

SOTO MISSION OF AIEA
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TAIHEIJI BULLETIN



NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2019

EITAIKYO, KANNONKO, & KEIZAN ZENJI'S BIRTHDAY SERVICES

On Sunday, November 10, the Eitaikyo (Perpetual Donors), Kannonko, and Keizan Zenji's birthday services will be held at Taiheiji from 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend this occasion.

Keizan Zenji's birthday service

Our Soto tradition in Hawaii is traced back to our two founders, Dogen Zenji and Keizan Zenji. While both Dogen and Keizan will always be remembered as great teachers of Zen, Keizan Zenji is credited with initiating the rapid and wide spread growth and influence of Soto Zen throughout Japan. He laid the foundation for the development of Soto Zen by training many outstanding disciples who would propagate the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha. And so it is with deep reverence and gratitude that we honor and pay homage to Master Keizan.



Keizan Zenji

(See 'Eitaikyo,' continued on page 2)

Eitaikyo Service

Eitaikyo Service is held each year at Taiheiji, as an annual memorial service for deceased members of Taiheiji. What sets this special service apart from private memorial services is that Eitaikyo service is for “Perpetual memorial.” By making a donation over \$300 for this service, a deceased loved one is prayed for every year in this service. Their name will be read along with all other Eitaikyo recipients’ names that have been read since the beginning of Taiheiji’s long history. If you are interested in ensuring that your deceased loved one will be honored in the Eitaikyo service this year and every year to come, please call Rev. Shuji to make arrangements.

DECEMBER SERVICES

The teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha have touched the lives of people around the world. His words of love, mercy, and compassion have helped countless people find peace and happiness in their lives. Our Buddhist beliefs and practices can be traced back to a single event in the Buddha’s life—his enlightenment. After sitting in quiet meditation under the Bodhi tree, Siddhartha Gautama became Shakyamuni Buddha, thus revealing to all people of the world the way to end suffering. On **Sunday, December 15, at 9:00 a.m.**, Taiheiji will be observing its Bodhi Day service honoring the Buddha’s enlightenment as well as its monthly Kannonko service. We look forward to seeing you.

HAWAII BUDDHIST COUNCIL’S BODHI DAY SERVICE

On Sunday, December 8, at 9:30 a.m., please attend the Hawaii Buddhist Council’s Bodhi Day Celebration. This year’s service is cohosted by the Higashi Hongwanji and the Honpa Hongwanji.

The event will be held at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Temple, located at 1727 Pali Highway in Honolulu.

For more information, please read the enclosed flyer or call the Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at 531-9088 or the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at 522-9200.

FUJINKAI ELECTIONS

The Taiheiji Fujinkai election will soon be held! Every two years, the Fujinkai elects its new board members. From the group of board members, the slate of executive officers are selected and later approved by the Fujinkai. If you are a current Fujinkai member, please be on the lookout for the arrival of your ballot that will be mailed to you. If you have any questions, please contact the Fujinkai advisor, Mrs. Jaymie Komagata, at 488-6794.

NEW YEAR'S & DAIHANNYA BLESSING SERVICES EARLY REMINDER!

On Wednesday, January 1, 2020, Taiheiji's New Year's & Daihannya Services will be held at 9:00 a.m. It is important to pay your respects at Taiheiji, receive your New Year's blessing, and pick up your new ofuda packets. Please stay after the service to enjoy the traditional New Year's food such as mochi, zenzai, and ozoni prepared by Mrs. Jaymie Komagata.

DAIHANNYA OFUDA PACKETS

On New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2020, the new *Daihannya Ofuda* will be distributed to Taiheiji members and their families. Each household will receive in their NEW OFUDA PACKET: 1 wooden *kifuda*, 2 paper *ofuda*, 1 car *omamori*, and 1 wallet *omamori*. Order forms will be mailed to you at the beginning of December. Please turn in your order forms with payment **by December 18, 2019.** Additional ofuda and omamori are also available.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF TAIHEIJI? SOTO MISSION OF AIEA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Taiheiji strives to serve the social, spiritual, and religious needs of its members through its ongoing mission to provide a place where people are welcomed with open arms to receive the guidance of the Buddha Dharma.

We regularly receive requests from nonmembers for services. It is during these times when people know of no other place to go that they realize the importance of being a member of the temple. Your Taiheiji membership enables you to access the variety of religious services available, whether for happy occasions like weddings, or for challenging times like dealing with the loss of a loved one.

We certainly feel that your membership donation is an encouraging sign of confidence that you place in the temple as an important and relevant part of your life.

An additional benefit active members receive is the opportunity to use the social hall to host parties and events. Currently, there is no rental fee for members, so booking the facility is simple with a donation made at the member's discretion. The social hall can comfortably accommodate up to 150 guests.

The annual membership donation is \$100 per household. In December, we will send out the membership/donation form for your household to join the temple or renew membership. **Please also encourage your parents, adult children, relatives and friends to renew their membership or to join our temple community.** If you have any questions, please call Rev. Shuji at 488-6794.

