Daifukuji Soto Mission

Treasuring the Past, Embracing the Present Looking forward to our 2014 centennial celebration!



(808) 322-3524 <u>www.daifukuji.org</u>

Hanamatsuri Service: Celebrating the Birth of the Buddha

Sunday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m.



Shakyamuni Buddha was born on the 8th of April in beautiful Lumbini Garden in northern India (present-day Nepal) almost 2,600 years ago. We celebrate this occasion by pouring sweet tea over a small statue of the baby Buddha since it is said that sweet rain fell from the heavens at the time of his birth.

The Dharma talk will be given by Daifukuji member Lynne Farr, who's Buddhist name is **Mui**. An accomplished writer, Lynne is the author of two books about her off-the-grid life with her Zen priest and artist husband, Rev. Koshin Honda, in Mountain View, Hawaii.

Lunch will be prepared by the Daifukuji Zazenkai. Desserts are welcome.

Please join us for this joyful spring service.

Flowers are needed for the hanamido (flower shrine) and altars. Please deliver flowers by the morning of Friday, April 6.

Bazaar to be Held May 6

Temple members are getting ready for this year's building fund bazaar, which is being coordinated by Joyce St. Arnault (329-3833) & Ron Iwamoto (322-9147). Items for the bazaar may be dropped off in the social hall from Monday, April 23 until Friday, May 4.



We humbly ask for your kokua. Onegai shimasu!

Busyness and Mindfulness



by Rev. Jiko Nakade

Talk about being busy. There's so much going on at the temple this month that a group of us are multi-tasking like crazy. We've been working on a number of projects at the same time: Fujinkai pancake breakfast and tea party, centennial planning, Project Dana, attending the Soto Conference, welcoming guests, Precepts ceremony preparations, 33 Kannon set up, and bazaar planning. All of

this, in addition to the day-to-day life and management of the temple.

I always admire the let's-keep-going, let's-keep-serving attitude of Daifukuji's faithful volunteers and know that, without them, our temple would not be able to function. Ours is an exceptional group. Exceptionally hardworking and diligent. Together, we keep the fire of the Dharma light burning.

Still, none of us are getting any younger, so it is important that we pace ourselves, not work ourselves to the point of exhaustion, and try to maintain our emotional, psychological, physical, and spiritual health. In short, we need to be MINDFUL of our bodies, minds, and spirit. We need to check in with ourselves and knock on our own front doors. Bing bong. "Hello, in there. Are you okay? Do you need some rest? Water? More nourishment, perhaps? A break? How are you feeling today? Are you happy? Are you calm? Are you upset? Angry? Irritable? Resentful? Stressed out?"

And then we need to listen to what our bodies, hearts, and spirit are trying to tell us. In order to listen, we need to pause. To stop. To create a space. To sit.

This is where we often fail, because we are too busy to stop and sit and listen. I know this, because I have failed many times and succumbed to busyness. I struggle with this a lot. Fortunately, I am a Zen Buddhist, which means that the practice of mindfulness, meditation, and compassion are part of the fabric of my life. Without them, I would be lost at sea and *all kapakahi and huli upside-down*, drowning in chaos and lost in busyness.

So, my dear hardworking sangha, let us together practice mindfulness, meditation, and compassion now and in the busy days ahead. Our temple bazaar is coming up, followed by Obon. If you find that you're getting irritable, fatigued, impatient, sick, or stressed, be sure to pause, sit quietly, breathe, and pull the cloak of the Buddha's compassion around you. Please take care of yourself in the highest ways & <u>please</u> <u>ask for help if you are feeling overwhelmed</u>. I will do the same. This is the best way to take care of ourselves, our families, and each other. May all of us be well and happy and enjoy our many activities.

Namu Kie Butsu. Namu Kie Ho. Namu Kie So.



Baccalaureate Service & Luncheon

Invitations will be sent in April to the children & grandchildren of temple members who are high school graduates of the Class of 2012. If you have a graduating senior in your family, please inform Rev. Jiko by mid-April. The Baccalaureate Service & Luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 27.

Fujinkai News



New Members

The Daifukuji Fujinkai extends a warm aloha to two new Fujinkai members, Sachi Hara-Joesting and Christine Wada. Ladies, thank you for joining!

Pancake Breakfast Mahalo from Kelly Deguchi

I would like to thank all Fujinkai & temple members & the community for making our annual pancake breakfast a huge success. Special thanks to: Michiko Enomoto & crew for making the manju; Raymond Baltero, Steve Marquis, Ann Nakamoto, & Masaru Deguchi for picking up the grill and setting it up; Sonia Nakamura & crew for cooking the eggs; Merle Uyeda and crew for cooking the meats; Thelma Matsumoto & crew for cooking the rice; Michiko, Ann, and Kay for cooking the pancakes; Elsie Mochizuki and Kelly Deguchi for mixing the batter; the serving crew; Jean Ikeda and crew for taking care of the plant sale; Hilda Sugai and Lorraine Tanimoto for collecting tickets; Joyce St. Arnault and Elaine Fernandez for ordering supplies and for their advice; the parking crew, and to Mike Asada for making the banner. To those who donated ingredients, monetary donations, plants, and other items, thank you very much. And, to anyone whose name I missed mentioning, please know that your help was appreciated. A big mahalo to everyone who came out to support this fundraiser!



