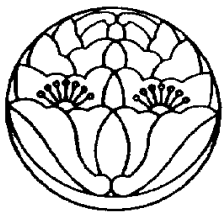


Hakalau Jodo Mission
PO Box 296
Hakalau, Hawaii 96710



Hakalau Jodo Mission

PO Box 296, Hakalau, Hawaii 96710
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JANUARY-FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



On behalf of Rev. Miyazaki and the Board of Directors, we wish you a safe, happy and prosperous New Year!

In this issue we are pleased to share the following special features along with the 2024 schedule of services, and the January-February schedule of meetings and classes:

- The year in photos (page 2)
- Shining a light on the untold stories of our plantation era families (page 3)
- Capital Campaign progress report (page 4)
- 2023 Donor Recognition (page 10)

In gassho, *Susan Forbes*

2023 in Review



Jan: New Year's Fireworks



Feb: Breezeway DONE!



Mar: Parsonage Teamwork



Apr: Senior Lunch Hula Surprise



May: No More Termites!



Jun: Music Magic



Jul: Ice Cream!



Aug: O-bon Set-Up



Sep: Friends Remember



Oct: Ready to Paint!



Nov: "New" Altar Brocade



Dec: New Dharma Wheels

MEMBERS & FRIENDS: IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

Annual dues from members and friends are vital to paying our basic operating expenses like utilities, insurance, maintenance and supplies. For many years the dues were set at \$60 a year for individuals and families along with a "request" for an additional contribution of \$100 in lieu of other fundraising efforts such as raffles, auctions, or bazaars.

Last year instead of increasing dues to meet expenses we created the option to "choose your dues" of \$60 or \$120 and the response was overwhelmingly positive. **Your personal invitation to join or renew will be mailed soon and we trust and pray that you will respond as generously as you are able.**

Mahalo!

SHARING OUR HISTORY TO PRESERVE OUR LEGACY

This feature first appeared the September-October 2020 Newsletter as a way of honoring those who came before us, preserving the culture, and preserving the Mission itself. **INTERESTING THINGS ARE HAPPENING NOW, showcasing the different ways we learn about and honor our history:**

Oral Histories: The Ancestors Want Their Stories Told!

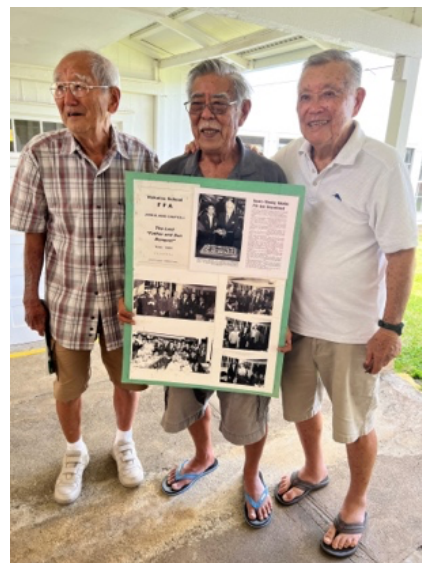
Hakalau Jodo Mission is partnering with Wailea Village Historic Preservation Community (WVHPC) in a major historic preservation effort that aims to shine a light on the untold stories of plantation era families from Wailea and Hakalau. We envision a multi-media approach that includes recording and filming 50 individual "talk-story" interviews that will be developed into a widely distributed documentary available in print, video and multi-media formats like YouTube and the hakalauhome website. Our friend Akiko Masuda will serve as narrator along with a local creative team led by freelance historian Heather Fryer and videographer Easten Tanimoto. For further information about this living history project contact project director Heather Fryer, Ph.D. by email at heatherfryer1@gmail.com or call/text at (402) 980-6109 and watch for updates in our next newsletter.

Contacts from those who grew up here, their descendants, and others

- In September, historian Heather Fryer, Ph.D. met with Robert Yara, Bobby Fujimoto, and Shin Matayoshi at the Mission to share stories and encourage efforts to collect oral histories...it worked!

