



HAKUHO

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

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,



On November 18th, I had such a wonderful day because five members became disciples of Buddha! On that day, I performed the lay confirmation ceremony which is a precious Buddhist ceremony of receiving the precepts. I'm grateful to Rev. Myoshin Kaniumoe from Alaneo Zendo and Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick for their assistance in the ceremony. Five members within our Sangha received the 16 precepts and Buddhist name in the presence of their family and friends. Before the ceremony, 3 study workshops were held to deepen the knowledge of Buddhism. Through the ceremony and workshop, they were able to cultivate their own Buddha mind (pure mind). I'd like them to cherish their Buddha mind and continue their Buddhist practice in their daily lives from now on.



Lay Confirmation Recipients
Tom Callis, Dennis Nagai, Michael Nagai, Brent Takenouchi, Joseph Takenouchi

Approximately 2500 years ago, just before Buddha passed away, he said to his disciples. "My disciples, the teachings that I have given you are never to be forgotten or abandoned. They are always to be treasured, they are to be thought about, they are to be practiced. If you follow these teachings you will always be happy." Buddha also mentioned about the importance of continuing our Buddhist practice in our daily lives. Buddhism is like a diamond. The more we polish a diamond, the more the diamond will become brilliant. In the same way, if we can continue our Buddhist practice in our daily lives, we can change from a selfish mind to a pure mind. To keep a pure mind and live a happy life with others is the best way of life. I am looking forward to engaging in our Buddhist practice with them. From next year, we'll have the Lay Confirmation Ceremony every year. I hope that you follow Buddha's path and discover happiness and a life worth living.

In Gassho,
Rev. Shinsho Hata

Rohatsu Sesshin

Rohatsu Sesshin is eight days of intensive zazen. Buddha attained enlightenment by zazen.

“To know” and “To understand” are different. Even though we know, without putting that knowledge to practice, we can not understand. Just reading a description of a medicine’s good effects won’t cure an illness. Zen also is something we can not understand until we put it to practice.... **Dogen Zenji**

Date: December 1- 8 Time: 6:30 am - 7:30 am

Zazen (25 minutes) Kinhin (10 minutes) Zazen (25 minutes)

Let us sit in Zazen together



Zafu

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Aloha Members and Friends,

On November 8th, another huge project was completed at Taishoji. After about 10 years our residence and temple were fumigated for termites. It took 3 days to have it done. Thank you Elaine Miura for hosting Rev. Hata and Okusan for two days at your home during the fumigation. Thank you everyone for your help.

December 10, 2017 at 9:30 am, is our Jodo-e / Kannon ko / Toba Kuyo Service. Please join us for the last service for the year.

December 31, 2017 at 11:30 pm is our Joya no Kane Service. “*Joya*” means to remove “*Bonnou*” (our worldly desires) to greet the New Year with a pure heart. It is said there are 108 kinds of *Bonnou* in Buddhism. By tolling the bell 108 times at this service we can remove our *Bonnou* for this year.

January 1, 2018 at 10:00 am, we will welcome the New Year at our Hatsukito Service. You will receive the blessings of the Wisdom Wind by Rev. Shinsho Hata.

At both services, each person attending the service will receive a Omamori (good luck amulet) Extra omamori may be purchased for \$3.00. each. We will also have **key chain omamori of a dog or cat.** It is a fluorescent Pet Omamori for health and safety for \$3.00 each.

In 2018, Taishoji will be the Toban temple for our BIBF (Big Island Buddhist Federation) consisting of five temples in Hilo - Taishoji Soto Mission, Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, Hilo Meishoin, Higashi Hongwanji Mission and Puna Hongwanji Mission. Being the Toban temple means Rev. Shinsho Hata will be the lead minister for three Buddhist Services at the Veterans Cemetery, Ireisai Service (for the Japanese immigrants whose remains were placed in a vault at Alae Cemetery), BIBF Hanamatsuri and Bodhi Day Services. Since we will be the host temple for the BIBF next year, your help will be greatly appreciated.

In Gassho,
Rodney Nishino



Temple Fumigation



Tolling of the Bell



Dog & Cat Omamori

BUSSHIN KAI NEWS

Congratulations to the members who went through the Lay Confirmation program on November 18, 2017. Welcome you to your new Soto Zen Buddhist status. As a person who received their Buddhist name, you are now eligible to join the Taishoji Busshin Kai Organization. The purpose of the organization is to foster a deeper understanding of the Zen teachings by reading and studying the various teachings.

