



The Significance of Obon

Source: Ekoji, Temple of the Gift of Light, in Northern Virginia, www.ekoji.org

O-Bon, the summer season when we Shin Buddhists honor the memories of those who gave us life, is celebrated as a gathering of joy.

Ekoji celebrates this important occasion with an evening of old and new Japanese folk dances and a lighting of memorial candles on Saturday evening with a service in the temple on Sunday. This traditional combination is a custom that originated 2500 years ago in India. One of Sakyamuni Buddha's followers, the famous disciple Mogallana, was distraught because, in a vision, he saw his late mother suffering in the hell of hungry ghosts. It was not that she was an evil person, but that as a parent, she had strong motherly attachments to the son and wanted so much for him. When Mogallana asked the Buddha how he could relieve his mother's suffering, the Buddha advised him to honor his mother's memory by selfless giving of dana on her behalf. Mogallana gathered donations of clothing and food for the Sangha and at the end of the rainy season distributed these at a gathering out under the starry skies. As he did so, he had a vision of his mother now enjoying the peaceful tranquility of Nirvana, and he began to dance in joy.

As Buddhism moved from India into Southeast Asia, China, Korea, Japan and to the United States, so did the custom of O-Bon as a joyous gathering of fond remembrance. In a warm and gentle way, O-Bon reminds us that everyone in the community has been touched with the loss of a loved one and like Mogallana's mother we, too, can enjoy the peaceful tranquility of Nirvana.

In the observance of O-Bon, the solemnity of the Sunday Bon Service is balanced by the Saturday evening dance outside on the temple grounds. The circling, swaying bodies of the dancers, moving in unison to the tempo of the music and the beat of the drums, symbolize the unity and support we all receive as we journey through life. The circular dance, moving around the Yagura, may also be seen as symbolic of the cyclical nature of life and the unending chain of being and becoming of which we are all a part. Well-known Shin Buddhist scholar, Dr. Alfred Bloom, suggests "the central Yagura shows that within all the transient phenomena of life is that center, Buddha-nature if you will, from which the harmony infusing our lives radiates. We should not, perhaps, press the symbolism too far. However, it is important today to attempt to discover meaning in traditional observances such as O-Bon to counter the dehumanizing and barren tendencies of our modern secular society."

For each Shin Buddhist family, O-Bon is not only the gathering of joy, but a time to hold special family services at the temple honoring the memory of deceased family members and friends. O-Bon is a gathering of joyous and loving remembrance as it brings the family together in a special way for each of us to once again touch the heart of the Buddha Dharma.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU

Obon and Family Values

**Excerpt from “Obon and Family Values” by Rev. Dr. Alfred Bloom, Shin Dharma Net
(shindharmanet.com)**

The Obon festival is among the world’s most colorful religious and cultural observances. It was instituted as a special celebration by Prince Shotoku to be held in the Lunar 7th month, 15th day (now our July 15) in commemoration of the ancestors.

The concentric circles of gaily dressed dancers, young and old, rotating around the yagura to the rhythmic beat of the taiko drum and the melody of the ondo music, depicts harmony in the family and community. Everyone moving their arms in graceful gestures, waving their fans in symbolic action, and stepping sinuously one after the other suggests the dynamic teaching of the Flower Garland Sutra (Hua-yen-sutra) that One is All and All is One.

While the Buddhist principle of Universal Harmony seems unrealistic in our fragmented and divided society and world, it is an ideal which challenges us and beckons us in our daily life, and especially so at Obon time.

Mahalo from The Soga Family

June 10, 2012

Mrs. Janet Shimada, President
Board of Directors and Sangha members

Dear Dharma Friends,

It has been over a week now since we moved away from the beautiful clear blue skies and bright shining sun as well as the delicious juicy mangoes. My family and I are working very hard unpacking the 270 boxes, large items, and even our piano into the resident home of the Hilo Hongwanji Betsuin. As we unpack, many of the conversations between my family, besides “where do I put this?” are about the many memories we had during the last 11 years I was able to service the Kahului Hongwanji Mission.

