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Mantokuji Newsletter

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS OR
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Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission



March 2012

Aloha Members and Friends,

The New Years party and Nehan-e and Ojuzu Mawashi Service held on February 5 was a great success with about 100 people in attendance.

We thank everyone who came from the day before and early Sunday morning to prepare a very delicious meal, to all those who donated a dish or dessert, to **Bernice Nagato, Jean Pozsar, Misa Umetsu, Shikuko Kobayashi, Shirley Suzuki, Janet Tomita, Ione Tokishi** and the **Mantokuji Taiko group** for their excellent performances, to **Eric Moto and Brad Aquinde** for MCing, to **Thomas Umetsu, Brad, Christopher Zurcher, Rory Sarceda, Melina Murayama, Evan Aquinde, Elise Aquinde, and Jukei Shinohara** for their help in the bingo games and lucky number, **Joyce and Hideo Kawahara, Michie Tamane, Misa Umetsu, Andy and Jean Pozsar, Fernando's Mexican Restaurant, and Mantokuji Taiko** for their donations of the prizes, **Joyce Naomi Takahashi** for making all of the origami dragon centerpiece and favors, and **Kay Hanano** for the beautiful flower arrangements.

We especially thank the **Reverend Juo Shinohara**, his wife **Sachiko** and son **Jukei** for coming from Oahu to help with the preparation from Saturday morning.

As in anything, it takes a wholehearted effort and many hands working together in harmony to put on a wonderful party that everyone can enjoy!

In Gassho,

Rev. Kenji Oyama, Resident Minister



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the Resident Minister	1
Spring O-Higan and Kaisan Rekiyu-ki Service	2
Report on Kitchen Project	2
In Memoriam	2
Fujinkai News	2
35 th Annual Bazaar	2
March Schedule April Schedule	3
January Donations	3
Bishop's Message	4
Rev. Sokan's Service	4
Kyodan Meeting report	5
New grass installed	5
Special thanks	5
Thank you to Baron	5
Rev. & Mrs. Oyama move to Japan	5
Photos	5
Confirmation Ceremony	6

35th Annual Bazaar
Sunday March 18, 2012
7 ~ 11 AM

You are cordially invited to attend the
Spring O-Higan and Kaisan Rekijyu-ki Service

On: **Sunday March 25, 2012** From: **10:30 AM**

The Spring O-Higan is a time to remember and offer spiritual prayers to our deceased loved ones. Along with O-Bon and the Autumn O-Higan, it is one of the three major occasions during the year in which we join with family and friends to make our offerings to our departed loved ones. O-Higan is also a time to reflect on the six paramitas (six perfections) and concentrate on nurturing our inherent Buddha Nature. In doing so, we naturally and spontaneously bring peace and morality to our lives and to all those around us.

The Kaisan Rekijyu-ki is a memorial service for the founder and successive deceased ministers of Mantokuji. We will honor them at the same time as we observe the O-Higan service.

We are honored to have the **Dharma Teacher Therese Fitzgerald** as our guest speaker for this service.

Please come and join us for this occasion on **March 25, 2012 at 10:30 am.**

Report on Kitchen Renovations

We thank **Judy Matoi** who has been coordinating this project. New kitchen cabinets were installed, and rack shelves were put together by **Peter Hanano, Akio Hanano and Kay Hanano**. New lights were installed by **Neil Hanzawa and Ken Baptist** (Electrical Connection) and the shelves, walls and ceiling newly painted by **Kathleen Davis and Hans**. Thank you to **Michie Tamane, Sachie Toyota, Judy, Okusan and Reverend** for putting all the things back into the new cabinets and newly painted shelves.

In Memoriam

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of the late **Kazuo Hasegawa**, 76, who passed away on January 3, 2012 and the family of the late **Edward Y Ogawa**, 93, who passed away on January 27, 2012.

