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TAIHEIJI BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2021

Legacy-Endowment Bond News

By Rev. Shuji Komagata

Aloha! I pray that you and your family are doing well! As you know, Taiheiji's Legacy-Endowment Bond is the major driving force behind

- \$980,000 raised in bond pledges
- COVID-19 pandemic to blame for increased project price tag
- More bond shares made available

the construction of the Soto Mission of Aiea Activity Center in 2022. This activity center will be the home of the Taiheiji Adult Care Center, a safe, modern and affordable facility for our elderly *kupuna*. In addition, the layout of the new building will also include classrooms, meeting rooms, and a meditation hall to further support the community with new activities.

In partnership with the Hawaii Kansha Foundation, a private family charitable organization with strong roots to the temple, Taiheiji began the sale of the Legacy-Endowment Bond in January 2021. With an extremely generous gift of \$400,000 from the Hawaii Kansha Foundation to get us started, we officially embarked on our journey in January 2021 to raise an additional \$1,000,000 in investments needed to secure the project.

With the very positive and generous response from our

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Taiheiji members and supporters, we have raised \$980,000! Collecting so much in investments was never seen as an easy task, and when compounded with the overall difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am extremely grateful to everyone.

With the news of us quickly closing in on our goal of raising \$1,000,000, prospective investors have been rushing to purchase the remaining \$20,000 in bond shares. We are very proud and happy to announce that an additional \$155,000 in bond shares have been made available for purchase! This is made possible thanks to a handful of very generous and thoughtful people who have donated their bond purchases back to the temple.

When combined with the remaining \$20,000 in bond shares, we now have \$175,000 in available bond shares. The news of the additional bonds being made available for sale comes at a very crucial time in this project. In July, we received an updated construction bid price tag on the project. Due to the skyrocketing construction costs associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the estimated cost has inflated to over \$3,300,000. Taiheiji is continuing to work with the architects, engineers and various contractors to lower the cost to a more affordable amount through value engineering and various plan revisions. In the end, however reluctantly, we may need to introduce bank financing to cover the shortfall. But for now, Taiheiji will continue to work hard to improve its position with each bond sale. All contributions in any amount will be greatly appreciated. Please note that the bond is being sold in increments of \$1,000. Please also consider, as others have done, donating your bond investment back to Taiheiji as another way to help the temple.

I still believe that this project is the best chance we have that will create HOPE for the future of our temple. If you have

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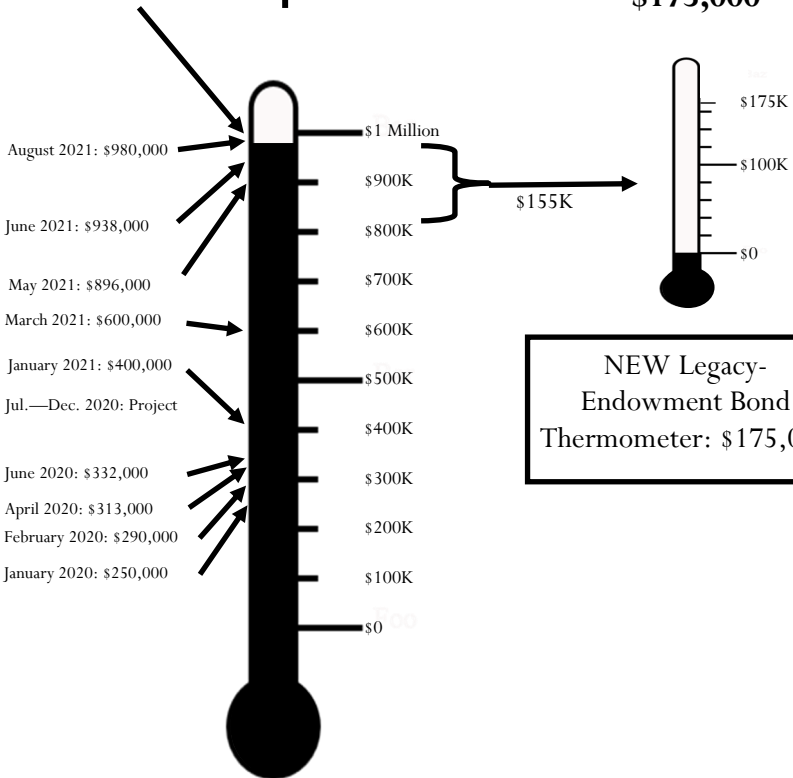
Thanks to a handful of very generous and thoughtful people who have donated their bond purchases back to the temple, we have \$175,000 in bonds now available. Keep the momentum going strong!!! Invest in the Legacy-Endowment Bond!

