



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

April, 2017

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.



Hanamatsuri Buddha Day Service

Sunday, April 9 9:30 a.m.

Vegetarian Lunch & Spring Egg Hunt

All are invited to join our sangha in pouring sweet tea over the baby Buddha in celebration of his birth 2,600 years ago in Lumbini Garden. A Dharma talk will be given by Rev. Jiko Nakade.

There will be a spring egg hunt for the children immediately after the service, followed by a vegetarian meal prepared by the members of our temple's Zazenkai. All are invited to stay for lunch. **Donations of desserts are welcome.**

Donations of flowers for the altars and *hanamido* flower shrine may be dropped off on Friday, April 7th or by 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 8th.

Hanamatsuri is a joyful occasion to be shared with all. Feel free to invite friends and relatives. The children always enjoy the spring egg hunt. For more information on *Hanamatsuri*, see Rev. Jiko's article on page 5.

Daifukuji's Building Fund Bazaar

May 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

From April 24 - May 5 items for the bazaar may be dropped off inside the Daifukuji Social Hall. Please refer to the donation guidelines on page 6.

Questions? Please call bazaar co-chairs Joyce (329-3833) or Stephen (322-2543).



In Memoriam

To the family of the late **Rowena Inaba** who passed away on March 2, 2017 at the age of 64, we send thoughts of comfort and peace.

Namu Kie Butsu. Namu Kie Ho. Namu Kie So.

Welcome, New Members



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

Jessica and Wilfred Yamasawa

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



Items Needed for Jam Making

The following are needed for the making of jams and jellies for this year's bazaar:

75 pounds of white sugar (in bags of any size)

10 boxes CERTO brand liquid pectin (2 packages in a box)

Please call Ann at (808) 937-0149 if you are able to donate any of these items. Delivery of the items to the temple by **April 14** is requested.

Mahalo to all who have donated jars!

Country Store Fundraiser



The 52nd Annual United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association (UHSSWA) Conference will be held on April 22 & 23 at the Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji and the Ala Moana Hotel. Rev. Jiko and eleven members of Daifukuji will be attending this conference.

Donations of **avocados, Kona coffee, mac nuts, and dried fruits** are being sought for the conference's Country Store Fundraiser which benefits the UHSSWA.

If you are able to contribute any of these items, please call Joyce at 329-3833 or Rev. Jiko at 322-3524. Our neighbor island friends just love our Kona specialities.

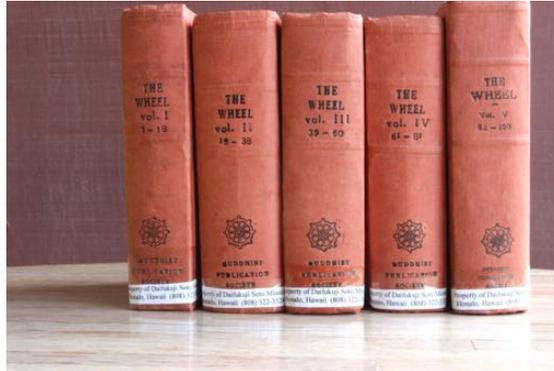


Zazenkai News

In preparation for the April 9th Hanamatsuri lunch, Zazenkai members will be working in the temple kitchen from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 8. Please drop off food and vegetable donations by 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Cooking on Sunday, April 9 will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Questions? Have vegetables to donate? Please call Barbara Shoshin Bosz at (808) 987-2673 or send an email to Barbarainkona@gmail.com.



Library News

By Clear Houn Englebert

We have some very special new arrivals—five bound volumes of *The Wheel* which is a famous series of pamphlets from the Buddhist Publication Society in Sri Lanka. Let’s just say it’s a major acquisition! Here’s the story of how this set came to our library. I’m a member of the Friends of the Library Kona (thanks to Pamela Wang); in fact, I’m the special pricer for items that are more valuable. Marie Kober is my immediate boss at FOLK and about three years ago she showed me a recently donated box with these five books in it. “What should we do with these?” I realized that a Dharma Gate had just opened in front of my eyes, and I immediately blurted out, “Oh, you should give these to the Daifukuji Library.” “Great! Take them,” was her quick reply, and I soon saw why—the books were all close to falling apart. I showed them to our library staff here at the temple, and nobody was eager to dive into the repair job that was obviously needed. We made a couple of meager attempts at repairing them, but we just didn’t have the expertise. They sat in our cubby at the temple until this past February when I took them to Denise Stromberg, the head librarian at the Kailua Library. We discussed the condition of the books with Joyce Pearson, the main volunteer book repairer. Joyce said she would use special glue and a special book press and fix them. She also used an immense amount of talent and patience, and it took her about a week. We offer the merit of having these books in our library to Joyce Pearson and Denise Stromberg (for allowing the work to be done there).

