## **Daifukuji Soto Mission**

#### **A Light in Our Community**



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

March, 2017

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.

## 33 Kannon Pilgrimage Service & Spring Higan Service

Sunday, March 19 9:30 a.m.

Please join us on a "pilgrimage" to the 33 Kannon temples of western Japan. Thirty-three statuettes of Kannon-sama, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, will be displayed in the Kannon Hall. While the sutras are being chanted, the pilgrims circulate the hall, stepping onto small packets of earth brought to Kona many years



ago from each of the temples, and pay homage to the bodhisattvas of great compassion. This Kannon Osunafumi Service has been held annually at Daifukuji since 1948.

It is a practice at our temple to offer a coin to each Kannon-sama. There are a total of 35.

A spring Higan service will also be held and a Dharma message given by **Dr. Jessica Falcone**, **PhD**. Dr. Falcone is an associate professor of cultural anthropology at Kansas State University. A simple lunch prepared by Fujinkai Team 1 and volunteers will follow the service. All are invited to stay for lunch. Donations of desserts are appreciated. The gift shop will be open.

From March 19 - 23, you may come to the temple to do the pilgrimage on your own. Feel free to bring along family members and friends. To ensure that the temple is open, it is best to call 322-3524 before coming.

Set up 33 Kannon: Saturday, March 18 at 8:00 a.m.

Put away 33 Kannon: Friday, March 24 at 8:00 a.m.

Your kokua is humbly requested. Please drop off flowers by the morning of March 18.

### No Kannon-ko Service in March

Because of the 33 Kannon Service on March 19, no monthly Kannon-ko service will be held on March 15

## Welcome, New Members

Our sangha extends a warm aloha to the following new members:



Thida Thaothap

James Okimoto

J. Jeffrey Mulvaney & Gregory B. Keller

Naoko Murakami

New members are always welcome. For information, see Rev. Jiko or visit our website: http://www.daifukuji.org/membership brochure.pdf.

## Fall Prevention Workshop

Kona Hongwanji Project Dana is sponsoring a free Fall Prevention Workshop on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The speaker will be Mike Hirano, Home Safety Coordinator at Project Dana.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please contact Mary Katayama at (808) 323-3083. The registration deadline is February 28.



# Habitat for Humanity's Blitz Build

From September 13th to September 23rd, Habitat for Humanity West Hawaii is planning on building 10 houses in 10 days. To accomplish this, volunteers are needed to build, paint, and provide food, drinks, massages, entertainment, & cultural demonstrations. We'd like to see our sangha getting involved in this worthy cause.

If you are interesting in volunteering or would like more information, please contact our temple president Bobby Command at (808) 895-2416.



#### 2017 Bazaar

Sunday, May 7 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### **Bazaar Planning Meeting March 19**

A bazaar planning meeting will be held after the 33 Kannon Service lunch on March 19th. Joyce St. Arnault will be calling the regular committees to ask for help with this year's bazaar. If you'd like to serve on a committee, please inform bazaar co-chairs Joyce (329-3833) or Stephen (322-2543).

#### **Bazaar Donations**

From April 24 - May 5, items for the bazaar may be dropped off inside the social hall. Please do not bring items the day before the bazaar or on the day of the bazaar.

## Bazaar Set Up

Set up will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 6. Many helping hands are needed. Your kokua would be greatly appreciated.

## Why is the bazaar important?

The annual bazaar is our temple's biggest fundraiser. Proceeds from the bazaar go into the temple's building and maintenance fund which needs yearly replenishment. Presently, our Board is looking into improving the handicap access to the social hall & fixing the handicap ramp leading to the temple. We will also have to repair damage to the asphalt in the parking lot. The annual bazaar makes these kinds of improvements possible.



#### **Dharma Wheel Pendants**

The Gift Shop offers a variety of Dharma Wheel pendants. The Wheel of the Dharma or *Dharmachakra* is an important Buddhist symbol. The Buddha's first sermon was called "setting in motion the Wheel of the Dharma." The eight spokes of the wheel represent the Eightfold Path.

## Library News

By Clear Houn Englebert

Rev. Koshin Cherin visited Daifukuji last year, and later sent us a fabulous donation of books. This treasure of Dharma is exactly what we needed---Soto Dharma in accessible translations. Rev. Koshin's teacher is Reverend Shohaku Okumura, and he signed them for us!



