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TAIHEIJI BULLETIN



MAY & JUNE 2026

Tsuicho-e & Kannonko

On Sunday, May 3, we will hold our Mother's Day Service and the Fujinkai Tsuicho-e.

Mother's Day offers an opportunity to reflect on the care we have received throughout our lives. While we often think of our mothers, it also allows us to recognize all who have supported us in a nurturing way, including family members, teachers, and friends who have guided us, sometimes in ways we did not fully appreciate at the time. From a Buddhist perspective, we are supported by countless beings. Even beyond those we know personally, many have contributed to our well being. When we reflect in this way, gratitude naturally arises.

The Fujinkai Tsuicho-e is a memorial service to remember Fujinkai members who have passed away. Their dedication and support have helped sustain the temple, and much of what we are able to do today is possible because of their efforts. Together, these observances remind us of both personal and collective gratitude, as well as our shared responsibility to continue this support for future generations.

Following the service, refreshments will be served. Please bring a potluck item to share as we enjoy time together in fellowship.

Bon Services 2026

Our Obon services will be held on:

Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, June 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Obon is one of the most important observances in our temple year. It is a time to remember our ancestors, but it is also a time to reflect on the continuity of life. Often, we think of our lives as beginning with our own birth. However, when we look more carefully, we see that our life is the result of countless connections that extend far into the past. Our parents, grandparents, and many generations before them have all contributed to our existence.

In addition, there are many others, known and unknown, whose efforts have supported our lives. The food we eat, the homes we live in, and the society we are part of all come from the work of others. Obon is a time to acknowledge this reality.

When we offer incense and chant, we are not only remembering individuals. We are recognizing the vast network of causes and conditions that continue to support us even now.

We encourage everyone to attend one or more of these services and to take this opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of gratitude and connection.

Kala Kokua Fundraiser Product Pickup

Saturday, May 2 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who participated in the Kala Kokua Fundraiser. Fundraisers such as this are not only about raising funds. They are also an example of how a temple community comes together in support of a shared purpose. Each person who contributes, whether by purchasing items, helping to organize, or volunteering time, becomes part of that effort. Product pickup will take place on Saturday, May 2 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Soto Mission of Aiea. Please make arrangements to pick up your items during this time. Your support helps ensure that Taiheiji can continue to function as a place of practice, learning, and community. We are grateful for your continued involvement.

59th UHSSWA Conference hosted by Kona Daifukuji Fujinkai



Bishop Shuji officiates the Opening Ceremony and Memorial Service at the 59th UHSSWA Conference at Kona Daifukuji

On April 18 and 19, Bishop Shuji and Jaymie Komagata, together with five members of the Taiheiji Fujinkai, traveled to Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission to attend the 59th Annual UHSSWA Conference.

This annual gathering brings together Fujinkai members from Soto Mission temples throughout the islands. It is a time not only for meetings, but also for renewing friendships and strengthening the connections that support our temple communities.

The conference began with an opening ceremony and a memorial service dedicated to the Fujinkai members who have passed away since last year's conference. From Taiheiji, we remembered Kiyoko Otani, Carol Shishido, Chiyeko Soga, and Frances Takakawa. This service reminds us that the efforts of those who came before us continue to support the temple today.

A short business meeting followed, where matters concerning the association were discussed. Afterward, attendees gathered for lunch and the always popular country store. Each temple contributed items from their communities, and through everyone's participation, over \$3,000 was raised this year. The country store is a simple activity, but it reflects the spirit of cooperation and shared effort that defines Fujinkai.

In the evening, participants traveled to the Royal Kona Resort in Kailua Kona for a banquet held along the ocean. This provided a chance to relax and enjoy time together outside of the formal sessions.

During the evening program, the annual candlelight ceremony was



One of the highlights of the conference, the country store raised over \$3000 for the UHSSWA.

(Continued from page 2)

held. This ceremony has become one of the most meaningful parts of the UHSSWA Conference. As each candle is lit, it represents the light that has been passed down through generations of Fujinkai members. It is a reminder that what we do today is not separate from the past, and that we each carry forward the efforts, spirit, and dedication of those who came before us. At the same time, the light also symbolizes our responsibility to continue supporting the temple and one another, so that this tradition may continue into the future.

On Sunday, the conference concluded with a presentation by guest speaker Trinidad Hunt, the granddaughter of Rev. Ernest Shinkaku and Dorothy Hunt. As pioneers of Soto Zen in Hawaii, their contributions laid an important foundation for our temples today. Hearing their story reminded us of the history we are connected to and the importance of continuing that legacy.

