

JIKO - "Compassionate Light"

APRIL, 2024

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Monthly Newsletter of
The Aiea Hongwanji Mission

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Peony and The Lion

[Original article appeared in Mid-Week on April 10, 2019 "Chasing the Light"]



When I visited East Asia, I noticed an interesting and unusual pairing in which peonies and lions are often depicted together in paintings for homes or carvings at temples. A ferocious lion and a blooming flower may seem like an odd combination, but together they provide an insightful message. The lion is the King of Beasts and as such all other animals tremble

before it and very few will dare challenge it. However, there is a tiny enemy that can bring down even the mighty lion—a tiny parasite inside the lion.



The knowledge that our own worst enemy may not be an external enemy is helpful. We have a tendency to look outside of ourselves for that which might harm us. However, there are internal negatives, such as arrogance, self-centeredness, hatred, greed, selfishness, ignorance, and the like, which can cause us to hurt ourselves and others. The lion instinctively cures itself by finding a bed of peonies and allows the peonies to function as a medicinal herb. The lion freed of the parasite ceases to suffer. It finds relief and peace among the peonies.

The depiction of the lion and peony encourages us to look inward at our own hearts-and-minds and become aware of ourselves. It points to the importance of self-reflection and awareness in daily life.

If you take a close look at altars at Hongwanji temples, you will also find carvings of peacocks. The peacock is the animal most associated with Amida Buddha. The depiction of the peacock symbolically represents the dynamic working of Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion which is able to transform poisons, such as ignorance, desire and hatred and lead one to enlightenment with our birth in Amida Buddha's Pure Land of Enlightenment.

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FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER

Please call:

Reverend

Eric Matsumoto

808-487-2626 (AHM
office)

If he is not
available, leave a
message on the
answering
machine.

For religious
Emergencies
(Makuragyo or bedside
services), please call
Rev. Matsumoto on his
mobile phone:
808-488-5685

**Aiea Hongwanji
Mission,**

99-186 Puakala St,
Aiea, Hawaii 96701
Phone: 808-487-2626

Email:

aieajiko@gmail.com

Website:

aieabuddhisttemple.org

The next time you visit the temple, please notice the many beautiful, but also deeply significant carvings and paintings at the temple and the deep and profound message being shared with you. If you are curious about what you see, please ask me. I will be happy to share my knowledge and understanding so our lives can become more meaningful and beautifully enriched.

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.
In Gassho/Anjali,
Reverend Eric Matsumoto



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To Our Sangha,

Thank you to those who stopped by and supported our BWA Craft Fair and White Elephant Sale in March. Much Mahalo to all the volunteers who made it happen and to the generous people for their donations. I'm sure everyone who stopped by found

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PBA REFLECTS ON THEIR 18TH ANNUAL TAIKO FESTIVAL

Pacific Buddhist Academy held its 18th Annual Taiko Festival on Sunday, March 17th at the Moanalua Performing Arts Center. The theme for this year's festival was "Yaramaika," which translates to 'go for it!' The school's Hyaku Sen Ki Kai performance taiko group, led by Jay Toyofuku, comprises eight players. Among them are three seniors: twins Leilani and Jenny Chang (whose older sister Fern Chang graduated from PBA's performance taiko group in 2022), and Mari Miyasato, who recently returned from a six-week study abroad program at Heian High School in Kyoto, Japan.

This year, PBA alumni returned to perform in a number of pieces on multiple instruments including Zachary Agcaoili '14 and Tani Oshita '23 on taiko drums, Reverend Blayne Nakasone Sakata '14 on the Odaiko and sanshin, and Chihiro Okawa '23 on the Shime, Odaiko, and Shinobue. Agcaoili Sensei is one of PBA's taiko sensei and Rev. Nakasone Sakata is PBA's school chaplain. All proceeds from the Taiko Festival support PBA's mission to prepare students for college through academic excellence, enrich their lives with Buddhist values, and develop their courage to nurture peace. If you didn't get a chance to attend the live show, or if you want to relive some of your favorite pieces, a recording of the festival will air on 'Olelo Community Media on the dates provided below.



Pacific Buddhist Academy's 18th Annual Taiko Festival Airdates YARAMAIKA! GO FOR IT!

