



HAKUHO



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JULY 2017

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,



Rev. Shinsho Hata

I had a really good time at the beginning of June! We welcomed Rev. Shinryu Akita from Japan to Taishoji and held the Baika workshop. Nine Baika members, participated in his workshop from June 1 to 7. Baika literally means 'Plum Flower' in Japanese. Baika is a form of Japanese Buddhist music consisting of short poems of praise sung to the accompaniment of hand bells. Baika is easier to understand than a Sutra. Baika songs have a sweet melody.

At the end of May, Baika held its 65th Anniversary celebration in Fukui prefecture, Japan. One Baika member from Taishoji went to Japan to attend the 65th Anniversary convention.

We can easily understand Buddhist teachings by listening to and by singing Baika. For example, the following is the translation of the Kanzeon Bosatsu Gowasan. It is one of the Baika songs. "Kannon always envelops us in a warm hug with her compassion. Kannon showers us equally with her affection. Kannon is like our mother. We take refuge in Kannon." I was able to realize the greatness of Kannon since I started Baika. If you can understand the meaning of the song, you can realize the greatness of the song. All the Baika songs are in Japanese so we read the English translation together before we sing the songs at our Baika practice. By doing so, we can understand the meaning of what we are singing. Also, Baika is not performed as a solo. We sing Baika as a team. In this way we can deepen our mutual bonds with each other. As we sing together, we can share with all members a sense of accomplishment. I would like you all to know the greatness of chanting, the enjoyment of listening to the songs and the fun of learning Buddhism.



Baika Workshop
Baika instructor Rev. Shinryu Akita

(Continued on next)

Finally, our Bon Dance will be held on July 29. Are you ready to dance? It's a good opportunity to deepen our friendship. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the festival!

In Gassho,

Rev. Shinsho Hata

JUKAI (lay confirmation) CEREMONY

Jukai (lay confirmation) Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, November 18th at 10:00 a.m.**

Purpose:

- To receive the sixteen precepts which are the moral & ethical foundation of our tradition.
- To deepen one's understanding of the Dharma.
- To receive a Buddhist name.
- To provide spiritual confirmation within the Sangha in the presence of family & friends.
- To allow those who have already received the precepts an opportunity to renew their commitment to this sacred path. This is a good opportunity to promote better understanding of Buddhism.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Please call Rev. Shinsho Hata at 808-935-8407 for more details.

In Gassho,

Rev. Shinsho Hata



O-BON MAIRI SERVICE

Rev. Shinsho Hata, 15th resident minister of Taishoji Soto Mission is available for private visitation for O-Bon services at your home. He will pray for your ancestors at your Buddhist altar. It is a good time and opportunity to pray for your gratitude to your loved ones during O-Bon. This is a good opportunity for our elderly members.

Please call Rev. Shinsho Hata at 808-935-8407 to make arrangements.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha Members & Friends of Taishoji,

Calm mind brings inner strength and self-confidence, so that's very important for good health.

July is the month for our Bon Dance, O-Bon Service and Toro Nagashi at Taishoji. This is when we welcome back our ancestors from their spirit world to celebrate with us by dancing with us in the bon dance. After the dancing, we will have a O-Bon Service. The memorial services held at Obon have two meanings. One is to honor the Buddha and show reverence for one's ancestors and others who have died. The other is to express gratitude to all people to whom we are indebted, including people who are alive such as our parents, relatives, and friends. During the early evening the same day, we will be having a Toro Nagashi to send our ancestors back to their spirit world. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Bon Dance, O-Bon Service and Toro Nagashi.

Rev. Jiko Nakade from Daifukuji Soto Mission in Kona will be assisting Rev. Shinsho Hata for our Bon Dance and O-Bon Services and will be our guest speaker for the O-Bon Service. Let us welcome Rev. Jiko Nakade and members of Daifukuji Soto Mission to Taishoji Soto Mission.

In Gassho,

Rodney Nishino

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR JULY

For activities and events listed below, we will need lots of volunteers. Without your assistance we will not be able to make it happen. Come out and join in the fellowship and let us work together as one Sangha.