Heart of Zen translated by Shohaku Okumura.

Soto Zen: An Introduction to Zazen by Shohaku Okumura

Sitting Under the Bodhi Tree edited by Shohaku Okumura

Dogen's Pure Standards for the Zen Community by Dogen, translated by Taigen Leighton & Shohaku Okumura.

Shobogenzo-zuimonki by Dogen translated by Shohaku Okumura.

The Wholehearted Way by Dogen, translated by Taigen Leighton & Shohaku Okumura.

The Zen Teaching of Homeless Kodo by Shohaku Okumura and Kosho Uchiyama.

Opening the Hand of Thought by Kosho Uchiyama, translated by Shohaku Okumura, Jisho Warner, and Tom Wright.

Other new arrivals are:

The CD Shakuhatchi Zen by John Singer.

A manga book in Japanese: *Jimbutsu Nihon no Rekishi* 2 (Nara).

*Buddhist Origami* by Nick Robinson is a truly creative book. Here are three different Buddha figures to fold, as well as the Dharma Wheel, lotus, and pagoda.

All is Change by Lawrence Sutin is the brilliantly told story of how Buddhism moved to the West.

The Buddha...Off the Record by Joan Oliver is a small, but excellent introductory book written in a very readable question & answer format.

*The Saffron Robe: A Journey With Buddha's Daughters* by Christine Toomey comes highly recommended. Toomey travels the globe to report on Buddhist nuns.



Dharma Study Classes - Tuesdays, March 7, 14 & 28 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. (No class on March 21)

A new series of classes based on the book *Zen Living* by Domyo Sater Burk begins March 7th. One may purchase a book for \$10 at the first class or prior to the first class. Call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 for further information. All are welcome.

**Family Sangha Services:** Sharing the Dharma with Children - **Sundays, March 5 & March 26** at 9:30 a.m. Child-friendly 45 minute services which include yoga, zazen, chanting, singing, & Dharma lessons. For children of all ages and their parents & grandparents.

#### Zazen (Meditation)

- \* Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. 7:20 a.m.
- \* Thursdays, March 2 & March 16 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Both morning and evening sessions include 20 minutes of chanting. Donations may be placed in the box on the incense table. Call Rev. Jiko for information. (808) 322-3524

#### Buddhist Movie Night - Thursday, March 9 7:00 p.m. Kannon Hall

Buddhist teacher Bhante Gunaratana will be featured in the next segment of the DVD "Eastern Mystics: Discovering the Sacred in the Ordinary." There's no charge. Bring a mug for tea.

#### Shakyo & Shabutsu Art Meditation - Saturday, March 4 from 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Mindfully tracing the Heart Sutra & pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas in silence unifies body, breath, and mind. All supplies provided. By donation.

Baikako Plum Blossom Choir Practice - Sunday, March 5 from 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

#### The Gay Sangha - Friday, March 3 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

A Buddhist group open to all, with a particular invitation to gay women and men and their families and friends. Meditation and discussion. Call (808) 328-0329 for information.

#### Tai Chi

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for information: (808) 345-1492.



## New Year's Party Mahalo

The food was scrumptious, the entertainment enjoyable, and the fellowship superb. Thank you to all who attended our temple's New Year's party on January 29th, to all who donated food and prizes, to all who provided entertainment, and to those who helped with the set up, parking, and clean up. Special thanks go to the Fujinkai members who worked in the kitchen for two days, to Walter for being our emcee, to Mike for the Rooster banner, to Avis & Brian for decorating, and to event co-chairs Joyce, Michele, and Kellie.













## The First of the Four Wisdoms: Giving 布施

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

At the beginning of 2017 I announced that my personal theme for this year was the Four Wisdoms as found in Chapter Four of the sutra *Shushogi*, where it is written that there are four kinds of wisdom that benefit living beings and that these four are the practices that arise out of the vow of the bodhisattva. Today I'd like to talk about the first of the four wisdoms: giving. Giving is called *dāna* in Sanskrit & Pali (think of Project Dana) and *fu-se* in Japanese. It is the practice of generosity, open-heartedness, and joyful non-attachment. In the *Shushogi* it is written:

"Giving" means not to covet. In principle, although nothing is truly one's own, this does not prevent us from giving. Do not disdain even a small offering; its giving will surely bear fruit. Therefore, we should give even a line or verse of the dharma, sowing good seeds for this life and other lives. We should give even a penny or a single blade of grass of resources, establishing good roots of this world and other worlds. The dharma is a resource, and resources are the dharma. Without coveting reward or thanks from others, we simply share our strength with them. (Soto School Scriptures for Daily Services & Practice, Sotoshu Shumucho)

I was once in the company of a ninety-year-old woman who was given two papayas. Without the slightest hesitation, she turned to me and gave me one of them. From what I knew, she owned very little. Yet, her whole life was steeped in the practice of generosity. Every day she walked along a rocky coffee-land road to pick up her newspaper, and on the way back, she'd pick up fallen avocados to give to friends and neighbors. Before coming to the temple, she always checked her humble garden for flowers in bloom and cut whatever was there as an offering to Buddha. Although she had little money, she always had something to give to others — fruits, flowers, smiles, kind words, loving eyes, and always a helping hand. By most people's standards, she was poor. Yet, she was rich in generosity and full of vitality and joy.

I can honestly say that the happiest people I know are those who are generous in spirit. These are folks who have learned how to graciously let go. For true giving is an act of letting go of something good without expecting anything in return. No thanks, no praise, no reward, no desired or calculated result. True giving is an act of freedom, the freedom of an open heart.

I love the words "without coveting reward or thanks from others, we simply share our strength with them." It is challenging at times to not expect thanks from others or to receive something in return, but one can easily see the suffering that expectations produce. To share our strength is to give of ourselves in whatever way we can. At times this means to simply be fully present. There is strength in this kind of presence.

Finally, we must remember to practice giving to ourselves in kind and wholesome ways. We must nurture ourselves, just as we nurture others. In the midst of work, family care, and sangha care, it is important to make some time to rest and restore our spirits. Our happiness and well being can then be shared with others.

Namu kie butsu. Namu kie hō. Namu kie sō.





#### New Legacy Endowment Fund Established

#### Aloha Members,

By now you should have received a brochure and a letter from Rev. Jiko introducing the Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund. It has taken two years to develop, and it all started in the summer of 2014, right before our Centennial Celebration, with Rev. Jiko's vision of the future of our temple. We are currently in a good financial position, thanks to the good stewardship of our funds by the Board of Directors and the generosity of our membership. 55% of our annual revenue comes from "Ijihi" or the donations made to the temple in addition to the annual membership dues. But Ijihi can fluctuate, and as our temple ages, it requires more maintenance that entails more expense. And as we all know, spending more than we make, even if it's a small amount, is not a sustainable situation.

To address this issue the Legacy Endowment Fund was created. Only earnings on donations made may be used for the preservation and maintenance of our Temple and buildings, nothing else. Because the original donation amount is untouched, the donor's gift keeps benefitting our temple in perpetuity. Since our Fund is new, the intent is to let earnings grow for 3 - 5 years before any of it is used. This will allow our Endowment to achieve a good base.

I encourage everyone to read our Endowment Fund Charter available on our website or in the Temple office. The Fund is managed by the Trust Division of First Hawaiian Bank, and statements will be available for viewing by any member in the temple office. An Annual Report will be sent out at the beginning of each year detailing the projects funded in the previous year. Finally, a separate Endowment Fund Board of Trustees is established to provide oversight & keep the membership updated. Please feel free to seek any of us out to ask questions, but more importantly, to tell us what the temple means to you. These are the stories we want to tell. If our members and the community continue to believe that what we do here is important, our endowment will be successful.

We have been left a great gift by the hard work of countless members who are no longer with us. We now take it as our responsibility to be good stewards of this legacy gift by establishing our Legacy Endowment Fund to ensure our Temple is here for future generations. A hundred years from now our members will be practicing the Way of the Buddha, planning and preparing for our Bicentennial Celebration. The Samu Group will be cleaning & fixing, the Fujinkai will be preparing delicious food, the Family Sangha Sunday School children will be practicing for their performance . . . a "beehive" of activity & fellowship. None of these people have been born yet. These are the people we are doing this for, just as our predecessors did for us.