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

Namu Kie Butsu, Namu Kie Ho, Namu Kie So

Fujinkai News

Monthly meetings and clean up are as follows:

No meeting in March because of bazaar

Sunday April 15, 2012 at 8:30 am

Sunday May 6, 2012 at 8:30 am

Thank you to the following who came to help for the monthly clean up on January 15, 2012:
Sachie Toyota, Michie Tamane, Tokuko Abe, Bernice Nagato, Carol Moto, Misa Umetsu, Kathleen Davis, Meyer Ueoka, Baron Ueoka, Bobbie Arita, Marion Watanabe, Judy Matoi, Kay Hanano, Cathy Murayama, Chester Kakiuchi, Becky Kikumoto, Naomi Takahashi, Setsuko Takahashi, Pachi Haber, Gladys Nagata, Naoko Oyama, and Rev. Oyama.

Also thank you to **Janice Aquinde, Evan Aquinde, Elise Aquinde, Georgia Sato, Kaleo Sato, CJ Sato, and Caleb Sato** for coming to help clean the cemetery.

35th Annual Bazaar

Our annual bazaar will be held on March 18 this year and we will begin preparing from the end of February.

We ask of your kind help in preparing and setting up for the bazaar and for your donations of rummage items, potted plants, vegetables, fruits, flowers, baked goods and ingredients.

And also we ask for your help in advertising and spreading the word about our bazaar.

The work schedule for bazaar preparation is as follows:

Feb 26 (Sun) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting, set up

Feb 28 (Tue) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 1 (Thu) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 4 (Sun) 8:30 am - Set up Hall, prep

March 6 (Tue) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 8 (Thu) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 10 (Sat) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 11 (Sun) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 13 (Tue) 8:30 am - pricing, sorting

March 16 (Fri) 8:30 am - food prep

March 17 (Sat) 7:00 am - Set up, food prep

Manju making

2:00 pm - Sushi making

March 18 (Sun) 3:00 am - cooking, packing

Bazaar 7 am to 11 am

11am - Cleaning up after bazaar ends

The bazaar is an important fundraiser that is vital in keeping Mantokuji on its feet, a time for members and friends of Mantokuji to work together toward a unified purpose, and to nurture the spirit of giving and helping others.

March Schedule

1	Thursday		Sokanbu and U.S. Soto Conference Mtg
4	Sunday	8:30 am	Set up Hall for Bazaar
10-11	Saturday-Sunday		8 th U.S. Soto Conference
17	Saturday	7 am 2 pm	Bazaar Prep, Manju Making, set up Sushi Making
18	Sunday	3:00 am 7 ~ 11 am	Preparation for Bazaar 35th Annual Bazaar
25	Sunday	10:30 am 1 pm	Spring O-Higan and Kaisan Rekijyu-ki Service Bazaar Evaluation Meeting

Other Bazaar Work Days: Feb 26 (Sun), Feb 28 (Tue), March 1 (Thu), March 4 (Sun), March 6 (Tue), March 8 (Thu), March 10 (Sat), March 11 (Sun), March 13 (Tue), March 16 (Fri), March 17 (Sat)

Coming up in April . . . (tentative schedule)

- April 8 Paia Hanamatsuri Service at Mantokuji
with Paia Rinzai Zen Mission and Maui Dharma Center
- April 15 Fujinkai Meeting and Clean Up Day, Kyodan Meeting
- April 21-22 47th UHSSWA Conference hosted by Wahiawa Ryusenji
- April 28 Kannonko and Goeika Practice
- April 29 O-Bon Announcement making, O-Bon towel folding

Zazen Sessions are on Saturday at 7 am and Sunday at 5 pm.
(We will not have Zazen on March 10, 11, and 17, April 21 and 22)
Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations are scheduled during the month.