1. **July 2 (Sun) 8:00 am** - Otakiage Service (This is when we burn our old religious items in the parking area by Debbie's Choppers)
2. **July 18 (Tue) 7 - 8:30 pm** - Bon Dance practice in the hall with Jane Heit.
3. **July 23 (Sun) 8:00 am** - move the yagura to the front of the temple with Larry Miyazu's truck. On this day Derrick Izumo will need help to replace the fascia on the top of the Yagura
4. **July 25 (Tue) 7 - 8:30 pm** - Bon Dance Practice in the hall with Jane Heit
5. **July 29 (Sat) 8:00 am** - prepare temple for O-Bon Service on July 30 and decorate Yagura for Bon Dance
6. **July 29 (Sat) 7:00 - 10:30 pm** - Bon Dance
7. **July 30 (Sun) 9:00 am** - O-Bon Service / Toba Kuyo / Hatsu Bon Service
8. **July 30 (Sun) 1:30 pm** - after lunch, we will move the yagura to the back of the parking area
9. **July 30 (Sun)** - after moving the yagura, we load Larry Miyazu's truck with the items needed for the Toro Nagashi (12 chairs, 6 tables (plastic), tent, poles, box with tent items, bull horn, mic with cord, brooms.
10. **July 30 (Sun) 4:00 pm** - prepare for our Toro Nagashi at the Wailoa Boat Ramp. At 5:00 pm or earlier assemble your lanterns only.

In Gassho,

Rodney Nishino

BASICS

From our green book; "The ignorant have themselves as their greatest enemy, for they do evil deeds which bear bitter fruit." In this case bitter fruit means suffering. That is worry, tension, anxiety, and stress.

This is nothing but the basic Buddhist philosophy of karma. That is, that all of our actions have results. Whatever we say or do has consequences. If we say or do unwholesome things, trouble will come to us, very simple. And we all know this, because we know if we rob the corner store, or shoot someone, we will be in big trouble. We know also that if we study, get degrees from school, or learn a trade, that we can get a good job.

We know karma on a large scale. Most of us avoid big problems. The principle of karma also works on a small scale. I have seen that many people have small problems in their lives. Perhaps a little too much selfishness or greed. Perhaps telling small lies or stories that cause problems. Thinking about things in a wrong manner also causes us headaches. We have to realize that we cause most of our problems.

One thing for sure, is that there is no escape from our actions. Christians can pray to god for forgiveness, but Buddhists always reap the rewards of their actions. There is no escape.

When we can see and understand karma in our daily lives, we can adjust our behavior, allowing us to live a more happy and peaceful life.

In Gassho,

Deacon Juho

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Sunday School term starts on September 10 at 9 a.m. Enjoy learning about our Zen Buddhist Religion from the sermons of Rev. Shinsho Hata, the beautiful songs and gathas in our Gatha Book, The words of our Sunday School teachers, and the uplifting organ music of Mrs. Mamiko Hata.

BUSSHIN KAI NEWS

Our Soto Zen Buddhism religion is founded on the logical ideas of Shakyamuni Buddha, who lived and died over 2,500 years ago. He was a human being, just like you and me. There was nothing miraculous about his birth. His mother died 7 seven days after giving birth. But he gave us the great ideas of the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. These are well-thought-out plans for anyone to have a happy life on earth.

Shakyamuni's ideas were later corrupted by the influence of the polytheistic religion of the Greek civilization brought by the conqueror called Alexander the Great about 300 years after Shakyamuni's time. Tibet had its own native religion called Bon, which was animistic and mystical. When Buddhism spread out from the Ganges River basin to the northwestern India, Tibet and China, it adopted some of the Greek and Tibetan beliefs. Thus, it produced the huge division of Buddhism called Mahayana Buddhism and its Buddha statues that stand up and the faces are Caucasian-looking. These statues have both shoulders covered up, while the Theravada Buddhists, the other big half of Buddhism, have the right shoulder bare, and the Buddha is sitting in lotus-style.

The bon dance festivals that Taishoji follows come from the old Tibetan Bon religion with its mystical tales and legends and unique designs on small hand drums. The influence of the Mahayana Buddhists is seen in the images of bodhisattvas, such as Kannon-Sama, and Jizo-San, to which followers offer prayers for mercy and protection. But these "ta-riki" (other power / divine power) Images are never found together with the Shakyamuni Buddha (the Historical Buddha). They are found in adjoining rooms or outside the temple. Thus, here at Taishoji, we offer incense at 5 different religious stations every month.

In Gassho,

Walter Tachibana

GOT WAGESA?

All Busshin Kai members who have a wagesa, please wear it to all Taishoji services, in the Temple and elsewhere. It shows that you belong to the most secular and humanist religion in the world. It is closest to the original teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, the one who started it all. It also shows that you belong to the same religion that Steve Jobs of Apple Computers was a member of all of his adult life. With Zen to support him, he was able to invent all the great electronic marvels that Apple Inc. has given to the whole world. If you missed the article on Steve Jobs in an earlier Hakuho, call Walter Tachibana (959-9374) with your mailing address.

