Daifukuji Soto Mission

Where Compassion Blooms







79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

July, 2024

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.



Daifukuji Soto Mission Bon Dance

"Celebrating Community & Honoring Ancestors"

Saturday, July 13, 2024 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Public Welcome

Free Admission

We invite you to join our Obon festivities and enjoy the dancing, taiko drumming, Zumba, and fellowship. The temple's gift shop will be open. Purchase snacks and drinks at Kona Daifukuji Taiko's food booth.

Free Bon Dance practice sessions from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. will be offered by sensei Winnie Kimura in the Social Hall. Beginners are welcome.

Practice Sessions

June 4, 11 & 25 (No practice on June 18) July 2, 4, 9, & 11

79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy next to Teshima's Restaurant in Honalo. www.daifukuji.org (808) 322-3524

Help Needed

Set up will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 13.

Clean up will start at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 14.

Parking and Food

If you are planning to arrive early before the Bon dance starts and to stay until the end, please park your vehicle along the road leading to the cemetery. Lights will be strung along this road by Larry Yoshiyama.

Kona Daifukuji Taiko will be selling teri burgers, hot dogs, coffee and assorted drinks at their food booth.

Questions? Call (808) 322-3524.



In Remembrance of Bishop Shugen Komagata

by Rev. Jikō Nakade

Aloha Sangha members and friends,

On the 7th of June, Bishop Shugen Komagata, peacefully passed away in Honolulu after being under hospice care for three days. He was a deeply loved and respected spiritual leader of our ten Hawai'i Soto Zen temples. His passing, at the age of 80,

following several years of cancer treatment and, more recently, a series of strokes, is a great loss for all of us. We extend our sincere condolences to his family: Daishu Komagata, Ph.D. and Irina Vasileva, Ph.D. and their two children, and Rev. Shuji and Mrs. Jaymie Komagata and their two children, as well as to Bishop Komagata's sisters and large 'ohana. We send our love to the ministers, deacons, and members of the Soto Mission of Hawaii sangha, who benefitted daily from the Bishop's wise guidance during his tenure as the head priest of our main temple in Honolulu. It goes without saying that many hearts are hurting during this sorrowful time. Truly, let us encircle everyone with loving-kindness.

Because Bishop Komagata served as the resident minister of Daifukuji Soto Mission from 1976-1981, many Daifukuji members benefitted from his spiritual guidance during this period and have fond memories of him and his late wife Mrs. Faye Komagata. He enjoyed having a cup (or many cups) of coffee and "talking story" with temple members. Always personable and kind, Komagata sensei endeared himself to those he met. Born in Niigata, Japan, he came from a long line of Soto Zen priests and valued the traditions and culture of Japan. At the same time, he understood American values and our unique Hawai'i ways, having gone to school both here in Hawai'i and in New Mexico. Encouraged by his Japanese-American wife, Faye, he made sure that women had a place on the temple board, something that was unheard of back in the day when men and only men held leadership positions on the board. More recently, he supported the UHSSWA's move to become gender inclusive, opening up this once all-women organization to persons of all genders. He did his best to move our organization in new directions.

On a personal note, Bishop Komagata was one of my senseis here at Daifukuji. During my teenage years when I loved hanging out at the temple, I absorbed what both Bishop and Mrs. Komagata taught me, and, from time to time, babysat their children, Daishu and Shuji. A most precious Dharma gift which I received from Komagata Sensei was the practice of zazen. He began our Young Buddhist Association meetings with zazen, a practice which is now part of my everyday life. My heart overflows with gratitude for Bishop Komagata, whose devotion to the Three Treasures and dedication to serving our Hawai'i sanghas have inspired me over the decades.

A memorial service for Bishop Komagata will be held at the Soto Mission of Hawaii on Sunday, October 13 at 11 a.m. It will be open to the public. Messages of sympathy may be sent to: Soto Mission of Hawaii, Attn: Rev. Shuji Komagata, 1708 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96817.

In gasshō,

jíkō Nakade

12th Resident Minister of Daifukuji Soto Mission

Fujinkai Helps Honaunau Elementary School

by Susie Seien Weaver, Fujinkai Vice-President



The day before Honaunau School started their summer session, administrators were informed that there would not be any school breakfast or school lunch for the kids until the following week. Breakfast and lunch were needed to feed sixty students for the next three days.

