



HAKUHO

Taishoji Soto Mission 275 Kinoole St., Hilo, HI 96720-2944
Hilo's Zen Temple
Phone - (808) 935-8407 Fax - (808) 961-6124
E-mail - hilotaishoji@gmail.com



APRIL 2019

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

Last month, one of our Zazen Kai members asked me, "Reverend, I learned about Dogen, Keizan and Rev. Shunryu Suzuki, but do you know of a famous Zen Buddhist nun?" Since I came to Hawaii, I have never had a chance to talk about Zen Buddhist nuns. Now, there are many Soto Zen nuns in Japan, but a long time ago, women were discriminated against and couldn't become monks. It is said that a few Buddhist books described that only a man can attain enlightenment as women have many worldly desires. Maybe, someone added inaccurate information after Buddha passed away. Our Soto Zen founder, Dogen emphasized in his book that we must not discriminate between men and women. After that, another founder, Keizan, accepted that a woman could become a priest for the first time. Now there are two Soto Zen nun monasteries in Japan. And last month, a nun priest, Rev. Ryokoh Matsui came to Taishoji and taught us how to sing Goeika with her beautiful voice. She also joined in our Zazen session. I'd like to introduce you to a very famous Soto Zen nun. She is Rev. Shundo Aoyama. She started temple life at the age of five. When she was 15 years old, she became a priest. She gave more than 500 lectures and many people learned Buddhism from her. This year Rev. Aoyama will be 87 years old, but she still continues to work at a Soto Zen nun monastery as the Abbot. Her Dharma message is very meaningful. She visited the mainland several times and her Dharma messages were translated into English and was published as a book. Actually, I have three books that she wrote. I'd like to introduce you to one of her teachings. It is "The mind is like Ice with three poisons and like water with Buddha's compassion."

Continued on next page



Rev. Aoyama said, “we have a mind like cold ice which has our three poisons of greed, anger and foolishness. If we feel unsatisfied with others, our ice clashes with others and hurts others. We have to realize that our mind is cold ice with the three poisons. The poisons are very important. If we can realize and reflect on them, our ice will be illuminated by Buddha's wisdom and compassion and can change to water. If we are water, we can live with others in harmony without clashing. We will become clear water with Buddha's compassion which can accept all.” This is her story. She explained about our mind using the images of ice and water.

Rev. Shundo Aoyama

How about your mind? Is your mind cold ice or water? Since human beings cannot remove our worldly desires completely, maybe we are like water with a little ice which is served at the restaurant. But our water can change to ice quickly depending on our mind. That's why we have to strive to melt our ice by illuminating Buddha's wisdom and compassion. In addition, we have power to melt others' ice by our own Buddha's compassion. Because Buddha mind dwells in our heart. If two ice clashes with each other, they will hurt each other, but if water and ice clash with each other, they will not hurt each other and water can melt the ice. In the same way, if we can act with the people around us with compassion, they will come to overflow with compassion. To realize our own ice with three poisons and reflect on our behavior is the important thing which Rev. Aoyama wanted to say. Let us live our life with the mind like water filled with Buddha's compassion.

In Gassho,
Rev. Shinsho Hata

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha Members and Friends,

Rev. Hata, several Baikako and Taishoji members attended and also participated in the entertainment portion of the Hawaii Association of International Buddhist (HAIB) service at Kona Hongwanji in March.

Taishoji members enjoyed lunch at Seiji's Sushi in Kailua, Kona after the HAIB service.



Speaker Dr. George Tanabe & Ministers from various temples



Taishoji Baikako



Lunch at Seiji's Sushi



BIBF Ministers

April is Hanamatsuri and we will be celebrating it twice this month. **April 7, 2019 at 9:00am**, the Big Island Buddhist Federation (BIBF) will be hosting their Hanamatsuri Service at Hilo Meishoin.



Taishoji Hanamatsuri

April 21, 2019 at 9:30am, Taishoji will be having our Hanamatsuri / Kannon Ko / Toba Kuyo Service at Taishoji.

FUJIN KAI

Happy Spring to all Fujin Kai members and friends!

In April some of us will be attending the 54th UHSSWA (United Hawaii Soto-shu Women's Association) Conference in Honolulu. We will be bringing our beloved Volcano kakuma harvested from Hagio Farms in Volcano to share with Fujin Kai members from around the state. Thank you to the Hagio Family and those who are willing to help pick and prepare the kakuma.



Preparing kakuma for cooking



Peeling kakuma

Taishoji Hanamatsuri Service is on **Sunday, April 21st at 9:30am** and lunch to follow. Lunch prep will be on **Saturday, April 20th**.

There will be no Fujin Kai meeting in April. The next meeting will be at **10:00 am on May 5, 2019**. Please note the time change. Thank you for your continuous support.

In Gassho,
Yoko Gussman



FUJIN KAI FOOD DRIVE

Taishoji Fujin Kai is having their annual **FOOD DRIVE** during our Hanamatsuri Service on April 21, 2019. Please bring a non perishable item or items for our **FOOD BANK** donation box located at the entrance to the Hondo. Your donations are appreciated.



In Gassho,
Taishoji Fujin Kai



BUSSHIN KAI

On April 5th many will be observing National Go For Broke Day to remember the many Americans of Japanese Ancestry who served and sacrificed their lives and limbs in World War II. These are the soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT), and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) who left towns and sugar plantation camps in Hawai'i or internment camps on the U.S. Mainland, determined to prove their loyalty as United States citizens.

National Go for Broke Day commemorates the spirit of our brave Nisei veterans who gave their all for their country and the dignity of their families. The day is observed on April 5th in honor of Private First Class Sadao Munemori, who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor immediately following his selfless sacrifice to his men.