In Gassho,

Wade Yasuda

Chair, Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Trustees

Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Trustees

Avis Yamamoto Brian Yamamoto Keith Olson Wade Yasuda



# HAIB Buddha Day Service to be Held at Kona Hongwanji

Sunday, March 12

The 5th annual Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) Buddha Day Service is going to be held at the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple's Social Hall on the 12th of March. The featured speaker will be the bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Bishop Eric Horaku Matsumoto, who grew up in Kona. Buddhist groups from around the island have been invited to take part in this observance of the Buddha Shakyamuni's birth. The purpose of HAIB is to foster friendships and understanding among Buddhist groups and to organize programs for the achievement of peace and harmony for all humankind. Admission is free and all are invited. Donations are welcome.

Flowers for the hanamido (flower shrine) are needed & may be dropped off at the Kona Hongwanji the afternoon of March 10th or morning of March 11th. Place flowers in the buckets outside the conference room. Help is needed with the setting up of the social hall. Set up will begin at 8 a.m. on March 11.

Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple is located between Bank of Hawaii and First Hawaiian Bank in Kealakekua. For more information, please contact Rev. Jiko Nakade at (808) 322-3524 or Rev. Bruce Nakamura at (808) 323-2993.

## Zazenkai To Hold Potluck Breakfast Meeting on March 22

Members of the Daifukuji Zazenkai are invited to a potluck breakfast meeting on **Wednesday**, **March 22**. The meeting will be held at 6:30 a.m. after one period of zazen which starts at 6:00 a.m. The meeting will focus on the planning of the Zazenkai's cooking of the April 9th Hanamatsuri lunch for the sangha. Members of both the Wednesday morning and Thursday evening zazen groups are invited to attend.

Questions? Please send an email to Zazenkai president Barbara Shoshin Bosz at barbarainkona@gmail.com or call her at (808) 987-2673.

## Coming Up in April....

April 9....Hanamatsuri Buddha Day Service April 4, 11, & 18.....Dharma Study Classes April 12...Project Dana April 19...... Kannon-Ko Service
April 22 & 23.....UHSSWA Conference
April 24 - May 5...Bazaar donations accepted

# Sangha Photo Gallery

## Baika Workshop & Soba Demonstration







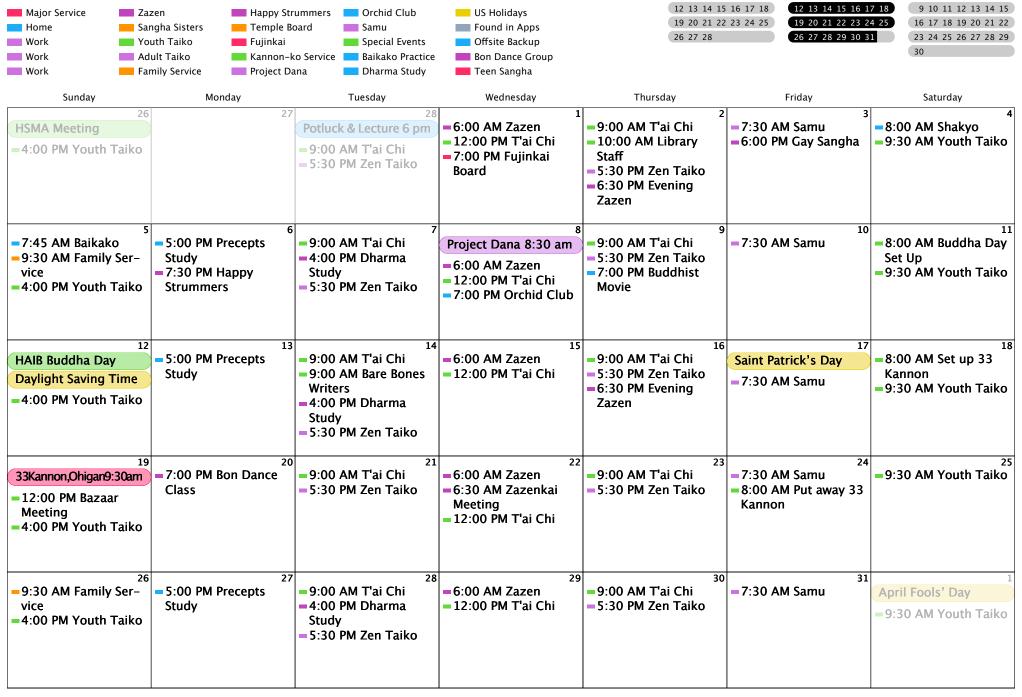








## March 2017



February 2017

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March 2017

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April 2017

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