

Daifukuji Soto Mission

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



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

November, 2013

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 24

9:30 a.m.



Let us gather at the temple the Sunday before Thanksgiving and bow our heads in gratitude before the Buddha. In the midst of life's ups and downs, there are many blessings for which we can be grateful.

Rev. Shoji Matsumoto of the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple will be the featured speaker at this service. Over the past six years, Rev. Shoji has worked together with Rev. Jiko to coordinate the activities of the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) on Hawai'i Island. In April of this year, they organized a Buddha Day Celebration which brought Buddhist groups together at the Kona Hongwanji in observance of the birth of the Buddha. Rev. Shoji's friendliness & openness has had much to do with the deepening relationship between our two temples. After many years of service as a Hongwanji minister, Rev. Shoji will be retiring at the beginning of December.

Light refreshments will be served following the service. Flowers for the altar are always appreciated and should be delivered by November 22. Canned food for the Hawaii Island Food Basket may be brought to the service. (Thank you to the members of Sangha Sisters who filled the food basket box at their October gathering.) The temple gift shop, which has beautiful 2014 calendars, will be open for your holiday shopping.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

Fujinkai News



The **Keauhou Shopping Center** is the site of this year's Kona Coffee Cultural Festival food sale on **Saturday, November 9**. Our Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association will be selling ono-licious sushi bentos and manju at their food booth from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or until they are sold out.

Monetary donations to the Fujinkai for the purchase of ingredients and supplies are appreciated. Please make checks payable to the **Daifukuji Fujinkai**. A sign-up sheet for ingredients is posted inside the social hall.

Kokua is needed. Fujinkai members, as well as those who wish to help with the sushi rolling, please gather in the temple's social hall at **5:00 a.m.** on Saturday, November 9.

Questions? Call Jean Ikeda at 322-4058 (use *82 if using a blocked phone number) or Joyce St. Arnault at 329-3833.



Voices of the Dharma: The Daifukuji Baikako Plum Blossom Choir

On October 12th, the members of the Daifukuji Baikako Plum Blossom Choir gathered for a special Saturday practice session which was followed by a luncheon at the Hong Kong Chop Suey Restaurant in Captain Cook. Both Rev. Jiko and Baikako president Michiko Enomoto thanked the group for their participation in the Baikako and for their willingness to share their beautiful voices at temple services, as well as funerals.

The Way of Baika, which is open to men and women alike, is both a training and a commitment to the Path of Buddha. Members of the choir vow to live with true faith in harmony with others and to create a bright world.

Thanks to the leadership provided by Michiko and to the guidance of the senior members of the group, this fifteen-member choir continues to be a vital part of the Daifukuji Sangha. Thank you, Baikako!

Kokua Needed On General Clean-Up Day

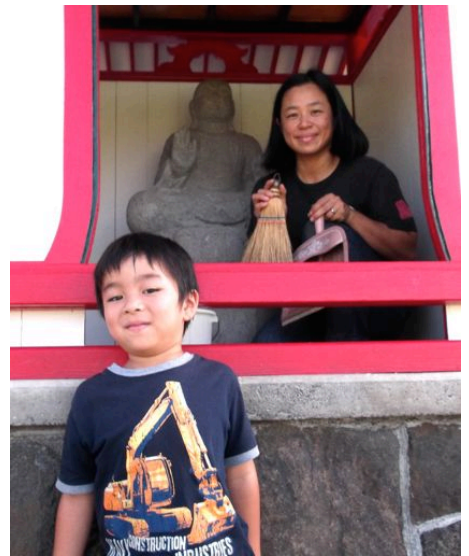
Sunday, November 17 8:00 a.m.

Daifukuji members and temple groups, we humbly request your kokua at our big temple clean up. Please bring rags, buckets, gloves, and garden tools, labelled with your name. Refreshments will be provided.

Let us beautify our temple and grounds in time for Bodhi Day, the day of the Buddha's enlightenment. Many helping hands are needed to accomplish the long list of tasks that need to be done in the temple, columbarium, social hall, cultural hall, yard, and cemetery. Any amount of time that you'd be willing to contribute would be appreciated. Working together is both fun and rewarding.

We will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a prayer for everyone's safety.

Questions? Please call Ron Iwamoto, clean-up day chairperson at 322-9147.



