He has sent his young students to various temples in Hawaii, and they have come back with suggestions: "I felt good, but I didn't understand the priest. Maybe they should do the service in English." Also, "What does "Daifukuji" and "Taiyoji" mean? How about calling it something else, like Temple of Happiness?" Humorous as it was, Dr. Sakashita's subject is nevertheless difficult for those who treasure tradition, and there are no simple solutions. The evening program ended with a Bon dance. I danced, too.

Back to the conference. The morning was busy, with the installation of officers, a Dharma session and a final ceremony. We said our goodbyes, grabbed our bags and after a quick stop at Marukai, we were back at Honolulu International Airport and just as quickly, on a Hawaiian Air jet home with many memories and a task: to start planning for the 53rd conference, which will be held in Kona in April of next year. I invite all of you to attend.

June 2017



June 2017

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July 2017

SMTWTFS

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

May 2017

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13