Beginning with the devastating 9-11 [2001] event occurring within months of moving in, the many Sunday services and delicious refreshments, the hard work that each member put into the yearly activities such as the Obon season, chicken hekka sales, bazaar, church clean-ups, window cleaning, the dialogue and sincere relationship between the Sangha and my family, to the tragic tsunami in Japan, and last but not least, the successful Kahului Hongwanji Centennial.

These are just some of the many many memories my family and I were able to [experience] on Maui.

Compared to the generosity and kindness that the members of Kahului Hongwanji has showed my family and I throughout the years, this letter and donation is truly incomparable, but from the bottom of our hearts, please accept this as a token of our appreciation of the past 11 years.

Till the next resident minister is assigned, there may be many difficult times and/or challenges, but please keep the teaching of the Buddha and Nembutsu close to your heart and continue to be the strong Sangha that you have been.

Please visit us in Hilo, we will surely be waiting for you.

In Gassho,
The Soga Family
Jeffrey D. Soga

President's Corner

Kahului Hongwanji is just completing its first month without a minister. We have found that it takes the efforts of many members to take care of each step of maintaining the altar and nokotsudo and to keep Sunday services happening. On an individual basis, the changes we are faced with are having us stretch and grow in ability and understanding. On a temple level, we need to call upon more members to help. On the community level, we are working with the Community Police Officer to help us with the security of the temple buildings and grounds. We are also being proactive on the safety and security issue—we are in the process of completing the installation of electronic monitoring. All this is especially challenging. Procedures will eventually smooth out, but in the meantime, change is hectic and sometimes a little stressful.

For each person who regularly attends Sunday service, there is the particular challenge of still attending service even without a regular minister. We are fortunate in having Rev. Ai Hironaka, resident minister of Lahaina Hongwanji, with us for at least one service a month. For the other Sundays, members will be leading the service and we will be branching out and making connections with more community organizations for speakers. This is a desirable change—to have Buddhist temples more closely engaged in the community.

This is also an opportune time to spruce up the minister's residence. A committee is looking at what needs to be done and how we will get the tasks accomplished. One thing is certain—we will need additional funds—any monetary donations will be welcomed. If you will be donating for the refurbishment, please indicate “minister's residence” on your envelope or check. Your dana is much needed and will be very appreciated.

Another change is the hours that the nokotsudo will be open. Nokotsudo hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day of the week. It is hoped that this change in times will not inconvenience our families unduly.

Recently, I ran into two articles in the newspaper that just drew my attention and I must share them with you.

The first is a letter to the editor written by Scott Matsui of Kihei and printed in the June 2 Maui News. The letter is about drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. The key sentence in the letter, for me, is the following: ***“Your actions, whether good or bad, will affect those around you. Yes, it is your right to use our public roadways, bike lanes, and sidewalks, but be considerate and respectful.”***

Isn't this a wonderful reminder of Buddhism in Everyday Life! Straight out of “The Golden Chain of Love!”

The second reference is an article that appeared in the June 1st Maui News. This national feature is on Bullying. It is a long article, and an interesting one, but the last sentence is the one that resonates: ***“However, ultimately it's about people treating each other with kindness and respect that will stop bullying.”***

Now, one can argue that this is universal knowledge. However, knowing something and actually doing it are two different things.

I am grateful that we have Buddhism to remind us about the importance of kindness and respect and to encourage us to practice it every day of our lives. The “Eightfold Path” is a wonderful prescription for us—easy to read, difficult to do.

In Gassho
Janet Shimada

Mark Your Calendar!

Service Responsibilities

July 1	Dharma School
July 8	Jr. YBA
July 15	No service—Pre-Obon General Clean-up
July 22	No service—Post Obon Clean-up
July 29	BWA/Kyodan

KHM Obon

Friday, July 20 and Saturday, July 21

Nokotsudo Services at 6 p.m.
 Temple Services at 6:30 p.m.
 Special Performance at 7:30 p.m.
 Friday: Ryukyu Koku Matsuri Daiko
 Saturday: Maui Minyo Kai
 Obon Dance at 7:45 p.m.



Hosha



Hosha means to give or to help as an expression of one's gratitude. In the spirit of hosha, let's all consider working for the temple to be a privilege.

Please come and help!

