

Daifukuji Soto Mission

Celebrating Our Temple's 100th Anniversary

1914 - 2014

"Okagesama de, we are here today."



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

November, 2014

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

(See "archives" on website for previous issues.)



Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 23 9:30 a.m.

All are cordially invited to Daifukuji's Thanksgiving service. At the beginning of the holiday season, let us gather in the spirit of "okagesama de" to express our gratitude to the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. A Dharma message will be given by Reverend Jiko Nakade.

Light refreshments will be prepared by the Fujinkai members of Team 3. Flowers for the altar are appreciated and may be delivered by November 21. Canned food for the Hawaii Island Food Basket may be brought to the service. Before and after the service the temple's gift shop will be open for your holiday shopping. Be sure to take a look at the Buddhist-themed calendars for 2015.

May you have a very happy Thanksgiving!





Mahalo from the Centennial Co-Chairs

Aloha everyone!

A huge MAHALO to all of you for joining us for our Centennial Celebration! We were deeply touched by your participation, which we know must have been challenging with the uncertainty of Hurricane Ana!!

OKAGESAMADE, we were all spared and were able to enjoy the celebration to its fullest.

OKAGESAMADE, lots of history and wonderful memories were made possible by the many footprints that were left by our past ministers and members.

We are so blessed to have had your participation in helping us to create memories for our future generation.

We are forever grateful to Reverend Jiko, Amy Jikai, committee chairpersons, members, and many friends that helped to make this event a huge success!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Ron Iwamoto, Joyce St. Arnault & Cindy Asada

Overall Centennial Co-Chairs

Mahalo from Joyce

It was with great honor, privilege and pleasure to have co-chaired this momentous centennial celebration with Cindy and Ron, two most vivacious and energetic youngsters. It was a blessing that Hurricane Ana came our way. It is said that for every misfortune that happens, good fortune will surely follow. I feel that our past deceased ministers and ancestors were looking down upon us and cheering us on as we hastily went into Plan B mode. We couldn't have managed and prevailed without Rev. Jiko, who was like the Rock of Gibraltar. She kept our spirits up.

Okagesama de, our celebration went smoothly. To everyone, arigato for your dedication, commitment, generous donations, and hard work. Thank you for a lifetime of memories.

Gratefully,

Joyce St. Arnault

Overall Centennial Co-Chair



Practicing Buddha's Teachings for 100 Years

by Barbara Shoshin Bosz

A light shines in Honalo and inside each one of us. Past, present & future generations were honored at the Daifukuji Centennial Services and Celebration.

When the word went out that Saturday's events were being moved, I felt a twinge of sadness. The temple sparkled; it was all fresh, new, and ready for the big event. News of Tropical Storm Ana turning into a hurricane and heading our way made a change of plans necessary. Safety comes first and, thankfully, the Sheraton could accommodate us. It turned into a blessing in many ways.

Inside the Sheraton Convention Center there was plenty of room for everyone and it was even air conditioned! A beautiful altar was prepared for the services. There was such elegant simplicity in the swishing robes of the assistant priests efficiently preparing for the

next step, removing what was no longer needed. The drums, the chanting of the sutras, the Baikako Choir ringing the bells and singing, the music of the organ, the message, the respect, and the love were all memorable. The past ministers and members were remembered with gratitude. Seeing Amy Jikai accomplish her studies and service to become a deacon filled my heart with pride and joy and leaked out my



eyes (one of many times). It was a sight to see her standing beside Jill Teiho, and her mom, Rev. Jiko. These women, all from Daifukuji, are walking the path of the Buddha, a path filled with light and happiness which they share with all.

There were so many friends of all ages who gathered together from different places. I could only wish for additional time to meet more of them and visit longer. I was so moved hearing the families and past ministers speak. Their stories of the past added such depth and richness to my experience. The whole weekend was very well organized & flowed very smoothly. It is such a credit to the Centennial Committees and Daifukuji's extensive Sangha.