A request was put out to several community groups, Daifukuji included. When Rev. Jiko saw the email, she immediately notified me (I live near the school). I called up and talked to the school's secretary, Hala Medeiros, to ask what kind of food the kids would actually eat rather than toss. She let me know that like Daifukuji, Honaunau Elementary is part of the Blue Zones Project. She said that the kids love yogurt, fruit and bars without peanuts as they are also a peanut-free school. I called Joyce, our Fujinkai president, and she and the Fujinkai board immediately gave their support. In order to quickly get food to Honaunau elementary, my son Wiliwili Weaver was able to stop by Costco after work and pick up yogurts, fig bars, dried apricots and cutie tangerines for the 60 students When temple member Smita Patel heard about this, her business, Patel's, made a nice donation to help cover the costs. With a little coordination, our Fujinkai was able to help provide some nutritious food for our local keikis' breakfast.

Within hours of the request for meals going out, several community groups took quick action and breakfast and lunches for the next three days got covered. They say that it takes a village to raise a child.....we are that village.

The Fujinkai welcomes new members. For information, pick up a brochure at the temple or visit https://www.daifukuji.org/activities/Fujinkai_Brochure_2022.pdf. Rev. Jiko would be happy to give you a membership form. Annual dues are \$10.



development.

You can help the UHSSWA (Statewide Fujinkai Association) by participating in the organization's one-day only Panda Express Virtual Community Fundraiser.

Friday, June 21, 2024

Any Panda Express Location Nationwide ONLINE ORDERS ONLY

Go to www.pandaexpress.com or via App and apply code 923856 in the Fundraiser Code box during online checkout.

28% of sales will be donated to the UHSSWA, which promotes the development of Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawai'i.



From Kannon to Benzaiten: The Cultural Journey of a Buddhist Statue

A Talk by Professor Jessica Falcone

Saturday, July 6 11:30 a.m. Social Hall

All Welcome

Last summer, Daifukuji member, and cultural anthropologist, Jess Myoju Falcone, spent several weeks learning about museum anthropology at the Smithsonian in DC. In this talk, she will be sharing some lessons learned about the National Museum of National History's collection of Buddhist statues. If you are curious what "museum anthropology" is, and how anthropologists do research in museums, please come to the talk.

This talk will broadly discuss some art history about Kannon statues, but also delve deeper into the cultural biography of one specific item in the Smithsonian's collection that was misidentified for over a hundred years.

We'll have tea following the talk. Contributions of refreshments are welcome.

Living By Vow: A New Dharma Series to be Offered Via Zoom

Group 1: Thursdays from 11 a.m. to Noon HST — Starting September 26

Group 2: Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. HST — Starting September 28

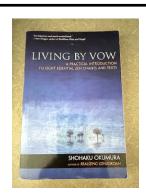
After the precepts classes are completed, Rev. Jiko will be starting a new series of Zoom Dharma classes using the book *Living By Vow: A Practical Introduction to Eight Essential Zen Chants and Texts* by Rev. Shohaku Okumura, a Soto Zen

scholar-priest who founded the Sanshin Zen Community in Bloomington, Indiana and the author of several books on Soto Zen teachings and philosophy.

"This immensely useful book explores Zen's rich tradition of chanted liturgy and the powerful ways that such chants support meditation, expressing and helping us truly uphold our heartfelt vows to live a life of freedom and compassion."

Class participants may purchase a copy of this book at the discounted price of \$10 through the Daifukuji Gift Shop, where the book is currently available for purchase. The gift shop is unable to handle mail orders. The book is readily available for order online.

To register for the fall series of study sessions or ask questions about the series, please contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org or call (808) 322-3524. Choose group 1 or group 2. These classes will be offered free of charge. However, if one wishes, one may make a donation to Daifukuji Soto Mission. Donations are appreciated.



Welcome, New Members



The Daifukuji sangha warmly welcomes the following new members:

Esther Jenkins, Ron and Leilani Umehira, Minoru and Shari Ann Yamamoto and family, Dr. Sarah Hathaway, and Swami Om.

