



# HAKUHO

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**MARCH 2019**

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, I shared a wonderful time at our Setsubun and New Year's Party with everyone. Many UH Hilo students and families came to Taishoji. It was quite lively! I hope everyone had a good time. I'd like to provide a comfortable place where you can be calm and learn Buddhist ideas to enrich your life.

I'd like to share one of the zen words. It is "Hashu Kyōkō (把手共行)." "Hashu" means hold hands. "Kyōkō" means live together. So "Hashu Kyōkō" means "reach out to others, live with people together in harmony." In your daily life, do you reach out to the people around you and support each other? These days the internet has made our lives more convenient. However, it reduces the opportunities of people communicating with each other directly. In particular, it is a big problem among young people. They sometimes feel isolated in their daily life. That's why, we need to communicate and support each other. I'd like you to learn two things from Hashu Kyōkō.

1. Make a great friend who trusts and respects you.

We sometimes are jealous of the person who has a lot of friends. But in making a friend, quality is more important than quantity. Buddha said, "A person should recognize among one's acquaintances those with whom one should associate and those with whom one should not. The ones with whom a person should associate are those who are helpful, who are willing to share happiness as well as suffering, who give good advice and who has a sympathetic heart."

Continued on next page

If your friends always let you down and do bad behaviors, they are not the friends who you want to cherish. The friend who encourages and supports each other is a good friend who you have to cherish. I'd like you to come to Taishoji and have such a great friend through Taishoji activities.

## 2. Reaching out to the Buddha and our ancestors who we cannot see with our eyes.

The other day, there was something I learned about this idea when I performed a memorial service. After the memorial service I was invited to lunch by the family. I went to the family's house. On that day, more than thirty people gathered at the house. When I sat, the family handed out something to all the participants. It was Coca Cola! At first, I couldn't understand. So I asked the family why did you hand out Cola to all the participants. The family said that it was because their departed loved one really liked Coca Cola. They handed out the Cola to honor the deceased person's life and share memories of the deceased person. I was impressed. I usually drink water or tea at lunch, but I decided to drink the Coca Cola to honor the departed loved one. So all the participants had lunch with Coca Cola and spent meaningful time talking about memories of the deceased person. Then, I felt that everyone's heart became one even though I met some people for the first time. When I saw people talking about the deceased person while drinking Cola, I felt their kindness and compassion for the deceased person. Even if they cannot see the deceased person with their eyes, they try to reach out to the deceased person and share time together. Then, I thought that their behavior is the practice of Hashu Kyōkō. The deceased person will be happy.

I introduced two things. They are great ideas to enrich our life. In our daily life, we tend to be full of ourselves without thinking of other people. To make ourselves happy is an important thing, but true happiness is accomplished only after the people around us become happy. Let us cherish the practice of Hashu Kyōkō.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Shinsho Hata

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Aloha Members and Friends,

We welcome back Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick to our Sangha after a short absence. He will be assisting Rev. Shinsho Hata during services with Lay Assistant Jigaku Takenouchi. He will also be holding Buddhist study classes once a month after the last S/S Family Service of the month starting on March 31, 2019. In returning to our Sangha, Deacon Juho has written his first article for the Hakuho.

At our general membership meeting, there was discussion about having a garage sale this year. It was brought up at our Board meeting and it was decided to have it after July 2020. To make this happen we will need many volunteers and chairpersons for different sections like household, merchandise, food, clothing, preserves, fresh vegetables, fruits, etc. If you know of anyone that is able to donate plants, vegetables, fruits or flowers, contact them now so it will be ready for next year. If you have any items for our garage sale, please call Taishoji at 935-8407. Items must be bagged, boxed and sealed. Our last garage sale was in October 2017.



Kenchato / offering of tea, water & food to Buddha

On Sunday, February 17, we held our Nehan-e / Osunafumi Service 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 were blooming on the Sala trees and fell continuously.



Pilgrimage to the 33 Kannon

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.

In Gassho,  
Rodney Nishino

## **FUJIN KAI**

Aloha Fujin Kai members and friends! How are you all doing in the cold weather these days? Please take care. In March we are doing the Niigata Kenjin Kai Fundraiser Luncheon on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> is prep. Haru no Ohigan Service sponsored by the Fujin Kai is on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

We will have a Fujin Kai meeting on Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 pm. Our Kakuma picking date is set for Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for these events if your time allows. I would like to announce that our Fujin Kai is now all inclusive. That means both men and women are welcome.