The lovely items for sale in the "traveling gift shop" were there, as well as the peace drum on display for signing. Our omiyage was wonderful! We received two keepsake booklets: one of the temple tour with beautiful color photos & history and another one containing Centennial congratulatory messages & letters, a tribute to the successive ministers, current temple group photos and beautiful shots of Daifukuji. Other useful and tasty goodies were included in a nice black bag. The food the Sheraton prepared, presented, and cleaned up was delicious! It was all so easy on our Fujinkai.





M.C. Cindy Asada

And then the entertainment! How extraordinary it was to see a monk giving a yoyo show like a champion! Both a slide show and video presentation of the temple were shown, nice and big, on the wall. The darling Sunday school group sang “Okagesamade” and the slow motion Tai Chi presentation was beautiful. We also had a live local band playing Hawaiian favorites with lovely and handsome hula dancers!

Things really got amped up when the Zen Taiko & Kona Daifukuji Taiko groups performed. For the celebration, Amy Jikai composed a new taiko number which was fun & original. Believe me, that’s not easy! Alumni students were there playing like they were 16 years old again — one, now a professional taiko player; another pregnant with her second baby! The other senseis in the room were called up to play “Matsuri.” It was thunderous! The Happy Strummers finished off with “Okagesamade” and “Hawaii Aloha.” We held hands and sang together, “Our Sangha is a lei of loving hearts that pray for peace and health and happiness for all.”

I realized that it’s not so much the place, as it is the people, who make Daifukuji Soto Mission the treasure that it is. I was introduced to Daifukuji, Buddhism, Japanese people & culture, zazen and taiko through the Tamiyas. The effect has been a profound change in my life. It was so wonderful to see the Tamiya family again. They are missed.

The Buddha is carried inside each of us; the teachings are our practice in daily life. Every day is a good day!

Congratulations, Daifukuji! Banzai! Banzai! Banzai!



Rev. & Mrs. Hakudo Sato & Faye



The Kodama Family



Akira, Nobue, & Satako Usui





Walking Over a Time Bridge

by Kathryn Heller

As a two-year congregation member, I was honored to attend the Daifukuji Soto Mission Centennial Celebration. I felt grateful to be included and arrived with curiosity about and ignorance of the history of the temple I have come to love.

To my great delight, those 100 years were brought to life by the living, talking “libraries” of those who gathered here from as far as Japan and the mainland East Coast. These people included former clergy, children of former clergy and the extended family members who lived and enlivened the strength, practical wisdom and loving aloha that has created Daifukuji as we know it today.

Lucky for all 300+ of us who attended, these generous people very openly shared their living memories with us. Instead of an academic reporting of the past (which we also have in the handsome keepsake booklets we were given), we got to step back into and live vicariously some moments of the 100 years of temple life. These kind people made it a priority in their life this year to return to our Temple to bring the past to life for us...and did so despite the threat of a hurricane! This gift from them was powerful and moving.

Together, these past creators of Daifukuji walked us over a “time bridge” so we could experience their remembered moments. Images, sounds and scents of the past filled the Sheraton Convention Center and held us speechless. I felt transported many times throughout the program. I am enriched beyond words by the rich authenticity of the Celebration. Thank you, Rev. Jiko, and each of you who envisioned and did what it took to make this experience for all of us.

An Unforgettable Experience

by Lisa Jacob

The centennial was a glorious celebration of all that is Daifukuji and, for my family, an unforgettable experience. We talked about it all afternoon and stayed up reading the program.

When Reverend Jiko started talking to the Family Sangha about the centennial three years in advance, I admit to thinking that 2014 was so far away, so what’s the rush? Now I get it. Aside from practicing our song and helping with the sewing of zabuton covers, my family wasn’t much involved in all the preparation, but as soon as we walked through the doors on Sunday, we understood why it took years to plan. It was a large venue full of many new faces, but it had that same good feeling that any service at the temple offers. Clearly, the speakers and performances had been so thoughtfully and lovingly chosen to honor those who came before, but also those who continue to do so much. And even those of us who don’t do so much!

I always get a thrill watching the taiko groups perform but their energy on Sunday was amazing. We also liked hearing the Japan Baika group singing together with our own Baikako Choir. In our house, what we keep talking about are all the stories. So many people connected by such rich history... and so many more stories to hear! As Bishop Komagata said, those stories help us all feel connected. Please keep sharing them. Okagesama de, we are so blessed to be part of the Daifukuji ohana.