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| 4/28/2024 | 6:00 PM | Olelo 53 |
| 5/1/2024 | 8:30 AM | Olelo 53 |
| 5/2/2024 | 2:30 PM | Olelo 53 |
| 5/5/2024 | 10:00 PM | Olelo 53 |

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 ** Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209
Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.org

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Within the HHMH Community, March 2 is widely recognized and celebrated as Hongwanji Day. The history of Hongwanji Temples in Hawaii began when Rev. Soryu Kagahi arrived in Honolulu on March 2, 1889, and established the foundation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in Hawaii. This year marks the 135th Anniversary.

Many documents record the living conditions of the early Japanese immigrants in Hawaii. One worker at a plantation in Puunene on Maui said, “In those days, many Japanese people died by disease, and I was asked to bury them in the cemetery after my work. At that time, there were no temples and no ministers. So, I chanted the Shoshinge I had heard as a child.” For the people of the time when there were no temples and no ministers, I believe that the Shoshinge chanted by this lay person must have quietly but surely reverberated through the lands of Hawaii and given peace of mind and courage to the people who left Japan and were living in Hawaii.



At that time, it seemed that there was not yet a strong momentum for overseas propagation at Honzan. Still, when Rev. Kagahi learned about the harsh working and living conditions of Japanese immigrants in Hawaii, he was determined to cross the ocean on his initiative to spread the Light of the Buddha-Dharma.

“Kagahi was deeply touched by the difficulties of these immigrants living in a strange country, knowing neither Hawaiian nor English, lacking the support of a sangha, the sustenance of the dharma. It saddened him to think no priest was there to perform the reassuring Buddhist rituals that provide a spiritual rhythm to the natural flow of life and death. As he reflected on all this Soryu Kagahi made a personal commitment. He must propagate Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii!” (From “A Grateful Past, A Promising Future”)

There is no shortage of history when it comes to the Japanese immigrants and Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii. Through the untiring dedication of the successive ministers and lay followers, the Hongwanji temples steadily took root in Hawaii as ‘abodes of Light and Love’ (described by Bishop Imamura). Those who set foot in the abode of light and love entrusted themselves to the Light of Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha that illuminates all beings equally as if they were his only child, and lived their lives to the fullest in the face of adversity while reciting the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu.

Now, 135 years later, times and living conditions have changed dramatically. However, the Light of Amida Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion does not change. It always illuminates our hearts and minds, which are clouded by our own egos, and enables us to live a bright life that is embraced by the Light.

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will observe the Triple Celebration on September 7 and 8 at the Ala Moana Hotel. I would like to invite everyone to join us in this commemorative event filled with the joy of Nembutsu. In deepest gratitude and appreciation to our Nembutsu predecessors whose names we cannot all mention but dedicated their lives to the growth and expansion of the HHMH and its temples and affiliated organizations, and with a grateful response to Amida Buddha’s tireless calling, I recite Namo Amida Butsu.

In Gassho,

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani, Bishop

Headquarters Update continued on page 4

April, 2024 JIKO

CHANGE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA

Honzan has announced the members of the new Governing Board of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha effective on March 11, 2024.

| | | | |
|-----|--------|------------------|---|
| 総長 | 荻野 昭裕 | Governor General | OGINO Shoyu |
| 総務 | 日谷 照應 | Governor | HIDANI Shouou |
| 総務 | 三好 慶祐 | Governor | MIYOSHI Keisuke |
| 総務 | 弘中 貴之 | Governor | HIRONAKA Takayuki - in charge of International Department |
| 副総務 | 加藤 尚史 | Vice Governor | KATO Shoshi - in charge of International Department |
| 副総務 | 大河内 隆之 | Vice Governor | OKOCHI Ryushi |

CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Florence Tomoe Sakae, a member of Makawao Hongwanji Mission, passed away on January 8, 2024. Mrs. Sakae served as the first female temple president (1987-1988) and president of Asoka Club (BWA) for more than 20 years. The Posthumous Title (INGO) of SHO-YO-IN 照曜院, which translates as “The one who illuminated with the light of compassion” in recognition of her life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on March 2, 2024.

Mrs. Fujiko Dochin, a member of Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, passed away on January 28, 2024. Mrs. Dochin worked hard and supported her temple for many years in various ways. The Posthumous Title (INGO) of MON-SHIN-IN 聞信院, which translates as “The one who hears and entrusts oneself to Amida’s Universal Vow” in recognition of her life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on March 16, 2024.

