# KONA HONGWANJI **BUDDHIST TEMPLE**



## E - JIHO March 2020



Theme & Slogan 2020:

**Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity and Openness** 

Eshinni-Kakushinni Day Service Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Guest Speaker: Mrs. Lois Toyama, President of the Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations

English Service only—Sponsored by BWA

**HAIB Buddha Day Service** Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in Social Hall Guest Speaker: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka, Resident Minister of Puna Hongwanji Flowers needed for Hanamido .... Saturday, March 7, 2020 by 5 p.m. Leave in bucket outside of Conference Room

This event is sponsored by the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB), whose purpose is to foster friendships and understanding among all Buddhist groups and to organize programs for the achievement of peace and harmony for all humankind.

#### **Everyday Buddhism Seminar**

"Buddhism IRL (In Real Life)" with Rev. Alan Urasaki Saturday, March 21, 2020 1:00pm-2:30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend this free seminar on practical everyday Buddhism. Donation appreciated.

> **Spring O-Higan Service** Sunday, March 22, 2020 — English Service at 9:00 a.m. Guest Speaker: Rev. Alan Urasaki, Supervisory Chaplain of the Federal Detention Center in Honolulu

"Higan" means "the other shore." It is an abbreviation for "to higan" meaning reaching the other shore (of Nirvana)." Conducted during the vernal and autumnal equinoxes when days and nights are of equal length. It is a service of reflection when practices should meditate on the harmony in our inner lives. During the week long events/activities, emphasis is placed on observance of the Six Paramitas (percepts) which lead to "the other shore". Paramita is the Sanskrit for "gone to other shore".

NEED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER, contact Rev. Blayne Higa at 323-2993 or Emergency only (808)383-9153 or Joseph Gusman at 896-4988 or 324-0708. To schedule services or activities, call the church office at 323-2993 Monday thru Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and holidays. If unable to contact the office clerk, leave a message on the answering machine.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Church - konahongwanji@twc.com

#### <u>MARCH</u>

1 Sunday		9:00 AM	Eshinni-Kakushinni Day Service		
4 Wednesday		9:30 AM	Service @ Hualalai Regency		
•		11:00 AM	Service @ Life Care Center		
5 Thursday	thru	6 Friday	BSC Spring Seminar in Honolulu		
8 Sunday		9:30 AM	HAIB Buddha Day Service		
12 Thursday		9:30 AM	Preschool Temple Visitation		
13 Friday		8:30 AM	Senior Activity Program		
15 Sunday		9:00 AM	Dharma Family Service		
21 Saturday		8:00 AM	Omigaki – 1 Food Prep – 2		
		1:00 PM	Buddhist Education Seminar w/Rev. Alan Urasaki		
22 Sunday		9:00 AM	Spring O-Higan Service		
29 Sunday			NO SUNDAY SERVICE		
			<u>APRIL</u>		
1 Wednesday		9:30 AM	Service @ Hualalai Regency		
		11:00 AM	Service @ Life Care Center		
3 Friday		6:00 PM	Preschool Spring Program		
5 Sunday		9:00 AM	Hanamatsuri Service		
8 Wednesday		7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting		
9 Thursday		9:30 AM	Preschool Temple Visitation		
10 Friday		8:30 AM	Senior Activity Program		
12 Sunday		9:00 AM	Dharma Family Service		
19 Sunday		9:00 AM	Pet Appreciation & Memorial Service		
26 Sunday		9:00 AM	Dharma Family Service		
			Judo Club Fishing Tournament		

#### **DAILY MORNING SERVICE**

MONDAY THRU SATURDAY AT 8:00 AM WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30 AM except Holidays

#### **WEEKLY TEMPLE MEDITATION SERVICE**

EVERY MONDAY AT 6:30 PM except Holidays

#### **CUB SCOUTS & BOY SCOUTS**

EVERY MONDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM EXCEPT 1<sup>ST</sup>
WEDNESDAY