Our various temple groups are always happy to receive new members. For information about group activities, please visit https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html. Information regarding temple membership may be found online at https://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf or by calling the temple office at (808) 322-3524. Our Sangha welcomes you.



Barb surrounded by auction items in 2022.

Online Auction to be Held in August

by Barb Shōshin Bosz

We've got exciting news for you! Daifukuji is having an online auction. This will be our annual fundraiser for the temple's general fund — an auction instead of a bazaar this year.

Here are the dates to keep in mind and the auction website link

www.32auctions.com/templemalama

August 17 -23 Collection of donated items. Items need to be clean, new or lightly used. We will not accept heavy items or computer equipment. Please bring items to our social hall.

August 24-30 Auction is live online. Bids are placed.

September 1 & 2 Winnings can be picked up.

We'd like to ask Daifukuji members and friends to help us put this on.

Shifts for being at the social hall to collect, prep, & ready items for photographing are available.

Asking for donations from the community is extremely helpful. For example, gift cards are popular items.

If you like taking photos and can help, let us know. If you're comfortable making shift schedules, we need you. If you would like to help in some way, please give us a call.

More information will be available in next month's newsletter.

Please call Barb at (808) 987-2673, Joyce at (808) 329-3833, or Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 to let us know that you would like to help with this temple fundraiser or if you have questions.

Mindfulness and and Walking Meditation

Daifukuji Buddhist Temple in Honalo will offer a one-hour class on mindfulness and walking meditation on Saturday, July 20 at 10:00am. Mindfulness is the simple, repetitive effort of bringing one's attention back to the task at hand throughout the day. It is an essential part of Zen training.

The class will include suggestions for recentering oneself, being mindful in difficult situations, and dealing with bothersome thoughts, as well as time to practice walking meditation - an exercise in mindfulness.



The class is free, but preregistration is required. Scan to register, or call 808-322-3524, or email to info@daifukuji.org.

Daifukuji is at 79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy. In Honalo, next to Teshima's restaurant.



www.daifukuji.org

July Activities (More activities listed at https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html)

Dharma Keiki - Two Sundays, July 7 and July 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. A Dharma program for children of preschool age to grade 3 and their parents. Siblings welcome. By donation. Bring a healthy snack to share. Contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org for information or to register your child.

Zazen (Meditation) - Zazen is offered in person and via Zoom every Wednesday and Friday from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Wednesday zazen is followed by 20 minutes of chanting. Sunset meditation is held on Monday evenings from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Practitioners are asked to arrive 10-15 prior to the starting time. Contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org to receive the Zoom link for the morning zazen sessions.

Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, July 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. By donation.

Daifukuji Gay Sangha - 1st Friday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Meditation and discussion. All welcome. For information, call Clear Houn at (808) 328-0329.

Sangha Sisters Women's Spirituality Circle - Meetings are held in person and via Zoom on the second Friday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Call Susie at (808) 936-5817 for information.

T'ai Chi - All classes are one hour and held inside the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. \$5.00 per class. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for schedule and other information: (808) 345-1492.

Soleful Strutters - T'ai Chi warm-up & walking on temple grounds at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. For information, please contact Hannah Israel at (408) 421-8845 or Reverend Jiko at (808) 322-3524.

Samu Fridays - Volunteers are welcome for temple cleaning and grounds maintenance on Friday mornings from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Coffee hour & fellowship follows. Bring a snack to share.

Yoga via Zoom — 6 Thursdays from July 11 - August 21 from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST.. Drop in or whole series. What's needed: Yoga mat, loose clothing, water, towel, empty stomach. Temple Offering by mail or at https://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html. Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose, (808) 430-2620. Email for Registration & Zoom Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net.

In-person Yoga — Every Monday from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. No fee, but donations accepted. Bring a mat or towel. Call instructor Liz Aschenbrenner: (808) 345-1270 or liz217a@hotmail.com. No yoga class on July 8.

Library News

By Clear Houn Englebert



Here are the new arrivals:

Tea with a Zen Nun by Shundo Aoyama is a gift to Daifukuji from the author. Yukiko Murano is the translator. The book is subtitled *Twelve Lessons from the Japanese Tea Ceremony*.

Zen and the Ten Oxherding Pictures by Demi is a beautiful children's book.