JODO-E / KANNON-KO / TOBA KUYO SERVICE

Sunday, December 10, 2017 / 9:30 am.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Service will be officiated by our 15th resident minister, Rev. Shinsho Hata.

December 8th is the day we celebrate Shakyamuni Buddha's realization of the Way. Following years of difficult ascetic practice. Shakyamuni sat in Zazen beneath the Bodhi Tree. At dawn on December 8th, Shakyamuni saw the morning star and realizing awakening, he then became Shakyamuni Buddha. He was no longer an ordinary, common person and instead had achieved the brilliance by which to free all of humankind.



.....CUT ON LINE.....

**TAISHOJI JODO-E / TOBA KUYO
Donation & Toba Kuyo Form
December 10, 2017
9:30 am**

Donors Name
(Print) _____

First

Last

Jodo-e Donation \$ _____

Toba @ \$2.00 each \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Toba Reading:

(Print) (1) _____ -- _____

Donor

Dedicated To

(2) _____ -- _____

(3) _____ -- _____

(4) _____ -- _____

(5) _____ -- _____

(6) _____ -- _____

**Please send or bring form to:
Taishoji Soto Mission
275 Kinoole St.
Hilo, Hi 96720-2944**

KADOMATSU & MOCHI TSUKI

Friday, December, 29th at 8:00 am will be Kadomatsu Making at Taishoji. If you would like to participate in making the Kadomatsu, please wear appropriate clothing (shoes, gloves, etc.) and tools to trim the bamboo. Please call Rev. Hata (935-8407) or Rodney Nishino (959-7898). **Derrick Izumo** will chair this Kadomatsu project. We will be gathering the bamboo from the residence of the late Kiyomi Omoto in Kaumana. We thank his daughters for granting us permission to cut the bamboo.

Saturday, December 30th at 8:00 am will be Mochi Tsuki at Taishoji. If you wish to experience pounding mochi in a **usu** (large standing stone bowl), you are welcome to join us. Call Edith Nishino (959-7898) or Linda Matsushita (959-5163).

A REMINDER FROM THE SAYINGS OF THE BUDDHA; I EXHORT YOU TO AVOID THE TEN EVILS;

1. Kill not, but have regard for life.
2. Steal not, and do not rob; but help everyone to be the master of the fruits of their labor.
3. Abstain from impurity, and lead a life of chastity.
4. Lie not, be truthful. Speak the truth with discretion, fearlessly and with a loving heart.
5. Invent not evil reports, and do not repeat them. Carp not, but look for the good sides of your fellow beings, so that you may with sincerity defend them against their enemies.
6. Swear not, but speak decently, and with dignity.
7. Waste not the time with gossip, but speak to the purpose or keep silent.
8. Covet not, nor envy, but rejoice at the fortunes of others.
9. Cleanse your heart of malice, and cherish no hatred, not even against your enemies; but embrace all living beings with kindness.
10. Free your mind of ignorance and be anxious to learn the truth, lest you fall prey either to skepticism or to errors. Skepticism will make you indifferent and errors will lead you astray, so that you shall not find the noble path that leads to life eternal.

Deacon Juho

HILO HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE (KUPUNA CARE)

Hospice and palliative care can assist with conditions related to:

Cancer, Dementia/Alzheimer's, Heart Disease, Liver disease, Neuromuscular disease, Peripheral Vascular, Pulmonary disease, Renal conditions, Stroke, Coma.

We provide clinical care and counseling services to terminally ill patients and their families, **regardless of age, financial status, or the particular illness involved.**

Hospice care is appropriate for anyone doctors believe to have a life expectancy of less than six months. At a point where active treatment aimed at recovery stops, hospice care can take over, aiming instead at producing the best possible quality of life in the patient's remaining time. Every moment counts, and every day can still be emotionally and spiritually fulfilling, dignified, and as free from pain and stress as possible.

The decision to start hospice care is usually a joint one, made with doctors and nurses, family and loved ones, and wherever possible, the preferences of the patient first and foremost.