EVERY TUESDAY BOY SCOUT TROOP 59 MEETING AT 7:00 PM

#### TAIKO PRACTICE

EVERY THURSDAY TAIKO PRACTICE AT 5:30 PM
TAIKO MEETING EVERY 2<sup>nd</sup> THURSDAY IN THE SOCIAL HALL AT 6:45 PM

#### **JUDO PRACTICE**

JUDO CLUB MEETING EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY IN SCOUT ROOM
EVERY MONDAY AT 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 PM NOVICE; 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY THURSDAY AT 7:00 PM KATA CLASS
EVERY FRIDAY AT 6:30 PM ADULT ONLY

#### **IKEBANA**

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM IN THE SCOUT ROOM





## **MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MARCH and APRIL 2020**

First Year (2019)	March April	2 09 18	TSUNEO "CHARLES" SAKAMOTO STANLEY MITSUO KUNITOMO DESIREE JADE SHIRAKI
Third Year (2018)	March	11	FRED UECHI
Seventh Year (2014)	April	15	SAKAE NISHIMOTO
Thirteenth Year (2008)	April	14 20	SUSUMU MIZOSHIRI THELMA SACHIKO KIRIHARA
Seventeenth Year (2004)	March April	4 23 15 29	ERNEST MANABU NAKASHIMA YUKICHI ITO RUTH MICHIKO NISHIHARA KIYOKO MARUTANI
Twemty-Fifth Year (1996)	March	12 16	SHIZUE NAKAGAWA KIYOSHI NAKAMOTO
Thirty-Third Year (1988)	March April	20 23 25 19	KITSU HONDA TORAHICHI TSUKAHARA RUTH HARUKO TAKAHARA SHIGEO KUNITAKE
Fiftieth Year (1971)	March April	11 08 11	AGNES KATSUE UEDA INE FUJINO CHESTER KAZUSO YAMAMOTO TOJIU NISHINA

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## President's Message

by Joseph Gusman

I hope everyone was able to attend our annual General Membership Meeting & Luncheon on February 16, 2020. Along with the administrative business of the temple, we elected & installed the officers & directors of our temple for the next 2-year term. The luncheon that followed provided great food and socializing for our fellow temple members, as well as an opportunity to recognize the members of our sangha for their outstanding service to our temple. I'd like to sincerely thank everyone who assisted in the planning & execution of this annual event. Whether you helped with the annual meeting in the temple, the luncheon in the social hall, or donated items for decorations & door prizes, all your contributions are deeply appreciated.

Recently, I attended the 108<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, along with Reverend Higa & Kyodan Vice-President Linda Nagai. The Legislative Assembly, also

known as the Giseikai, provides the policy direction for the Hawaii Kyodan, which is then carried out by the Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors.

Four resolutions were approved this year by the delegates to the Giseikai. The first resolution every year is the Hawaii Kyodan budget, which sets the financial parameters for the operation of the Hawaii Kyodan. This year's budget reflects a decrease from last year's which translates to lower assessments for the member temples. The second resolution updated the rules of the Giseikai to bring them into alignment with the actual current operation of the Legislative Assembly. The third resolution creates an approximately 4-1/2 month transition period upon the appointment of a new bishop to allow the new bishop to become familiar with the operations of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The final resolution was in expression of condolence & appreciation to members who have provided outstanding service to their temples or Hawaii Kyodan. Among those honored in the resolution was Kyodan Past-President Stanley Kunitomo. Passage of the resolution will now result in Bishop Matsumoto writing letters of appreciation to the families of those listed in the resolution.

#### **Clerk Position Available**

On a sad note, after many years of dedicated service to Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, our office clerk Judy will be leaving her position in the very near future. We are therefore in urgent need of someone to fill the office clerk position. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in the position, please call the church office at 323-2993, or Kyodan President Joseph Gusman at 896-4988. Hopefully, we can have a person selected soon so they may have an opportunity to observe the workings of the temple office & transition into the job.