July 28 7:30 a.m.
 Window cleaning on July 15

Young Adults' Retreat August 10-13, 2012

This year's Young Adults' Retreat will be held from August 10 to 13 at the BSC and Camp Kokokahi on Oahu. Young adults ages 18 to 35 are invited to apply. Application forms are available at the temple office.

This year's retreat is special because in conjunction with the retreat, there will be a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the BSC and retreat attendees will be participating in a few of their activities.

If you have any questions, please contact:
 Jake Chang, by e-mail at youth@honpahi.org
 Children and Youth Activities Specialist
 Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
 1436 University Avenue
 Honolulu, HI 96822
 (808) 973-6554

Mark Your Calendar!



Jul 15	KHM Pre Obon Clean-up
Jul 22	KHM Post Obon Clean-up
Aug 10-13	Young Adults' Retreat Camp Kokokahi, Oahu
Aug 18	KHM Yard Sale
Aug 19	VIDSTA Picnic
Aug 26	Project Dana 10th Anniv.
Sept 8-9	49th Lay Convention, Kauai
Sept 16	KHM Autumn Ohigan Service
Sept 21	World Peace Day
Sept 27-30	Maui Fair

VIDSTA Dharma School Kick-Off Picnic Sunday, August 19 Lahaina Jodo Mission 9 a.m.

Games, swimming, ono bento lunch, fellowship!
 Cost: Free!
 RSVP: KHM Office, 871-4732, by July 29.
 Open to all Dharma School students, parents, grandparents,
 and friends.

2012 Obon Friday, July 20 and Saturday, July 21

Hatsubon List

Friday, July 20

Mitsuo "James" Hozaki
Helen Ikeda
Claire Nagamine
Yasuo Nagamine
Takehisa "Sam" Onaga
Susumu Sakamoto
Ethel Takakura
Teruo Takayama

Saturday, July 21

Mitsuru Fukuda
Kiyoko Hirano
Alma Ing
Masako Kihara
Tamae Shimizu
Hiroshi Ueda
Yaeko "Janet" Yayoshi
Takashi Yoshioka



This year there will be a change in the time services will begin for our 2012 Obon. Services on Friday and Saturday night will begin at 6:30 p.m. Kahului Hongwanji has invited dance groups to share their culture and talent. Friday night will feature the Ryukyu Koku Matsuri Daiko group and Saturday night will spotlight the Maui Minyo Kai group. Performances on both nights will be at 7:30. The traditional obon dances will follow at 7:45 p.m.

Tables for choba (donations) will be open before the services and during the dance. Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Donation envelope is enclosed with this newsletter.

49th State Lay Convention in Lihue, Kauai Register Now!

The registration deadline for the 49th State Lay Convention is **July 15, 2012**. The convention will be held on September 8-9, 2012, at the Lihue Hongwanji Mission on the lovely island of Kauai. The theme of the convention is "Creating our Future Together—Thriving, Sustainable Hongwanji Communities." If you are interested in representing Kahului Hongwanji Mission, please complete the registration form at the temple office. Details of the event were included with the April issue of Ocean. If you have any questions, please call the temple office at 871-4732.

Eshinni—Kakushinni Day Dana Presentation



A special dana presentation, in honor of Lady Eshinni and Kakushinni-sama, wife and daughter of our founder, Shinran Shonin, and leaders in their own right, was made at a recent temple service by Lillian Sakuma, Vice President of Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association. Diane Lee, Dharma School Director, graciously received the gift on behalf of the Dharma School. Lady Eshinni and Kakushinni-sama are both honored by the World Buddhist Women's Association in separate resolutions for their contributions to the Jodo Shinshu religion.

Dharma School



Dharma School officially started summer vacation with the beach day on June 3 at Kamaole III Beach Park. It was a very relaxing day for those who came!

Dharma school students were recognized at the June 11, 2012, service for their commitment to learning the dharma and for their support of Kahului Hongwanji Mission. Students in attendance are pictured in the photo at left with Diane Lee, Dharma School Director.

Mark your calendars! Dharma School kick-off picnic is scheduled for August 19 at Lahaina Jodo Mission. More information will come as the date gets closer.

Hope everyone has a fun and safe summer!

Recipe Corner

MUD HEN BARS

Shared by Audrey Harding

- ½ cup shortening, butter, or margarine
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 whole egg
- 2 eggs, separated
- 1 ½ cup flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 cup nuts, chopped
- ½ cup semi-sweet chocolate pieces
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup light brown sugar (packed)



Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in whole egg and 2 egg yolks.