A Letter of Thanks From Verna Rabacal

Dear Rev. Jiko Nakade, Lay Temple Assistant Jill Wagner, Deacon Amy Nakade, Temple President Stephen Tanaka, co-chairs Joyce St. Arnault, Ronald Iwamoto, & Cindy Asada, and Daifukuji Members,

It is with very deep gratitude to all of you that I was so fortunate to witness and be a part of Daifukuji's 100th Anniversary Celebration. It was a ROUSING SUCCESS, thanks to all the untiring efforts, valuable collaboration, resourceful members, and the spiritual teamwork of Daifukuji members! And imagine that along with the planning and execution of your plans, you had to compete with Hurricane Ana! What marvelous drive and motivation you all had! This historical event is one that will be a very memorable and once-in-a-lifetime experience for me.

It was wonderful to see how your temple has grown, not only in size but also in the number of valuable activity groups. It took every one of you to present such a marvelous insight of your temple's progress over the past 100 years to visitors like me. Thank you for your warm country hospitality this past weekend! I felt so comfortable and well taken care of, surrounded by a lovely spiritual atmosphere, very delightful entertainment, and great food and accommodations! Most of all, the valuable opportunity provided to re-bond with old friends and to make new friends was precious! All of the singers, drummers, and dancers were outstanding entertainers! Thank you for sharing the beautiful flowers and delicious fresh fruits with all of us.

It was very touching for me to see Amy become a deacon. What an accomplishment for Amy! How lucky Kona Daifukuji is to have this resourceful and talented woman! She is just like her mother.

Both the A Tour of Daifukuji Soto Mission and the Kona Daifukuji Mission 100th Anniversary booklets were well done and very informative. They are terrific reminders of what Kona Daifukuji is all about.

The throwing of the mochi was one of the highlights of your program. I carried home the mochi and had my three grandsons unwrap the little parcels after I explained to them why I had them. It was a great opportunity and a precious moment to share with them a religious tradition. Of course they were very happy to have the mochi and enjoyed eating the mochi!

What helped me to understand Kona Daifukuji's history even more was the tour of your temple which Rev. Shuji gave us Saturday evening. I was very impressed with how the temple and the temple grounds looked so beautiful and well maintained. I learned that your temple is on the historic registry and that there is a graveyard behind it. Listening to Rev. Shuji talk about his childhood experiences at your temple also made your temple come alive for me.

A heartfelt thank you to all of you for one of the most enjoyable and memorable experiences I have ever had! I felt so spiritually immersed and intrinsically rewarded at the end of the event!

May Kona Daifukuji continue to grow and expand and leave beautiful historic footprints with the present generation and for the generations to come! CONGRATULATIONS for a super successful celebration! The spirit of "okagesama de" is definitely alive and present in the Daifukuji Soto Mission Sangha's dedication.

Fond aloha,

Verna Rabacal

Aiea Taiheiji Fujinkai President

A Much Bigger Sangha

by Susie Weaver

Sangha Sisters was formed about 15 years ago. I received a phone call from one of the members encouraging me to check it out. I found a loving and inspiring group of women. We meet on the second Fridays of each month. One of the original sisters is Rev. Jiko Nakade. When she asked me to participate in the flower offering ceremony representing Sangha Sisters at the Centennial Celebration, I was honored and delighted. After hearing about the planned luncheon at the Sheraton, I knew this was going to be a special weekend. I had no idea just how significant it could be.

As I write this I am still basking in the glow of a much bigger Sangha. I walked into the Sheraton welcomed with a lei and a smile. Every table had beautiful orchids adorning it. The program was simple with ceremonies honoring past and present ministers of the Daifukuji and inducting Amy Jikai as a Deacon. Although the change had been made from the temple to the hotel on Saturday with the impending hurricane, it was a holy environment.

Throughout the weekend we were continually entertained, given gifts, acknowledged, blessed and nourished. Although there were hundreds in attendance, I felt surrounded in a sea of oneness with everyone. It was touching to see the young people perform and the “over 80’s” honored. There were solemn moments as well as joyful, silly, heartfelt, loving and awe inspiring ones. This is our community. Daifukuji Soto Mission is a shining example to all.