Donations made in January

General Donations

Sharon Shimabukuro/ Hatsumi Hayashi	Kiyoko Quiggle	Tadayuki & Sumiye Horiuchi	Fumiko Itakura
Setsuko Takahashi/ Naomi Takahashi	Ralph Arakaki	James & Helene Watanabe	Randy Emmsley
Ralph & Sadako Nikaido	Sumiko Suzuki	Takashi & Keiko Sato	Lois & Mark Sato
Hitoshi & Setsuko Morimoto	Joanna Ito	Allen & Mitsuko Nikaido	Ruth Nakao
Harry Umetsu/ Elsie Shimokawa	Ken & Sandy Abe	Richard & Carolyn Okuda	Debra Morioka
H & U, Inc, Sun Noodle	Harumi Komine	Robert & Carol Suzuki	Sue Dengler
Ella Kimie Watanabe	Brian Watanabe	Hale Mahaolu Central Office	Meyer & Yukie Ueoka

Jane Kishaba, Kazuo, George, Kenneth, Paul, and Elroy Hasegawa, Jessie Fragiato	Eitaikuyo Fund Donation
Erwin & Aimee Shibata, Jonathan & Katie, Jason & Bailey, Jeremy and Jenna	In Memory of Douglas and Clara Sodetani
John and Sharon Umeno, Leigh and Diane Wakamatsu, Corey and Aileen Waite	3 year memorial for Dorothy Suehiro
Albert & Glenda Ujiie, Roy Ueoka, Baron Ueoka, Meyer & Yukie Ueoka	50 year memorial for Rev. Sokan Ueoka
Allan & Cathy Murayama, Violet Moto, Edward & Hideko Zwick	50 year memorial for Rev. Sokan Ueoka
Hasegawa Family (Lori & Rodney Carillo/ Caryan & Stephen Hao)	In Memory of Kazuo Hasegawa, Funeral Services
Susan Oshiro, Kathleen & Jose Guaderrama, Norman & Charlotte Hamasaki	27 year memorial for Shigeru Ogata
Joseph Okamura	In Memory of Toshio Okamura
Sandra Shimomura	In Memory of Saichi and Chieko Saito
Noboru Ono	In Memory of Frances Ono
Satsuko Hiyakumoto	In Memory of Enzo and Kimi Yumen
Tamashiro & Miyahira Family	13 year memorial for Aiko Miyahira
Endo Family	1 year memorial for Takeo Endo
Stan Sakata	In Memory of Shirley Sachiko Taira
Janice, Roland, Kei Asakura	In Memory of Roberta Yamada, Funeral Services
Richard & Harriette Miyamoto	In Memory of Roberta Yamada
Charles Tomita	Bazaar Donation
Wright & Kirschbraun	In Memory of Roberta Yamada
Sharon Taniguchi	In Memory of Mitsuo and Shirley Morimoto
Aimee Kimura-Koch	Donation for filming of school project at Mantokuji
Mantokuji Fujinkai	For convection oven
James & Nancy Shishido	33 year memorial for Sakai Shishido
Gordon & Delta Tamasaka	In Memory of Mitsuko Tamasaka
Les & Diane Nakama	In Memory of Dorothy Suehiro
Pachi, Rob Haber and Family	In Memory of Norbert & Lillian Haber and Yoichi & Fukino Matsumoto

Kitchen Repairs Donation/ Building Fund

Elaine Komine	Mitsue Suehisa	Elton & Sandra Wada
Ted Takahashi	Shiichi Horiuchi	Ralph Arakaki James & Naomi Suehisa

Many Generous Donations received for New Years Blessing and Ofuda Yaki Service held on January 8, 2012



HAWAII SOTO MISSION BISHOP'S OFFICE

SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII
1708 NUUANU AVENUE
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BISHOP'S MESSAGE 2012

Aloha and Happy New Year! I send you warm wishes from the Bishop's Office. 2011, the Year of the Rabbit, has gone by with so many happy and some sad memories. I pray that 2012, the Year of the Dragon, will be a happy, healthy, and safe one for you and your family.

I would like to first express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your prayers of compassion and generous donations to the victims of the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami that took place on March 11, 2011. I ask you for your prayers for continued healing in Japan as the new year promises a fresh start filling every heart with hopes and aspirations.

With everyone's support and encouragement, I look forward to having a meaningful and exciting year ahead. Let us work together to promote and practice the teachings of Shakamuni Buddha, Dogen Zenji, and Keizan Zenji. Now more than ever, we realize that our lives today must be cherished, appreciated, and lived to the fullest. Then, with hearts full of gratitude, we will be able to live each day positively with meaning and value—free of regret. By experiencing each day this way—with the Buddha's teaching as our guide—we can make a difference in helping our world become a peaceful place to live.