Sift flour, baking powder and salt together. Combine the two mixtures, blending thoroughly.

Spread batter in a 9x13" pan.

Sprinkle nuts, chocolate pieces and marshmallows over the batter.

Beat 2 egg whites until stiff. Fold in brown sugar.

Spread over top of cake.

Bake 25-30 minutes in a 350 degree oven.

Recipes Welcome

The newsletter staff welcomes you to share a favorite recipe with our sangha. Please send a copy to the temple office or send it via email to kahului-hongwanji@hawaii.rr.com. Please email your picture and we will gladly insert it in the recipe corner. Mahalo!

Congratulations, Graduates!

Best wishes!

Three high school graduates of KHM member families and affiliate organizations were introduced at Sunday service on June 10. Christina Imada, Kristen Kaya, and Kirana Soga shared their future plans and thanked their families and Kahului Hongwanji for the guidance and support given to them.

Christina will be attending Hawaii Pacific University, Kristen will be attending Oregon State University, and Kirana plans to move to Hilo and later transfer to Honolulu to study cosmetology. Ty Higa, who was not present due to a prior commitment, will be attending University of Hawaii Hilo.

Following the service the graduates and 24 family and temple members enjoyed a delicious lunch and warm fellowship at the Kahili Restaurant.

KHM congratulates the graduates and wishes them a great future!

Pictured upper right: Kirana Soga, Kristen Kaya, Christina Imada



Chicken Hekka & Cock-A-Doodle Do-Day



Highlights of Kahului Hongwanji Mission Board Meeting Tuesday, May 22, 2012

Members Present: Rev. J. Soga, J. Shimada, S. Emura, G. Hironaka, G. Hiyakumoto, K. Keith-Agaran, H. Nakamura, E. Nishimura, N. Okumura, L. Sakuma, C. Suyama, I. Tokishi, D. Toyama, H. Toyama, I. Matsuda

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cookbooks – The order of 200 more books should be arriving on or around June 1.

Organization for 2012 – Committees – Dharma Education Committee will be asked to help during the time of transition with no minister – securing dharma talk speakers and to help in other education matters. The Facilities Committee will be called upon to work on the minister's residence, as needed, during its vacancy.

Fujimatsuri – Consensus among those who attended was that it was a fun day filled with a mixture of activities. Gerald Hiyakumoto reported that photos taken that day are now posted on the KHM blog.

Maui Matsuri - All products were sold, some at reduced prices.

Mother's Day Brunch – About 80 persons were served. All help, especially from the younger fathers, was appreciated. The participation and attendance of the members of these younger families were noted and also appreciated. Per President Shimada, for Father's Day in June, a pancake/waffle type brunch is being planned and assistance is requested. Suggestion was made that, in the future, a meal be prepared to celebrate both parents on one day – Parents' Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Obon – On each Sunday in June, following service and refreshments, Susan Emura has graciously agreed to conduct obon dance practice sessions.

Security System

Motion was made by Guy Hironaka and seconded by Kallie Keith-Agaran for the purchase and installation of the systems proposed by Digital Security, using CIP funds initially, then money from the General Fund for the monthly payments. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Dharma Education

Service Responsibilities/Window Cleaning Helpers

August (proposed)

August 5 Jr. YBA

August 12 Dharma School

August 19 BWA – VIDSTA picnic

August 26 Kyodan – KHM Project Dana 10th Year Anniversary service

Window cleaning on 8/25 - BWA

Hosha days for June to September are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Saturdays due to conflicts with temple activities.

Preschool – There is still space available for more students for both the summer session and the regular school year. The Lion's Club did some painting and cleaning on the play area. Replacements are being sought for Preschool Board. Please let Diane Lee know of anyone interested in serving.