More Old Time Kona Stories III by Kona Japanese Civic Association is another of their collections of people's remembering Kona's past.

Kona Coffee Days by Tomoe Nimori and Millicent Towata Grand is another glimpse back in time, but this book has photos that are practically guaranteed to impress you with not only their age but also how beautifully the pictures are reproduced. They look worthy of framing.

Love for Imperfect Things is by Haemin Sunim, a Korean Zen monk.

The Revolutionary Life of Freda Bedi by Vicki Mackenzie is a wonderful biography of the first Western woman to be fully ordained as a Tibetan Buddhist nun. She lived from 1911 to 1977 and the book has lots of nice photos.

Mourning the Unborn Dead by Jeff Wilson is about the ceremony for aborted or miscarried fetuses. Abortion is safe, common, and accepted in Japan and over the past forty years the ceremony (mizuko kuyo) has gradually come to the West.

Heartwood by Barbara Becker is the latest Dharma Study book.

We have two new books in Japanese. They are both translated by Kozo Otani:

The Dalai Lama Explains the Mystery of Death and The Dalai Lama Speaks on the Heart Sutra.

Now I've saved the best for last.

Treasury of the True Dharma Eye: Dogen's Shobogenzo is translated by the Soto Zen Text Project and produced by Sotoshu Shumucho in Japan. It's an eight-volume set, hot-off-the-press and quite deluxe. It's currently not available for checkout because it's irreplaceable. It will however be published in paperback in November by the University of Hawaii Press, and the gift shop already has copies on order and will then offer them at very near the wholesale cost (which is still going to be around \$130—but worth it—totally worth it).



Bottom Dropping Out of the Bucket

by Michael Keller

The Zen expression, "the bottom drops out of the bucket," is an image of an enlightenment experience, in which the sense of personal self leaves the mind. The website of the Tree Top Zen Center indicates that the expression springs from the story of a certain Chiyono, a servant in a Zen monastery, who was advised by a nun to practice zazen. Chiyono was enlightened after only a few months while carrying water from a monastery well. She wrote about her enlightenment, "With this and that I tried to keep the bucket together, and then the bottom fell out."

The bottom falling out is more than an image; it is a physical description of what a zazen practitioner may experience as he or she, without aiming for it, awaits enlightenment. In my own case, as I sit, I am aware of a shifting force-field in my body, part of whose activity is to put a kind of shell of energy around me. For that shell to dissolve would be to have the bottom drop out of the bucket.

Whether the bottom will drop out of the bucket is problematic. A practitioner would be well advised not to aim for it, because that would constitute the "gaining idea" that Suzuki Roshi warns against in *Zen Mind*, *Beginner's Mind*, saying, "If you are trying to attain enlightenment, . . . you are wasting your time on your black cushion." In truth there is nothing a practitioner can do to trigger falling through the bottom of the bucket.

Even so, for a practitioner, as the sense of self gradually falls into the background and he becomes aware of his buddhanature, he lives in contentment and peace and usually drops any preoccupation with enlightenment.