A Shower of Blessings

On September 22, the Daifukuji Family Sangha held a baby shower for their beloved music teacher Aunty Fiona Meiren McDonough at the Paleaku Peace Gardens in Napoopoo. After strolling through the gardens and visiting the various shrines and features dedicated to the religions of the world, everyone gathered

inside the open-air pavilion for a potluck lunch and fellowship. A "blessing" umbrella decorated with origami was presented to Aunty Fiona and the children surrounded her while she read everyone's blessings and opened her gifts. The entire Family Sangha is eagerly awaiting the birth of Aunty Fiona's baby, who will be welcomed into the world with much love.



2013 Membership Dues Reminder

The end of the year is quickly approaching. If you have not already done so, please turn in your 2013 membership dues and donations. New members are always welcome. For information, please see Rev. Jiko. Thank you.

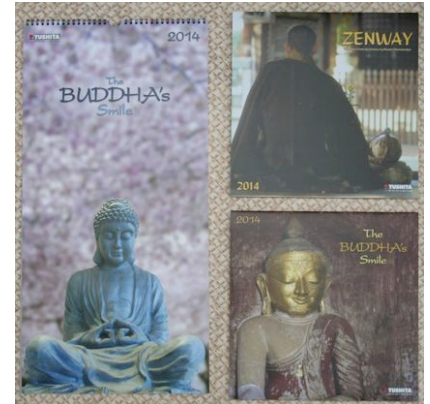


Gift Shop News

by Clear Houn Englebert

The 2014 calendars have arrived. They are all wall calendars of excellent quality in various sizes and themes. The Japanese Garden calendar is the biggest we've ever had. The photo shows it in relation to the regular-size calendars. Zenway also has images of Japanese

gardens which are paired with inspiring quotes from Chinese Buddhist teachers. Buddha's Footprints has tranquil S.E. Asian images and verses from the Dhammapada. The Spirit of Zen has Japanese brush paintings with quotes from Basho and Buddha. The Buddha's Smile shows sculptures of Shakyamuni from various countries and is available in regular size, as well as a lovely scroll format. The Lotus calendar has only real lotus images. There are two other "lotus" calendars commonly available and both of them show only water lilies, which have no religious symbolism. The regular-size calendars are for 16 months and the two large calendars are for 12 months.



Taiko Groups Learn Drum Re-skinning

by Amy Jikai Nakade

On September 14, 21, and 28, the Kona Daifukuji Youth and Adult Taiko groups, under the guidance of Sensei Paul Sakamoto and John from Puna Taiko, worked together to re-skin our very first drum! We learned that the re-skinning process is not only tedious work, but also involves everyone's kokua and efforts to complete the project. It's just like playing taiko!

On the first day, Sensei Paul showed us how to measure the skin (which had been soaked the day before) and mark and punch the holes where the "mimi" or the ears of the drum would

be placed. Then, both the kids and adults got to stretch the skin over the drum, shape the "mimi, and secure it with ropes and come-alongs. The entire process was completed on a special construction stand made by Uncle Mike Asada.

After completing both sides, Sensei Paul came again to show us how to tack the skins and complete the finishing touches. Now we can go forward with re-skinning our other drums. Thank you Sensei Paul and John for all your help!





In Memoriam

Chirio Miyose passed away October 16, 2013 at the age of 91. To his sister Miyeko Miyose, we express our deepest sympathy and loving support. Chirio will always be remembered for his hard work, sincerity, and true dedication to our temple and sangha. *Namu Daihi Kanzeon Bosatsu.*

Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert



There are three new CDs:

Buddhist Drums, Bell, & Chants was recorded at services in Kyoto temples. *Makoto-Shinjitsu* by Ronnie Seldin and *Japan Shakuhachi: The Japanese Flute* by Kohachiro Miyata are both wonderful shakuhachi CDs.

There is also an excellent new DVD: *The Happiness Prescription* by Deepak Chopra. The Four Noble Truths are explained so that absolutely anyone can understand them and put them into practice. I highly recommend it.

These are two new Thich Nhat Hanh books, both of which are compilations: *Your True Home* and *Essential Writings*.

The thickest of the new arrivals is *Encyclopedia of Buddhism* edited by Damien Keown and Charles Prebish. At a full two inches it's perhaps the thickest book in the whole library. There are a few black and white illustrations, but mostly it's words and lots of them. It's a true encyclopedia in every sense of the word. Everything you can imagine is covered, and covered well. It will make you marvel at the richness of our Buddhist traditions.

The other new arrivals are:

Buddhist Images: Arts of Korea, Vol. 5 by Su-Young Hwang is written in Korean with Chinese characters. The vast majority of this book is full-page photographs, and the pictures speak for themselves.

Bringing Home the Dharma by Jack Kornfield is subtitled *Awakening Right Where You Are*.