Rev. Charles Kenko Hasegawa, a retired minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, passed away on March 16, 2024, in Stockton, California at the age of 84. Rev. Hasegawa’s funeral service, co-officiated by the Buddhist Churches of America and the Buddhist Church of Stockton, will be held at the Buddhist Church of Stockton on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Hasegawa’s funeral service will also be livestreamed on the Buddhist Church of Stockton’s YouTube channel and can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@buddhistchurchofstockton9015>

Rev. Hasegawa became a Kaikyoshi Minister in March 1974 and served the following temples:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| April 1974 – October 1974 | Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission (assistant) |
| October 1974 – June 1975 | Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin |
| June 1975 – July 1978 | Waimea Hongwanji |
| August 1978 – January 1981 | Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin |
| January 1981 – February 1983 | Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin |
| February 28, 1983 | Resigned (transferred to BCA) |

Rev. Hasegawa is survived by his wife, Mrs. Noriko Hasegawa (1964 Cottage Court, Stockton, CA 95207), stepmother Mrs. Atsuko Hasegawa, daughters, Eri (Micah) Furuyama and Aki (Brian) Zeck, and son, Jyotis Hasegawa (Britanie Grandinette), and grandchildren Keiden, Naya, and Christian.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: TRIPLE CELEBRATION REGISTRATION

Triple Celebration Early Registration Deadline Extension

We are pleased to inform you that we will extend the Triple Celebration early registration deadline to April 30, 2024.

Please register for the Triple Celebration and let's celebrate this joyous occasion together.

We are offering two types of registration methods.

The first is online registration and payment. Please go to the following link and fill out the registration form: <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/triple-celebration/>

QR code to the
webpage



The second is a paper registration form. Please fill out the form and mail it to H.Q. with a check.

The early registration deadline is April 30, 2024 and the registration fee is \$250.

The late registration deadline is July 31, 2024 and the registration fee is \$300.

The youth registration deadline is July 31, 2024 and registration fee is \$150 for those 25 years old or younger.

The registration cost includes one breakfast, one lunch banquet, services, workshops, and panel discussion.

We will provide a \$200 subsidy per person for neighbor island participants.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email triple.celebration@honpahi.org or contact H.Q.

NURTURING MIND AND BODY AT BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL

On April 6, 2024, the Buddhist Study Center will host our first ever Spring Festival grand re-opening of the BSC to the larger Manoa/Moiliili/McCully/Makiki community. The purpose of this event is to showcase the Hongwanji and BSC offerings to the community and increase awareness of the facility to encourage participation and use. Everyone – students, faculty, community members, and families – is welcome.

The event will kick off at 9:30 a.m. with live entertainment performances in the downstairs Buddhist Study Center parking lot. There will be booths with food, games, and activities hosted by various Hongwanji-affiliated groups. Notable activities include a travelling bookstore by Honpa Hongwanji, Matcha with a Minister talk story teatime with Rev. Bert Sumikawa and Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata, flower arranging with Irene Nakamoto, and children's activities by Debbie Kubota and Susan Oshiro. Emi Hashi, the Youth Specialist for Honpa Hongwanji, will also lead a Buddha in Your Pocket mini butsudhan craft for students and community members to take home and set up a reflection space of their own. We hope to encourage new members to join the Buddhist Study Center Fellowship Club.

Health and wellness workshops will be held upstairs in the BSC lecture hall. We will start with a workshop on coping skills at 10:00 a.m. by Rev. David Nakamoto. At 11:00 a.m., Lisa Yanagi, who also holds weekly classes at the BSC, will lead a yoga class for interested attendees. At 12:00 p.m., a demonstration on healthful cooking will be taught by Carolyn Uchiyama and Wahiawa Blue Zones. Finally, a bokashi healthy living workshop with Chikako Nago will be held at 1:00 p.m. to promote the sustainable practice of

Headquarters Update continued on page 6



composting. These workshops are centered around our Spring Festival theme of “Nurturing Mind and Body,” and are aligned with our Hongwanji Buddhist values of mindfulness, reflection, and interdependence.

We hope that those on Oahu will attend our inaugural event. Attendees will receive a free eco bag and reusable cup (while supplies last). Parking is available at the UH Manoa parking structure (for approximately \$5 per day), or street parking may be available in the area. Attendees are encouraged to walk, bike, or take public transportation if possible. For questions or more information about the event, contact ehashi@honpahi.org.



Join Project Dana’s Public Presentation Meetings!

