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Mantokuji Newsletter

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS OR
PHONE NUMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED!
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Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission



June 2011

Aloha Members and Friends,

I would like to congratulate all of the Mantokuji Fujinkai members and volunteers for hosting a very successful UHSSWA Conference in April.

All of the hard work put into the planning and then putting it into action for the two day event was evident by the way that everything flowed smoothly and how we were all able to enjoy the conference and not be overwhelmed by it.

The theme for this year's conference, "Open Mind, Open Heart" includes the concepts such as "inclusiveness," "co-existing with other beings," "diversity," and "all sentient beings."

I hope that, through this conference and theme, we were able to address the importance of living together with understanding and respect for one another.

After all, we all share this one earth and there must be a way that we can live side by side in peace and harmony. Naturally, everyone has a different set of values and beliefs, as we were all raised in different environments and cultures and have experienced different things in our life. Unfortunately, it is in our human nature to think that "our way" is the "best way" and sometimes, there are people who even feel that it is the "only way".

I hope that we can all nurture an "open mind, open heart," and be able to realize the fact that though we are all different, we are all still the same and that "our way" is just one of many ways to do things and we should be open-minded to each and every way.

In Gassho,
Rev. Kenji Oyama, Resident Minister



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**Yagura Construction
General Clean up Day**

In preparation for O-Bon, we will be constructing the yagura on :

Sunday June 26, 2011 from 8:30 am

We will also be cleaning and decorating the temple and nokotsudo with chochin lanterns.

We also need your kokua in mowing and weedwacking of the temple grounds. Please come out to give us your helping hand!

We will hold an O-Bon Committee Meeting to plan this year's festival on **June 5 at 12:30pm** following the Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service and also after lunch on **June 26, 2011**.

Fujinkai News

The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meetings and clean up as follows:

Sunday June 12, 2011 at 8:30 am
Sunday July 17, 2011 at 8:30 am

Thank you to the following who were present at the April 10 clean up day:
Michie Tamane, Sachie Toyota, Bernice Nagato, Kathleen Davis, Misa Umetsu, Kiyoko Suzuki, Tokuko Abe, Kiyoko Quiggle, Violet Moto, Carol Moto, Lisa Sodetani, Katy Rourke, Darlene Kashuba, Eric Moto, Meyer Ueoka, Bobbie Arita, Judy Matoi, Marion Watanabe, Baron Ueoka, John Umeno, Sharon Umeno, Kay Hanano, Gladys Nagata, Naoko Oyama and Rev. Oyama.

And May 1 Clean up day:
Tokuko Abe, Bernice Nagato, Gladys Nagata, Misa Umetsu, Kiyoko Suzuki, Violet Moto, Eric Moto, Sachie Toyota, Michie Tamane, Judy Matoi, Bobbie Arita, Marion Watanabe, Meyer Ueoka, Baron Ueoka, Kathleen Davis, Cathy Murayama, Robin Smith, Naoko Oyama, Rev. Oyama.

We thank **Lisa Sodetani, Katy Rourke, Darlene Kashuba, John and Sharon Umeno** for answering our call for help. Because of their kokua, it relieved the workload for our ladies and we got a lot more work done.

We appreciate your help! Thank you so much!

Cooking and Craftwork Workshops

We hope to start cooking and craftwork workshops in the autumn so that we can share and learn the skills that our talented members and friends have to offer.

It is a great opportunity for children to come and see how things are made and how much we should appreciate the food that we eat and things that we use in our everyday life.

So please bring your children and grandchildren to these workshops!

Special Thanks

We thank **Kathleen Davis, Darlene Kashuba, and Elise Aquinde** for their help folding the Mangan newsletters.

Mahalo also to **Michie Tamane** and **Eric Moto** for sewing new curtains for the hall and temple restrooms and for the outside kitchen.

Thank you to **Tyler** who trims the coconut trees for Mantokuji.

Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Memorial Service

You are cordially invited to attend the Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo (Perpetual Memorial) Service to be held on:

Sunday June 5, 2011 at 10:30am

This service is observed to honor our veterans and victims of all past wars and to pray for peace and understanding in our world so that we can live in harmony with one another.

At the same time, we will be holding the Eitaikuyo or perpetual memorial service to remember those who have passed away, but have no family member left to visit them. As their extended family, let us join together to offer incense and prayer for them.

Please come and join us for this occasion. We will have light refreshments following the service.

All services are conducted in English.

Thank you for making the O-Bon Announcements

The following helped in making the O-Bon announcement letters on April 30.