How to Train a Wild Elephant by Jan Chozen Bays is also about mindfulness in daily life.

The Sutra of Hui-Neng: Grand Master of Zen translated by Thomas Cleary is a very accessible edition of the teachings of this great Chinese Zen master who lived from 617 to 713.

3 Unknown Buddhist Stories translated by S. M. Stern and Sofie Walzer is quite unusual. It is the first English translation of stories of the Buddha's life that had been written in Arabic around the year 800.

Beginnings by Bikkhu Sujato and Lisa Anne is for older children and contains Buddhist legends and stories.

Subtle Sound by the late Maurine Stuart is a compilation of her Zen teachings, edited by Royo Chayat.

Dharma Programs

Saturday Morning Dharma Series:

Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.: Oct. 19 & 26 and Nov. 16 & 23

Zazen from 7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. (Optional)

In simple language Rev. Jiko will explain the meaning of the verses that are commonly chanted in both Japanese and English at Daifukuji, verses such as The Four Bodhisattva Vows, The Robe Verse, The Verse of Repentance, and the Meal Blessing Chants. We will explore the meaning of the Bodhisattva's Vow and its power to transform our lives.

Zen Meditation (Zazen)

* Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. to 7:20 a.m.

* The following Saturday mornings from 7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. before Dharma Study:

Oct. 19 & 26, Nov. 16 & 23

* The following Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: **November 14 & 21.** Please arrive a few minutes early. Beginners are welcome. Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 to arrange an appointment for basic instruction.

* **Rohatsu Sesshin:** Zazen will be held every morning at 6 a.m. from December 1 - 8.

Shakyo and Shabutsu -- Saturday, November 2 from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Mindfully tracing the sutras and pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas harmonizes body, breath, and mind and brings peace and clarity into one's life. Brushes, ink, and other materials are provided. This session begins with the chanting of the Heart Sutra and the Four Bodhisattva Vows.

Family Services

Families with children, as well as interested individuals, are invited to join the Family Sangha for child-friendly Buddhist services that are held in the Kannon Hall on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. (see calendar on page 10 for schedule).

Baikako Choir Practice -- Sat., November 3

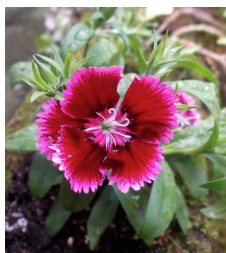
The Daifukuji Baikako Plum Blossom Choir will hold its practice session on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 7:45 a.m.

The gift of Dharma is offered at no charge and all are welcome. A small wooden box will be placed on the table for "pure heart offerings" in support of the temple and its programs.



Bare Bones Writing Group

Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. in the Kannon Hall



The Bare Bones Writers invite those interested in writing to join the group on Tuesday mornings for an open-heart writing experience that connects one with one's inner spirit. For information, please contact Joanne Jisen Scribner at 326-4799.

an insight moment

grateful awareness grows my heart

writing with these friends

- Rev. Dana St. Claire -

"Mother is here"

*Two plane rides
to arrive in paradise*

*Each step, each mile in the sky
a danger, a threat
to bones so old
a sneeze could shatter*

*With grace, faith and will
she made the journey
to an island as big as her spirit*

-- Patricia Missler --



Interested in a 2014 Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation?

What is the Soto Zen Buddhist way of living? Based on wisdom, compassion, and non-harming, it is a way of life guided by the sixteen Bodhisattva precepts. Studying these precepts and making the commitment to live in accordance with them brings happiness and peace to oneself, one's family, and society at large.

Rev. Jiko wishes to offer a series of precepts study sessions starting in January of next year which would culminate in a Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony in April. As part of the ceremony, one would receive a Buddhist name.

If you are interested, please contact Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 or rev.jiko@daifukuji.org by the end of November.

Centennial Planning Meeting Nov. 24



There will be a centennial planning meeting after the Thanksgiving Service on November 24. Co-chairs of the various centennial committees are asked to attend this meeting.

The overall centennial co-chairs are Cindy Asada, Ron Iwamoto, and Joyce St. Arnault.

Anyone interested in the centennial is welcome to come to the meeting.

Envisioning a Future for Our Temple

A "Talk Story" Session With Rev. Jiko

Thursday, November 7

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Temple Library

All are welcome to attend.

Happy 6th Anniversary to Project Dana!