Upcoming Events:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Meeting Date: | Wednesday, April 10, 2024 |
| Time: | 10:00 am to 11:30 am |
| Location: | Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813) |
| Topic: | “Social Security: What It Means <u>To</u> You & Your Family” – Caregivers will learn about survivor and spouse benefits, 2024 updates, what to do when someone is not capable of handling their own Social Security benefits, Social Security scams and how to avoid it, the future of Social Security, and how to use their Social Security online account and other online services. |
| Speaker: | Jane Burigsay, South Coast Area Public Affairs Specialist |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Meeting Date: | Saturday, April 13, 2024 |
| Time: | 10:00 am to 11:30 am |
| Location: | Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797) |
| Topic: | The goal of the session is for caregivers to learn about strategies to use before, during, and after the doctor’s visits to increase the person’s health and wellness. For example, write the questions down before the appointment, ask to clarify during, and not to wait until the end for your most important concerns. It’s also an opportunity to learn about the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and the services they offer to Medicare beneficiaries. |
| Speaker: | Candace Nakamoto, Hawaii SHIP |

*Zoom links will be provided by inquiry

President's Message continued from page 2

something of value as I did.

March also marked the start of the renovation of the exterior restrooms for the Lotus Adult Day Care Center. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Gerald Tokuno, AIA, for his services in the design and construction administration of this project.

For those who missed the March 31st early registration deadline for the Triple Celebration Events, you will be pleased to know that the deadline has been extended to April 30, 2024 for the discounted fee. See page 5 for more details. As an incentive to encourage participation, the AHM Kyodan will subsidize \$125 of the cost of the registration fee for the first 12 members who register, pending approval by the HHMH Triple Celebration Committee.

The Hawaii Buddhist Council is sponsoring the joint Buddha Day Service on Sunday, April 7th at the Soto Mission of Hawaii in Nu'uauu (see page 12 for details). There will be no Sunday service at AHM that day, but those who wish to carpool with volunteer drivers who'll take you to the Soto Mission can meet up at the AHM parking lot by 8:30 AM.

AHM will have its own Buddha Day Service on April 14th that will include initiatory rites for children of all ages. Refer to the flyer on page 12 for details and how to register your child for the initiatory rites. Fun and games for the keiki will follow the service, so there's lots of opportunities for Nembutsu Moments.

In closing, please be sure to sign up for the Sangha Day event and submit your registration as instructed on pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.

In Gassho with palms together,

Boyd Marumoto

HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
TRIPLE CELEBRATION

ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES 2024

APRIL 13, 10 AM
REV. MUTSUMI WONDRA

6 Kyogyoshinsho: Teaching

Kyogyoshinsho: Practice

7 MAY 18, 10 AM
REV. YUKI SUGAHARA

JUNE 22, 10 AM
REV. KIYONOBU KUWAHARA

8 Kyogyoshinsho: Entrusting Heart

Kyogyoshinsho: Realization

9 JULY 20, 10 AM
REV. HENRY ADAMS

AUGUST 24, 2 PM
REV. GENE SEKIYA

10 The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin: Joy of the Nembutsu

Scan to register

TRIPLE CELEBRATION
September 7 & 8

Email: triple.celebration@honpahi.org

850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching
135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Oahu District Sangha Day

“Linking our Sanghas in the Countryside”

Saturday April 27, 2024 / 9:00am–2:00pm
At Waianae Hongwanji
85-762 Old Government Rd., Waianae 96792

Tour of Mouna Farm and Arts & Cultural Village

Hosted by Sooriya Kumar, Hongwanji Living Treasure inductee in 2016. As a master copper-work artisan, teacher, and peace activist, Sooriya founded Mouna in Waianae Valley. It is a non-profit organic produce and flower farm that is also a retreat that serves as creative space for artists and allows connection to nature and promotion of peace and sustainability.

Composting Presentation

Presentation workshop by Chikako Nago of EM Hawaii on how to compost food waste at home and use it for sustainable and healthy gardening. Presentations by district members on their own success stories and best practices. Separate activities for younger kids to be held simultaneously.

Tentative Schedule

8:00am - Registration begins at Waianae Hongwanji

9:00am—Opening Service

10:00am—11:30am—Activity Period 1

12:00pm—1:30pm—Activity Period 2

2:00pm—Day ends

Attendees will be separated in two groups due to limited farm access. One group will be on farm tour while other group will be at temple for compost presentation. Groups will switch in the afternoon.