2012 promises to be a very busy year for the Hawaii Soto Mission. Last October, several members from our Soto temples in Hawaii attended the "Soto Zen International Symposium 2011" in Tokyo, Japan. This year, on March 10 & 11, 2012, the Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop's Office and Hawaii Soto Mission Association will host the "8th U.S. Soto Conference" at the Ala Moana Hotel. With the theme, "*Nurturing Peace Through Our Buddhist Faith*," the conference aims to share how Soto Buddhist teachings can contribute towards resolving many of the problems we face in our lives and around the world, and further promote peace and happiness. The conference will be attended by Soto temple members from Los Angeles, Long Beach, Montebello, San Francisco, Monterey, and all Soto temples in Hawaii. This will be a great opportunity to exchange and discuss ideas, renew friendships and make new friends with our Soto family from the mainland. As the host of this event, I humbly ask for your support through your attendance and participation. It is only with your presence that the conference can be successful.

On May 29 & 30, Baika members from our various Soto temples will travel to Makuhari Messe in Chiba, Japan, for the "Baika-Ryu 60th Anniversary Convention." There, they will join over 10,000 other Baika members from Japan for workshops and fellowship.

Last year, a project sponsored by the Bishop's Office called "Initiation Ceremony," or "Nyushin-Shiki," was observed at Wahiawa Ryusenji and Waipahu Taiyoji. This dharma study program and ceremony provide members and friends an opportunity to be initiated as Soto Buddhists and disciples of the Buddha by formally receiving the sixteen precepts. This year, the Initiation Ceremony will be held on Maui and in Kona.

The Bishop's Office, with the staff of Rev. Juo Shinohara and Rev. Kenji Oyama, is committed to working to promote the Buddha's teachings through the aforementioned programs and projects. I humbly ask for your continued support. Feel free to call us any time or visit us if you happen to be in the area.

May you continue to be surrounded by the Light and Compassion of the Shakamuni Buddha, and Kannon and Jizo Bodhisattvas throughout 2012. I pray for your happiness and safety.

In Gassho,

Bishop Shugen Komagata

Rev. Sokan Ueoka's 50 year memorial observed

We observed the 50 year memorial of the second minister of Mantokuji, the Reverend Sokan Ueoka on January 22. His children Baron Ueoka, Glenda (Albert) Ujiie, Roy Ueoka, granddaughter Mele and three great-grandchildren were in attendance.

We thank Glenda and her husband Al, who came from California, and for sharing with us her many historical treasures that she had received from her father including a beautifully carved wooden statue of the Kannon Bodhisattva which he made while in the internment camp.

Kyodan Meeting Report

The Mantokuji members (Kyodan) meeting was held on January 15, 2012.

The following are matters that were on the agenda:

- planning for the upcoming new years party
- planning for the 35th annual bazaar
- update on kitchen repair project
- decision on trying out vetiver grass on the shoreline to prevent further erosion.
- Other repair and renovation projects
- Need to hire a yard worker to cut grass in cemetery, discussion on raising maintenance fees
- Gift to Baron Ueoka, Rev. & Mrs. Oyama
- Representatives from Mantokuji will attend Hawaii Soto Mission Association meeting and U.S. Soto Conference
- Rev. & Mrs. Oyama will move to Japan, a search for a new minister will begin

The next meeting will be held on February 12 at 12:30pm, and then on April 15. The meetings are open to all members so please attend the meetings.

New Grass in front of Temple

On January 16, we planted new grass in front of the temple and covered dirt areas with the grass that was being replaced.

The new el-toro grass donated by **Frank Suda** has made the temple look even more beautiful.

We thank **Frank Suda** and his son **Todd Suda** for coming out to help us with this project and also **Dave Langille, Judy Matoi, Kathleen Davis, Carol Moto, Kay Hanano, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Bobbie Arita, Cathy Murayama, Meyer Ueoka, Erick Domingo, Melina Murayama, Naoko Oyama, and Rev. Oyama** for their help.