2020 FUJINKAI DUES

The Soto Mission of Aiea Taiheiji Fujinkai will soon be collecting Dues (\$10) for the year 2020. There are two membership options to choose from:

- Annual Membership: \$10/year
- Lifetime Membership (for current members of the Fujinkai with at least two years of active membership), based on age:
 - 50 and under - \$100
 - 51-60 - \$50
 - 61-70 - \$40
 - 70 and over - \$30

The Taiheiji Fujinkai membership form will be sent to you in December. Anyone interested in joining the Fujinkai is welcomed. If you are unable to pay the membership dues because of financial difficulties, please contact the Soto Mission of Aiea Fujinkai at 488-6794 to discuss options.

The Fujinkai is the auxiliary women's organization of the temple, and has been a long time advocate for women inside and outside the Buddhist community. They help one another out in the time of need, and spend time together in fellowship at and outside the temple throughout the year. In addition to providing support for each other, the women of the Fujinkai take on added responsibilities. They make generous contributions to the maintenance and furnishing of the minister's residence, and purchase appliances for the temple. Please remember to make your \$10 dues payable to "Soto Mission of Aiea Fujinkai."

BBQ CHICKEN AND SUSHI FUNDRAISING PROJECT

The skies were clear on the morning of October 19, and starting from 5:00 a.m. the crew from State Poultry began firing up the long barbeque grills for the cooking of chickens at the Soto Mission of Aiea's annual barbeque chicken and sushi benefit sale. By 9:00 a.m., dozens of volunteers were working side by side to season, package, and distribute over 1800 chicken and over 1000 sushi to a steady flow of cars and walk in customers. The sounds of conversation and laughter filled the Taiheiji property until the last of the chickens and sushi were picked up at 1:00 p.m.



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event a smashing success. A special thanks goes to Gerald and Susan Tachino for coordinating the entire sale from set up to cleanup, Teri Wong and Donna Matsufuru for coordinating the breakfast, lunch, and drinks that kept everyone energized and hydrated throughout the day.



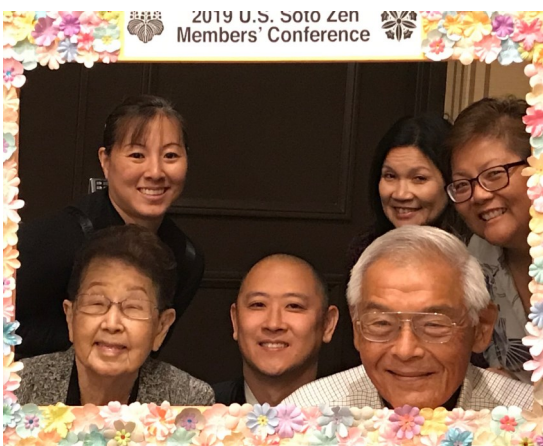
9TH U.S. SOTO ZEN MEMBERS CONFERENCE: LAS VEGAS



On Saturday, October 26, sixty-seven people from various temples and Zen Centers across the United States met at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas for the 9th U.S. Soto Zen Members Conference. Four members from Taiheiji—Carl Kawauchi, Helen Tachino, Susan Tachino, and Teri

Wong—along with Rev. Shuji and Jaymie Komagata, were among the 33 people from Hawaii attending the one day conference.

After the opening ceremony, a special tribute was made in memory of the late Mrs. Faye Komagata, a driving force in Los Angeles during her youth and for many years in Hawaii. Flowers were offered, and everyone sat in a moment of silence honoring Rev. Shuji's mother.



The theme, “American Buddhism” was the focus of this conference. There were guest speakers and group discussions to discuss not only the challenges faced by many temples, but also the great progress being made across the United States in the development of the Soto Zen tradition. Ideas were exchanged, and everyone enjoyed the lively discussions.



This conference, last held in Hawaii in 2013, endured a six year hiatus—it was traditionally held every two years with the Hawaii and North American Bishop’s Office taking turns as host—so it was nice that the North American office put this event together. If all goes well, the 10th U.S. Soto Zen Members Conference will be held in 2021 right here in Hawaii!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GENEROUS DONATIONS RECEIVED

The Soto Mission of Aiea is currently transitioning to a computerized accounting software system, and the list of generous donation received was not yet available at the time of printing. Please pardon the inconvenience. All donations received in September and October 2019 will be acknowledged in the next Taiheiji Bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.

TAIHEIJI BOARD MEETING

Attention Taiheiji Board Members: Meeting to be held on:

Sunday, January 19 9:00 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you! Mahalo!

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

November 2019

- 9 Sat 8:30 a.m. Temple Cleanup
- 10 Sun 9:00 a.m. Keizan Zenji Birthday Service,
Eitaikyo, and Kannonko Service
- 24 Sun Hawaii Soto Mission Association Meeting
- 28 Thu Happy Thanksgiving!

December 2019

- 7 Sat 8:30 a.m. Temple Cleanup
- 8 Sun 9:30 a.m. Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day
Service at Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin
- 15 Sun 9:00 a.m. Taiheiji Bodhi Day & Kannonko Service

Upcoming January 2020 Event

- 1 Wed 9:00 a.m. New Year's Blessing and Daihannya Service

MONTHLY TEMPLE CLEANUP DAY

On Saturday, November 9, and Saturday, December 7, Taiheiji will hold its monthly temple cleanups. As always, there are a lot of tasks to complete to maintain a beautiful temple. Cleanup runs from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Please volunteer a few hours of your Saturday morning to help clean both inside and outside the temple. The Aikido Club will be joining us in November, and the taiko group will be joining us in December. For more information, please contact Rev. Shuji.

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