Fire Safety Tips

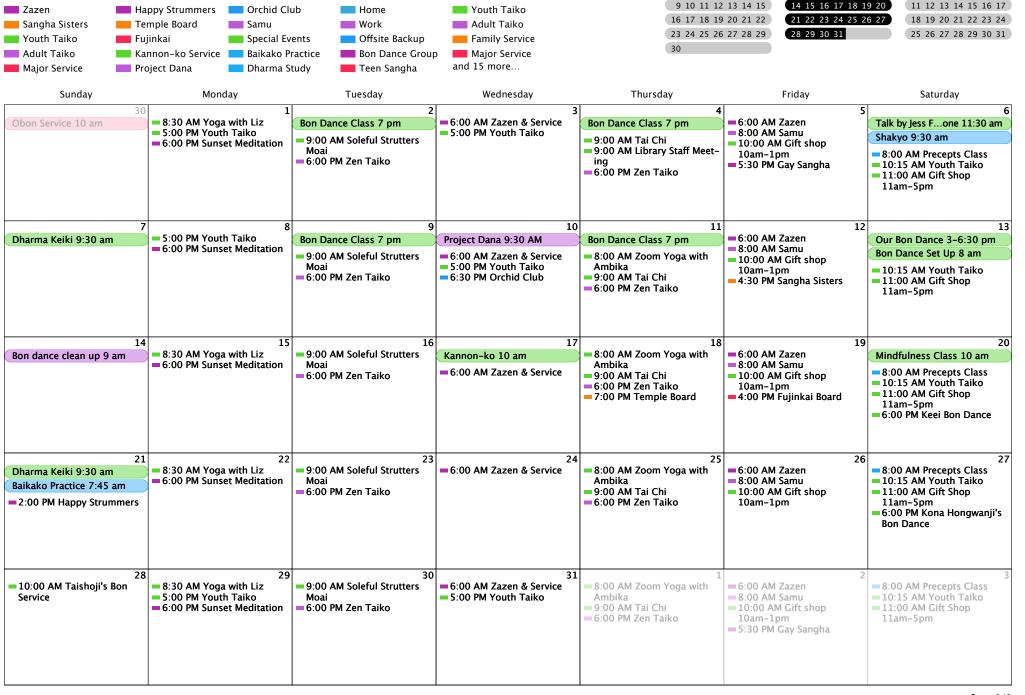
Here are some of the tips which we gathered from fire inspector John Requelman's fire safety presentation in May. (Follow Hawaii Fire Department on Instagram and on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/@HawaiiFireDepartment

Smoke alarms

- Have one in every bedroom, one close to kitchen and in hallway at highest point.
- Test once a month. Change every 10 years. <u>Check expiration date.</u>
- Change battery once a year. (New ones don't require as much maintenance.)

We watched this video by the Fire Safety Research Institute which opened our eyes to the importance of sleeping with one's bedroom door closed. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSP03BE74WA

July 2024



June 2024

S M T W T F S

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

July 2024

SMTWTFS

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

1 2 3 4 5 6

August 2024

S M T W T F S

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1 2 3



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy, Kealakekua, HI 96750 (808) 322-3524

KONA DAIFUKUJI "ZOOM" YOGA 6.9.24

6 Thurs. 8-9 am HST July 11, 18, 25 Aug.7, 14, 21

- 7:45 8 am HST Welcome Warm-up
- 8:00 9 am
- "ZOOM" YOGA!
- 9:00 9:20am Chat (optional)
- 12:45 1 pm EST
- 1:00 2 pm
- 2:00 2:20 pm

Open to: Members, Kona Community and ALL Beginners & Experienced WELCOME!

@Drop in or Whole Series@

ENERGY is our focus, so move to your body!

Pt 1: Basic Amrit Asanas: "Patanjali's Yoga Sutra as our guide!"

Bring: Yoga mat, loose clothing, H2O, & towel, empty stomach "Dana"=Temple Offering by mail or at: http://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html Email for REGISTRATION & Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net



Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose

I have taught yoga for 47 years. The "Style" is **Amrit Yoga** an authentic, meditative exploration of **Shakti [Chi] EnErGy** through intention, breath, alignment, extension & movement. Following postures, we pause: relax, breathe, and "let go!" We **EXPLORE ENERGY! For inquiry: 808-430-2620** 6.9.24





DHARMA KEIKI

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS FOR KIDS & THE YOUNG AT HEART

Supported by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association and administered by the Hawaii Soto Mission Head Office

First Sunday of the Month

9:30 a.m. HST - 10:15 a.m. HST

Via ZOOM at Your Local Hawai'i Soto Zen Buddhist Temple or From Your Home

- Registration is required and must be done online.
- A waiver and release of liability form must be signed.
- Adult participation is required. Zoom sessions will not be recorded by the host. Participants must agree to not record nor screenshot any part of the program or its participants.
- Children learn Buddhist teachings through music, meditation, songs, stories and mindful movement.
- Material is presented by experienced teachers.
- In support of this program, a donation may be given to one's local Hawai'i Soto Zen Temple.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT REVEREND JIKO. Call (808) 322-3524 or send an email to: rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE GO TO: https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6

Summer 2024 Hawai'i Island BON DANCE & Tooro Nagashi Schedule

All bon dances are on Saturday, unless indicated otherwise (e.g., Celeb. Of Life, Life Care Center). Daijingu is on Sat. this year. Some dances are not in their usual weekend. Tooro Nagashi is the floating lantern ceremony (not a dance). Bon service is usually held before the dance, check with the temple's phone or website. Check dance's date/time, in case of last minute changes.