This set of books (the first one hundred Wheel pamphlets that BPS published) is special because it is very authoritative and very interesting, and it’s divided into bit-size chunks. The individual pamphlets are typically 30 to 100 pages long. Just to browse the table of contents of the volumes is quite a journey into the depth and variety of Buddhist Dharma.

April Dharma Programs



Dharma Study Classes - Tuesdays, **April 4, 11, & 18** 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. No class on **April 25**

A new series of classes based on the book *Zen Living* by Domyo Sater Burk began on March 7th. You may still join the class, but will need to order your own copy of the book since all copies have been sold. Call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 for further information.

Family Sangha Services: Sharing the Dharma with Children - **Sundays, April 2, 16, & 30** at 9:30 a.m. Child-friendly 45-minute services which include yoga, zazen, chanting, singing, & Dharma lessons. For children of all ages and their parents & grandparents.

Zazen (Meditation)

- * Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. - 7:20 a.m.
- * Thursdays, **April 13 & 20** 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, April 1** 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.

Baikako Plum Blossom Choir Practice - **Sunday, April 2** from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

The Gay Sangha - **Friday, April 7** 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.



Baccalaureate Ceremony

On 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.

Invitations are now being sent to the graduates and their families. Please inform Rev. Jiko if you have a graduate in your family or if you know of a graduate whose parents/grandparents are Daifukuji members. You may reach Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or info@daifukuji.org.



The Significance of *Hanamatsuri*

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

What is *Hanamatsuri*? *Hanamatsuri*, a Japanese word which means “Flower Festival,” is an observance of the Buddha’s birth. At Daifukuji, this service involves the chanting of the sutras, the singing of gathas, and the pouring of sweet tea over a small statue of the baby Buddha by the members of the sangha. The baby Buddha is set inside a miniature pavilion called a *hanamido*, which is adorned with fresh flowers and foliage to recreate the garden of Lumbini, in which Prince Siddhartha Gautama, the buddha-to-be, was born around 563 B.C.E. in what is modern-day Nepal.

The pouring of sweet tea or *amacha* is symbolic of the sweet rain that is said to have fallen from the heavens at the time of the Buddha’s birth. It is a lovely ceremony in which young and old alike participate, a way in which all can honor the birth of a great human being, whose teachings have spanned over two millennia and spread across the face of the Earth, bringing peace, joy, and liberation to many people. Empires have risen and fallen, civilizations have come and gone, and advances in science and technology have changed the world. Yet, almost 2,600 years after the Buddha’s birth, his teachings, the Dharma, which he expounded with compassion, is what is being studied and practiced by millions of Buddhists today. We are among those who have had the good fortune of encountering such wondrous teachings.

Services such as *Hanamatsuri* connect us to the Buddha and to the Dharma within the context of the Sangha. In essence, we are taking refuge in the Three Treasures, which are the foundation of the life of a Buddhist. When we pour sweet tea over the baby Buddha, we not only honor our great teacher & resolve to practice the Dharma, but also water the seeds of buddhahood within ourselves, for we are baby buddhas in the flower gardens of Hawaii. May we aspire to live with loving-friendliness and compassion and walk softly upon the earth. Happy Buddha Day!

Daifukuji Bazaar
Sunday, May 7, 2017
9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Guidelines

1. Donations may be dropped off at the Daifukuji Hall from April 24 to May 5, 2017.
Place items inside the hall. Write the donor's name and address on the donation sheet. We are NOT able to accept old computers, large electronic equipment, exercise equipment or large appliances.
2. Please have all rummage items cleaned. Clothing should be washed.
3. Donation of live plants may be dropped off on Saturday, May 6th or by 7:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 7th.
4. Donation of vegetables and other perishables may be dropped off Saturday, May 6th by 4:00 p.m.
5. Donation of baked goods and food items may be dropped off Sunday, May 7th by 7:00 a.m. Please label all food items and also include the donor's name.
6. All bazaar sale items are final: no refunds, returns or credits.
7. All members, please refrain from purchasing items until 11:00 a.m.
8. All members, please wear your Daifukuji T-shirts. See Rev. Jiko to purchase shirts. Shirts are available in children's and adult sizes in a variety of styles.
9. The Snack Shop and Temple Gift Shop will open at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the bazaar. All other units will open at 9:00 a.m.
10. Workers/members' vehicles should be parked in the cemetery area. Carpool if possible. If you need your car parked, please fill out and attach an identification tag to your keys for our parking staff. Key identification tags will be provided.
11. Lunch will be provided to all workers. Meal tickets will be issued to each Unit Chair by Avis Yamamoto.
12. At closing, each unit is responsible for cleaning its respective areas. Please assist other units as needed.

Mahalo for your cooperation.