The UHSSWA Conference serves as a reminder that our temples are sustained through the collective efforts of many people. We extend our appreciation to Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission for hosting this year's conference and to all who participated.



*Above: Taiheiji Fujinkai members with Bishop Shuji & Jaymie
Below: Guest Speaker Trinidad Hunter*



Temple Cleanup Day

As we approach the Bon season, we invite everyone to come out for Temple Cleanup Day on **Wednesday, June 17 at 8:30 a.m.** This annual effort is essential to help Taiheiji prepare for the upcoming Bon Services scheduled for June 18, 20, and 21.

Temple Cleanup is a long-standing tradition at Taiheiji, where members, families, and friends come together to clean and refresh the temple grounds, buildings, and altar area. It is a way of showing respect for our ancestors and our shared spiritual home, ensuring that our temple is clean, beautiful, and welcoming for the many visitors who will attend our Bon services.

Whether it's sweeping leaves, wiping down pews, pulling weeds, and yes, cleaning restrooms, there is a job for everyone. Even an hour of your time makes a difference—more hands the better!

Please wear comfortable clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty, bring gloves and any tools you think may help, and come ready to work! Let us come together with gratitude and purpose to prepare our temple for this season of remembrance and reflection. Your support is deeply appreciated!

Legacy Sponsorship Opportunities

In a previous bulletin, I shared information about the various tree sponsorship opportunities connected to our new Activity Center. I would like to again express my sincere appreciation to those who have already stepped forward in support of this project. Your generosity helps to root this effort in faith, memory, and a strong sense of community.

Over the past month, we have also begun receiving interest and participation in our Legacy Wall. This will feature a copper Bodhi Tree sculpture to be created by artist Sooriya Muthukumar. The sculpture will be installed along the side of the Activity Center and will serve as a lasting symbol of awakening, gratitude, and continuity within our temple.

The Legacy Wall is not simply a decorative feature. It represents something much deeper. The Bodhi Tree is a powerful symbol in Buddhism, representing the place where the Buddha realized awakening. In this same spirit, the Legacy Wall becomes a place where we recognize the many individuals and families whose support helps sustain the Dharma here at Taiheiji.

We would like to thank those who have recently inquired and shown interest in becoming Legacy Donors. Your willingness to consider this form of dana reflects an understanding that what we do today helps shape the future of our temple. We also encourage others to take a moment to learn more about this opportunity.

There are four levels of sponsorship available for the Legacy Wall: \$20,000, \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$500. The size and placement of each inscribed nameplate will correspond to the level of sponsorship.

The Activity Center itself is more than just a building. It is an offering to future generations. It will be a place where the Dharma is shared, where families gather to remember loved ones, and where sangha members sit together in quiet zazen. In this way, it becomes part of an ongoing effort to support both present and future practitioners.

Participating as a Legacy Donor is a meaningful way to memorialize a loved one or to express gratitude through dana. Each name placed on the Legacy Wall becomes part of a larger story, one that is rooted in the past, alive in the present, and continuing into the future.

We also continue to offer additional sponsorship opportunities, including trees on the temple grounds and rooms within the Activity Center. Each of these allows individuals and families to contribute in a way that is both personal and lasting.

If you would like more information on how to participate as a Legacy Donor or sponsor, please contact the temple office. We welcome your inquiry.

Together, we continue not only to build a physical structure, but to create a living expression of gratitude, compassion, and community that will support generations to come.



Acknowledgement of Generous Donations Received

Robin Fujikawa	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Corinne Gyotoku	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Angie Naito	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Aiea Hongwanji	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Rev. Eric & Tomoyo Matsumoto	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Masaharu Suzuki Family	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Helen Tachino	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Glenn Tango	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Teri Wong	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Diane Maeda	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Loretta Yamaguchi	Donation to New Building Construction Fund
Corinne Gyotoku	Legacy Sponsorship Program
Michael Kamada & Lyn Sakamura	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Jessica Burns	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Lois Kamada	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Janis Hiranaga	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Amy Nakayama	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Clyde & Dori Ann Saito	In Loving Memory of the late Richard & Edith Hasegawa
Shari Hasegawa	Inurnment Service for the late Richard and Edith Hasegawa
Steven Nakamoto	Donation to Temple
George & Jan Shimamura	In Loving Memory of the late Lorraine Nishiyama
Daryl Saiki	3rd Year Memorial Service for the late Harold Saiki
Carolyn Sawai	Donation to Temple
Darren Saiki	3rd Year Memorial Service for the late Harold Saiki
Aiko Karaoke School	Donation to Temple
Ed Akahori	Donation to Temple
Randall & Wendy Nagano	1st Year Memorial Service for the late Leslie Nakashima
Aiea Taiheiji Yagura Gumi	Donation to Temple
Corinne Gyotoku	3rd Year Memorial Service for the late Noriko Fukumae
Shari Hasegawa	1st Year Memorial Service for the late Richard Hasegawa
Kazama Family	23rd Year Memorial Service for the late Katsumi Kazama
Diane Kazama	1st Year Memorial Service for the late Wally Kazama
Colin & Janis Hiranaga	In Loving Memory of the late Richard Hasegawa
Jessica Burns & Family	In Loving Memory of the late Richard Hasegawa
Darren & Kelsie Saiki	In Loving Memory of the late Richard Hasegawa
Ronald & Erma Soma	In Loving Memory of the late Richard Hasegawa
Clayton Ono	7th Year Memorial Service for the late Betsy Ono
Fukiya	Donation to Temple
Kate Shibata	1st Year Memorial Service for the late Roy Shibata
Kay Fukuhara	1st Year Memorial and Inurnment Services for the late Robert Fukuhara

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MAY

2	Sat	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	
			Kala Kokua Fundraiser Pickup
3	Sun	9:00 a.m.	Tsuicho-e, Kannonko
5	Tue	6:00 a.m.	Zazen
12	Tue	6:00 a.m.	Zazen
26	Tue	6:00 a.m.	Zazen

JUNE

2	Tue	6:00 a.m.	Zazen
17	Wed	8:30 a.m.	Temple Cleanup
18	Thu	7:00 p.m.	Bon Service
20	Sat	10:00 a.m.	Bon Service
21	Sun	10:00 a.m.	Bon Service

Otoba Request Forms

Otoba request forms for Obon will be mailed out in mid May.

These forms allow you to include the names of your loved ones in the service. In doing so, you are creating a connection between your family and the broader temple community.

Please complete and return your form as soon as possible so that we may prepare accordingly.

If you do not receive a form in May or if you have any questions, please contact Bishop Shuji at 808-488-6794.

Bishop Shuji's Message:

When we think about living a meaningful life, it is easy to focus on achievements. We often measure our days by what we were able to accomplish, and whether those accomplishments appear significant in the eyes of others. Because of this, we may divide our days into categories. Some days feel productive and worthwhile. Other days feel ordinary, uneventful, or even wasted.

However, from a Buddhist perspective, there is no clear separation between an important day and an unimportant one. Each day presents us with conditions. Each moment gives us an opportunity to respond. What we do within those moments becomes the cause for what follows.

We often think of greatness as something visible. It is something that can be recognized, praised, or remembered. But greatness is based on perception. It depends on how something is viewed by others.

Importance is something else. Importance is grounded in cause and effect. It is found in whether our actions lead to a beneficial outcome. It is not dependent on recognition. It does not require attention. For example, a simple moment of patience may prevent conflict. A small act of kindness may ease someone's burden. Choosing not to speak harshly may change the direction of a relationship. These actions may not be seen as great. They may not be noticed at all. But their effect can be very real. At the same time, something that appears impressive may not always lead to a meaningful result. So rather than asking ourselves whether we have done something great, it may be more helpful to ask whether what we did was important.

Did our actions contribute to something positive? Did they reduce suffering, even slightly? Did they help move a situation in a better direction?

If we can begin to live with this awareness, then even the most ordinary day becomes full of meaning. There is no such thing as a day without value. There is only a day in which we did or did not recognize the importance of our actions. As we continue through this season, I encourage all of us to live each day fully, not by seeking recognition, but by paying attention to the causes we create and the effects they bring about.

Tickets go on sale on May 8! www.taikohawaii.com

Hawaii Matsuri Taiko & Somei Taiko present
In Partnership with Kyoya Hotels Foundation

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Hawaii Matsuri Taiko FESTIVAL

**AINAHAU BALLROOM,
PRINCESS KAIULANI HOTEL**

SHOW #1: 1:00 P.M. SHOW #2: 5:00 P.M.

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMERS

WAKO DAIKO

RYUKYU KOTEN AFUSO-RYU ONGAKU KENKYUU CHOICHI KAI USA

TAIKO ARTIST MICHAEL GONHATA

TICKETS: \$40 AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.TAIKOHAWAII.COM

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SHERATON

Thank you for donations flowers!

A very heartfelt mahalo to everyone who donated the beautiful (and fragrant) flowers that adorned the Hanamido—the altar enshrining the Baby Buddha Shakyamuni. During the Hanamatsuri (Floral Festival) Service commemorating the birth of the Buddha, sweet tea called “amacha” was poured over the statue, symbolizing the “sweet rain” that poured from the sky when the Buddha was born.



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