Yoga Class - There are presently 9 regular students in the Tuesday morning class. Discussion regarding collection of fees was tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Grateful Acknowledgments

Gotan-E

As of June 11, 2012

Anonymous	Morihiro, Sally
Domae, M/M Toshi	Nagamine, Claire
Gushi, Mikiko	Nakamura, Henry
Gutierrez, Joyce & Nakagawa, Tsuyuko	Nakamura, Lindie
Hashimoto, Jeannie	Nishimura, Edmund & Ellen
Hidani, Tokie	Okumura, Masue
Hironaka, Guy	Okumura, Nelson
Hiwatashi, Chieko	Onaga, Itsuko
Hiyakumoto, Gerald	Otsu, Lorryne
Hiyakumoto, Satsuko	Sakamoto, Norie
Imada, M/M Tatsumi	Sakuma, M/M Yasumasa
Inaba, M/M Masaharu	Sakutori, M/M Wayne
Ino, Diane	Searcy, Kailani & Kaimi
Izumi, Carl & Susan	Seki, Yoshiko
Kaholoa'a, Raina	Shimada, Harry & Janet
Kanechika, Satsue	Shimada, Momoye
Kawamoto, M/M Tom	Shoji, Yoshie
Kaya, Brian & Carolyn	Suzuki, Shizue
Keith-Agaran, Kallie	Tagomori, Bernadine
Kimura, Masue	Takabayashi, Erillee
Kishi, M/M Toshio	Tokishi, M/M Walter
Kiyabu, Nancy Y.	Toyama, M/M Douglas
Kohama, M/M Yoshio	Wasano, M/M Gary
Kondo, Reiko	Wells, Scott & Wendy
Lee, Diane	Wilkinson, Charlotte
Makishima, Tama	Yagodich, Francine
Matsuda, Alan & Irene	Yokote, Thelma
Matsuda, Noboru & Yaeko	Yokoyama, Larry & Joan
Miyasato, Jean	Yoshimoto, Arleen & Shuji



Kahului Hongwanji Hours of Operation

Office Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 8 a.m.—12 noon. Closed most holidays.

Nokotsudo Hours: Daily, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

For after hours emergency, please call Janet Shimada at 281-5035.

Grateful Acknowledgments

As of June 11, 2012

FUNERAL

In memory of Tamae Shimizu
Vincent & Maxine Shimizu

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance
c/o Mele Stockberry

In memory of Tamae Shimizu (Burial)
Vincent & Maxine Shimizu

In memory of Kiyoshi & Yoshiko Nakano (7 year)
Edward & Judy Nakano

Carol & Kym Kawagoe
In memory of Jean Tanaka (1 year)

Sharlene Starmer

Jessie Starmer

Kyle Starmer

In memory of Tadashi Otsu (7 year)
Tokie Hidani

In memory of Mataka Nagai
Kazue Teshima & Doris Yoshitake

In memory of Janet Yaeko Yayoshi (burial)
Gail Omura & family

SPECIAL

Harumi Hashimoto

Suzue Morimoto

Allen Emura

Mark Hiyakumoto, Ann Hiyakumoto &

Kelsy Hiyakumoto

Nobuo & Kikue Kanemoto

In memory of Betty Shimizu
Van Shimizu

In memory of Isami Yamashiro
K.S. & H.H. Otani

In memory of Fujie Sugimoto (13 year)
C.M.F. Makanui

In memory of Yoshiharu Yoshino
Nobuo & Kikue Kanemoto

WEDDING

Sikanya Amnart

BWA

Kris Sazaki Matsuoka

NOKOTSUDO

Darlene Fuke & Lori Yokote

Satsuko Hiyakumoto & Diane Ino

Kohama Family

c/o Yoshio & Yukie Kohama

Lorrayne Otsu

Eleanor Tanji

GOLD AWARDS

Yukie Kohama

Nobuko Yamashige

Kikue Kanemoto

Lillian Sakuma

Ann Igarashi

James Maeda



Thank you for your most generous donations. We are sorry if we have omitted or misspelled your name. Please assist us by calling the office (871-4732) so we can make proper corrections.

Also, if you prefer your listing to be 'Anonymous', please let us know by indicating this desire on your check.

Mahalo.

