



HAKUHO

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FEBRUARY 2018

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

“Your body is like a drop of dew on a blade of grass; your life is like a flash of lightning”. This is one of the Dogen Zenji quotes. Dogen Zenji said that our body is weaker than we think it is and our life can come to an end so quickly. For this reason we have to cherish every moment completely and appreciate the significance of a life time. Are you fully appreciative of your daily life? I would like you to take a moment at the end of the day and reflect back on your experiences. Did you use your time effectively? Or did you spend too much time with your smart phone & waste it? We are provided with 24 hours a day equally. During the day, we can use the time for various things, such as earning money, studying, traveling, of course using a smart phone and so on. It's up to you. But depending on how you use it, you can create great value during the day.

On January 6, seven Taishoji members and I participated in the Kona Daifukuji Zen retreat. On that day, more than thirty members participated. From 9am to 3pm, we did Zazen, Shakyō (Hand-copying Sutra), Shabutsu (Tracing a picture of a Buddhist image), ate health food and listened to Dharma talk. Through the retreat, we were able to learn about Zen teachings and practice it. In addition, there was a special rule at the retreat. It was that we had to spend all the time in silence during the retreat. Do you know why we had to spend all that time in silence? Because by spending time in silence, we can act on one thing carefully and respectfully without being distracted from misdirected thoughts.



In other words, we can proceed efficiently with what we want to do during the day using this technique throughout our lifetime thereby developing ourselves in positive ways. I learned a precious thing at the Zen retreat.

In our daily life, a lot of things cross our mind. For example, I want a new car! I want a new toy! This we might say is like a monkey's mind. If you do your homework or drive with a monkey's mind, you will not concentrate on your homework or on driving. That's why it is important to focus our mind and act on one thing at a time carefully and respectfully.

Engaging in Zazen, Shabutsu and Shakyo are excellent practices to accomplish that. During our precious lifetime, it is important that we arrange in our mind to organize all that we intend to do. Making out a schedule and writing down your plans can also help.

Our life can come to an end so quickly, but depending on how we live every moment, we can make our life shine. I hope that you cherish your life during your lifetime and cultivate your Buddha mind. Let's cherish our limited lifetime. Thank you very much.

In Gassho,
Rev. Shinsho Hata

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha Everyone,

My sincere **THANK YOU** to the former Directors of our Kyodan - Naoshi Watanabe, Jane Onuma and Dean Fuke. Taishoji is very grateful for your wholehearted support and assistance. We welcome our new

BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2018 - 2020

President	Rodney Nishino
1 st Vice President	Edith Nishino
2 nd Vice President	Walter Tachibana
3 rd Vice President	Derrick Izumo
Secretary	Linda Matsushita
Treasurer	Ellen Yamauchi
Assistant Treasurer	Larry Soma
Assistant Treasurer	Elaine Miura
Correspondence Secretary	Patricia Fuke
Auditors	Michael Watanabe
	Alan Jyo
	Joseph Takenouchi
Directors	Michael Nagai
	Yoko Gussman
	Tom Callis
Komon	Kazue Tanimoto
	Hiromu Yamauchi

TEMPLE ORGANIZATIONS

Kyodan	Rodney Nishino
Fujin Kai	Linda Matsushita
Busshin Kai	Walter Tachibana
Baikako	Mamiko Hata
Sunday School	Patricia Fuke
Zazen Kai	Rev. Shinsho Hata

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Taishoji Taiko	Lei Kaniumoe
Boy Scout Troop 95	Derrick Izumo

BIG ISLAND BUDDHIST FEDERATION

President	Derrick Izumo
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We are looking forward to an exciting year since Taishoji is Toban temple for the BIBF this year. We will have a joint service with other Buddhist temples in our community for Hanamatsuri and Jodo-e. We will need the support and assistance from our Sangha to make this a successful year.

In Gassho, Rodney Nishino

BUSSHIN KAI

Everyone, I hope that your health is good so far in this Year of the Dog (Inu Toshi). Ranking as the eleventh animal in Chinese zodiac, Dog is the symbol of loyalty and honesty. People born in the Year of the Dog possess the best traits of human nature. They are honest, friendly, faithful, loyal, smart, straightforward, venerable and have a strong sense of responsibility. For the rest of us not born in the Dog Year, we can still follow those character traits faithfully for spreading Happiness to all friends and relatives.