TAISHOJI ANNUAL PICNIC SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2017 / 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM IBEW Hall at Bakers Beach

Our Taishoji annual picnic for our members and friends will be held at the **IBEW Hall at Bakers Beach**. Lunch, soft drinks and Bingo prizes will be provided by Taishoji Kyodan in appreciation for your unselfish time and cooperation during the year. We will be having our regular menu of Bar-B-Cue, Hot Dog, Chili, Chicken or Chicken Hekka, Shave Ice, Water Melon if available, Dessert is voluntary. We will have the grill going, so if anyone wants to bring some pupu to grill, it will be welcomed. Let's all come out and relax to join in the fellowship with our Sangha. Bring your fishing gear & swimming suits.

Our main item is BINGO!! Let us enjoy ourselves, take a break and have fun on this relaxing day.

WISDOM WORDS

BEST ZEN SPIRIT SIGN SEEN SO FAR...

- "United by Nature... Guided by Science!" (That's Zen!) --- Unknown
"Everything is funnier when you're not allowed to laugh." --- Anonymous
"Because someone we love is in Nirvana,
There's a little bit of NIRVANA in our home." --- Anonymous
"Friendship doubles our joys
And divides our sorrows." --- Unknown
"The best things in life are not things." --- Unknown



Fujin Kai Hospital Visitation / May 5, 2017



Goeika members with Rev. Akita
May 31 - June 7, 2017



Rev. Shinryu Akita & Rev. Shinsho Hata
Mr. & Mrs. Hisao & Hagie Kaya & Family



EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

Troop 95
Sponsored by
Taishoji Soto Mission
Felix C. Pang
Benjamin Kas Moana Poppas



Soft Drinks

**TAISHOJI SOTO MISSION
KOKORO
GARAGE SALE IV**
**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 21, 2017
8:00 - 12:00 NOON**

**MANY, MANY MORE ITEMS
TO BE SOLD**



Hotdogs



Shave Ice



Sekihan



Preserves



House Wares



Pots & Pans



Men & Women Shoes



Toys



Clothing for Everyone

TAISHOJI JULY 2017 SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|-----|---------|--------------|---|
| 1 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #2 |
| 2 | Sun | 8:00 am | Otakiage (Burning of Religious Items) |
| 7-8 | Fri-Sat | | Rev. Hata to Mantokuji for O-Bon Service |
| 8 | Sat | 7:30 am | Temple Cleaning Group #3 |
| | | 1:00 pm | Kyodan Meeting |
| | | | Daifukuji Soto Mission (Bon Dance) |
| 15 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #4 |
| 18 | Tue | 7 - 8:30 pm | Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit) |
| 22 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #5 |
| 23 | Sun | 8:00 am | Move Yagura to Front of Temple |
| 25 | Tue | 7 - 8:30 pm | Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit) |
| 29 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #1 |
| | | 7 - 10:30 pm | Taishoji Bon Dance (Kyodan) |
| 30 | Sun | 9:00 am | Taishoji O-Bon / Hatsubon / Toba Kuyo Service |
| | | 1:30 pm | Move Yagura to Back of Parking Lot |
| | | 5:00 pm | Taishoji Toro Nagashi (Busshin Kai) |
| | | | (Floating Lantern Ceremony / Wailoa River Boat Ramp) |
| | | | (Performance by Taishoji Taiko) |
| 31 | Mon | | Mrs. Mamiko Hata to Japan - return 7/17 |

TAISHOJI ZAZEN / TAIKO / BOY SCOUTS SCHEDULE

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 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 TAISHOJI AUGUST 2017 SCHEDULE

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|----|-----|-------------|---|
| 5 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #2 |
| 6 | Sun | 9 - 4:00 pm | Taishoji Annual Picnic IBEW Hall (Bakers Beach) |
| 7 | Mon | | Rev. Shinsho Hata to Japan - return 7/17 |
| 12 | Sat | 7:30 am | Temple Cleaning Group #3 |
| | | 1:00 pm | ----- KYODAN MEETING - CANCELLED FOR AUGUST |
| 17 | Thu | | Rev. Shinsho & Mamiko Hata return from Japan |
| 19 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple cleaning Group #4 |
| 26 | Sat | 7:00 am | Temple Cleaning Group #5 |
| 27 | Sun | 2:00 pm | Ireisai Service Alae Cemetery (Puna Hongwanji) |

During the absence of Rev. Shinsho Hata from August 7 to August 17, please call Taishoji Soto Mission at 808-935-8407 or 808-640-9956.

TAISHOJI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO OUR SANGHA

Aloha and Welcome New Members

Brent & Joseph Takenouchi of Honokaa

Susan Branz of Volcano

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Rosemary Torikai of Hilo

Introduce yourselves to our new members and welcome them to our Sangha for activities and fellowship