How did our temple kupuna and volunteers celebrate Project Dana's 6th anniversary on October 9th? Definitely with a lot of joy! Big Island Project Dana Coordinators Helen Shirota-Benevides and Jan Nakamura, along with Jan's husband Hiroshi, drove over from the Hilo side to join the celebration & were asked to serve as judges for the costume contest, which was a blast of fun. Maile Melrose of the Kona Historical Society captured her wide-eyed audience with her shivering accounts of true Kona stories and

invited folks to share their own spooky tales. As usual bingo was played and birthdays were celebrated, and there was a lot of "ono gochiso" to fill everyone's tummies. Thanks to all of our kupuna and volunteers, as well as the support of the Board, Project Dana continues strongly at Daifukuji.



October birthday girls Naoko, Kay, & Elaine



Our wonderful volunteers



Halloween costume contest

Jammin' in the Temple Kitchen

by Ann Nakamoto



The two jam sessions recently held at Daifukuji filled the kitchen with fellowship and the aroma of sweetness from the cooking fruit-filled pots. The popping fig pots were especially active (you should have seen the stovetop), but we learned how to curb the popping. Jill Teiho experimented with less sugar in her pot and others created new combinations of fruit jam with the help of expert jam maker Alfreida Fujita. All went home with hands filled with a variety of jam jars. Thank you Alfreida and Kay Tokumura for sharing your expertise in jam making.





The Time I Swallowed a Gnat

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

It happened while I was standing inside my office and talking with a visitor named Norah that a tiny creature kept buzzing around my face and would not fly away despite my efforts to shoo it lightly with my hand. There I was, engaged in conversation and trying to stay focused on what Norah was telling me, at the same time feeling annoyed by this persistent little creature that would not leave me alone.

Shoo! Go away little fly! I remembered thinking, when all of a sudden, the object of my aversion made a nose dive straight into my mouth like a frog jumping into a well and stuck to the back of my throat. *Oh my gosh, what do I do now?* Norah kept talking, unaware that a tiny being that had been alive a second ago had just met its death inside of me.

I felt a tickle in my throat, coughed, and swallowed. *Gulp. Oh my goodness, did I just swallow a gnat?* Still unaware of what was happening, Norah kept talking. On the surface I continued to politely listen to her animated speech, but in my mind I was horrified by what had just happened. *The gnat was inside my body, dissolving in a sea of digestive juices. The gnat and I were now one!*

Norah finished up what she had to say, put her hands in gassho, said good-bye, and left. I put my own hands in gassho and bowed to both Norah and the gnat. All day long I thought about my body absorbing the little creature.

Hey little fellow, you and I are now one. I was annoyed by you, yet now there is no separation between us.

I wondered, is this the intimacy with life that Zen teaches? I thought of all the little things that annoy me and began to laugh. If it annoys you, just swallow it! Become one with it.

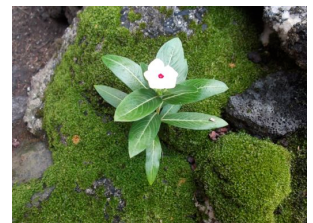
In some strange way, I felt that I had learned something important from swallowing the gnat. Once more I put my hands in gassho and bowed.

Namu kie butsu. Namu kie ho. Namu kie so.

Wishing you and your family a happy Thanksgiving!

Coming Up in December...

Rohatsu Sesshin (8 mornings of zazen)	December 1 - 8
Bodhi Day Service & General Membership Meeting	December 8
Project Dana Kupuna Activity Morning	December 11
Kannon-ko & Ofudayaki Services	December 18
Mochi-making Day (Mochitsuki)	December 28
New Year's Blessing Services	December 31 and January 1



November 2013

October 2013							November 2013							December 2013						
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

- Sangha Sisters
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Major Service
- Temple Board
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Zazen
- Samu
- Special Events
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Happy Strummers
- Offsite Backup
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha
- Orchid Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30 AM Family Service	28 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	30 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Youth Taiko Board	31 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	1 8:00 AM Samu	2 8:00 AM SHAKYO 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko
3 7:45 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	4 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	5 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	6 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	7 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple's Future Talk Story Session	8 8:00 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	9 5:00 AM Sushi Rolling 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko 10:00 AM Coffee Festival, Keauhou
10 9:30 AM Honolulu Event	11 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	12 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	13 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	14 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	15	16 7:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Dharma Study 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko
17 Temple Clean Up 8 am	18 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	19 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	20 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	21 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	22 8:00 AM Samu	23 7:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Dharma Study 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko
24 Service 9:30 am Thanksgiving	25 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	26 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	27 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29 8:00 AM Samu	30 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko