



# HAKUHO

Taishoji Soto Mission 275 Kinoole St. Hilo, HI 96720-2944  
Hilo's Zen Temple  
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**MAY 2017**

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

On April 9, we were able to have a great Hanamatsuri Service.

Hanamatsuri is called the flower festival in English. The name of Hanamatsuri originated because Buddha was born in the Lumbini flower garden. So Buddha and Flowers are closely related with each other. Buddha sits on a pedestal that is a flower. Does anyone know the flower's name? It is a lotus. Buddha really likes the lotus, because a lotus blooms only in the mud. A lotus cannot bloom in clean water. A lotus desperately needs mud. Buddha compared mud to painful or sad experiences in our life and compared the blooming lotus to our growth. Buddha teaches us that we are not able to grow without painful or sad experiences. We have to pay attention to that.



HANAMIDO  
(Small temple decorated with flowers)

For me, I was bullied when I was a child. But through that experience, I came to know the feelings of those being bullied, and learned that I must not bully. When I caught a cold or injured my leg, I understood for the first time the importance of health. Even though I had painful or sad experiences, they became precious memories for me.

A lotus lives, supported by the mud in the water. In the same way, we are able to grow through our painful or sad experiences. How do you view your painful or sad experiences? Are you continuing to be worried? Do you have lingering regret? Buddha taught us that no matter how hard our situation gets, we should change them into happy energy. I hope that I will overcome all things and come to grow with all of you.

In Gassho,

Rev. Shinsho Hata

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha Members and Friends,

Spring is here, the flowers are blooming, the weather is getting warmer and soon the children will be out for their summer vacation.

Our Kokoro Garage Sale IV is underway. We have received many household items for our sale. Please do your spring cleaning and box whatever you don't need. Bring them to Taishoji for our Garage Sale on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Donation forms for tax purposes are available.

If you love Bon Dances, Taishoji we will be having Bon Dance practices on Tuesday, July 18 & 25 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the social hall. Classes will be taught by Mrs. Jane Heit and members from her Odori Kai dance group. Come and learn these dances so you can dance with your ancestors at our Bon Dance on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm. Dance to the live music of Fukushima Ondo by Taishoji Taiko. Everyone looks forward to the taiko performance during intermission. You can feel the excitement at our Bon Dance.



Bon Dance Practice

We honor and remember our ancestors at the O-Bon Service on Sunday. They return to their spirit world that evening at the Toro Nagashi. The O-Bon weekend is very memorable and special

At Taishoji, during our O-Bon Service we prepare a cucumber and round egg plant to replicate a horse and cow. The horse to bring our ancestors back from the spirit world and a cow to take them back since it is slow moving. Our ancestors like to ride a boat to return to their world so we have a Toro Nagashi or Floating Lantern Service the day after our Bon Dance



Bon Dance

The June Hakuho will include the application for the Toro Nagashi Lanterns. The lanterns will be first come first serve. We have 96 lanterns for a donation of \$25.00 each. More information will be with the application form.



Toro Nagashi / Floating Lanterns

### BAIKAKO

Kaisanki & Rekiju-Ki / Kannon-Ko Service  
Baika-Ko Members Memorial Service  
June 4, 2017 at 10:00 am

Taishoji Baikako will be sponsoring the Kaisanki & Rekiju-Ki / Kannon-Ko Service, honoring the Deceased Baikako Members on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. On this day, our 13<sup>th</sup> resident minister, Rev. Shinryu Akita will be participating in the service. The deceased Baikako Members Memorial Service honors our 75 deceased members. Their names will be read at the service. Family members and friends are welcomed to participate in this service and offer incense to remember and honor them when their names are called.



Rev. Shinryu Akita  
13<sup>th</sup> Resident Minister

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

### **MAY 5<sup>th</sup> IS BOY'S DAY!**

Boy's Day, called Children's Day after World War II in Japan, is one of the traditions brought to Hawai'i by immigrants from Japan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Japanese celebrated their little boys on May 5 and prayed for their continued good health.

Although it is a holiday for both boys and girls in Japan, the traditional observances on Children's Day are almost solely for the boys. Families with sons display Boy's Day dolls, which usually represent historical or fictional characters renowned for their strength, valor, and loyalty. Sometimes, instead of a doll, they display a warrior's helmet, sword, or armor. Families also fly colorful paper carp (koi) and streamers to express the hope that their boys will grow up healthy and strong. The carp is a symbol of strength, courage, and success. The paper carp by tradition represent just the boys of the family, but recently, there are carp representing the girls and parents, as well.

The traditional treat for the day is called kashiwa mochi, sweetened mochi wrapped in kashiwa leaves. Kashiwa, the daimyo oak, is considered an auspicious symbol because the older leaves do not fall from the tree until the new shoots mature, assuring the continuation of the "family."

The Sunday School / Family Services would like to thank Mr. Naoshi Watanabe for ringing the temple bell on Sundays at 9:00 am to start our service. It is officiated by Rev. Shinsho Hata and assisted by Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick. You are welcome to come and join in the fellowship and great sermons by Re. Hata.

### **ORIGIN OF CARP FLYING**

According to an ancient Chinese tale, there was a waterfall called Dragon's Gate on the Yellow River (Hwang Ho). All the fishes tried to swim up the rapids but only the carp (koi) managed to climb the falls and turn into dragons to soar through the skies. Thus, carp climbing a waterfall came to symbolize courage and success in life.

In Japan, during the Edo period (1603-1868), this turned into the custom of flying paper carp with a wish for success and good health for male children. In the beginning, people flew only black carp, but from the early 20th century, other colors were added, with each carp representing the members of the family. In some areas of Japan, the carp are flown until June 5, Boy's Day on the Lunar (moon) calendar

### **PRAYER BEADS**

Prayer beads are used by members of various religious traditions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and the Baha'i Faith to mark the repetitions of prayers, chants or devotions.

The number of beads varies by religion or use. Islamic prayer beads, called Misbaha or Tasbeeh, usually have 99 or 33 beads. Buddhists and Hindus use the Japan Mala, which usually has 108 beads, or 27 which are counted four times ( $27 \times 4 = 108$ ). Baha'i prayer beads consist of either 95 beads or 19 beads, which are strung with the addition of five beads below. The Sikh Mala also has 108 beads. Catholics use the Rosary with 54 and additional five beads hanging and Eastern Orthodox Christians use a 100 beads.

Prayer beads are made of a wide variety of stones, woods, seeds and crystals, allowing them to be personalized to the individual. Zen Buddhist ojuzu are made from fragrant woods such as cedar and sandalwood; and from colorful stones such as jade, tiger's-eye, agate and amber.

## TAISHOJI FUJIN KAI REPORT

On April 22-23, 2017, Rev. and Mrs. Hata and three Fujin Kai members attended the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association Conference hosted by Waipahu Taiyoji. The guest speaker for this conference was Dr. Jay Sakashita and his talk was very informative and funny. His feeling is that Buddhist temples will need to consider making some changes to how we do things so that we can be more attractive and appealing to outsiders. This way we can build up our membership to benefit both the temples (with new membership) and the newcomers (by introducing them to the wonderful teachings of our Buddha). This is something that I think our Kyodan can have a healthy discussion over. Also this year's Dharma session was the personal interpretation from Rev. Ishii, Rev. Hoshino, Rev. Fukugawa and our own minister, Rev. Hata of Chapter 4 of Shushoji. It was well done and I think all of us got a better understanding of this Sutra.

Next year's conference will be hosted by Kona Daifukuji at King Kam Hotel right there in Kailua town.

### 52<sup>nd</sup> UHSSWA CONFERENCE AT WAIPAHU SOTO ZEN TEMPLE TAIYOJI / ALA MOANA HOTEL



Linda Matsushita, Mamiko & Rev. Hata, Ellen Yamauchi, Yaeko Fujiwara



Bishop Shugen Komagata & President Linda Matsushita with UHSSWA Officers



Our Kakuma was sold at the Special donation Drive



Miyataki Ho-on Kai / Daniel Iwata



Candle Light Ceremony



Larry Soma & Hiromu Yamauchi cooking kakuma



Allen & Audrey Jyo, Linda Matsushita & Mamiko Hata peeling kakuma



Beautiful Hanamido decorated by Mrs. Mamiko Hata & Mrs. Yoko Gussman



Harry, Grace and Thomas Fuke pour sweet tea (Amacha) over Baby Buddha

**WISDOM WORDS FOR ALL**

Those we love don't go away,  
 They walk beside us everyday.  
 Unseen, unheard, but always near ---  
 Still loved, still missed and forever dear  
 --- Anonymous

Just when the caterpillar thought the world  
 was over, She became a butterfly.  
 (With time and patience, anything is possible.)  
 --- Unknown

## MAY 2017 TAISHOJI SCHEDULE

5	<b>Fri</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Fujin Kai Hospital Visitation</b>
6	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #4</b>
7	<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>SS / Family Service / Children's Day</b>
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Fujin Kai Meeting</b>
13	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #5</b>
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Kyodan Meeting</b>
14	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service ( <b>Mother's Day</b> )
20	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #1</b>
21	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
27	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #2</b>
28	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service (Last SS / Family Service)

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR TAISHOJI ZAZEN / TAIKO / BOY SCOUTS

Zazen (Before S/S / Family Service)	Sundays	8:00 am - 8:35 am
Zazen	Mondays	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Taiko	Sundays	11:00 am - 1:00 pm
	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Boy Scout Troop 95	Wednesday	7:15 pm

## TENTATIVE JUNE 2017 TAISHOJI SCHEDULE

3	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #3</b>
4	<b>Sun</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Kaisanki / Rekiju-ki / Kannon Ko Srvc (Baikako)</b>
10	<b>Sat</b>	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #4</b>
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Kyodan Meeting</b>
17	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #5</b>
24	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group #1</b>
25	<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:00 am</b>	<b>Rev.Hata to Daifukuji for O-Bon Service</b>
		<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Daifukuji O-Bon Service</b>

## IN MEMORIUM

Our Deepest Sympathy and Condolences to the Family and Relatives of the late:

**Ms. Carin Nobuko Seki**  
**May 5, 1964 - March 15, 2017**  
**Daughter of Mr. Yoshikazu and Utako Seki**

**Mrs. Matsue Nishiura**  
**December 25, 1921 - April 8, 2017**

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