**The Wheel of Law
With eight spokes is the
International symbol of Buddhism.**



The Eightfold Path: Right Views, Right Thoughts, Right Speech, Right Actions, Right Livelihood, Right Mindfulness, Right Meditation

Memorial Listing

JULY

1 YEAR (2011)

Ikeda, Helen Shizue, 96 July 6
Sakamoto, Susumu, 95 July 11

3 YEAR (2010)

None

7 YEAR (2006)

Takita, Kimiko, 90 July 14
Yamaoka, Naoto, 77 July 31

13 YEAR (2000)

Matsunaga, Masamichi, 73 July 17
Ageno, Takuji, 70 July 26
Fukushima, Fumiko, 89 July 31

17 YEAR (1996)

Yamaoka, Haruko, 78 July 4
Kurasaki, Kinu, 93 July 27

25 YEAR (1988)

Haraga, Gladys Kinue, 73 July 1
Tanaka, Isao, 72 July 2

33 YEAR (1980)

Muroshige, Yoshio Bob, 68 July 26

50 YEAR (1963)

Hozaki, Zenichi, 75 July 11
Hamaguchi, Teruyo, 60 July 23
Omoto, Mume, 83 July 25

AUGUST

1 YEAR (2011)

None

3 YEAR (2010)

Hamasaki, Kiyoshi, 92 August 17
Nakamura, Nancy Setsuyo, 79 August 22
Komure, Sadanori Ted, 94 August 25

7 YEAR (2006)

Isobe, Hisae "Vivian", 86 August 12
Sasada, Wayne Toshio, 66 August 20

13 YEAR (2000)

Shikuma, Yukiko, 89 August 10
Hasegawa, Betty Chieko, 62 August 12
Sugahara, Mamoru, 73 August 18
Koja, Yukino, 98 August 26

17 YEAR (1996)

Hozaki, Yoshiaki, 67 August 1
Masuoka, Alfred Hitoshi, 90 August 21
Yamashita, Masano, 88 August 28

25 YEAR (1988)

Ito, Bunji, 73 August 22

33 YEAR (1980)

None

50 YEAR (1963)

None

IN MEMORIAM

Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Temple extends deep sympathy and condolences to the families of the following members who passed away recently:

Claire Nagamine—June 2
Mitsuru Fukuda—June 7

Memorial Service

A memorial service is held in gratitude for the compassion of Amida Buddha and the life of Nembutsu. It is a time for family members and friends to gather together on behalf of the departed person, to share their memories, and to express thankfulness and gratitude.

To make arrangements for a memorial service, please call the temple office at 871-4732.

Highlights of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808)522-9200 Fax: (808)522-9209

Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.com

June 15 2012

54TH STATE MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION SEMINAR

The 54th Annual Honpa Hongwanji Ministers' Association Seminar, hosted by Honolulu District Ministers' Association, was held at Ala Moana Hotel, Jikoen Hongwanji Mission, and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin from June 12-14, 2012. The main lecturer for the seminar was Dr. Toshikazu Arai, the Professor Emeritus of Soai University in Osaka, Japan. Rev. Arai is the translator and the editor of the book "Hearing the Buddha's Call – The life, Works and Words of Shinran" (Originally written by Reverend Jitsuen Kakehashi) which was recently published from the Buddhist Study Center.

The theme of this year's seminar was "Reaching Out" and the ministers attended the following workshops and discussions:

- "Connecting beyond Cultural Barriers" (Rev. David Nakamoto)
- "Practical Propagation" (Rev. Jerry Hirano and Rev. Bob Oshita of BCA)
- "Domestic Violence Awareness" (Cindy Iannce Spencer of Domestic Violence Action Center)
- "Asian Gender Stereotypes and Pastoral Care" (Darcy Ing of Counseling & Spiritual Care Center of Hawaii)
- "Presentation of ways of performing wedding and civil union services with demonstration" (Rev. Yuika Hasebe)

JINJI – MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT

- **Rev. Sol Kalu**, currently serving at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as its Associate Minister, will be assigned to Makawao Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as of July 16, 2012.
- **Rev. Mariko Nishiyama**, currently serving at Papaikou Hongwanji Mission, Honomu Hongwanji Mission, Honohina Hongwanji Mission, and Papaaloa Hongwanji Mission will be assigned to Pearl City Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as of August 1, 2012.