August 2021:
Remaining bonds
for sale: **\$20,000**

Sold bonds donated
back to temple:
\$155,000

September 2021:
NEW!!
Available bonds
for sale:
\$175,000

$$+ \quad =$$



Visit www.sotomission.com for more information and downloadable forms

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not yet contributed to this project, your participation is needed now more than ever! For those who have already generously donated or invested in this project, I humbly ask you to encourage your family members, and friends to invest.

Either I, or other members of our fundraising group may have already called on you more than once or even twice and I thank you for your patience and support as we try our best to make this project a success.

Let's work together to create HOPE and a sustainable future for the Soto Mission of Aiea as well as for the betterment of the Aiea community. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you and please take care!

SEPTEMBER SERVICES CANCELLED

The Fall Higan, Ryosoki, and Kannonko Services scheduled for Sunday, September 12, has been cancelled due to the extremely high daily reports of new COVID-19 infections. Please call Rev. Shuji if you have any questions.

OCTOBER SERVICES TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED

Taiheiji's Darumaki and Kannonko Service is TENTATIVELY scheduled for Sunday, October 10, at 9:00 a.m. Please call Rev. Shuji a few days earlier to confirm that the service has not been cancelled.

In compliance with social distancing guidelines, all attendees must wear a face mask or face shield at all times while at the temple. The temple is thoroughly sanitized before and after each service.

LEGACY-ENDOWMENT BOND CONTRIBUTORS

Mahalo to the following people who have pledged and invested in the Legacy-Endowment Bond. With additional shares in the Legacy-Endowment Bond recently made available (totaling \$175,000), we encourage others to join this fast growing list of people who are ensuring that Taiheiji continues to have a bright future ahead.

George Akahori	Michiko Iwata
Sharon Bower	Katsumi Kazama Family Partners
Frank Childs	Phyllis Kawachi
Annette Distiso	Carl Kawauchi
Marcia Enga	Wally & Diane Kazama
Robin & Linda Fujikawa	Jody Kihara
Chester Fujimoto	Lynne Kihara
Nelli Fukuda	Michiko Kodama-Nishimoto
Troy Fukuhara	Vernon Koizumi
Noriko Fukumae	Shugen Komagata
Erin Gytoku	Shuji & Jaymie Komagata
Kelli Ann Gytoku	Irvin Komamura
Harold Haga	Shizue Komamura
Shari Hasegawa	Tamikichi Kosuge
Charles & Joy Hokama	Diane Maeda
Chris Hokama	Karen Maruoka
George & Mercedene	Ada Maruyama
Hokama	Alice Masutani
Paul Hokama	Pam Matsuda
Scott Hokama	Donna & Sidney Matsufuru
Melvin Hoshino	Karen Matsukawa
Todd Imamura	Carol Matsuo
Lloyd Itagaki	James & Lynn Maurer
Alice Ito	Sharon McBride

LEGACY-ENDOWMENT BOND
CONTRIBUTORS

Amy Mijo	Debbie Tanakaya
Gail Miyasaki	Nathan Whitaker
Jun Jason Mukaida	Glenn Tango
Gail Nagamine	Candace Tasoe
Wendy Nagano	Kelsey Tasoe
Angela C. Naito	Darryl Toyama
Steve Nakamoto	Gordon Toyama
Leslie Nakashima	Sharyn Toyama
Wayne & Colleen Nakatsu	Amy Tsuneyoshi
Edwin Nose	Earl Tsuneyoshi
Loren Odagiri	Gary Tsuneyoshi
Edwin Oka	Rachel Tsuneyoshi
Doreen Orita	United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association
Iris Palumbarit	Michael & Janet Watanabe
Verna Rabacal	Warren Wild
Pat Radona	Teri Wong
Jerrilyn Segawa	Roy Yamagishi
Craig Shigemasa	Charlene Yamaguchi
Soto Mission of Aiea Fujinkai	Atom Yamaki
Kevin & Lara Sugimoto	Archer & Shanni Yamaki
Cari Suzuki	Cheryl Yamaki
Mae Suzuki	Harriett Yamaki
Susan Suzuki	Jennie Yamaki
Helen Tachino	Joy Yamaki
Susan Tachino	Judith Yamaki
Betty Takahashi	Rodney Yamaki
Fred Takakawa	Steven Yamaki
Glenn Tanaka	Ralph Yokouchi
Ivis Tanaka	Ivan Yoshimura
Thelma Tanaka	