Shuttles will transport people between temple and farm (<1 mile apart)



Registration deadline Sunday April 14

\$15 per person / \$6 for kids age 8 and under

Please compile names and payments by temple:

evanwatarida@gmail.com / (808) 450-6041 for questions

Checks made out to: Oahu Hongwanji Kyodan Rengokai

OK to pay at day of event



OAHU DISTRICT SANGHA DAY at WAIANAE TEMPLE

Saturday April 27, 2024 from 9am - 2pm

Registration Sign-up Deadline: April 14, 2024

TEMPLE: _____

\$15.00 per person / \$6.00 for Ages 8 & under

| | NAME | Check One | | Check One Bento type | | |
|-----------------|------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | | Adult | Child ≤ 8 | Reg. Bento | Vegetarian | Kids Bento |
| 1 | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | |
| People Tally | | | | | | |
| Cost Per Person | | X \$15 | X \$6 | Print add'l sheets as needed | | |
| Total Due | | | | | | |

Regular bento: incl. Rice, Fried chicken, Teri beef, Fried hoki, hot dog, spam, mandoo

Vegetarian bento: incl. Brown rice kamameshi, Nishime, Yaki tofu, Veggie tempura

Kid's bento: incl. Spam musubi, boneless fried chicken, hot dog

Email completed form to evanwatarida@gmail.com of Waipahu Temple

Checks Payable to: Oahu Hongwanji Kyodan Rengokai (can be paid at event)

BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

In honor of Eshinni/Kakushinni Observance, our spring craft fair was held early this year. Thank you for the many generous donations of goods, time, and expertise that made this event a wonderful success. It was a total team effort of our Buddhist Women's Association members and the community that brought us together to make this an enjoyable experience. There were new faces, reacquaintances, as we embraced the sharing of aloha together.



Temple Calendar of Events for April 2024

| | | |
|--------|---------|--|
| 6 Sat | 9:30AM | BSC Spring Festival at BSC |
| 7 Sun | 9:30AM | Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) Buddha Day Service at Soto Mission of Hawaii, Nuuanu Avenue (No service at AHM) |
| 10 Wed | 9:00AM | Preschool Temple Services |
| 14 Sun | 8:00AM | Hanamido (Buddha Shrine) Decorating |
| | 9:00AM | AHM Buddha Day Hanamatsuri Service with Initiatory Rites & Children's Program & Lunch in Social Hall |
| 16 Tue | 7:00PM | Temple Board Meeting |
| 18 Thu | 10:00AM | Lotus Adult Daycare Service & Visitation |
| 21 Sun | 9:00AM | Sunday Service |
| 27 Sat | 9:00AM | Oahu District Sangha Day (at Waianae Hongwanji) |
| 28 Sun | 9:00AM | BWA Eshinni & Kakushinni Day Service with Mrs. Lois Toyama |

Temple Calendar of Events for May 2024

| | | |
|----------------|---------|--|
| 5 Sun | 9:00AM | Sunday Service |
| 8 Wed | 9:00AM | Preschool Temple Services |
| 12 Sun | 9:00AM | Mother's Day Children & Adults Family Service |
| 19 Sun | 9:00AM | Shinran Shonin's Birthday Celebration (Gotan-E) w/Rev. Tatsuo Muneto |
| 21 Tue | 7:00PM | Temple Board Meeting |
| 23 Thu | 10:00AM | Lotus Adult Daycare Service & Visitation |
| 25-27 | | YESS Camp 40 at BSC |
| 26 Sun | 9:00AM | Sunday Family Service |
| | 10:30AM | AHM BWA Meeting |
| 27 Mon | | Memorial Day Holiday (Preschool & Lotus Adult Daycare closed) |
| 28 Tue – 31Fri | | AHM Preschool summer break (Preschool not in session) |
| 31 Fri | 6:30PM | "Carving the Divine" Documentary & Dharma Shared by Rev. Matsumoto |

Family Memorial Service

Buddhist consider the memorial service a significant occasion to remember the deceased with feelings of gratitude and love. The memorial service provides an opportunity to pay tribute and recall cherished memories of the departed, while listening to the Buddha Dharma. The service is not for appeasing the spirits of the deceased or for the sake of the deceased, but rather for the sake of the living. In remembering the deceased we acknowledge their influence on our lives as well as the importance of living the Buddha Dharma.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Reverend Eric Matsumoto at (808)-488-5685, or leave a message on the office phone: (808)-487-2626. You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date.