Our Soto Zen religion will guide us through a peaceful, enlightened life here on earth. We are at one with all nature and are guided by the wisdom of Science, unlike religions that pray to divine beings.

Please confirm your knowledge of our Zen teachings by learning all the aspects of Zen from our present minister, Rev. Shinsho Hata. You can see more clearly the basic lessons that Shakyamuni Buddha gave to the world over 2,500 years ago. You can realize how his ideas about life were practiced by India's greatest emperor, the Buddhist Emperor Ashoka, who was the only ruler in world history who ruled by moral persuasion (not force) and was compassionate towards his people. He spread the peaceful and non-theistic teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha to the known world in the 3rd & 2nd centuries B.C.E. Thus, the people of Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Mesopotamia, Iran, Turkey (today), Alexander the Great's empire, China, Tibet, Afghanistan, Pakistan, etc. once knew the gentle, Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. Even Jesus, John the Baptist, Mary Magdalene, James the Just (brother of Jesus) & many other Jews carried on the traditions of Buddhism in spite of being called heretics and being mass murdered as heretics called Cathars, Manichaeans, Knights Templar, Free Masons, etc. over the past two thousand years.

George Washington and the first four or five U.S. Presidents were Buddhists (or Free Masons. (They were called Deists since people were under-informed in those days.) Grace was never said at meals in the Washington home, and if his wife Martha forced him to attend church, Washington never took Communion and left before Communion time.

Please come and worship together at Taishoji, for Rev. Hata is doing a great job of ministering to our Sunday School and adults by using modern tools such as power point audio-visual presentations and live ukulele music for our mass singing of gathas. (He will be our Jake Shimabukuro!)

I hope new members will gladly join our Busshin Kai (Pure Hearts Society) and make our Zen circle much wider and stronger for Taishoji!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

All students and parents, please continue to have a good start of Spring in this Year of the Puppy. To be honest and loyal to your parents is very important to help you to grow up strong and safe. Here at Taishoji you will continue to learn honesty, friendliness, wisdom and helpfulness. May you continue in Sunday School and become a better person than you were yesterday. We thank the Okusan, Mrs. Mamiko Hata, for learning to play the temple organ so that we can sing all our cherished Soto Zen hymns out loud and on key! All girls should be honored on March 3, Girls Day (Peach Festival). I hope to see you next Sunday...

Walter Tachibana

BUDDHA NATURE

To know ourselves is first of all to know that our own true nature is Buddha nature. Just as the sun and moon are always shining, but may not be visible because they are obscured by clouds and mist, so the Buddha nature is ever present within us, though it may not be apparent because it is covered over by clouds of lust, hatred and delusion. To practice meditation is to remove the layers of clouds that conceal our true being so that our Buddha nature may appear again. When the Buddha attained Supreme Enlightenment under the Bodhi tree, he laughed. Why? Because before he was enlightened he thought the truth he was seeking was something distant from himself. But when he achieved Enlightenment, he realized that the truth he sought was nothing other than his true nature, which was ever with him before the beginning of time. His true nature had never departed from him, and when he became enlightened, he discovered that it was ever present, only needing his recognition to become apparent.

"Zen Philosophy, Zen Practice"

Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick

KYODAN INSTALLATION & SHINNEN ENKAI

Dear Taishoji Members, Taiko & Boy Scout Members and Friends,

You are all cordially invited to our **Installation and Shinnen Enkai (New Year's Party) on Sunday, February 4th at 10:00 am**. The newly elected Board of Directors will be installed followed by picture taking. A delicious luncheon will be prepared by the members of our Fujin Kai and Kyodan and of course, BINGO. Everyone loves BINGO. We will provide the brown bags to carry your prizes home. We look forward to the fellowship of our Sangha.



NEHAN-E / 33 KANNON OSUNAFUMI / TOBA KUYO SERVICE

Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 9:30 am, we will be observing the death of Shakyamuni Buddha. At the time of his death the Buddha was sleeping on a bed prepared between two Sala trees; his head to the north, his face to the west, and his hand for a pillow. White flowers bloomed on the Sala trees and fell continuously.