We deliver our care and services primarily in the home. No one will be turned away from care because of inability to pay. We also work in skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, and other locations in the community.

The Hawaii Hospice Palliative Care Center is located at 590 Kapiolani St., Hilo. The Center Team will give you comfort and a sense of peace in your time of need. Call 934-2913 for more information.

ANNUAL TEMPLE CLEAN-UP

Kay and Josh Harmon arrived early Sunday morning for our Annual Temple Clean-Up. “Good morning”. I’m here to help. What can I do?” Members of Taishoji Taiko, Boy Scouts and friends arrived with warm smiles soon after.

Some members were directed to vacuum and clean the Hondo. Taiko members cleaned the basement and hall, cleaned all the fans and scrubbed the ramp. Scout members washed the jealousies and screens. Fujin Kai ladies cleaned the kitchen and storage room. Everyone was busy sweeping and scrubbing. By 11:00 am the temple and residence sparkled and it was time for lunch. Delicious ham and cheese sliders. Portuguese bean soup, chips and dip, vegetable and fruit salad were enjoyed by all. Of course, there is always room for jello...yummy!

It was truly a Sangha working together. Everyone felt proud of our second home, Taishoji Soto Mission.



Isaiah Nakano removes fan for cleaning



Taiko members wash the fans



Boy Scouts wash the screens



Taiko members wash the ramp



Masayoshi Onuma sharpens the knives



Naoshi Watanabe maintains the premises



Fujin Kai members clean the kitchen



Mamiko Hata and Elaine Miura prepare lunch

Mahalo for your help at our Annual Temple Clean Up.

We are grateful for your help

TAISHOJI DECEMBER 2017 SCHEDULE

1-8	Fri-Fri	6:30 - 7:30 am	Zazen - Rohatsu Sesshin
1	Fri	9:30-am-12:30 pm	Zen Lunch & Lecture (Mrs. Naoko Moller)
2	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
		9:30 am-12:30 pm	Zen Lunch & Lecture (Mrs. Naoko Moller)
3	Sun	9:00 am	<u>Taishoji - S/S Family Service Cancelled</u> <u>Service at Puna Hongwanji</u>
		9:00 am	BIBF Bodhi Day Service at Puna Hongwanji
9	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #5
		1:00 pm	Kyodan Meeting
10	Sun	9:30 am	Jodo-e / Kannon Ko / Toba Kuyo Service (Kyodan)
16	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #1
17	Sun	9:00 am	S/S Family Service
23	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #2
29	Fri	8:00 am	KADOMATSU MAKING
30	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning Group #3
		8:00 am	MOCHI TSUKI
31	Sun	11:30 pm	New Year's Eve Joya no Kane Service (Kyodan) Ringling of Temple Bell 108 Times

TAISHOJI ZAZEN / TAIKO / BOY SCOUT TROOP 95 SCHEDULE

Zazen	Monday	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Morning Zazen	Sunday	8:00 am - 8:35 am
Taiko	Sunday	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 JANUARY 2018 SCHEDULE

1	Mon	10:00 am	Hatsukito Service (New Year's Service)
6	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #4
7	Sun	9:00 am	S/S Family Service / Ojizo Matsuri - (S/S)
13	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #5
		1:00 pm	Kyodan Meeting
14	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		10:00 am	Busshin Kai Meeting / Shinnen Kai
20	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #1
21	Sun	9:00 am	S/S Family Service / Dogen Zenji Birthday
		10:00 am	Kyodan General Membership Meeting
27	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group #2
28	Sun	9:00 am	S/S Family Service
		10:00 am	Fujin Kai General Membership / Sokai

Friday, February 16, 2018 will be the year of the dog according to the Chinese Zodiac.
(1922,1934,1946,1958,1970,1982,1994, 2006, 2018)

The Dog will never let you down. Born under this sign you are honest, and faithful to those you love. You are plagued by constant worry, a sharp tongue, and a tendency to be a fault finder. However, you would make an excellent businessman, activist, teacher, or secret agent.

A dog can be a loyal friend. A person born in this year would be loyal and quick to learn. Those born in these years are usually honest and loyal and help people. They play fair and they are very important.

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL WORLD IT WOULD BE, IF PEOPLE HAD HEARTS LIKE DOGS!