April 2024

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1 st Nancy | Sakima | 13 th Chiyoko Pauline | Higuchi |
| 7 th Gladys Seiko | Minami | 33 rd Guy | Yamaoka |
| 13 th Stanley Hayao | Kage | 33 rd Richard Saburo | Kamano |

May 2024

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1 st Itsuo | Harada | 13 th Nobue | Tokuno |
| 3 rd Mildred Sachiko | Chinen | 13 th Harriet Sachiko | Nakamiyo |
| 3 rd Kimiye "Edith" | Yamashita | 13 th Jane Haruko | Nagata |
| 3 rd Shigeto | Narikawa | 17 th Gary Takashi | Uyeunten |
| 7 th Alvin Kenichi | Tokuno | 25 th Carl Masao | Kitashima |
| 7 th Kenneth Shigeto | Takata | 33 rd Masuichi | Mitsui |
| 7 th Kikue | Higuchi | 50 th | Yokomichi |

Junior YBA Happenings

We hope you all enjoyed your Spring Break! Please be mindful of the upcoming event dates that will be listed in the newsletter.

We've been keeping busy! In addition to our Manju Fundraiser, our United went to an escape room experience at Ala Moana followed by dinner and fellowship. This was a great opportunity to get to know each other better, learn effective ways to communicate, and have fun at the same time! It was a fun and enjoyable team building activity. Everyone participated and received cards at the end that celebrated each person's individual contributions to the game. We were able to complete this within the one hour time limit and it was agreed that we want to try this again.

We also had an 'ohana night which was intended to be for the junior's families to make vision boards together, however, it ended up being a Jr YBA craft night. Aunty Gay gave a short lesson of "SMART" goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely. We made vision boards and had a lot of fun cutting out images and words from magazines to create a board of inspiration, goals and things we enjoy.



The Oahu United is hosting the upcoming Spring Federation Meeting in April and we are working with our Federation executive board to secure a date so we can work on the details.

We are also encouraging participation in Sangha Day at Waianae Hongwanji on Saturday, April 27. There is also more information about this in the newsletter. Please register with your family or individual. We can also carpool so please see the carpool list on the Google drive. If you don't have access, please contact Aunty Arynn (contact at the end of article).



Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (Y.E.S.S.) Camp is May 25-27 and will cost \$30 for registration until April 15th. After that the registration cost will increase but you can still register.

YESS Camp is open to youth ages 13-23 and is a great opportunity to bring your friends as well as meet other Buddhist Youth throughout the state. This year's camp will be held at the Buddhist Study Center. We are grateful to have Reverend Kerry Kiyohara for this year's YESS Camp as we talk about resilience and how we connect to Buddhism resuming our lives from the pandemic. For any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at: yesscamp@honpahi.org. We hope to see you there!

Daruma & Me



Lastly, our 67th Jr. YBA State Convention will be held on June 21-23 in Maui. Registration costs (not including airfare) are expected to be approximately \$280 so we will be looking at using our existing donations and fundraiser monies to subsidize members who wish to attend.

Other activities we will be planning in the upcoming months: Senior Celebration for Dymin Kakazu, Temple visits to attend services at other Oahu District temples, and joint activities with the United of Honolulu and our affiliate clubs (Judo and Aikido).

Save the Dates!

tentatively Sunday April 14: Oahu hosting Federation Meeting

Friday-Sunday, May 25-27: Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (Y.E.S.S.) Camp

Friday-Sunday, June 21-23: State Convention in Maui

Any youth who are entering 6th grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Aunty Arynn Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com if you'd like more information.

Follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaii-fedjryba



Aiea Hongwanji Mission
99-186 Puakala Street
Aiea, HI, 96701

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 42
Aiea, HI 96701



Hawaii Buddhist Council
Buddha Day Service
2024

Free and Open to the Public

Date 4. 7 (Sun) 9:30 am Start
Guest Speaker Rev. Jiko Nakade from Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission
Entertainment Taiko Performance by Somei Taiko Keiki Groups in Social Hall
Parking Soto Mission of Hawaii, SEEQS Charter School & Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
Place Soto Mission of Hawaii
Address : 1708 Nuuanu Ave. Honolulu, HI 96817

For more info. call (808)537-9409

Aiea Hongwanji Mission
BUDDHA DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday April 14, 2024
9:00 AM

Join us for Hanamatsuri Family Service and Initiatory Rites for Children!

8:45 AM Pouring of Sweet Tea
9:00 AM Family Service and Initiatory Rites for Children
10:15 AM Children's Crafts & Activities
10:30 AM Refreshments
11:00 AM Lunch

Register your child/infant for the initiatory rites by scanning this QR code or calling (808) 488-5685!