NEW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FUND DONORS

Another way to help make the new Soto Mission of Aiea Activity Center a reality is to donate directly to the new building construction fund! Thank you to the following for their generous pledges and donations!

Mildred Aisaka

Steve Aisaka

Paul Awazu

Central Pacific Bank

Shari Fujisaki

David & Cynthia Fukuda

Wesley & Carolyn Fukuda

Isaac Hamada

Amy Imaguchi

Sharleen Isoshima

Karen Kauahi

Brian & Melissa Kawauchi

Carl Kawauchi

Diane Kawauchi

Calvin Kaya

Harriet Kazama

Dennis Kono

Roland Kuroda & Family

Sandra Loo-Chan

Mantokuji Soto Mission

Caroline Masutani

Irene Matsumoto

Marvin & Sharon Mitani

Gail Miyasaki

Paul Murato

Edna Nakashige

Jane Naya

George Niino

Joe & Gertrude Nishida

Jeanne Omaye

Yuriko Onaga

Doris Oshiro

Cassandra Sherod

Kathleen Tagawa

Herbert & Caroll Ann Takahashi

Charitable Fund

Marion Taketa

Candace Tasoe

Wendy Tokumine

Sharleen Toyama

Linda Unten

Arlene Watanabe

Michael and Janet Watanabe

Ada Yamaki

Ernest Yuasa

CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Through the generous donations by temple members and supporters over the years, the Soto Mission of Aiea owns several cemetery plots at Hawaiian Memorial Park Mortuary and the Valley of the Temples. Now, these plots are available to the Taiheiji community.

The Soto Mission of Aiea has been able to help Taiheiji families seeking to make arrangements for a final resting place for themselves and their family. With several types of burial options still available at both locations, Taiheiji hopes to be able to help more families find a place to memorialize the lives of their loved ones for years to come.

If you are interested in acquiring a plot for you or a loved one, please contact Rev. Shuji at 488-6794. He will be able to send you more information. Additionally, if your family has an available plot they would like to generously donate to Taiheiji, please contact Rev. Shuji. Mahalo!

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER MONTHLY TEMPLE CLEANUPS

Mahalo to all the people who have volunteered to participate in the past monthly temple cleanups. As our community tries to deal with the latest spike in COVID-19 infections, the Soto Mission of Aiea will postpone its monthly cleanups.

Rev. Shuji and family have maintained the cleanliness of the temple throughout the shutdown earlier this year. Although there will not be any official cleanup day in September and October, please contact Rev. Shuji if you are able to volunteer to come to the temple on your own to clean. Mahalo!!!



BBQ CHICKEN AND SUSHI FUNDRAISING PROJECT

It was the temple's great hope that the annual barbecue chicken and sushi benefit sale would be able to return this year. However, given the recent trend of increasing COVID-19 infections in Hawaii, this fundraiser has been canceled again in 2021. Once again this year, there will be no tasty chicken and sushi to enjoy while watching a college football game, no smiles and chatting amongst chicken sale volunteers, and no customers eagerly driving in and out of Taiheiji throughout the day to pick up chicken and sushi. For the temple, the biggest one-day fundraiser that historically raised over \$10,000 annually has been lost.

However disappointing, cancelling the fundraiser is still the wisest decision to make as the continued safety of our members remains our top priority.