Special Thanks

Thank you to **Ray Ikeda** for helping us with electrical work, **Hideo Tanimoto** for working on the tractor lawn mower and replacing the washer in the leaking water pipe, and **Kathleen Davis** and **Hans** for painting and repair work in the kitchen.

Thank you to Baron Ueoka

Thank you to **Baron Ueoka** for his many years of dedicated service to Mantokuji. He has been keeping the grounds at Mantokuji beautiful for many years, coming on Saturday and Sunday morning, rain or shine, every weekend throughout the year to do the yard work.

Although he is still able to do some things, he will not be able to do all of the things that he usually did. So we have hired a yard worker to cut the grass in the cemetery to help take the load off of our volunteers.

We also thank **Meyer Ueoka, Shiichi Horiuchi, Chester Kakiuchi, and Rev. Oyama** who has also been doing the yard work.

Rev. & Mrs. Oyama to move to Japan

It is almost nine years since Rev. Kenji Oyama and "Okusan" Naoko Oyama came to Mantokuji.

Although they love being here with the Mantokuji Sangha, they were called back to help with their duties in Yamagata, Japan.

So right now, we are in the process of finding a new minister.

Fortunately, Rev. Oyama will be able to stay until the new minister arrives in Maui and he will help with the transition.



L to r: O-Juzu Mawashi Service, Frank Suda and Todd Suda positions the block of new grass in front of temple, Brennan Tanaka receives blessing.



Above: Rev. Juo Shinohara delivers dharma talk, origami dragon and favors made by Joyce Takahashi.

Above: O-Juzu Mawashi service, Meyer Ueoka makes platters of sashimi.

What is this about?

The Confirmation Ceremony is a ceremony in which a person can formally receive the sixteen precepts of the Buddha and make a personal commitment to undertake these precepts.

This ceremony will take place at each of the nine Soto Shu temples in Hawaii with Bishop Shugen Komagata as the officiant.

Mantokuji is scheduled to hold this ceremony on **Saturday May 19, 2012 from 10 am.**

There will also be two study sessions on **Saturdays May 5 and May 12 from 10 am** to prepare for the ceremony.

If you are interested, please ask Rev. Oyama for the application form to be filled out by April 15.



Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony



Purpose

- ❖ To give members of Soto Temples in Hawaii the opportunity to formally receive the sixteen precepts which are the moral and ethical foundation of our tradition.
- ❖ To deepen one's understanding of the Dharma.
- ❖ To receive a Buddhist name in this life.
- ❖ To allow those who have already received the precepts an opportunity to renew their commitment to this sacred path.

16 Buddhist Precepts

Taking refuge in the Buddha
Taking refuge in the Dharma
Taking refuge in the Sangha
Ceasing from evil
Doing good
Living for the benefit of all beings
Affirming life – not killing
Respecting the property of others - not stealing
Honoring relationships –not misusing sexuality
Manifest truth –not lying
Proceed clearly – not clouding the mind with intoxicants
Being mindful of one's speech – not speaking of others' errors and faults
Maintaining modesty – not elevating the self and blame others
Giving freely – not being withholding
Dwelling in equanimity – not letting anger take control of you
Always respecting the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha

Requirements

- ❖ Member must be age 16 or older (permission of parent required if a minor)
- ❖ Member will attend two study sessions that will be held prior to the ceremony.
- ❖ Members will be encouraged, but not required, to take part in temple activities, such as service, clean ups, fundraisers, zazen and study sessions whenever possible.
- ❖ \$50 registration fee (possible additional cost for lunch) Additional donation may be made to Mantokuji.

You will receive

- ❖ Certificate of Confirmation
- ❖ Wagesa: a sacred collar worn as a symbol of your commitment to Buddha's teachings, to be worn at all services.
- ❖ Materials for Study
- ❖ A Buddhist name: a positive description of your qualities or of the moral virtues that you may nourish and cherish as you walk in the path of Buddhahood.

Please contact Rev. Oyama at 579-8051 if you are interested in participating in the confirmation ceremony or need further information.