Centennial Mahalo from Rev. Jiko

To Bishop and Mrs. Komagata, the ministers, jizoku, temple assistants, and members of the various Soto Zen temples in Hawaii, a very warm mahalo! To our honored guests — our past ministers & their families, and the descendants of past ministers — thank you for traveling great distances to bless our celebration. To the ministers and members of the Iwate Prefecture Baika Association of Japan, thank you for strengthening our Daifukuji Baikako with your beautiful voices. To the overall centennial co-chairs Cindy, Joyce, and Ron and all of the hardworking committee heads and members, mahalo nui loa. To our temple members and groups, thank you for your participation. All of you made Daifukuji's 100th anniversary a very special and auspicious occasion.



I am humbled by how many people braved the hurricane to join our celebration. Undaunted, they flew in from Japan, the mainland, Oahu, Kauai, and Maui, and drove over from Hilo, Ocean View, and all parts of Kona. Thank you very much to all who came to shower your love, blessings, and good wishes upon Daifukuji. At one point, with Hurricane Ana approaching and expected to hit Kona on the first day of our celebration, I wondered if only a small group of people would show up. What a pleasant surprise it was to see 370+ people on October 18th and about an equal number of attendees on the 19th! *Okagesama de*, the kind folks at the Sheraton Kona opened their doors to us and took us in. We were not at our temple, but we were all together, happy and safe, in one big room.

A week after the Centennial, I find myself still integrating the spiritual beauty of the event. My heart was touched over and over again and filled to overflowing by so many poignant moments, such as the arrival of Rev. & Mrs. Sato at the temple for the first time in over 30 years. Mrs. Sato remembered so many faces from the past; she even remembered Daifukuji's phone number! The Satos offered prayers in our columbarium and spent a long time looking at the names on the niche doors and remembering members of the past.

My mind, in looking for an image that would capture the loving spirit that permeated the Centennial, alighted upon the image of a banana cream pie. On the day that Rev. Tamiya and his family arrived in Kona, one of our temple members, John Carlstrom, having heard how much Rev. Tamiya loves banana cream pies, whipped up a fresh pie which was delivered to the temple by his partner, Judie Fekete. When the Tamiya family arrived at the temple, a delicious banana pie topped with whipped creme was served to them. Tamiya Sensei had a big smile on his face when he saw what was on his plate. His son Sky, now a towering teenager, ate two pieces!

This banana cream pie is a symbol of the thoughtfulness of ALL of our Daifukuji members, who did everything they could to make our guests' stay as pleasant and enjoyable as possible. What we saw throughout our celebration was Daifukuji's hospitality at its best. Wherever and whenever help was needed, temple members & supporters were there — greeting, welcoming, carrying boxes and bags, holding umbrellas, taking care of the kupuna, and showering everyone with kindness and aloha.

To all of you, I express my heartfelt gratitude. *Okagesama de*, we were able to have a wonderful celebration. *Arigato! Arigato! Arigato!*

In loving gassho,

Rev. Jiko



November Dharma Programs

Zazen (Meditation)

* Every Wednesday morning from 6:00 a.m. - 7:20 a.m.

* Evening zazen from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. on November 6 & November 20

Both morning and evening sessions include 20 minutes of chanting. The Rohatsu Sesshin will be held from December 1 - 8 with morning zazen from 6 a.m. - 7:20 a.m. daily.

Shakyo & Shabutsu — Saturday, November 1 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 and brings one into a state of harmony with the universe. All supplies provided.

Baikako Choir Practice — November 2

The Daifukuji Baikako Plum Blossom Choir will hold its monthly practice on November 2 at 7:45 a.m. A Baika Workshop which will be taught by Rev. Shoten Murakami of Hokkaido, Japan will be held the weekend of November 15 & 16.