Two contacts in November related to young men listed on the memorial at Hakalau Veterans Park and honored each [Memorial Day](#):

- François Patard of V éranne, France contacted us after reading about [Sgt. Ronald K. Takara](#) and the Mission's Memorial Day Service:
....it would be my pleasure to tell you or any person interested about the plane crash that claimed Sgt. Takara his life along with 19 other people. A stele has been erected in 2002 near the crash site to honor the victims and a short book published, the same year, by a neighbor of mine, Mr. Pierre Dumas, about the accident. The Internet was not, at the time, yet as developed as it is today and little was known about the people on board. Therefore, my intention has been, since I began this research, to complete Mr. Dumas' work in order to gain a



Left to Right: Shin Matayoshi, Robert Yara, Bobby Fujimoto



Laying a wreath to honor those who died in the crash.

better understanding of the human dimension of this tragedy, the deadliest air disaster ever to have occurred on Mont Pilat.

*Each year, a ceremony attended by the mayor of Doizieux, American and German delegates, various officials and citizens takes place in front of the stele. The book I'm writing should be published - I hope - in 2024, in time to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the accident. Since three years now, I've been in touch with several descendants of the victims, some of them have already visited the crash site. **Even though it's a long way from Hawaii, we would be delighted to welcome to our modest French mountain, next year or later, any potential relative of Sgt. Takara.***

If you know any Takara relatives, please notify us by email, hakalaujodmission@gmail.com, or call/text Susan Forbes at 808-286-6130. Any information received will be forwarded to M. Patard.

- Also in November, Nelson Soken, who grew up in Wailea Camp, contacted us indicating that his family could add to our knowledge of Wailea Camp and the area. Of course, Heather Fryer is following up! In addition, he provided information about his uncle, [Pvt. Yeishun Allen Soken](#), one of the young men listed on the Hakalau Veterans Park War Memorial and honored each Memorial Day.

Memorial Plaques

- The memorial plaques in the Temple are another example of honoring ancestors and other loved ones, as well as learning more about our history. As of 12/31/23, there are 41 sponsored plaques. Seven long pews are still available for sponsorship and each can display from 1 to 4 memorial plaques. For more information email hakalaujodmission@gmail.com or call/text Susan Forbes at (808) 286-6130.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE: PHASE 3

We've made significant progress since our report in the July-August newsletter:

- Replace worn and threadbare altar brocade -- **DONE!** See next page for detail.
- Repair/replace broken stained glass panes -- **DONE!**
- Restore historic medallions on façade of Temple, i.e., dharma wheels and Jodo Shu medallion - **FABRICATED, AWAITING PAINTING! INSTALLATION WILL TAKE PLACE LATER IN CONJUNCTION WITH PAINTING THE EXTERIOR OF THE TEMPLE.**
- Replace pew padding – **PENDING FUNDING.**
- Paint all roofs, repair and paint exterior walls-**PENDING FUNDING.**



The Altar Brocade has been Replaced!



We first mentioned the need to replace the tattered altar brocade in the April 2021 newsletter, as part of the Capital Campaign. Earlier this year, Rev. Miyazaki measured the brocade and received quotes from suppliers in Japan. In the meantime, He also removed the old, tattered brocade and replaced it with a brocade that had previously been used to cover the cabinetry below the columbarium and later to cover a table

for Hanamatsuri and O-bon services.

This brocade isn't perfect...it is a bit short and does not wrap around the sides of the altar. However, viewing the sides of the wooden altar is a reminder of plantation days, a time when people created what they needed. While we don't know when this altar was built, our best **guess** is 1952 when a major renovation took place.

This special brocade was given to the Mission in celebration of our 2004 Centennial by Rev. Sensho Soma and Rev. Shogaku Soma, the grandson and great-grandson, respectively, of Rev. Senri Soma, Hakalau Jodo Mission's founder and first minister.



In Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Hakalau Jodo - in
Dedicated by the descendants of the founder, Rev. Senri Soma
on October 16, 2004
Rev. Sensho Soma (Grandson)
Rev. Shogaku Soma (Great Grandson)

At November's O-Juya service, those present looked at the wooden sides of the altar and the brocade and declared that we had met our goal to replace the tattered brocade with a beautiful and historically-relevant solution.

It is a perfect match to the brocade around the Amida Buddha statue.



