

Daifukuji Soto Mission

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



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

March, 2012

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

33 Kannon Pilgrimage & Ohigan Service

Sunday, March 18

9:30 a.m.

Every March at Daifukuji, anyone can become a Buddhist pilgrim and feel as if he or she is visiting the 33 Kannon temples of western Japan. 33 statuettes of Kannon (Bodhisattva of Compassion) are displayed in the Kannon Hall. The pilgrims circulate the hall, stepping on the small packets of earth from each of the 33 temples, and bowing to each bodhisattva while sutras are being chanted. It is a practice at Daifukuji to offer a coin to each of the 33 Kannon plus two more, so please bring **35 coins** to the service. The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Jiko.

The 33 Kannon will be set up on Friday, March 16 at 8:00 a.m. and will be put away on Friday, March 23 at 8:00 a.m. We humbly ask for your kokua and for donations of flowers, which may be delivered the morning of March 16 or the day before.

There will be no Kannon-ko service on March 21. However, from March 17- 22, you are welcome to bring friends to the temple to pay homage to the 33 Kannon.

Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony

Saturday, March 24

2:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend a Buddhist confirmation ceremony in which seventeen Daifukuji members will be receiving the precepts and their Buddhist names. On March 24 at 2:00 p.m., Bishop Shugen Komagata will be officiating this ceremony with the assistance of Rev. Juo Shinohara of the Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office.

Participating in this ceremony are the following members of our sangha: Barbara Bosz, Angy Chesler, Judie Fekete, Elaine Fernandez, Mikie Hanato-Wells, Philip Hema, Renee Kimura, Coral Mack, Chris McLaughlin, Munekage Morichika, Masanobu Oga, Faye Osako, Nancy Osako, Joyce St. Arnault, Brett Stone, Lorraine Tanimoto, & Merle Uyeda.

May our Sangha Ohana gather on this joyful occasion to bless and congratulate those who are becoming disciples of the Buddha.

ZAZEN

Every Wednesday morning from 6:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

Evening zazen on the following Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.:

March 1 and March 15

Kannon Meditation on Compassion March 22 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

BUDDHIST MOVIE NIGHT

Thursday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kannon Hall. No charge.

THE CUP: AN INSPIRING TRUE STORY

A charming film about four young Tibetan monks living in the Himalayas who catch soccer fever and are determined to watch the World Cup.

PRECEPTS STUDY & CEREMONY PREPARATION

Saturday, March 3 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 17 11:00 a.m. - noon

SHAKYO & SHABUTSU

*Tracing the sutras and pictures of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
in silence. A meditation practice.*

Saturday, March 17 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

These sessions are open to everyone. There is no charge for these Dharma offerings. Donations are appreciated. Please contact Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 if you have questions.

Girl's Day Tea Party

Fujinkai members, as well as women interested in learning more about the Fujinkai, are invited to a Girl's Day Tea Party.

Date: Sunday, March 4

Time 1:00 p.m.

Place: Daifukuji Soto Mission

This event will feature a talk on Japanese family crests by Walter Tachibana, a mochi-making demonstration by Michiko Enomoto, and Amy Nakade's Japanese Girl's Day doll display.

Ladies, please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

With much aloha and gratitude, our Sangha welcomes the following new members:

Patricia & Richard Missler

Faith Oshita and Allen Lee

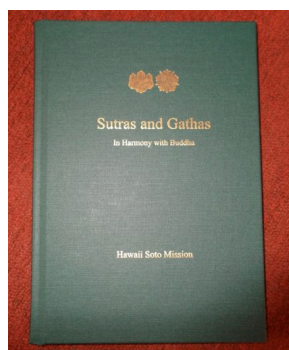
Dale Matsumoto

Allone Howell

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ako and Koji Kono of Tokyo, Japan who were wed on the 29th of January. *Omedeto gozaimasu.*

New Sutra & Gatha Books

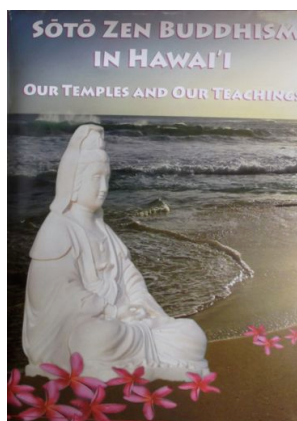


A new set of sutra & gatha books is being shipped to Daifukuji and will soon replace the aging books that we have been using for the past thirty-five years. *Sutras and Gathas: In Harmony with Buddha*, published by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association and the Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office, is actually two books in one -- a combination of the black *Sanbutsu* gatha book, which was put together fifty-one years ago by Rev. & Mrs. Ernest Shinkaku Hunt and retired bishop Jiho Machida, and the reddish-brown *Sotoshu Sutra* book, which was published by the Sotoshu Shumicho (Head Office) in 1977. Daifukuji's previous minister, Rev. Ryuji Tamiya, and temple member, Jane Huntington, began the initial work on this book about ten years ago, a project which was continued by the members of the Sutra-gatha book committee, Rev. Kenji Oyama, Rev. Shuji Komagata, and Rev. Jiko Nakade, with the guidance of Rev. Kotoku Yoshida, Rev. Juo Shinohara, and Bishop Shugen Komagata.

Long hours and much work over a period of many years went into the making of this new book, which includes not only English translations of the Buddhist sutras and verses, but also English translations of Japanese gathas and eisanka Buddhist hymns. We are grateful to all who contributed to *Sutras and Gathas: In Harmony with Buddha*. Mahalo to Daifukuji member Keith Olson for helping with the page numbering and formatting.

Members who wish to get a copy of this book for their personal use and study will be able to do so for a donation.

As Bishop Komagata wrote in the book's Foreword, "*We hope this book will inspire Soto Zen Buddhists of all ages in deepening and strengthening their faith in the teachings of the Buddha.*"



A DVD About Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii

The Hawaii Soto Mission Association (HSMA) has also funded the production of a DVD about Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii which will soon become available. *Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii: Our Temples and Our Teachings* is a video tour of our nine Soto Zen temples scattered throughout the Hawaiian island chain. Using historical photographs and current video footage, this DVD tells the story of how Soto Zen Buddhism was started in Hawai'i by the founding ministers and first generation *Issei* sangha members and about how it evolved to meet the spiritual and social needs of the people. Angy Chesler, owner of Creative Video & Photo Concepts Inc. and a Daifukuji member, was the principal videographer for this DVD.

Each member family will be receiving one DVD as a gift. Additional DVDs may be purchased. Also, there is going to be a link on the temple website to a VIMEO site on the internet where the DVD can be viewed.

The DVDs have been ordered and will soon be on their way to Hawaii from the mainland. More information will follow in the April newsletter.



Kannon-sama Evening Meditation

*An hour of music and meditation in the light of
the 33 Bodhisattvas of Compassion*

Thursday, March 22

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Daifukuji Kannon Hall

Song of Kannon

by Jiko Nakade



Gentle Kannon, hearer of cries, hearkens to calls of suffering.
To sentient beings and all forms of life, comfort, peace, and love she brings.

One hand outstretched, beckoning near, those whose hearts are weeping,
Light of compassion streaming forth, healing all pain and suffering.

One hand in which a lotus blooms, flower of truth and beauty,
rising above the muddy pond, seeking the light of purity.

Lovely Kannon, crown on her head, awakens one's Buddha's Wisdom Heart
and opens one's Buddha's Wisdom Eye; all will attain Enlightenment.

Beautiful smile, gentle Kannon, spreading compassion high and low,
With golden streams of love and light, peaceful blessings she bestows.

"There is no self," says brilliant Kannon. "Look and you'll see that all beings are One."
Until universal peace pervades the Mind, her work will never be done.

Namu Kanzeon Bosatsu, Namu Kanzeon Bosatsu, homage to the Bodhisattva of Compassion.
Let us sing her song... *"May all beings be happy by living the Eightfold Way. May all beings
live peacefully and never wander astray."*



Spring Greetings from Rev. Jiko

Dear Members and Dharma friends,

Thank you very much for supporting the Daifukuji Fujinkai's pancake breakfast fundraiser which was held on the 25th of February. It was a successful event, thanks to everyone's hard work, generous donations, and support. It was nice to see temple members and friends talking story over breakfast. Fujinkai members and helpers, gokurosama deshita. Breakfast was delicious!

The month of March promises to be yet another busy month, highlighted by the Fujinkai's Girl's Day tea party on March 4, the U.S. Soto Conference in Honolulu on March 10 & 11, the spring Ohigan and thirty-three Kannon Osunafumi service on March 18, and the Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony on March 24. In addition to the above, on March 12, the Reverend Ryubun Kamada, the director of the educational division of the Soto Shu head office in Tokyo, will be making an official visit to our temple, accompanied by Bishop Shugen Komagata and Rev. Juo Shinohara of the Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office. On March 13, a group of Soto Zen Buddhists from the mainland will be stopping by for a visit.

Also this month, Amy Jikai and I are looking forward to hosting a Kannon-sama meditation evening. While the 33 statues of the bodhisattva Kannon are still on display, we will be holding an hour-long evening meditation which will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Kannon Hall on March 22. Kannon-sama is very dear to both Amy and me, and we enjoy chanting the Kannon sutras and singing songs about this beloved Bodhisattva of Compassion. (When I was seventeen years old, I was so inspired by our temple's Hawaii Kannon that I wrote the "Song of Kannon.") Please join us for an evening that focuses on Kannon Bosatsu's wondrous, great, and powerful compassion.

I am also looking forward to the Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony that is going to take place at our temple on Saturday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m. Those who will be receiving the precepts, along with their Buddhist names and wagesa, have been studying the precepts together and preparing inwardly for their confirmation as disciples of the Buddha. They have deepened their understanding of the Buddha's teachings and have strengthened their resolve to live in accordance with them. You are cordially invited to attend this ceremony.

In the temple garden, the sakura tree is in bloom. Miyeko Miyose explained to me that this tree was originally planted near the nokotsudo (columbarium), but was replanted in its present location by Chirio Miyose and the late Takao Ide. Thanks to their efforts, the cherry blossoms can be viewed and enjoyed by all who visit the temple.

From my heart, I thank you for all that you've contributed to our temple and sangha community. May you live each day in the compassionate light of Kannon-sama. *Namu daihi Kanzeon Bosatsu.*

With much aloha, in gassho,

Rev. Jiko

Photo Gallery: New Year's Party

Photos by Bobby Command





HAWAII SOTO MISSION BISHOP'S OFFICE

SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII

1708 NUUANU AVENUE

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Bishop's Message 2012

Aloha and Happy New Year! I send you warm wishes from the Bishop's Office. 2011, the Year of the Rabbit, has gone by with so many happy and some sad memories. I pray that 2012, the Year of the Dragon, will be a happy, healthy, and safe one for you and your family.

I would like to first express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your prayers of compassion and generous donations to the victims of the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami that took place on March 11, 2011. I ask you for your prayers for continued healing in Japan as the new year promises a fresh start filling every heart with hopes and aspirations.

With everyone's support and encouragement, I look forward to having a meaningful and exciting year ahead. Let us work together to promote and practice the teachings of Shakamuni Buddha, Dogen Zenji, and Keizan Zenji. Now more than ever, we realize that our lives today must be cherished, appreciated, and lived to the fullest. Then, with hearts full of gratitude, we will be able to live each day positively with meaning and value—free of regret. By experiencing each day this way—with the Buddha's teaching as our guide—we can make a difference in helping our world become a peaceful place to live.

2012 promises to be a very busy year for the Hawaii Soto Mission. Last October, several members from our Soto temples in Hawaii attended the "Soto Zen International Symposium 2011" in Tokyo, Japan. This year, on March 10 & 11, 2012, the Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop's Office and Hawaii Soto Mission Association will host the "8th U.S. Soto Conference" at the Ala Moana Hotel. With the theme, "*Nurturing Peace Through Our Buddhist Faith*," the conference aims to share how Soto Buddhist teachings can contribute towards resolving many of the problems we face in our lives and around the world, and further promote peace and happiness. The conference will be attended by Soto temple members from Los Angeles, Long Beach, Montebello, San Francisco, Monterey, and all Soto temples in Hawaii. This will be a great opportunity to exchange and discuss ideas, renew friendships and make new friends with our Soto family from the mainland. As the host of this event, I humbly ask for your support through your attendance and participation. It is only with your presence that the conference can be successful.

On May 29 & 30, Baika members from our various Soto temples will travel to Makuhari Messe in Chiba, Japan, for the "Baika-Ryu 60th Anniversary Convention." There, they will join over 10,000 other Baika members from Japan for workshops and fellowship.

Last year, a project sponsored by the Bishop's Office called "Initiation Ceremony," or "Nyushin-Shiki," was observed at Wahiawa Ryusenji and Waipahu Taiyoji. This dharma study program and ceremony provide members and friends an opportunity to be initiated as Soto Buddhists and disciples of the Buddha by formally receiving the sixteen precepts. This year, the Initiation Ceremony will be held on Maui and in Kona.

The Bishop's Office, with the staff of Rev. Juo Shinohara and Rev. Kenji Oyama, is committed to working to promote the Buddha's teachings through the aforementioned programs and projects. I humbly ask for your continued support. Feel free to call us any time or visit us if you happen to be in the area.

May you continue to be surrounded by the Light and Compassion of the Shakamuni Buddha, and Kannon and Jizo Bodhisattvas throughout 2012. I pray for your happiness and safety.

In Gassho,

Bishop Shugen Komagata

March 2012

February 2012							March 2012							April 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

- 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
26 9:30 AM Family Service	27 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	28 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Beg. Baikako	29 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	1 9:00 AM Tai Chi Practice 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	2 8:00 AM Samu	3 8:00 AM Precepts Study 10:00 AM Beginners youth taiko
4 Tea Party 1 pm Fujinkai Girl's Day 9:30 AM Family Service	5 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	6 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	7 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	8 9:00 AM Tai Chi Practice 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Buddhist Movie "The Cup"	9 8:00 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	10 U.S. Soto Conference
11 U.S. Soto Conference 8:00 AM Baikako Practice	12 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	13 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Beg. Baikako	14 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	15 9:00 AM Tai Chi Practice 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	16 8:00 AM 33 Kannon Set Up 8:00 AM Samu	17 9:30 AM Shakyo 10:00 AM Beginners youth taiko 11:00 AM Precepts Study
18 33 Kannon 9:30 am Spring Ohigan	19 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	20 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	21 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	22 9:00 AM Tai Chi Practice 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Kannon Meditation	23 8:00 AM Samu 8:00 AM 33 Kannon Clean Up ... Kannon Meditation	24 Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony 2 pm 10:00 AM Beginners youth taiko
25 9:30 AM Family Service	26 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	28 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29 9:00 AM Tai Chi Practice 5:00 PM Zen Taiko	30 8:00 AM Samu	31 10:00 AM Beginners youth taiko