Some temples are not planning a bon dance this year. (Marked with strikethrough.) -- Kona's Obon Fest moved from Keauhou to Old Kona Airport. <u>Daytime</u> dances: Celeb. Of Life, Kona Daifukuji, and Honohina/Papaaloa. New/returning dances: Hawi Jodo and Naalehu Hongwanji.

Feel free to copy this schedule and share with temple members, friends, relatives, general public, tourist industry, and news media. --- Search on YouTube to learn how to dance, to get ideas to improve your Bon events, and to see bon dances on different islands and around the world.

EVENT DATE & time			LOCATION	PHONE
May	26	Sun., 3:45 pm dance	Bon Dance (1 hr) & Tooro Nagashi @ Celebration of Life @ Reed's Bay in Hilo	808-969-1733
?	-?-	- ? – (undecided)	Lili`uokalani Gardens in Hilo	936-6186
June	15	5 pm dance	Obon Fest @ Old Kona Airport (Makaeo) main pavilion	323-2993
June	15	6 pm dance	Papaikou Hongwanji Mission	808-964-1640
June	22	7 pm dance	Honomu Henjoji (Odaishisan)	963-6308
June		no dance	Honomu Hongwanji Mission	963-6032
June	29	5:30 pm dance	Kohala Hongwanji Mission 808-79	8-2075
July	6	6 pm dance	Puna Hongwanji Mission	966-9981
July		no dance	Kohala Jodo Mission	987-8495
July	13	3 pm dance	Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission	322-3524
July	13	7 pm dance	Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin	961-6677
July	13	7 pm dance		5-4481
July	20	6 pm dance	Keei Buddhist Church	808-896-4988
July	20	7 pm dance	Honokaa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple	808-798-2075
July	20	7 pm dance	Hilo Meishoin	935-6996
July		no dance	Papaaloa Hongwanji Mission (temple shut down, see Honohina, Aug. 24) 9	62-6340
July	27	6:30 pm dance	Hilo Hooganji Mission (Odaishisan)	935-8331
July	28	Sun., 7 pm	Tooro Nagashi @ Wailoa Harbor in Hilo (not a dance)	935-8331
July	27	6 pm dance	Kona Hongwanji Mission	323-2993
Aug	3 4	? pm dance		5-8407 808-935-8407
Aug Aug	3	Sun., 5 pm	Tooro Nagashi @ Wailoa Harbor in Hilo (not a dance) Kurtistown Jodo Mission	936-7828
Aug	3	7 pm dance	Hawi Jodo Mission	808-987-8495
Aug	4	6 pm dance Sun., 12 noon	Fune Nagashi @ Mahukona Beach Pk: for Hawi Jodo Mission (not a dance)	808-987-8495
Aug Aug		no dance	Paauilo Kongoji Mission	963-6308
Aug	10	7 pm dance	Hilo Higashi Hongwanji Mission 935-89	
Aug	10	7 pm dance	Hamakua Jodo Mission	808-775-0965
Aug	10	6:30 pm dance	Kona Koyasan Daishiji	324-1741
Aug	16	Fri., 6 pm dance	Life Care Center in Hillo	808-959-9151
Aug	17	7 pm dance	Hakalau Jodo Mission	936-7828
Aug	17	7 pm dance	Kamuela Hongwanji Mission	808-885-4481
Aug		no dance	Pahoa Kaikan	966-9981
Aug	24	2 pm dance	Honohina-Papaaloa Hongwanji (at Honohina)	963-6451
Aug	25	Sun., 5 pm	Tooro Nagashi by N.Hawaii Hospice @Fairmont Orchid Hotel (not a dance)	808-885-7547
Aug	31	Sat., 7 pm	Hilo Daijingu, 10 Anela St.	959-8611
_	14		combined Pahala & Naalehu Hongwanji @ Naalehu	966-9981
Sep	14	Sat., 5:30 pm	CONTINUED : Aliaia & Naalellu Hongwaliji (W Naalellu	300-330 I