SERMON FROM REVEREND JUNSHIN MIYAZAKI: BODHI DAY



The Buddha was a prince of a small country. His name was Gautama Siddhartha. He seemed to be a young man troubled by difficult philosophical matters. After having a son, Rahula, he left the palace. You might think he was an irresponsible father, but one of the king's most important tasks was to have his wife give birth to a boy, and the nanny or nursemaid took care of the child.

He shaved his head, begged for food, and did ascetic practices. These are not his original creations. At that time, the philosophy called Upanishad was popular. The goal of Upanishad was to unify the truth deep within oneself with the truth of the universe, which they believed would allow them to reach eternal bliss. For this purpose, a considerable number of men became monks and devoted themselves to ascetic trainings.

Devils appear in the sutra we read today. This is a form of old Indian literature, in which there were not really devils, but rather 'klesha' in the Siddhartha's mind that appear as devils. Klesha is a negative mental state that clouds the mind causing suffering and the conditions for suffering to arise. It often translated as worldly desires, evil passions, poison, and so forth.

Siddhartha overcame his klesha and became enlightened. In other words, **enlightenment is the state in which the mind is free of worldly desires.**

Sutras say that after his enlightenment, the Buddha was reluctant to spread his teachings. The Buddha thought that the people would not understand what he was saying, and he described his enlightenment as "something that goes against the current of the world".

But Brahma, the greatest of all deities, appeared and begged the Buddha to spread his teachings. The Buddha repeatedly refused, but decided to spread his teachings after Brahma said, "If you do not teach, enlightenment will perish. If you teach, there will surely be someone who understands." Like the devils, Brahma is the personification of Buddha's missionary motivation. This episode shows that enlightenment is very difficult.

Buddha taught many people from the time of his enlightenment at the age of 35 until his death at the age of 80. The Buddha preached his teachings in different forms according to people's abilities and nature. They were memorized and compiled into sutras.

Amida Buddha appears in many sutras. Amida Buddha's teaching is that we should give up enlightenment in this life and be reborn in the Pure Land of Ultimate Bliss after death and let Amida enlighten us. Our founder Honen-sama's understanding was that in order to be reborn in the Pure Land, we just say Namu Amida Butsu. Some people have thought, 'so then it's okay to do bad things out of evil desire?'

Whether we say Namu Amida Butsu or not, the truth remains that the less klesha or worldly desires we have, the happier we will be. However, it is very difficult to reduce klesha, and impossible to get enlightened in this world. For instance, yesterday, I ate too much at the Fujinkai year-end party, and when I got home, I slacked off because of overeating, and it was night when I finished writing this Dharma talk. For me, enlightenment is too far beyond.

Amida Buddha leads all to enlightenment. We should be at ease, take care of our health, and live happily. Please continue to lead happy lives with **Namu Amida Butsu.**



CONDOLENCES

Our dear friend, Kinue “Kay” Kobashigawa, passed away peacefully November 21st. Kay moved to Hakalau in 1960 when she married Antoku Kobashigawa. She was a joyful member of our community, always ready with a welcoming smile and encouragement. She will be missed.

She is survived by her sons Eric of Lynnwood, Washington, and Gary of Hilo. A memorial service will be held January 19th at Dodo Mortuary.

NAMU AMIDA BUTSU

NENKI SERVICES FOR 2024

When you think of your beloved ones in the Pure Land and repeat Namu-Amida-Butsu, you can be grateful to the Buddha and the deceased, and the gratefulness is the gateway to true happiness. The Buddha said, “Having respect, humility, contentment, gratitude, and hearing the Dharma on timely occasions... this is the highest happiness.”

2024 NENKI SERVICES OBSERVED FOR DEATHS OCCURRING IN:

2023	2022	2018	2012	2008	2002	2000	1998	1992	1988	1982	1978	1975
1 yr	3rd	7th	13th	17th	23rd	25th	27th	33rd	37th	43rd	47th	50th

JANUARY

Harue Kaneshiro 1/7/2012 13th
 Momoe Kataoka 1/18/1975 50th
 Harusuke Teruya 1/22/1975 50th

FEBRUARY

Taka Tagawa 2/2/1975 50th
 Kinzo Matsubara 2/7/1975 50th
 Bushichi Ito 2/22/1975 50th
 John Oshiro 2/7/2018 7th
 Merrill Kanna 2/24/2012 13th