A big mahalo to all!

Donations Needed for UHSSWA Country Store Fundraiser

The 47th annual United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association (UHSSWA) Conference will be held on April 21 and 22 with Wahiawa Ryusenji as the host of this year's event. Rev. Jiko and six members of the Daifukuji Fujinkai will attend this weekend conference in Wahiawa and the Ala Moana Hotel. The group will be taking items to sell at the Country Store Fundraiser and is especially asking for donations of **avocados, Kona Coffee, and mac nuts.** If you would like to contribute any of these items, please call Joyce at 329-3833 or Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 by April 16.

Fujinkai Girl's Day Tea Party A Hit



A group of forty-seven attended the Fujinkai's Girl's Day tea party on March 4th and spent a delightful afternoon together. The event began with a warm welcome by Joyce St. Arnault, followed by Rev. Jiko and Amy Nakade, who shared Amy's Japanese Girl's Day doll set and quilt. Then the group moved to the social hall where a fascinating presentation on Japanese

family crests was made by Walter Tachibana of Hilo. Michiko Enomoto's mochi-making demonstration had everyone's mouth watering, so it was fitting that it was followed by tea and refreshments. The Fujinkai is hoping to offer a sushi-making session in the future, so, ladies, please keep reading the newsletter. Thank you to all who donated articles of warm clothing, blankets, and sleeping bags for the tsunami victims in Japan. Walter Tachibana returned to Hilo with a van filled with everyone's donations.



Welcome, New Members!

The Daifukuji Sangha extends a warm welcome to the following individuals who have recently joined our membership:

Wade Yasuda

Ayako Sasaki

Verna Matsumoto

In Memoriam

To the family of the late Evelyn Kikuye Kadooka, 91, who passed away on March 2, 2012, we express our deepest sympathy.

Namu Kie Butsu. Namu Kie Ho. Namu Kie So.

Daifukuji Gift Shop News



The gift shop now has peep-hole wrist ojuzu from Japan, and plenty of them---in all colors of the rainbow, and then some! There's a choice of two different images inside the peep-hole. One kind has Shakyamuni Buddha & the kanji "Namu Shakamuni Butsu," and the other kind has Shakyamuni Buddha in the middle with Keizan on the left and Dogen on the right---that's your left and right as you look at the



picture. They are plastic and cost \$10 each.

We are also carrying tea cups and incense offering dishes which have the crest (mon) of Eiheiji and of Sojiji. These are made by Jan Bovard and the retail prices are \$5 and \$8---quite a deal!



The Juzu

from "Sutras and Gathas: In Harmony with Buddha"

The *juzu* (Buddhist prayer beads) is considered an important religious article that should be handled carefully at all times. Ministers carry a *juzu* of 108 beads, representing the 108 human imperfections, which can be transformed through Buddhist practice and reflection. Laypeople generally use smaller *juzu*. The large bead in the middle represents the Buddha; the two medium-sized beads represent the Dharma and Sangha. These three beads differ in color from the rest.

The *juzu* should be worn or carried with reverence. During the service, the *juzu* is generally placed on one's left wrist. During *gassho*, the *juzu* encircles the hands, symbolizing the oneness of life. It is stored in a small bag or pouch.

Note: The honorific "O" is often added to the word "juzu." Thus, one often hears "ojuzu" being used.

Library News by Clear Englebert

There are three wonderful new DVDs in the library:

"Refuge" directed by John Halpern. Highly recommended! "Zen Buddhism: In Search of Self" produced by Gong Jae Sung. Filmed at a nun's retreat in Korea. Very inspiring and a delight to watch. "Great Grandfather's Drum" produced by Victoria & Cal Lewin. This is about Maui Taiko, and was originally made for Public TV. It's excellent.

There are three new children's books:

"My Buddhist Life" by Meg St. Pierre and Marty Casey "Buddhism" by Holy Wallace "Buddhist Animal Wisdom Stories" is a retelling of the Jataka Tales by Mark McGinnis, and beautifully illustrated by him as well.

The other new arrivals are:

"Being Upright: Zen Meditation & the Bodhisattva Precepts" by Reb Anderson
"The Middle Length Discourses of the Buddha" translated by Nanamoli and Bodhi
"Lives of the Nuns: Biographies of Chinese Buddhist Nuns from the Fourth to Sixth Centuries" translated by Kathryn Ann Tsai is very readable and contains 65 biographies.
"The Recorded Sayings of Layman Pang" translated by Ruth Sasaki, Yoshita Iriya, and Dana Fraser
"The Stone Boy and Other Stories" by Thich Nhat Hanh
"Zen Teaching, Zen Practice" edited by Kenneth Kraft is a unique book of essays about Philip Kapleau and his very influential book "The Three Pillars of Zen".