Pancake Breakfast Mahalo



Thank you very much to the members of our Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association for their long hours of preparation and cooking for the pancake breakfast fundraiser and bake sale which was held on February 18. A big mahalo also goes to Akemi Sensei & the families of Kona Daifukuji Taiko for their help, to Mr. and Mrs. Hosokawa for the use of their grill, to the samu group & Eloiy Perez for their help, to CalKona for their donation of fruits, and to all who donated ingredients, as well as monetary gifts to the Fujinkai. We thank our temple members and community members for purchasing tickets and coming out to support this fundraiser. We hope everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship.

In Gassho,

Merle Uyeda and Elaine Fernandez

Fujinkai Team I Co-Chairs



Daifukuji Participates in the Blue Zones Project

by Chris Jien McLaughlin



We are excited to announce that Daifukuji will be participating in the Blue Zones Project. The Blue Zones Project is about discovering the secrets in the Blue Zones around the world and incorporating those practices in our communities. Across the country, businesses, organizations, communities and individuals are using these practices to help promote a healthy and happy community.

But what is a Blue Zone? A Blue Zone is an area where there is a high percentage of centenarians. This term became popular based on the book, *Blue Zones* by longevity expert Dan Buettner. Buettner researched where individuals lived well over the age of 100 and were still active. He found five hot spots around the world where individuals had active long-lived lives.

Those five regions are:

Sardinia, Italy Ikaria, Greece Okinawa, Japan Nicola, Costa Rica Loma Linda, California

Buettner discovered that these five regions had certain things in common that attributed to their longevity. These long lived communities focused particularly on lifestyle, community and spirituality.

Each month, we will reveal some of these practices and incorporate some of them which would benefit our temple. Our Wellness committee looks forward to sharing more info with you and invites anyone who wishes to attend our meetings. To join the committee, call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524.



Project Dana Program for Temple Seniors

Kupuna and volunteers, a spring hat parade and contest will be held at our April 12th gathering. Also, Jien McLaughlin of the temple's Wellness Committee will be teaching us how to grow nutritious sprouts.

Project Dana is fun! To join, call Joyce at (808) 329-3833.

Coming Up in May...

- Bazaar Set Up.....May 6
- Bazaar.....May 7
- Project Dana.....May 10
- Kannon-ko..... May 17
- Memorial Day Service &
Blessing of Graduates... May 28

Mahalo Nui

Thank you very much to Kaleopono Kodo Norris for his generous donation of tools to Daifukuji Soto Mission. The tools were sold by Peter Underwood of Discovery Antiques and a substantial percentage of the proceeds came to Daifukuji. Mahalo to Kodo!

Mahalo to all for sending in your 2017 membership dues and donations, as well as contributions to our Legacy Endowment Fund.



Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund

"A Light in Our Community and the Stories We Want to Tell"

Aloha Members,

Thank you for your support of our Legacy Endowment Fund. Before we even officially announced the Endowment last month, we received over \$10,000 in donations. And since then we have continued to be blessed by your generosity. I wanted to take the time this month to thank our donors so far.

October 2016 – March 10, 2017 (In chronological order)

Teshima Enterprises (Joni Izumi-Nakamoto) in Memory of Shizuko "Mary" Teshima

Neal M. Sugai in Memory of Sirinee Sugai

Doris Yoshitake in Memory of Shizuko Teshima

Rev. Jiko & Michael Nakade in Memory of Mildred & Noboru Oshima

Wade Yasuda

Kazuyo & Clark Sasaki

Stanley F. Harai

Kikue K. Sugai

Masanobu Oga in Memory of Yukie Oga & the Harada Family

Stanley M. Kimura

John Balaam

Doris T. Yanagi

Itsuyo Yamane in Memory of Shoji Yamane

(Anonymous Donor)

Mitchell & Cheryl Tam in Memory of The Murata & Iwanaga Families

Kusato & Jean Okayama

Tatsumi Sato & Family

Ernest Teshima in Memory of Fumio & Shizuko Teshima, Elsie Teshima, Irene & Christo Izumi, and Fumiko Ow

Howard H. & Patrice S. Araki

Continued on page 10

Fusao & Hilda Sugai in Memory of Kurakichi & Seki Sugai

Lorraine Tanimoto in Memory of Misao Tanimoto & Family

(Anonymous Donor)

Fujiko Akamatsu

Sakae Oshima

Our Endowment Charter mandates that only earnings on the original donations may be used, and only for the preservation & maintenance of the Daifukuji temple & buildings. We are grateful for your support.