Family Services — November 2, 9, and 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Family services are offered as part of Daifukuji's Dharma School Buddhist Education Program for children and their families. Services begin at 9:30 a.m. and include singing, chanting, yoga, zazen, and a Dharma lesson. **The Nov. 16th family service has been cancelled due to the Baika workshop.**

Sangha Sisters Women's Spirituality Circle — November 14

This circle, which meets the second Friday of the month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Kannon Hall, is open to all women. For information, call Susie Weaver at (808) 328-9372 or send an email to susie@susieweaver.com.

Yoga — November 6, 13, 20 December 4, 11, & 18

Join yoga instructor Ambika Jo-an Rose from 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. on Thursday mornings in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. Bring a towel or yoga mat. For information, call Ambika at 430-2620.

Dharma programs are offered free of charge. Offerings are appreciated.

Election of Directors at December 14 General Membership Meeting

The Daifukuji Nominations Committee presents the following slate of officers and directors for the 2015 & 2016 term of office. Voting will take place at the general membership meeting on December 14 following the Bodhi Day service. Daifukuji members, please make every effort to attend the service and meeting.

Officers for 2015 & 2016 (approved by the Board of Directors)

President - Stephen Tanaka; Vice-president - Myles Ikeda; Secretary - Judie Fekete; Treasurer - Joyce St. Arnault; Assistant Treasurer - Elaine Fernandez

Directors (to be elected)

Renee Kimura, Clyde Ikeda, Bob Bowman, Ann Nakamoto, Wade Yasuda, Bobby Command, Michele Abe, Kellie Sugai-Dahl

The Board extends a big mahalo to Ron Iwamoto who will not be returning for the next term of office. Ron has done a tremendous job leading the twice-a-year general clean ups, co-coordinating the annual sangha picnic, and helping with all major events and services. *Ron, gokurosama deshita!*

50th United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association Conference

April 18 & 19, 2015

Soto Mission of Hawaii Betsuin & Ala Moana Hotel

Fujinkai members, please call Joyce (329-3833) if you wish to attend this conference.

More information about the conference will become available in the near future.

Wish to join the Fujinkai Women's Association? Call Joyce for information on becoming a member.





Coming Up in December...

- December 1 - 8 Rohatsu Sesshin with daily morning zazen
- December 10 Project Dana Activity Program for Seniors
- December 13 Shakyo & Shabutsu (Art Meditation)
- December 14 Bodhi Day Jodo-e Service & General Membership Meeting
- December 17 Kannon-ko & Ofudayaki Ceremony
- December 28 Mochitsuki (Mochi-making Day)
- December 31, January 1 New Year's Blessing Services

A mochi order form will be included in the December newsletter.

Mahalo Nui!

Thank you very much to Aki Imai for gifting us with a large number of photos (of which many are included in this newsletter) & videos of our celebration.

Thank you also to Rev. Kokei Yoshida for sharing his photos and for being a wonderful service coordinator.

Mahalo to all for blessing our celebration!

November 2014

October 2014							November 2014							December 2014									
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							30																

- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Major Service
- US Holidays
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Zazen
- Sangha Sisters
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Happy Strummers
- Temple Board and 9 more...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:30 AM Family Service	27 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	28	29 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 7:30 AM Yoga Class 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	31 Halloween 8:00 AM Samu	1 8:00 AM Shakyo 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
2 Daylight...Time Ends 7:45 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	3 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 8:30 PM Happy Strummers	4 Election Day 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	5 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	6 7:30 AM Yoga Class 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	7 8:00 AM Samu	8 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
9 9:30 AM Family Service	10 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	11 Veterans Day 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	12 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	13 7:30 AM Yoga Class 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	14 8:00 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	15 Baika Workshop
16 Baika Workshop No Family Service	17 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Bon Dance Class	18 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	19 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Taiko Board	20 7:30 AM Yoga Class 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	21 8:00 AM Samu	22 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
23 Thanksgiving Service	24 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	25 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	26 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 Thanksgiving	28 8:00 AM Samu	29 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
30 9:30 AM Family Service	1 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 8:30 PM Happy Strummers	2 5:00 PM Adult Taiko	3 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	4 7:30 AM Yoga Class 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Adult Taiko 8:00 PM Temple Board	5 8:00 AM Samu	6 9:30 AM Youth Taiko