Please join us! Thank you all for your continuous support. Always.

In Gassho,

Yoko Gussman (808)345-1765



Setsubun February 3, 2019



Baika Workshop led by Rev. Ryokoh Matsui February 18, 2019

### **BUSSHIN KAI NEWS: MARCH 8, THE DAY THE MOST LOYAL DOG PASSED AWAY**

Zen Buddhism is for all sentient beings (living beings with feelings) and the best known example of this is a dog. A light brown and whitish-faced, furry male Akita named Hachiko, or Hachi. The famous deed he did was to wait at the train station for his master to return from work and then walk home with him. One day while he was at work, the master died of a brain hemorrhage. But, no one told Hachiko about it. So, he waited there for 9 years, 9 months and 15 days. So goes the basic account of Hachiko.

Hachiko was a rare, pure breed Akita, born in the town of Odate in Akita-ken in Northern Japan on November 10, 1923. Full-grown, he would grow up to 130 pounds with up-right ears and a tail that curled to the left.

When Hachiko was 1-1/2 years old,, he was acquired by Professor Hidesaburo Ueno of Tokyo University's Agriculture Department. Their home was near Shibuya Train Station, 2 miles southwest of the Imperial Palace. Tokyo University was 2 miles north of the Imperial Palace.

Each day Hachiko went to the station with Dr. Ueno and waited there until the 4 p.m. train arrived. But on May 21, 1924, the professor had a brain hemorrhage seizure at work during a lecture and died there. For 9 years Hachiko waited there at the same spot where he last saw his master come home on the 4 o'clock train.

On March 8, 1935, Hachiko died from cancer and worms. Admiring people built a bronze statue of him at his favorite spot at the train station and called him "Chuken Hachiko" (Loyal Dog Hachiko).

Each year on April 8, a memorial service is held at Hachiko's statue, led by the mayor of Shibuya ward, its Police Chief, & the Shibuya stationmaster. And the cherry blossoms are in full bloom.

Walter Tachibana



## HANAMATSURI (FLOWER FESTIVAL)

**Sunday, April 21, 2019 at 9:30 am, the Taishoji Kyodan** will be hosting our **HANAMATSURI / KANNON KO / TOBA KUYO SERVICE**. We will be celebrating Shakyamuni Buddha's birthday. He was born more than 2,500 years ago to King Siddhartha and Queen Maya in the garden of Lumbini in Kapilavastu, a small kingdom in the Himalayan foothills. He was called Siddhartha and later, Shakyamuni Buddha.

It has long been said that at the time of his birth Shakyamuni Buddha said, "Heaven, Earth and I are one person." At each temple through out Japan, a small pavilion, covering a statue of the baby Buddha pointing one index finger toward heaven and the other toward earth, is set up and decorated with flowers. This statue is bathed with sweet tea and this is the way Flower Festivals are observed.

Flower festivals are not held only at temples, however. It is also observed as a general, public event. Let us believe in the true happiness brought about by Shakyamuni Buddha's teaching and celebrate the unsurpassable joy it gives. Sweet tea is essential of the Flower Festival. According to the legend, two Dragon Kings rained warm and cold sweet water from heaven to bathe Buddha. Not only is sweet tea drunk at the Flower Festival, but there is also the custom of grinding *sumi ink* with it and writing "April 8<sup>th</sup> is a day of good fortune and insects are driven away." The piece of paper this is written on is hung upside down and thought to keep away disagreeable insects.



**PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY!**

—————CUT ALONG LINE—————

### HANAMATSURI DONATION

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Donation For: Hanamatsuri Service \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Toba \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$2.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Toba Name (s) (Please Print) (Include another sheet if more is needed)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_ DONOR \_\_\_\_\_ DEDICATED TO \_\_\_\_\_

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT- Taishoji Soto Mission*

## Dukkha

I have noticed that we use the word suffering a lot when we talk about the Buddha's teachings. Especially when used in connection with the Noble Eight Fold Path.

The original word was Dukkha in Pali language. which is sometimes translated as unsatisfactory conditions. Our green book on page 243 offers similar translations.