Last month, I was invited to make a presentation of our endowment to the Hawaii Soto Mission Association in Honolulu where we got to see our old friends Bishop Komagata & Mrs. Faye Komagata. In my presentation I told the story of Mrs. Shizuko “Mary” Teshima whose family made some of the early donations in her memory. Mrs. Teshima was the best neighbor Daifukuji could have ever had, and fed generations of our members and the community. Her aloha was clear every time you walked into her restaurant & she greeted you with her warm smile & energy. Her support of Daifukuji, our mission, and the importance of our place in the community was constant throughout her 106 years with us. When I described our Endowment Fund to her granddaughter Joni Nakamoto, and how their donation would be used, Joni said, “This is perfect. This is exactly what Grandma would have wanted.” And so Shizuko “Mary” Teshima continues to be the best neighbor we ever had. Thank you, Mrs. Teshima.

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

Giving 布施

Do not disdain even a small offering; its giving will surely bear fruit. Therefore, we should give even a line or a verse of the dharma, sowing good seeds for this life and other lives. We should give even a penny or a single blade of grass of resources establishing good roots for this world and other worlds.

~ from *Shushogi*, Chapter Four, “Making the Vow to Benefit Beings” ~

Sutras and Gathas: In Harmony With Buddha, Hawaii Soto Mission



Left to right: Rev. Miyazaki, Rev. Kawagoe, Rev. Nakade, Bishop Matsumoto, Rev. Kaniumoe, and Rev. Nakamura

HAIB Buddha Day Service: Fostering Friendship Among Buddhists

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

The 5th Annual Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) Buddha Day Service held at the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Social Hall on March 12 was an uplifting event. This year, the following Buddhist groups from around the island came together in unity: ‘Alaneo Zendo, Daifukuji Soto Mission, Honokaa Hongwanji Mission, Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, Kohala Hongwanji Mission, Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, Kona Koyasan Daishiji Mission, Naalehu Hongwanji Mission, North Hawaii Hongwanji Temples, Pa’auilo Hongwanji Mission, and Rissho Kosei-Kai Kona Dharma Center. Our temple president, Bobby Command, gave words of welcome, while the keynote speech was given by Bishop Eric Horaku Matsumoto of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, who related stories from the Buddha Shakyamuni’s life to how we today can live an inspired life. During and after the service music filled the hall — singing by the Daifukuji Family Sangha, the playing of the violin by Rev. Kawagoe, and lively Dharma-themed songs by the New Dharma Band from Honokaa. Thank you to the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple for sponsoring the service, and to my fellow HAIB committee members, Rev. Bruce Nakamura, Mary Katayama, Morris Nagata, Betty Takeoka, Fred Burian and Chalintorn Burian, for their hard work and warm friendship. Thank you also to Jess and Amy for helping the BWA members with the refreshments & to all who helped with the set up and clean up.



The Daifukuji Family Sangha Singing “Planting a Seed of Peace”



Our Hongwanji Friends

April 2017

March 2017							April 2017							May 2017								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
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26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31						

- Major Service
- Home
- Work
- Work
- Work
- Zazen
- Sangha Sisters
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Happy Strummers
- Temple Board
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Orchid Club
- Samu
- Special Events
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Found in Apps
- Offsite Backup
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:30 AM Family Service 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 5:00 PM Precepts Study	28 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 4:00 PM Dharma Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	29 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi	30 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	31 7:30 AM Samu	1 8:00 AM Shakyo 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
2 7:30 AM Baikako 9:30 AM Family Service 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	3 5:00 PM Precepts Study 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	4 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 4:00 PM Dharma Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	5 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	6 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple Board	7 7:30 AM Samu 6:00 PM Gay Sangha	8 Zazenkai Food Prep 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
9 Hanamatsuri 9:30 AM 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	10 5:00 PM Precepts Study	11 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 4:00 PM Dharma Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	12 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi 7:00 PM Taiko Board 7:00 PM Orchid Club	13 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 10:00 AM Library Staff 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 6:30 PM Evening	14 7:30 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	15 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
16 9:30 AM Family Service 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	17 5:00 PM Precepts Study 7:00 PM Bon Dance Class	18 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 4:00 PM Dharma Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	19 Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi	20 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 6:30 PM Evening Zazen	21 7:30 AM Samu	22 UHSSWA Conference 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
23 UHSSWA Conference 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	24 9:00 AM Bazaar items accepted 5:00 PM Precepts Study	25 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	26 ... Bazaar items accepted 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi	27 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	28 ... Bazaar items accepted 7:30 AM Samu	29 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
30 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:30 AM Family Service 4:00 PM Youth Taiko	1 ... Bazaar items accepted 5:00 PM Precepts Study	2 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	3 ... Bazaar items accepted 6:00 AM Zazen 12:00 PM T'ai Chi 7:00 PM Fujinkai	4 ... Bazaar items accepted 9:00 AM T'ai Chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	5 ... Bazaar items accepted 7:30 AM Samu 6:00 PM Gay Sangha	6 Bazaar Set Up 8am 9:30 AM Youth Taiko