Pfc. Sadao Munemori had fought near the town of Serraveza on the northwest coast of Italy, On April 5, 1945, when a hand grenade bounced off his helmet and fell near two of his 100th Battalion buddies in a shell-crater, he fell on the bomb and took all the explosion with his body. It saved the lives of his 442nd friends but it cost his life... 74 years ago.

So many of our Taishoji friends and relatives served in the 100th, 442nd and MIS but they have already passed on to nirvana. Except one: our sole 442nd veteran lives here in Hilo and is a loyal Temple member. He is Isamu Kanekuni of Service Company, 442nd RCT. When you see him, go shake his hand and say "Thank you!"

Walter Tachibana

KARMA

Karma is one of the basic principles of Buddhism. Without it, the Noble Eight Fold Path would not work. Karma is a word that means action, but when it is used in a Buddhist context, It also infers similar actions will lead to similar results. Every action has a reaction. Good actions will have good results, poor actions will have poor results. It is karma that explains the circumstances that people find themselves in. We all know karma, because we know that if we rob the gas station, or commit a crime, we will be in big trouble. If on the other hand, we study a trade or maybe graduate from schools we can get a better job. We all know karma on a large scale, it is obvious to everyone. Many peoples lives, however, are filled with smaller problems. But the principle of karma is the same for large or small actions. If our speech is hurtful, or we take a little too much through greed or selfishness, we make small problems for ourselves. Not just what we do, but also what we say has results. We have all said something that we wish we had not said. There are two things we should know about karma. The first thing is, that there is no escape. We have to receive the results of our actions. We have to know that, and act accordingly. The second is that you cannot build a reserve of good deeds. Every action has it's own reward, for example, if you have done ten good things, then do one bad thing. You will still suffer from that one bad thing. When we learn to see karma in our daily lives, we will make better decisions thus slowly improving our lives.

Juho

Taishoji Zen Retreat 2019

Taishoji Zen Retreat will be held on May 18, 2019

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Cost: Donation

Place: Taishoji Soto Mission

Needs: Your own vegetarian lunch and comfortable clothes

Schedule:

8:30 am Arrive and settle in
9:00 Greeting / Introductions
9:05 How to sit in Zazen
9:20 Zazen (25 minutes)
9:45 Kinhin (Walking Meditation)
9:55 Zazen (25 minutes)
10:20 Restroom Break
10:30 Morning Service
10:50 Shakyo / Shabutsu
(Sutra copying & picture tracing)
11:50 Lunch in Silence



12:30 pm Tea ceremony
1:00 Dharma Talk by **Rev. Tom Wright**
1:20 Yoga
1:40 Restroom Break
1:50 Zazen (25 minutes)
2:15 Kinhin (Walking Meditation)
2:25 Zazen (25 minutes)
2:50 Group Photo in Zazen Hall.
3:00 Clean-up

“Not thinking about anything is Zen. Once you know this, walking, sitting or lying down, everything you do is Zen”. - - - Bodhidharma.

“Zazen is an activity that is an extension of the universe. Zazen is not the life of an individual, It’s the universe that’s breathing”. - - - Dogen

“To follow the path, look to the master, walk with the master, see through the master, become the master”. - - - Zen Proverb



**Bishop Komagata
& Ministers of various Soto Temples in Hawaii**



Kona Daifukuji members performing at HAIB Service



Fujin Kai Fund Raiser for Niigata Kenjin Kai



Fujin Kai Fund Raiser for Niigata Kenjin Kai

Taishoji Ohigan / Kannon Ko Service



Jigaku Takenouchi Chanting the Sutra



Kazue Tanimoto offering incense during Ohigan

APRIL 2019 TAISHOJI SCHEDULE

2	Tue	7:00-8:00pm	Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit)
6	Sat	7:00 am	Temple cleaning Group # 3
		1:00 pm	KYODAN MEETING (moved from April 13)
7	Sun	9:00 am	BIBF Hanamatsuri Service (Hilo Meishoin)
		9:30 am	TAISHOJI HANAMATSURI (moved to April 21)
13	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
13 & 14	Sat & Sun		UHSSWA Conference (Soto Mission of Hawaii)
20	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
21	Sun	9:00 am	SS / FAMILY SERVICE CANCELLED
		9:30 am	Taishoji Hanamatsuri / Kannon-Ko / Toba Kuyo Service (Kyodan)
27	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
28	Sun	8:00—8:35 am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service

TAISHOJI ZAZEN / TAIKO / SCOUTS SCHEDULE

Yoga	Monday	5:30 pm - 6:00 pm
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
Troop 95	Wednesday	7:15 pm
Pack 95	Wednesday (twice monthly)	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Go Class	Thursday	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

TENTATIVE MAY 2019 TAISHOJI SCHEDULE

3	Fri	9:30 am	Fujin Kai Hospital Visitation
4	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
5	Sun	8:00 - 8:35 am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service / Children's Day (S/S)
		10:00 am	Fujin Kai Meeting
7	Tue	7 - 8:00 pm	Bon Dance Practice (Jane Heit)
11	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
		1:00 pm	Kyodan Meeting
12	Sun	8:00 - 8:35 am	Zazen
		9: am	SS / Family Service
18	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
19	Sun	8:00—8:35 am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service
25	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
26	Sun	8:00 - 8:35 am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service
27	Mon	9:45 am	Memorial Day Svc at Veterans Cemetery #1

IN MEMORIUM

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

Mr. Yoshiharu Fuse

September 21, 1925 - February 2, 2019 (93)

Mrs. Eiko Yamaoka

January 24, 1929 - February 25, 2019 (90)

Mr. Alfred Seishi Kuniyoshi

February 9, 1929 - March 2, 2019 (90)