The Osunafumi is a pilgrimage on a pathway of sand from the 33 Kannon temples in the western part of Japan. We offer our prayers to each Kannon as we walk on our pilgrimage led by Rev. Shinsho Hata. Everyone is welcome to join us for this memorable service.



RYU

The art work was drawn by Japanese calligraphy artist, Mr. Koki Takehara from Okayama, Japan. The Chinese character Ryu (龍) means dragon. The Sumi art work was done using a 40lb. brush to convey our wishes and prayers for world peace. The audience watched in awe as he maneuvered the huge brush on a 15ft. by 20ft. fabric. This masterpiece was completed by having everyone's handprint on it with a wish to be taken to heaven by the dragon. The art is hung & displayed on the left side of the entrance into the temple wishing everyone's happiness in the coming year!



Taishoji Healing Arts

Date Every First & Third Wednesday
(First class from **Wednesday, February 7, 2018**)

Time 9:00am - 10:30am

Cost Donation

Place Taishoji Soto Mission

Taishoji Yoga class will start in February. Yoga offers enhanced health, peace and balance of body-mind-spirit. With consistent practice the practitioner becomes more strong, flexible, and inspired in life. Please bring yoga mat and loose clothing.

Yuimi 'Mana' Koike (E-RYT200)

Yuimi teaches a blend of yoga (hatha & ashtanga), qi-gong and Japanese traditional dance - Mai & Minyo Odori. She has been a practitioner of yoga and various healing arts for over 30yrs.

As a child she endured many health issues and this influenced her at an early age to adopt a healthy vegan lifestyle. With her vast knowledge and experience of sacred movement, she guides practitioners towards equanimity and inner peace. Yuimi's mission is to inspire peace and joy within harmonizing with all beings.



The Terano system of Tenugui TAISO

Date **Saturday, February 10, 2018**

Time 10:00am - 11:30am

Cost Donation

Place Taishoji Soto Mission

Mr. Masaaki "Macky" Terano, will be at Taishoji on Saturday, February 10. He will be presenting "The Terano system of TENUGUI TAISO" workshop in English. Please bring a Bon Dance Towel.

「The Terano system of TENUGUI TAISO」

Do you know how to relax or loosen up your body & mind? Many people doesn't know clearly.

So we are going to find a comfortable zone and sweet area of our body through the moving with TENUGUI (Japanese traditional towel made from cotton). If you can find there, your face will turn into a smile!!

The moving of TENUGUI TAISO is not hard at all. It is very easy, slow, mild, natural. So everybody can do and feel comfortable easily and breathe deeply. And it is recommended for elder, pregnant woman, people who need rehabilitation, too.

To know how to relax or loosen up is not only good for your physical health , but also mental health. Let's enjoy and talk with our body!!



TAISHOJI FEBRUARY 2018 SCHEDULE

3	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
4	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service (Setsubun) (Bean throwing)
		10:00 am	Kyodan Installation & Shinnen Kai
10	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
		1:00 pm	Kyodan Meeting
11	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
17	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 5
		8:00 am	Prepare / Set-Up for Nehan-e Service
18	Sun	9:30 am	Nehan-e / 33 Kannon / Osuna Fumi / Toba Kuyo Service (Kyodan)
24	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
24 & 25		Sat & Sun	Minister & HSMA Mtg / Betsuin & Pagoda Hotel

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 MARCH 2018 SCHEDULE

3	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
4	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		1:00 pm	Fujin Kai Meeting
10	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
		1:00 pm	Kyodan Meeting
11	Sun	10:00 am	Haru No O-Higan / Kannon-Ko Service (Fujin Kai)
17	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
18	Sun	9:00 am	SS/ Family Service
24	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 5
25	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service

NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

One of our Dharma teachings is to save our environment. Hawaiian Fresh Products Inc. is asking for old newspapers. The newspapers do not have to be sorted. Please bring your bundled or bagged newspapers for recycling to the temple. Please call Rev. Hata at 935-8407.

IN MEMORIUM

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

Mr. Henry Yamashita
February 26, 1934 - January 10, 2018