Kiyoko Suzuki, Sachie Toyota, Michie Tamane, Bernice Nagato, Judy Matoi, Naoko Oyama, and Rev. Oyama.

Sangha Sisters

During the recently held Women's Association Conference, we heard about a group called the Sangha Sisters that meet at the Daifukuji Soto Mission in Kona. There is talk of starting this group at Mantokuji in the near future, so if you are interested, please let us know.

In Memoriam

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of the late **Shizue Matoi**, 94, who passed away on March 21, 2011 in California, the family of the late **Kay Kaoru Sakamoto**, 90, who passed away on April 16, 2011 at Maui Memorial Medical Center, the family of the late **Saburo Sato**, 89, who passed away on April 17, 2011 at Kula Hospital, and the family of the late **Sajima Nakayama**, 89, who passed away on April 24, 2011 at Hale Makua Kahului.

We pray for them and give our love and support to their family in this time of their great loss.

Namu Kie Butsu, Namu Kie Ho, Namu Kie So

June Schedule

1 ~			O-Bon Tanagyo Services Begin
5	Sunday	10:30 am 12:00 pm	Memorial Day & Eitaikuyo Service O-Bon Committee Meeting
12	Sunday	8:30 am 12:00 pm	Fujinkai Meeting & Clean Up Day Kyodan Meeting
18	Saturday	8:30 am	Kannonko and Goeika Practice
19	Sunday		Father's Day (Day of Rest)
26	Sunday	8:30 am	Yagura Construction General Clean Up Day O-Bon Committee Meeting

Coming up in July . . . (tentative schedule)

Tanagyo O-Bon House Visitation Service continue throughout the summer

- July 6 Draw parking lines for O-Bon Festival
 - July 7 Food preparation for O-BON
 - July 8 – 9 Food preparation and set up for O-BON
 - July 8-9 Mantokuji O-Bon Service and Dance**
 - July 10 Dismantling of Yagura, Clean Up Day, Put away chochin
 - July 12 Roselani Place Service (for Maui Buddhist Council)
 - July 14 O-Bon Service at Maui Memorial Park and Maui Veteran's Cemetery
 - July 17 Fujinkai Meeting and Clean up, O-Bon Evaluation Meeting
- Zazen Session on Saturday at 7 am and Sunday at 5 pm (no zazen on July 9)*

Info for Bon Dance Practices

We will not have a bon dance practice at Mantokuji, but there is a regular Monday night bon dance practice at the Hale Mahaolu Elua social hall from 6pm to 7pm. The fee is 50cents per practice.

The practices have started and beginners are encouraged to join in on these practices.

2011 Maui Buddhist Council O-Bon Schedule

- June 4 (Sat) Lahaina Shingon
6:30pm Service/ 7:30pm Dance
- June 11 (Sat) Puunene Nichiren
7:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- June 17 (Fri) Wailuku Jodo
7:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- June 18 (Sat) Wailuku Shingon
6:30pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- June 24, 25 (Fri-Sat) Kahului Jodo
7:00pm Service/ 8:00pm Dance
- July 2 (Sat) Lahaina Jodo
7:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- July 8,9 (Fri-Sat) Paia Mantokuji
6:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- July 15,16 (Fri-Sat) Kahului Hongwanji
7:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- July 22, 23 (Fri-Sat) Makawao Hongwanji
6:30pm Service/7:30pm Dance
- July 29,30 (Fri-Sat) Wailuku Hongwanji
7:00pm Service/8:00pm Dance
- Aug 6 (Sat) Kula Shofukuji
6:30pm Service/7:30pm Dance
- Aug 12-13 (Fri-Sat) Lahaina Hongwanji
6:30pm Service/7:30pm Dance
- Aug 20 (Sat) Paia Rinzaï Zen
6:00pm Service/7:00pm Dance

Donations Made in April

Thank you for your very generous donations!!!