As we did in 2020, we humbly ask you for donations to the temple in lieu of selling chicken and sushi tickets. Your donations will help ensure that the basic costs of running the temple—water, electricity, insurance, and the minister's salary—can continue to be paid. Taiheiji will also benefit greatly from your generosity during this ongoing difficult time when so many of the temple's sources of revenue—religious services and activities—have been significantly cut. Thank you for your continued support.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September

- 11 Sat 8:30 am Temple Cleanup: Cancelled
- 12 Sun 9:00 am Higan, Ryosoki, Kannonko: Cancelled
- 26 Sun 9:00 am Shakyo Session: Cancelled

October

- 9 Sat Temple Cleanup: Cancelled
- 10 Sun 9:00 am Darumaki, Kannonko (Tentative)
- 17 Sun 9:30 am Hawaii Soto Mission Association Meeting
- 31 Sun 8:30 am Taiheiji Board of Directors' Meeting

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GENEROUS DONATIONS RECEIVED

Amy Mijo	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Kevin & Lara Sugimoto	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Michiko Iwata	In Loving Memory of Yoshiko Iwata, 33rd Memorial Year
Archer & Shanni Yamaki	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Helen Tachino	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Kathleen Tagawa	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Robin Fujikawa	Donation to Temple
Wiltschko Family	27th Memorial Service for May Tango Wiltschko
Tango Family	27th Memorial Service for May Tango Wiltschko
Herbert & Caroll Takahashi	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Cari Suzuki	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Candace Tasoe	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Phyllis Kawachi	Memorial Service for Karl Kawachi
Jun Jason Mukaida	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Kevin & Lara Sugimoto	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Helen Tachino	Donation to Temple
Sharon Bower	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Wesley & Carolyn Fukuda	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Melvin & Carol Hoshino	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Karen Maruoka	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Archer & Shanni Yamaki	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Clayton Ono	Funeral & 7th Day Service for Betsy Ono
Roland Kuroda & Family	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Herbert & Caroll Takahashi	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
George Akahori	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Marcia Enga	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Harold Haga	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Karen Kauahi	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Calvin Kaya	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Gail Miyasaki	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Wendy Tokumine	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Marvin Mitani	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Sharyn Toyama	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Teri Ann Wong	Contribution to Legacy Endowment Bond
Joyce Gushiken	Donation to Temple
Sandra Loo-Chan	Donation to Temple
Wendy Higa	Precremation Service for Michie Nagamine

FUJINKAI COOKBOOKS FOR SALE!

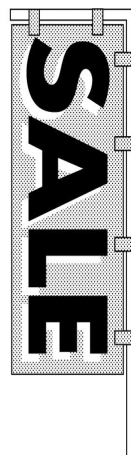
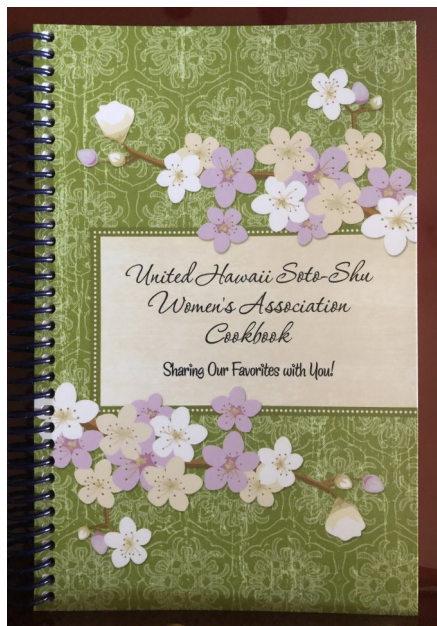


Published in October 2020, the United Hawaii Soto-Shu Women's Association cookbook sold out completely in a matter of weeks. In response to popular demand, a second printing was done, and the cookbooks are now once again available for purchase.

Spearheaded by Mrs. Jaymie Komagata, over 300 recipe favorites were collected from the women of the Fujinkai groups at the various Hawaii's Soto Mission temples.

This beautifully edited and professionally printed new cookbook boasts nearly 70 recipes from Taiheiji Fujinkai ladies (and even Rev. Shuji).

The United Hawaii Soto-Shu Women's Association Cookbook is now on sale for \$12. Please contact Rev. Shuji at 808-488-6794 to order your cookbooks for you and your loved ones!



**Soto Mission of Aiea
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