



## Daifukuji Soto Mission

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*Treasuring the Past,  
Embracing the Present*

*July, 2009*



*Come out and enjoy the hot dogs, hamburgers, chili and rice, manju, prune mui, mochi, energy bars, and drinks which will be sold by the taiko group & Fujinkai at the Bon Dance. Obon is a time to experience the joys of living together in community.*

# DAIFUKUJI BON DANCE

Saturday, July 11

8:00 a.m. Yagura & Hall Set Up,  
Festival Preparations.  
Kokua needed.  
Onegai shimasu.

6:30 p.m. Opening Service

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Bon Dance  
Taiko Performances  
Information Tables  
Ono food

Sunday, July 12

8:00 a.m. Yagura Dismantling  
Bon Festival Clean Up  
Help needed.

## Bon Dance Practice Sessions

Instructor Winifred Kimura will be leading bon dance practice sessions from 7 - 9 p.m. on the following evenings in the temple's social hall:

June 30, July 2, July 7, July 9

Sessions are free and open to the public.  
A warm mahalo to Winifred!

## Library News

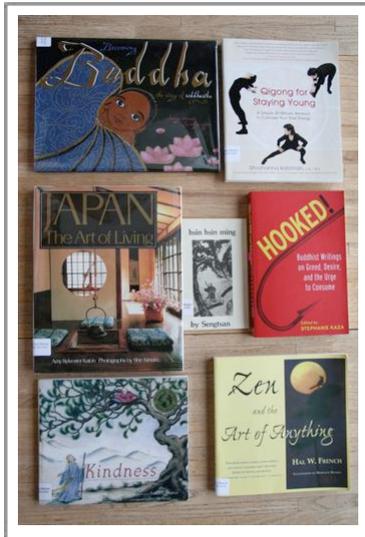
by Clear Englebert

The 'so' in Soto comes from Sozan's name and the 'to' is from Tozan's. Sozan was

Tozan's disciple in China in the late 800's. He wrote the most beautiful Zen scripture that I know of --- the "Hsin Hsin Ming." In Japan it's known as the "Shinjimeiji" and in English as the "Faith-Mind Scripture". Daifukuji now has a charming little copy of this scripture. The text is only six pages long, and to read it is to love it. Guaranteed! Here's a sample: "To set up what you like against what you dislike is the disease of the mind."

Two new children's books are: "Kindness: A Treasury of Buddhist Wisdom for Children and Parents" by Sarah Conover and "Becoming Buddha: The Story of Siddhartha" by Whitney Stewart and Sally Rippin.

Another new book is "Zen and the Art of Anything" by Hal French. When I first saw the book I had to wonder (based on the title) if it really had anything to do with Buddhism. It's actually a very pleasant book of ruminations on mindfulness. The book with the most amazing cover is "Hooked! Buddhist Writings on Greed, Desire, and the Urge to Consume" edited by Stephanie Kaza. The cover



is bright red and shows the business end of a big fishhook. If the economy hasn't cured you of indiscriminate consumption, this book surely will!

Two more books we've received are "Qigong for Staying Young: A Simple 20-Minute Workout to Cultivate Your Vital Energy" by Shoshanna Katzman and "Japan: The Art of Living: A Sourcebook of Japanese Style for the Western Home" by Amy Katoh. This sumptuous book makes a nice counterpoint to the greed book. Buddhism is the Middle Way after all.

## Clean-Up Day Mahalo

On June 14, Sunday, the Kona Daifukuji Temple had a clean-up day in preparation for the Obon season. It was a beautiful morning and we started the day with a prayer by Reverend Jiko and Teiho. This prayer was for the well being and safety of all involved.

I would like to thank all who gave up their busy schedules to attend this clean-up. We had a tremendous turnout, and we accomplished all that was needed. Special thanks to Ryan and Phillip who we depended on to reach the high places and their strong backs to carry heavy items. Also special mahalos to Joyce and her Fujinkai ladies who made a very delicious lunch for all of us to enjoy!!

Hope to see all of you at the next scheduled cleaning in November!!

Mahalo,  
Ronald Iwamoto



## Daifukuji Orchid Show

***Sunday, July 26                      8 a.m. - 2 p.m.***

—“Growing Orchids in Pots or Gardens—a Unique Hawaii Choice” is the theme of the 27th Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club (KDOC) show and sale Sunday, July 26 at the Daifukuji Mission Hall.

Kona’s oldest orchid club offers attendees complimentary refreshments, plus an orchid boutonniere corsage—while they last. Time is 8 a.m.-2 p.m. with a rousing 10 a.m. performance by the **Daifukuji Soto Mission’s taiko drummers**.

A large, three-dimensional exhibit featuring dramatic photos will illustrate how to grow orchids around your home. It will be the centerpiece of an elaborate display of blooming cattleya, cymbidium, dendrobium, phalaenopsis, miltonia, vanda and more—all grown by club members.

Veteran members will staff a new Question and Answer Booth where attendees can get expert advice on caring for orchids. The club boasts eight charter members who each have been growing orchids at least 27 years at different Kona elevations.

In addition to the informative educational displays, the annual event offers an outdoor sale of high-quality orchid species and hybrids.

The Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club is West Hawai‘i’s oldest orchidaceae organization with a mission to learn and foster orchid culture and promote fellowship among orchid collectors. The club meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Daifukuji Soto Mission Hall on Hwy. 11 at mile marker 114, just north of Kainaliu. For information, contact club president Laura Jennison, 938-2123.

## Cemetery Improvements

Construction work has been going on at the cemetery during the month of June. We are very happy with the work of Luis Castillo and Eugene Elmer. They have been clearing the land, smoothing the ground, and building a retaining wall to prevent further erosion onto the road going up to the cemetery. We will now have a pull-out in the case of cars meeting each other going up and down the road. In addition, we will have some parking spaces and a new way to walk up to the front graves.



## In Memoriam



We send our deepest sympathy to the family of the late Sally Yoshimi Deguchi, 80, who passed away on May 21, 2009.

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

## Welcome, New Members

We warmly welcome Raymond, Christine, and Rayne Baltero into our sangha and thank them for contributing much aloha and kokua to our temple community.

## Family Sangha News

The Family Sangha (aka Sunday School) celebrated the arrival of summer with a picnic in Honaunau on Father's Day, June 21.

There will be no Sunday morning family services during the month of July and beginning of August. Family services start up again **August 16**. New families are welcome!



## Report on UHSSWA Conference

*by Reverend Kenji Oyama  
Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission, Maui*

On Saturday morning, April 25, the Mantokuji group boarded a plane to Kona. The Daifukuji members were so helpful and accommodating as our arrival was after the bus had left. They warmly greeted us with a creative coffee bean lei and a hand-sewn tote bag with a program booklet and a lovely lauhala fan and lauhala bookmark as a gift.

Right away, we could see how much time and effort went into the preparation for the conference and making the leis and gifts. We were touched deeply by the wonderful ideas that brought out a unique "Kona-ness" to this year's conference. The Opening Ceremony and Memorial Service officiated by the Bishop Shugen Komagata began shortly after arriving at the beautiful Kona Daifukuji Temple. After the annual meeting we had a delicious bento lunch made by the historical Teshima Restaurant that is located next to the temple. The remarkable Mrs. Teshima, who is 101 years old, made the musubi herself. The Daifukuji Children's Sangha and Project Dana Groups welcomed us with their singing as we enjoyed our meal and time together with our old and new friends from the other temple groups. After lunch, our group went to the Uchida Farm where we had a tour of an old plantation home and coffee farm. It felt like we went back in time to the "good old days" when things were kept simple and family pulled together and helped each other to make ends meet. Although we had less things, in many ways, we were just as happy and



comfortable as we are right now. The tour guide, a young lady who had moved from Japan recently, said that she felt so humbled and learned many more things about plantation life from the ladies on the tour who shared with us their experiences living in the plantation days. They also showed us the whole history and process of growing and making their famous Kona coffee.

We then went to the luxurious Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort, where the remainder of the conference was held, to get a little rest before our banquet outside under the night sky and stars. At the banquet, the talented Daifukuji Happy Strummers, an ukulele group, performed for us and two members of their Fujinkai danced for us the hula. We then got to see an excellent skit called the “Kona’s Extraordinary Woman”. Our key note speaker, Patricia Mushim Ikeda-Nash, a Buddhist Dharma Teacher from California who is also the cousin of Rev. Jiko Nakade delivered an inspirational speech on our theme for the conference, “Taking Refuge Through the Seasons of Our Lives.” She also moderated a moving and insightful Dharma session the next morning in which individuals spoke of their personal and real experiences of how the Buddha, his teachings, the temple and its members impacted their lives. The evening ended with everyone forming a large ring to conduct the candle light

ceremony, sing Soto Shu Shuka and dance Heiwa Ondo.