MARCH

Ume Masaki 3/14/1992 33rd
 Richard Shimabukuro 3/20/1998 27th
 Isao Yoshida 3/26/1998 27th
 Hoichi Ueda 3/31/2008 17th

APRIL

Harry Yamanaka 4/5/2022 3rd
 Shiro Udo 4/8/1975 50th
 Kiyojin Miyashiro 4/8/1975 50th
 Aaron Sugino 4/23/2022 3rd

MAY

Linda Hartwell 5/11/2023 1 year
 Jiro Arakaki 5/12/2002 23rd

JUNE

Yoshiko Miyashiro 6/9/2012 13th
 Brett Kaneshiro 6/15/2022 3rd
 Shigenobu Kanna 6/26/1975 50th
 Toku Udo 6/29/1975 50th

JULY

Mildred Mowat 7/12/1988 37th
 Shizuyo Yoshida 7/16/1998 27th
 Masahiro Matayoshi 7/29/2012 13th
 Gama Oshiro 7/31/1975 50th

AUGUST

Kana Hirakawa 8/6/1998 27th
 Hisako Teruya 8/16/2002 23rd

SEPTEMBER

Shimo Hashimoto 9/10/1992 33rd
 Masako Machida 9/19/1998 27th
 Seizen Kaneshiro 10/9/1978 47th
 Jinsei Miyashiro 10/9/1975 50th

OCTOBER – NO NENKI OBSERVANCES

NOVEMBER

Kay Kobashigawa 11/21/2023 1 year

DECEMBER

Aiko Saji 12/24/2012 13th
 Lauren Shishido 12/13/1982 43rd
 Tsune Eto 12/24/1978 47th

Please contact Rev. Miyazaki for scheduling
 at
 (808) 808-936-7828.

Namu Amida Butsu

UPCOMING SERVICES

Monday, JANUARY 1 , 1 p.m..	SHUSHOE-New Year's Day Service: While we will be holding the service on New Year's morning, the traditional practice is to gather just before midnight on New Year's Eve and ring the temple bell 108 times, symbolizing the washing away of the 108 human defilements and the beginning of a purified new year.
Sunday, JANUARY 14 , 1 p.m.	Gyoki-e: The memorial service for the Founder of Jōdo-shū, Honen Shonin. Honen Shonin died on January 25, 1212 and Gyoki-e recalls his virtue.
Sunday, FEBRUARY 11 , 1 p.m.	Nehan-e: followed by the New Year's Party, Shinnenkai: . Nehan-e commemorates Shakyamuni Buddha who initiated the teachings of Buddhism. Nehan means liberation from all desires and freedom from all suffering.
Sunday, MARCH 10 , 1 p.m.	Spring Higan: Higan-e takes place twice a year, at the time of the spring and autumn equinox. Higan means literally "the other shore", that is the other shore of enlightenment which contrasts this worldly shore of birth and death. It is a ceremony to honor ancestors and to chant the nembutsu.
Sunday, APRIL 7 @ BIBF MEISHION , 10 a.m. Sunday, APRIL 14 @ HAKALAU , 1 p.m.	Hanamatsuri: Buddha's Birthday--It is said that when Shakyamuni was born, birds sang, flowers bloomed, and two elephants poured sweet dew for bathing Shakyamuni. At the service, members pray by pouring sweet tea over the statue of Shakyamuni placed in a miniature flower garden of Lumbini. Shakyamuni's right hand points to heaven and left hand to earth. This is a service of remembrance and celebration.
Saturday, MAY 25 , 10 a.m. Hakalau Veterans Park Followed by lunch at the Mission	Memorial Day Service: The Memorial Day Service is one of our commitments to the greater Hakalau Community. It takes place in front of a monument honoring the boys and young men from this area that died in World Wars I and II, Korea, and Vietnam. This service is a Buddhist service of remembrance and there is also a veteran speaker. This is followed at the Hakalau Jodo Mission with an "All American" lunch.
NO SERVICES IN JUNE OR JULY	
Saturday, AUGUST 17 SERVICE: 6 p.m./ BON DANCE: 7-9:30 p.m.	O-Bon: O-bon is the traditional summer festival to invite spirits of dead ancestors back home, hold a memorial service and then send the spirits back to heaven. These dead ancestors are called hotoke-sama, literally "venerable buddhas". This is especially true in the Pure Land tradition where we are assured of birth in the Pure Land and ultimate enlightenment in the next life through Amida's saving grace.
Sunday, SEPTEMBER 8 @ MEISHOIN 10 a.m.	Joint Higan at Meishoin: This is the autumn equinox service.
Sunday, OCTOBER 13 , 1 p.m.	Eitaikyo: The Eitaikyo can be seen as the temple's promise to propagate in perpetuity. However, the temple is also a place that helps us to understand that what makes it possible and meaningful for the temple to propagate all the people of the temple's past and their concern for the future that helped to make the present and the future possible.
Sunday, NOVEMBER 10 , 1 p.m.	O-Juya: This is a Jōdo-shū tradition of followers gathering to chant the nembutsu through the nights of ten days. It is considered a time of Special Nembutsu (<i>betsuji-nembutsu</i>) in homage of Amida Buddha. At the Hakalau Jodo Mission the congregation chants during its morning service, although the Minister may practice chanting for ten nights.
Sunday, DECEMBER 1-BIBF @ MEISHOIN ,10 a.m. Sunday, DECEMBER 8-HAKALAU , 1 p.m.	Bodhi Day: Shakyamuni Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, experienced spiritual awakening at the foot of the bodhi tree in Buddhagaya, India on December 8th at 35 years of age. Bodhi day is a celebration of the Buddha's enlightenment.