BISHOP GUEST ON INAUGURAL FLIGHT

In April, along with an Official State Representative, travel agents, media personnel and other leaders of the Japanese-American community in Hawaii including Former Governor George Ariyoshi and Mrs. Jean Ariyoshi, Bishop Matsumoto was a guest of Hawaiian Airlines on its Inaugural Flight between Honolulu and Fukuoka, Japan. Guests were treated to a free round trip with accommodations and a reception and sightseeing of Fukuoka. After the Inaugural Festivities, the Bishop extended his stay and accompanied by Rev. Umitani, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, traveled to various parts of Kyushu Island, Kyoto and Tokyo to meet with Rev. Toshihide Numata of BDK or the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism and others. This latter part of Bishop's stay in Japan was to meet with religious leaders and potential Overseas Ministerial Aspirants and the promotion of Pacific Buddhist Academy especially the New Classroom Capital Campaign. It was a great opportunity for Hawaii Kyodan to network with other organizations of Hawaii like Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, Japan America Society of Hawaii, United Japanese Society of Hawaii and others who were also a part of this Inaugural flight. The event, also, received media coverage in Fukuoka and was seen by many people in Northern Kyushu. The Bishop interprets this gesture by Hawaiian Airlines as the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii being recognized as an important organization in the State of Hawaii.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE AT PUNCHBOWL

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii received an invitation from the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu to be a guest attendee at the Memorial Day Observance held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on May 28, 2012. Rev. Tatsuo Muneto, as Chief Advisor to the Bishop, attended the ceremony representing Hawaii Kyodan since the Bishop was out of country in Canada to attend the World Jodo Shinshu Coordinating Council Meeting.

MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Hawaii Kyodan Music Committee seeks professional musicians or music students who can produce musical scores of gathas and choral arrangements to specifications with a computer software such as Sibelius or Finale. Interested persons may contact Francis Okano (737-8331) or Headquarters (522-9212).

Highlights of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

“WISDOM AND COMPASSION AT THE END OF LIFE”

Barbara Brennan

On March 9th and 10th over 180 people gathered at Hawaii Betsuin for “Wisdom & Compassion at the End of Life: A Buddhist Symposium.” This inter-faith symposium was sponsored by the Buddhist Study Center and the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists. The guest speaker was Dr. Carl Becker who was asked to participate in the symposium because of his knowledge of Buddhism and his understanding and work with elder populations in Japan.

Funding for the Symposium was provided by the BSC, BDK, a propagation grant from the HHMH and other donations.

On Friday evening a panel of four speakers representing different Buddhist perspectives shared their experiences and knowledge on end of life care. They were the Venerable Yi Hung Shih Fu, Abbess of the Hawaii Buddhist Cultural Society; Dr. Thanh Huynh, Theravada Vipassana practitioner; Lama Karma Richen, Head Lama at the Tibetan Temple; and Rimban Tatsuo Muneto, Head minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. All shared their unique approaches to questions of mortality and the end of life process. On Saturday there were seven breakout sessions.

Dr. Becker emphasized that in the Jodo Shin tradition end of life care is based on entrusting oneself in Amida’s compassion, expressing the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu. Thus, end of life care training in the temples for both clergy and lay can provide the tools in helping the Sangha to be interconnected through the teachings, especially during times of illness and separation. He also stressed the importance of establishing a spiritual connectedness through Amida’s power when facing illness and death of a loved one. We can learn to prepare ourselves by taking care of end of life decisions ahead of time such as donating organs, pain control, prolonging life, advance directives, wills, consulting with family/friends, and choosing one agent to take responsibility in bringing everyone together. Temples can be the place to learn about these and other issues related to end of life decisions.

A one hour DVD of Dr. Becker’s presentation will be available soon for review by temple leaders. Ministers can begin a discussion with their Sangha members on how to deal with life and death situations through Amida’s compassion. Temples will be able to create a community of support not only for our elders but also for families who want to learn and be able to provide a peaceful environment for all concerned. The Symposium Committee recommends each Temple establish a “Bereavement or Outreach Committee” with their minister to focus on connecting and reaching out to Sangha members in time of need; loss of a family member or those who are unable to attend Temple due to illness or other circumstances.

The Symposium Committee is in the process of collating presentation notes and a summary of the various sessions, including a list of resources which will be made available to all Temples to use in establishing an outreach/bereavement process in meeting the needs of our Temple community.