The next morning, after the morning service, recognition of the Jizoku (minister’s spouses) and outgoing UHSSWA officers, and the installation ceremony of incoming UHSSWA officers, we had a exercise and stretching session led by Mayo Chinn of Kona Daifukuji. The Dharma Session followed and ended with a short meditation sitting led by Patricia Ikeda-Nash. After a short break, we had the Aloha Luncheon out on the terrace overlooking the peaceful Keauhou Bay. To close the conference, Bishop Komagata gave a closing prayer, and we sang “Farewell” and “Aloha Oe.”

It was a pleasant and relaxing two days for us being showered with the Aloha Spirit of our host the Kona Daifukuji Fujinkai, Rev. Jiko Nakade, her husband Mike and all their members. Throughout the conference, I felt the strong love and harmony of the Daifukuji Ohana, their feelings of how they love to be at the temple and how they enjoy being with each other. This wonderful and gentle energy permeated all of us who went to this conference.

## **Invitation to Taishoji Obon**

The Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission Sangha invites Daifukuji members to their Obon Festivities. Please let Rev. Jiko know if you are planning to attend. A headcount is needed.

Aug. 1 Bon Dance 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Aug. 2 Obon Service 9:00 a.m.  
Lunch and Fellowship

Aug. 2 Toro Nagashi 5:30 p.m.

Wailoa River Small Boat Harbor  
Rev. and Mrs. Shinryu Akita will be visiting from Saipan.

## Understanding Neighbors

by Jiko Sensei

All was quiet at Daifukuji and the Thursday evening zen practitioners were seated on their meditation cushions. Only the song of a lone coqui frog was heard. I gently rang the bell three times to signal the start of zazen. Ah, such peace and quiet!

Then it started -- rock music blaring from a neighbor's stereo system, intrusively entering the sanctity of the temple. Strong beats. Loud music. First one song and then another.

*How rude*, I thought! *How inconsiderate to be playing such loud music at this hour!* I shifted on my zafu (cushion) and thought of getting up and calling the neighbors to complain. This was, after all, meditation night, the one night of the week when it was *supposed* be quiet at the temple. On all other nights, the taiko groups practiced their drumming.

Suddenly, my eyes opened. Four nights a week of taiko! I suddenly realized that the entire Honalo neighborhood and beyond listened to taiko drumming four evenings a week, and never once called to complain during the five years that I've lived at Daifukuji.

I bowed my head and put my hands together in *gassho*. Here I was, irritated by the loud music and ready to complain, while my neighbors practiced tolerance and understanding day after day, quietly supporting our temple's taiko programs. Without such support, these programs would not be possible.

In a moment, my "rude" neighbors turned into "understanding" neighbors. It was not they, but I who had been intolerant and quick to criticize.

Evening zazen, with rock music, continued. I could embrace all of life with a bigger heart-mind. Gratefully, I sat in the midst of it all with a peaceful heart, surrounded by my Dharma friends. Zazen had give me the opportunity to observe my states of mind and heart, and to awaken to the Truth of the interdependent nature of existence, exemplified by neighbors living in harmony.

**Isn't it amazing how a simple shift in perspective can be the difference between hell and heaven, war and peace?**



**Congratulations to Daifukuji Taiko upon their excellent taiko concert performance in Hilo!**

## Coming Up in August...

Aug. 1            Hilo Taishoji Bon Dance  
Aug. 8            Daishiji Bon Dance, Holualoa  
Aug. 9            Fujinkai Appreciation Lunch  
Aug. 16            Family Services Begin

Thursday Evening Dharma Study  
Sessions        Aug. 13, 20, & 27

# Sangha Photo Gallery



Guest Speaker Morris Kimura



Passing On the Buddha's Light



The Blessing of Our Graduates



Having Fun at Project Dana



Toba Preparation

# July 2009

June 2009							July 2009							August 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
													30	31						

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 OBON SERVICE 10 AM	29 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Bon Dance Practice	1 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Youth Taiko Board 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	2 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Bon Dance Practice	3 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	4 Happy 4th of July!
5	6 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	7 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Bon Dance Practice	8 Project Dana 8:30 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	9 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Bon Dance Practice	10 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko 6:00 PM Sangha Sisters	11 BON DANCE 6:30 p.m. Set Up 8 a.m.
12 8:00 AM Bon Dance Clean Up	13 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	14 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	15 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	16 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	17 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	18
19 1:00 PM HAIB Meeting	20 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	21 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	22 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	23 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Board Meeting	24 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	25 7:00 PM Hongwanji Bon Dance
26 ORCHID SHOW	27 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	28 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	29 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	31 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	1