Peace Drum

Kris Yamuchi, Daifukuji Zen Taiko leader and taiko drum maker, invites you to write your prayer for peace inside this taiko. His wish is for Daifukuji members and friends from the community to all fill this drum with overlapping layers of prayers and blessings, so that when the taiko is completed and played, all of the good wishes contained





inside will travel outward with the sound of the taiko and resonate throughout the universe.

The taiko will be kept open until our temple's centennial in 2014.

It is being kept inside the Kannon Hall. Please drop by to add your prayer for peace.

"The Dharma is deep and lovely. We now have a chance to see it, study it, and practice it. We vow to realize its true meaning."

<u>ZAZEN</u>

Every Wednesday morning from 6:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. in the Kannon Hall. Evening zazen & the chanting of the Buddhist sutras on Thursday, April 26 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Buddhist Movie Night & Discussion

SOTO ZEN BUDDHISK IN HAWALI OUR TLAFLES ARROUN TILKRING A 70-min

Thursday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kannon Hall. Admission is free. *"Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii: Our Temples and Our Teachings"* A 70-minute video tour of the nine Soto Zen temples in Hawai'i, including Daifukuji, with discussion to follow.

Shakyo & Shabutsu

Tracing the sutras and pictures of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas in silence. A meditation practice. Saturday, April 7 in the Kannon Hall 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

These Dharma sessions are open to everyone at no charge. Donations may be given. Please contact Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 if you have questions.

8th U.S. Soto Conference



Amy Jikai, Rev. Eshin Sato of Niigata, & Rev. Jiko

"Nurturing Peace Through Our Buddhist Faith" was the theme of the 8th U.S. Soto Conference which was held the weekend of March 10 - 11 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu. Daifukuji was represented by Rev. Jiko, Amy Jikai Nakade, Ron Iwamoto, Joyce St. Arnault, and Shinkaku Marquis.

The purpose of the conference was to bring together members of the Soto Zen temples in Hawaii and North America, to nurture harmony and friendship among them, and to exchange ideas about temple activities. Participants from the Soto Zen Buddhism Headquarters and Soto Zen International in Japan also took part in the conference. Saturday's program included an



Daifukuji members mingle with the Kokuzo family of Waipahu Taiyoji.

opening ceremony, slideshow & DVD presentations, a lecture on the conference theme by Dr. George Tanabe, Professor Emeritus of U.H.

Manoa, a panel presentation, and a welcome banquet. Sunday's program began with a one-year memorial service for the victims of The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, group discussions on the conference theme, a closing ceremony, and aloha luncheon.

In the days following the conference, guests from Japan, as well as the mainland, came to Hawaii Island to visit both Daifukuji and Taishoji.



Visit by Rev. Kamada & Rev. Kato of the Soto Shu Shumucho, & Bishop Komagata & Rev. Shinohara of the Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office



Visit by Rev. Kojima of the Soto Zen Buddhism North America Office & Members of L.A. Zenshuji & S.F. Sokoji

Daifukuji Soto Mission Bazaar Sunday May 6, 2012, 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Guidelines for the Bazaar:

- 1. **Donations** may be dropped off at the Daifukuji Hall <u>from April 23 to May 4, 2012</u>. Place items inside the hall with the donor's name and address. We are <u>NOT</u> able to accept old computers, large electronic equipment, exercise equipment or large appliances.
- 2. Please have all rummage items cleaned. Clothing should be washed.
- Donation of live plants may be dropped off on Saturday May 5th or by 7:00am Sunday May 6th.
- 4. Donation of vegetables, fruits and other perishables may be dropped off Saturday May 5th by 4:00p.m.
- 5. Donation of baked goods and food items may be dropped off Sunday May 6th by 7:00a.m. Please label all food items and also include donor's name.
- 6. All Bazaar sale items are final; no refunds.
- 7. All members please refrain from purchasing items until 11:00am.
- 8. All members please wear your Daifukuji T-shirts. See Rev. Jiko to purchase shirts.
- 9. The Snack Shop and Temple Gift Shop will open at 8:00a.m. on the day of the bazaar. All other units will open at 9:00a.m.
- 10. Workers/members' vehicles should be parked at the cemetery area. Car Pool if possible. If you need your car parked, please fill out and attach identification tag to your keys for our parking staff. Key identification tags will be provided.
- 11. Lunch will be provided to all workers. Meal tickets will be issued to each unit Chair by Avis Yamamoto.
- 12. At closing, each unit is responsible for cleaning their respective areas. Please check with Ronald Iwamoto before leaving premises.

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