We live in a rich country. Most people in Hilo have electricity and running water, which makes our lives much more comfortable, and we take this for granted. Also, we do not eat just fish and poi. There are many grocery stores here that carry different foods from across the world. All at our fingertips. We have access to modern medicines. Our physical lives have been made easier by our forefathers.

Still yet, I see people with worry, tension, anxiety, and stress. These are forms of Dukkha. Mental states of mind that can be considered unsatisfactory conditions. According to the Buddha, these sufferings are not necessary. We create our own stress by how we think about things. Study and practice of Buddhist teachings will help us understand life and ourselves, becoming more comfortable with both. As a result we can face life with a calm and quiet mind.

Juho

## BASIC BUDDHISM CLASS

**Date:** Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Taishoji Soto Mission will offer a Basic Buddhism class every last Sunday of the month. The classes will be taught by Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick.

“People who understand the meaning of the Noble Truths and have learned to follow the Noble Path are in possession of the light of wisdom that will clear away the darkness of ignorance.”



Deacon  
Juho Kirkpatrick

## BON DANCE PRACTICE

**Date:** Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 8:00 pm, Taishoji will be having Bon Dance Practice. Mrs. Jane Heit will teach us how to dance new Soto songs. Anyone interested in learning our dances and other dances are welcome. Bon Dance practice will be held every first Tuesday of the month until July.

Come and join us for fellowship in our Bon Dance practice sessions.



Bon Dance Practice 2018

## NEW TAISHOJI BON DANCE HAPPI COAT

Taishoji is going to order new Happi Coats from Japan. We are taking orders now. The cost is **\$80**. If you dance with this Happi, you will be a very popular person!!

**They come in only two sizes.**

“**F**” (LG to XLG) or “**M**” (SML to MED)

**To order:**

Send an email to:

**hilotaishoji@gmail.com** or call the temple office at **(808) 935-8407**.



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### MARCH 2019 SCHEDULE

2	Sat	7:00am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
3	Sun	9:00am	SS / Family Service
		<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Fujin Kai Meeting</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>7:00-8:00pm</b>	<b>Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit)</b>
9	Sat	7:00am	Temple cleaning Group # 3
		<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>KYODAN MEETING CANCELLED FOR MARCH</b>
10	Sun	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>HAIB Buddha Day Service at (Kona Hongwanji)</b>
16	Sat	7:00am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
17	Sun	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Haru No Ohigan / Kannon-ko Service (Fujin Kai)</b>
23	Sat	7:00am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
24	Sun	9:00am	SS /Family Service
30	Sat	7:00am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
		<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>KAKUMA / Pickers Meet at Taishoji or Hagio's</b>
		<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Peelers Meet at Taishoji / Bring a paring knife</b>
31	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Buddhist Study Class (Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick)</b>

### TAISHOJI ZAZEN / TAIKO / SCOUTS SCHEDULE

Zazen	Monday	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Taiko	Sunday	11:00 am - 1:00 pm
	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Cub Scout Troop 95	Wednesday (twice monthly)	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Boy Scout Troop 95	Wednesday	7:15 pm
Go Class	Thursday	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

### TENTATIVE APRIL 2019 TAISHOJI SCHEDULE

2	Tue	7:00-8:00pm	Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit)
6	Sat	7:00 am	Temple cleaning Group # 3
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>KYODAN MEETING (rescheduled from April 13)</b>
7	Sun	9:00 am	BIBF Hanamatsuri Service (Meishoin is host)
			(Hilo Meishoin )
		<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>TAISHOJI HANAMATSURI (moved to April 21)</b>
13	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>KYODAN MEETING CANCELLED</b>
13 & 14	Sat & Sun		UHSSWA Conference (Soto Mission of Hawaii)
20	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
21	Sun	9:00 am	<b>S / S FAMILY SERVICE CANCELLED</b>
		<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Taishoji Soto Mission Hanamatsuri /</b>
			<b>Kannon-Ko / Toba Kuyo Service (Kyodan)</b>
27	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
28	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service & Zazen

### WISDOM WORDS

“The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved.” --- Victor Hugo

Success consists of getting up just one more time than you fall - - Unknown

“I have the greatest of all riches: that of not desiring them.”--- Anonymous

Without kindness there can be no true joy.” --- Thomas Carlyle

“Wear a smile and have friends; wear a scowl and have wrinkles” --- Unknown