- General Donations
- Paul and Gwen Ueoka**
- Anonymous Donor**
- Addison & Henrietta Harrison**
- Ben & Mabel Shishido**
- George Kadokawa**
- Jon Hanano**
- Charles & Lynne Toma**
- Gladys Nagata**
- Ross & Mildred Tamayose**

- Hawaii Fidelis Gamma ADK - *use of hall*
- Masako Nishijo - *100 day memorial for Mark Nishijo*
- Gary & Judith Matoi - *in memory of Shizue Matoi*
- Allen & Mitsuko Nikaido - *1 yr memorial for Masami Nikaido*
- Sueno Saito - *in memory of Satoru & Shizuno Kimura Family*
- Hideo & Joyce Kawahara - *in memory of Clara Sodetani*
- Takeo Endo Family - *100 day memorial for Takeo Endo*
- Ann & Tim Burd - *33 year memorial for Kuni Nagasue*
- Ellen Horiuchi - *in memory of Sakai Horiuchi*
- Sally Yoshina - *in memory of Rev. Sokyo & Tomiyo Ueoka*
for their birthdays
- Yukiko Sato Family - *in memory of Yukiko Sato*
- Paul & Anne Sakamoto - *service for Kay Sakamoto*
- Rodney Sato, Charlene Sato - *in memory of Saburo Sato*
- Sato Family - *13 year memorial for Namie Sato*
In memory of Shinichi Sato and Shiro Sato

Thank you to the many Hanamatsuri Service donors

Donation to Japan Relief Fund

- Takeji Nihei Tadayuki & Sumiye Horiuchi**
- Sumiko Suzuki Charles & Lynne Toma**
- Meyer Leigh & Sharon Ueoka**

Report on 46th UHSSWA Conference hosted by Paia Mantokuji

The 46th UHSSWA Conference was held at Mantokuji and the Maui Beach Hotel on April 16-17, 2011 with 150 participants from Maui and from the neighbor islands (over 55 participants from Mantokuji)

Under the leadership of Fujinkai President Michie Tamane, Treasurer Sachie Toyota, Conference Co-Chairs, Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano and Judy Matoi, and with the help of many others, we were able to accomplish our goal of hosting a meaningful and enjoyable conference that brought everyone together and left a lasting impression in their hearts and minds.

The conference formally began when the first guests from the neighbor islands arrived and we greeted them with leis, color-coded by temples, and conference bags with notepads and pens, folders, water bottle, cookies, and scrubbies. A delicious and hearty breakfast was prepared by our members and we even treated our guests with our signature home-made donuts made by Kay Hanano and company.

The opening ceremony began with welcome messages by Kyodan President Meyer Ueoka and Fujinkai President Michie Tamane, and the memorial service followed with representatives of each temple offering incense and flowers. The ceremonies, officiated by the Bishop Shugen Komagata, were very powerful as the sutras were chanted and gathas sung by all of the ministers, together with members from all of the Soto Shu temples in Hawaii.

The general membership meeting followed the services, and because it was so humid and hot, Brad Aquinde, Eric Moto and others thoughtfully passed out chilled bottles of water to everyone.

Although very muggy, we were blessed with good weather as the rain had subsided right before the weekend of the conference and the ocean was unusually calm with no waves, it was like a tranquil lake.

A bento lunch along with a variety of tasty homemade desserts was enjoyed as a long dessert line was formed. As a way to get to know each other and to enhance our studies of Buddhism and the history of Soto Shu in Hawaii we played two fun games; finding people who matched the description in twelve boxes and a trivia game.

An eisanka session led by Faye Komagata of Soto Mission of Hawaii was an informative workshop to promote the singing of the Buddhist hymns and encouragement for more participants in the baikako.

After a full schedule at Mantokuji, our guests were transported to the Maui Beach Hotel. Myles Inokuma was so helpful in coming out to make sure that all our guests were safely taken to their destination.

The banquet at the Maui Beach Hotel on Saturday night was the highlight of the conference. Keynote speaker, Brian Moto, carried out an excellent presentation, addressing the theme of our conference, "Open Mind, Open Heart," that inspired many and made us reflect deeply about our theme.

The different temples participated in the entertainment and shared with us their many talents. Molokai Guzeiji presented a slideshow of the activities done at their temple, Waipahu Taiyoji "choir" sang Magokoro ni Ikiru, Hilo Taishoji performed a comical Usagi to Kame, Kona Daifukuji did a very funny skit about the story of the "rabbit in the moon", and the Betsuin and Wahiawa Ryusenji groups collaborated on two bon dance songs that we could participate in. For Mantokuji's portion, we asked dance instructor Rayo McPhee to lead us in the zumba and we had everyone get up and try it. It was amazing how many people participated and we even got some of the ministers and Brian Moto up on stage to do the zumba which everyone just loved. The whole program brought back memories of past conferences where some of the most historical and memorable moments of the conference were made, and we got a chance to see the lighter sides of the ministers too.