PRESENTATIONS AND MEETINGS:

- **For our neighbors in Wailea and Hakalau**, given the islandwide drought anticipated over the next few months, we have scheduled a presentation about wildfire preparedness and available resources, with some special attention to the Firewise Community Program. Following the presentation will be a discussion period. The Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization presenters will participate via ZOOM.

Date: January 30, 2023

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: HAKALAU JODO MISSION Dining Room (ZOOM viewed on large screen television)

To Join Zoom Meeting if you are not present at the Hakalau Jodo Mission:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7137259440?pwd=UEdQbHRCbjN4YUZqOHE1TDVBWkdWUT09>

Meeting ID: 713 725 9440

Passcode: wildfire

Please let us know if you will be attending in person, as seating will be limited. Refreshments served. EMAIL Virginia Juettner at vjuettner@gmail.com.

CLASSES: Advance registration, please. Contact instructors directly.

- **Tai Chi with Sifu Slade Shim:** Wednesdays, 8:30 -10:00 a.m. **Contact Slade Shim at wsi808@yahoo.com.**
- **Karate for Children with 4th Degree Black Belt Patricia Taniguchi:** Twice Weekly for each age group on Wednesdays and Fridays. Children 4-6 years old, 4:00 - 4:50 p.m.; 7-12 years, 5:00 - 5:50 p.m. **Contact Patricia Taniguchi at WKA.hakalau@gmail.com.**
- **Art Classes open to all age groups-- “My Art, My Journey”, an art class with Ilze Sims in the Dining Room. Tuesdays, 3-4:30 p.m.** This is a class for anyone who would like to start their art journey and for those with some experience who would like to find new inspiration to express themselves through their art. Ilze’s method balances inspiration and play – crucial elements in expressing ourselves, along with principles of good design and color harmony. The first few classes will **address finding inspiration, creating a good design, and harmonizing color.** Call or text Ilze 808-557-2797 or send an email: ilze@HawaiiArtStudio.com to sign up for classes.
- **Practice Yoga with Alison Simpson:** Three times weekly including Tues. 9:00-10:30 a.m., Thurs., 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Fri., 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. **Contact Alison Simpson at 808-825-7856 or alison@mahanahouse.com.**
- **Bon Dance Practice with Sensei Jane Heit:** Bon dance classes in Hakalau resume January 9th and continue on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS, OR IF YOU NEED HELP!

- Junshin Miyazaki, Minister: (808)-936-7828 or gongqi326@hotmail.com
- Susan Forbes, President/Newsletter Editor: (808)-286-6130 or sksforbes@gmail.com
- Akiko Masuda, Community Liaison: (808)-963-6422 or akikobandb@gmail.com

Let your Buddha nature shine brightly.

--Rev. Miyazaki

2023 HAKALAU JODO MISSION DONORS*

THANK YOU!

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of any errors or omissions.