TEMPLE NEWS

- **Kamuela Hongwanji Mission** (Resident Minister Rev. Kosho Yagi) received funds from Rev. and Mrs. Takanobu Koizumi, the former Kaikyoshi minister of HHMH, in observance of their 40th Kyodan and 90th BWA Celebration. The funds were used to purchase a Shinran Shonin’s Statue, and it was unveiled on February 5, 2012.
- **Wailuku Hongwanji Mission** (Resident Minister Rev. Shinkai Murakami) recently published its original cookbook “A Taste of Dharma” and is available for purchase at \$15 per copy. This cookbook includes recipes submitted by the temple members and friends. The cookbook can be purchased at Wailuku Hongwanji. For more information, please contact the temple office at 808-244-0406.

PACIFIC BUDDHIST ACADEMY CELEBRATES SIXTH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

On Friday, May 11, 2012, the Pacific Buddhist Academy held its 6th Commencement Exercises in the Manoa Grand Ballroom at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. The Class of 2012 includes 21 seniors who have all been accepted to college. The graduates were honored for their achievements with over 500 family, friends and special guests in attendance.

In his commencement address, Head of School Pieper Toyama reminded the students to be mindful of and grateful for all the people who have made their lives and this moment possible by saying, “you have never traveled alone...and you never will.” Mr. Toyama’s challenge to each of the seniors was to share their own special wisdom with others as they have shared with him, “You graduates have been a part of PBA’s Sangha for four years and throughout that time I have learned of your wisdom, and I have reflected on it for guidance. To be sure you are normal teenagers...at times foolish, at times self-centered. But on occasion you each rise above your ordinary selves and reveal remarkable wisdom. It is those glimmers of your special wisdom by which I have been guided...”

The intimate and innovative learning environment of the Pacific Buddhist Academy nurtures the whole student—intellectually, personally and spiritually and prepares them to meet the challenges of college and beyond. We are proud of our graduates and we wish them all the best in the years to come.



July 2012

Office Phone: 871-4732
Office Fax: 877-2640

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 a.m. Family Service (Dharma School)	2 6 p.m. Scouts Mtg	3 8:15 a.m. Yoga 9:30 a.m. Yoga	4 <u>HOLIDAY!</u>	5	6 (Office Closed)	7 (Office Closed)
8 9 a.m. Family Service (Jr. YBA)	9	10 8:15 a.m. Yoga 9:30 a.m. Yoga	11	12	13 (Office Closed)	14 (Office Closed)
15 8 a.m. Pre-obon General Clean-up— No Family Service	16	17 8:15 a.m. Yoga 9:30 a.m. Yoga	18 4:30 p.m. Yoga 5:30 p.m. 4-H Mtg	19	20 (Office Closed)	21 (Office Closed)
22 8 a.m. Post Obon Clean-up - No Family Service	23	24 8:15 a.m. Yoga 9:30 a.m. Yoga	25	26	27 (Office Closed)	28 (Office Closed) 7:30 a.m. Hoshu
29 9 a.m. Family Service w/Rev. Ai Hironaka (BWA/Kyodan)	30	31 8:15 a.m. Yoga 9:30 a.m. Yoga				
1 pm "Aloha Buddha" @WHM						

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*Minister-in-Charge
Ai Hironaka*

*Kyodan President
Janet Shimada*

*Office Secretary
Sharon Higa*

*Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday
8 am—12 noon
Fri-Sat—Closed*

July Calendar of Events

Hosha

Saturday, July 28, 7:30 a.m.

BWA Meeting

Next meeting in August

Hojukai

Next Hojukai in September

Sunday Family Service

Sundays, 9 a.m.

(Except no service on July 15—Pre-Obon Cleaning
and July 22—Obon weekend)

Dharma School

Summer break

Pre-Obon Temple & Grounds Cleaning

Sunday, July 15, 8 a.m.

Post-Obon Temple & Grounds Cleaning

Sunday, July 22, 8 a.m.

Board of Directors' Meeting

Tuesday, July 24, 6:30 p.m.

“Aloha Buddha” Documentary

Sunday, July 29, 2012, 1 p.m. @ WHM

Scouts Meeting

Monday, July 2, 6 p.m.

4-H Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 5:30 p.m.

Yoga Class

Tuesdays, 8:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.