Okusan, Naoko Oyama, gave a warm and heartfelt appreciation speech, and then read the poem "Tomoshihi to tomoni" with Bobbie Arita during the very moving and beautiful candle light ceremony. The night ended as always with the dancing of Heiwa Ondo.

The next day, everyone came back to Mantokuji for the group photo, morning service, dharma study and country store. We had an enlightening dharma study with several people sharing their feelings about the conference theme and we came out with a better understanding of what it is to have an open mind and open heart.

The conference ended with the singing of farewell and aloha o'e led by Bernice Nagato, the Bishop's closing prayer and Kay Hanano's farewell message. As Kay said in her speech, through this conference, our sangha grew even closer together, and we have gained a renewed appreciation for our older members who have led the way all these years. In a way, what this conference signified for Mantokuji, was the passing on of the torch from one generation to the next.

As a side note, it was so wonderful to see how much the children enjoyed the conference and how much they bonded during the two days as Janice and Brad Aquinde and their two children Evan and Elise shared their toys, crayons, and all kinds of goodies with the other children that were visiting from the other islands.

The emcees; Judy Matoi, Naoko Oyama, Bobbie Arita, and Carol Moto also did a fabulous job!

Donations received for the 46th UHSSWA Conference

Robert & Helen Shiraishi	Sherrie Shiraishi	Fumie Kitamori	Carol Oyama	Sally Kaneshiro
Rev. Jiko & Mike Nakade	Tomoyo Horiuchi	Kinuko Nikaido	Kiyoko Nakamura	Ann Nakamoto
James & Toshiko Sato	Fusako Lee	Jane Ishii	Evelyn Tabata	Eileen Matsumoto
Dwight & SunIm Ishiguro	Katherine Fujii	Miyeko Miyose	Linda Matsushita	Noriko Kasahara
Robert & Carol Suzuki	Joyce St Arnault	Lorraine Tanimoto	Chirio Miyose	Hilda Sugai
Mantokuji Fujinkai	Elaine Fernandez	Margaret Murayama	Margaret Ginoza	Cindy Asada
Mildred Kihara	Teri Wong	Harue Okamura	Iris Minagawa	Yoshiko Ikeda
Seichi & Takako Endo	Renee Kimura	Jill Teiho Wagner	Bernice Koike	UHSSWA
Bishop Shugen & Faye Komagata	Soto Mission of Hawaii Fujinkai		Wahiawa Ryusenji Fujinkai	
Rev. Juo & Sachiko Shinohara	Arnie Kotler/ Therese Fitzgerald		Rev. Ryosho & Ryuko Kokuzo	

Acknowledgements for the Fujinkai Conference

Naomi and Setsuko Takahashi for making the scrubbies given to the participants and leis for our special guests.
Sachie Toyota and Tokuko Abe for making the yarn leis for all the participants.
Myles Inokuma and Roberts Hawaii for their wonderful service and help.
Jennifer Matsumoto for designing our Conference Logo.
Walter Tachibana for his help in making the bags and notebooks.
Hideo and Joyce Kawahara, Steven and Ilene Tanabe for the folders and library bags.
Proteas of Hawaii, Allen and Janet Fukuda, Minoru and Gloria Agena for the flowers.
Kay Hanano for making all the beautiful flower arrangements and centerpieces.
Iwamoto Natto and Maui Specialty Chocolates for their contributions.
Service Rentals for donating the rental of the two porta-potties and hand-wash station.
Kevin Kimizuka, David Toyomura, and Pomai Cockett for lending, setting up, and taking down the tents.
Irvin Yamada for taking the group photo.
Tetsuya Toyoda (Okusan's cousin from Japan) for taking the snapshots throughout the conference.
Robert and Carol Suzuki for the beautiful cards that were given as gifts to the Jizoku and UHSSWA Officers.
Melina Murayama for the candles used for the candle light ceremony.
Allan and Cathy Murayama for the cookies and favors.
Rayo McPhee for her special zumba performance at the banquet.
Brian Moto for being our keynote speaker and for an excellent presentation at the banquet.
Waste-Not-Want-Not (Suzanne Freitas and James Mylenek) for pineapples.
Eric Moto for the Komoda butter rolls.

To the many donors of desserts, food and drinks for the lunches on Saturday and Sunday:

Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judy Matoi, Kay Hanano, Bobbie Arita, Cathy Murayama, Joyce Kawahara, Eric Moto, Carol Moto, and others.

Special thanks to our Kyodan, taiko, zazen members and friends of Mantokuji for your help during the conference:

Brad Aquinde, Evan and Elise Aquinde, Jon Hanano, Peter, Trudy and Cassidy Hanano, Scott Hanano, Joanne DeCoite, Darlene Kashuba, Joyce Kawahara, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, David Langille, Becky Lau, Brian Lieberman, Gary Matoi, Brian Moto, Eric Moto, Allan Murayama, Cathy Murayama, Kiyoko Quiggle, Carol Suzuki, Tetsuya Toyoda, Baron Ueoka, Meyer Ueoka, Sharon Umeno.

And also Mahalo to all of the Fujinkai members who made the conference a great success and a memorable event:

Tokuko Abe, Janice Aquinde, Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Kay Hanano, Judy Matoi, Carol Moto, Violet Moto, Margaret Murayama, Gladys Nagata, Bernice Nagato, Kinuko Nikaido, Masako Nishijo, Katy Rourke, Harriet Sibonga, Robin Smith, Mitsue Suehisa, Kiyoko Suzuki, Michie Tamane, Sachie Toyota, Joy Ueoka, Misa Umetsu, Marion Watanabe and Sally Yoshina.

Report on Japan Relief Fund Aloha Initiative and Zumbathon

Thank you very much for the many donations for the Japan Relief Fund. Mantokuji alone raised \$11,820 and more contributions have come in. The combined total for all of the Hawaii Soto Shu temples was \$93,783.50. 100% of the donations will be used to help the people who are in need in the areas hit hardest in Japan.

The reality is that the recovery process will take years and of course, there is a possibility for another natural disaster that may occur at anytime.

Many organizations are continuing their effort to give our support to the people of the Tohoku Region of Japan. **The Aloha Initiative** program is one of the projects that had been launched for the people of Japan and it has provided another way that we can help. To sign up to volunteer or to learn more about the program, visit Alohainitiative.com.

Another fundraising project that we have been planning for the Japan Relief Fund at Mantokuji is holding a **Zumbathon**. We will be giving you more information in the next newsletter, but presently, we are looking at Sunday August 7 as a possible date for this event.

O-Bon Toba Requests and Tanagyo House Visitation Requests

For those who wish to offer *toba* (wooden memorial tablet) to your deceased loved ones at the O-Bon service on July 8-9, please fill in the request form (pg 7) and send to P.O. Box 790207, Paia, HI 96779 or bring to Mantokuji at your earliest convenience. It would be helpful for Rev. Oyama if you could send it in as soon as possible so he has ample time to have it ready by O-Bon.

To have a *tanagyo* service (a house visitation service for obon) conducted at your home, please send or bring the request form to Mantokuji at your earliest convenience. Rev. Oyama will call you to schedule the service.

Through the offering of *toba* and observance of *tanagyo* services, we may express our gratitude to our departed loved ones, and by doing so, we nurture feelings of appreciation for our lives that we live today.



Toba and O-Bon House Visitation (Tanagyo Service) Request Form

1) O-BON TOBA REQUEST FORM

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

It is proper to offer TOBA to family members who have passed away within this year (May 21, 2010 ~ May 20, 2011) who are having their first O-Bon or Hatsu-bon and to your maternal and paternal family ancestors (Senzo Dai Dai). You may also offer TOBA to the deceased family members who are having their memorial year (nenkai kuyo) this year 2011 or any loved one that you would like to remember at O-Bon.

If you have any questions on how to fill out the form, please call Rev. Oyama at (808) 579-8051 or e-mail at <mantokuji@hawaiiantel.net>.

Please bring or send the request form to Mantokuji (P.O. Box 790207, Paia, HI 96779) at your earliest convenience so that there will be enough time to prepare the toba.

Please write in the Family names or names of individuals that you would like to offer tobas to: (Please write legibly and if you know the kanji characters for the kaimyo please write that also.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Amount \$ _____ (Toba donation - \$5.00 per Toba)

Please make checks payable to : Mantokuji Mission (P.O. Box 790207, Paia, HI 96779)

The TOBA will be offered and the names read during the O-Bon Service. Please place a check mark in the space below to inform us on what day you would like the TOBA that you offered be read. If you do not specify the date, the name will be read on Saturday, July 9.

_____ **Friday, July 8**

_____ **Saturday, July 9**

Please pick up the toba right after the O-Bon service if possible. Otherwise, it will be delivered to you by mail.

Please detach on this line

2) O-BON HOUSE VISITATION (Tanagyo) REQUEST FORM

Your Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

_____ I request for an O-Bon House Visitation (Tanagyo Service)