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# Our Pledge, Our Values: Sharing Aloha Rev. Blayne Higa

During the spring equinox, we celebrate Ohigan. This transition from one season to another is a time for reflection and reminds us of the values which ground our lives. Ohigan translates as "the other shore" and is a spiritual metaphor for crossing from the shore of greed, anger, and ignorance to the other shore of enlightenment. During Ohigan we reflect on the bodhisattva path and the six activities of generosity, discipline, patience, energy, meditation, and insight. The practice of these paramitas is said to be transformative because they allow us to transcend the narrow perspective of our ego-self. Articulating our Buddhist values in clear everyday language is essential to sharing the Dharma. Living our values daily is the antidote to the moral crisis our country is facing and is the way to

In our Dharma gatherings since the start of the year, we have been reciting a new reading that was written by Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani called *Our Pledge*. Just like the *Golden Chain* and the *Shinshu Pledge*, this reading summarizes our values as Shin Buddhists and is a reminder of our way of living. *Our Pledge* is aspirational and affirms our commitment to living these values in response to the Buddha's benevolence. It helps to articulate how we can live in gratitude.

Gomonshu asked each of our districts to translate his words into a form relevant and appropriate to our communities. A committee of our local ministers got together and worked hard to create the "Hawaii Version" that we are using today.

Last month, I began introducing the meaning of *Our Pledge* and covered the first two verses which articulate how we can live with aloha. The final two verses remind us how we should share aloha with others.

The third verse of Our Pledge says:

Moving forward from self-centeredness,

I will share a life of joy and sorrow with others.

Just like the Buddha, whose caring heart always embraces us.

The Buddha taught us that all our problems come from our self-centeredness when we think that only oneself is important. This is the delusion of ignorance when we think that "Me" is the only thing that matters. The Dharma teaches us that "Me" should really become "We". The idea of "Self" is important in American culture. However, focusing only on oneself leads to disharmony and suffering. We discover our true selves only when we realize the truth of interdependence.

There are many examples of self-centeredness in our society. Many of our business and political leaders perpetuate the myth of the "self-made" individual. This is the corrosive and destructive American myth which says that everything that I am is because of me alone...separate from everyone and everything. The Dharma teaches us that this is a lie. This is delusion and ignorance in its most basic form.

What is true and real is understanding that "We" are in this life together. Our founder Shinran, taught that we are *ondobo ondogyo* or "fellow travelers". This is why in my aspiration each week I remind us of this way of viewing our lives together as one Sangha, one family.

The Dharma teaches us to broaden our perspective and to identify with and to try to understand another person's situation. We are unable to perfectly understand another person's perspective because we are not the same. However, we can try to empathize and think of others guided by the truth of interdependence and Buddha's boundless compassion which has no distinction between self and others. Because we are fellow travelers, we share in the fullness of life together. Just like how the Buddha is with us throughout our lives. Namo Amida Butsu holds us in both our joys and our sorrows and transforms our ignorance into wisdom, our greed into generosity, and our anger into love. Namo Amida Butsu can help us meet life's challenges with greater courage, comfort, and peace. Temple is a place for our whole lives. The Buddha is always with us, the Dharma is always guiding us, and the Sangha is always there to support us.

The final verse of *Our Pledge* says:

Realizing that I live because of others,

I will strive to live life to the fullest with an attitude of gratitude.

Just like the Buddha, who promises to embrace us all.

It is important for us to realize that we cannot live without the support of others and the Buddha's limitless compassion. When things go as we wish, life is sweet, and we tend to take things for granted. When things don't go as we plan, and life is bitter, we tend to dwell in despair. It is important to know that we are all connected and there is always somebody and something behind our accomplishments and all our life experiences. The definition of gratitude in Buddhism is to know what has been done for us. This is expressed in the Japanese phrase of *okagesamade*.

Our Shin Buddhist way of life is a life of awareness and gratitude. When we realize that we are living thanks to the support and help of others, we should try to respond to this generosity. The idea of I am what I am because of you will guide us to appreciate a life supported by others. All our actions should arise from gratitude in response to the Buddha's benevolence.

Understanding *okagesamade* is the foundation for sharing aloha with others. Reflect on the verses of *Our Pledge* and see how they can inspire deep reflection and grateful action in response to the Buddha's boundless compassion. This is how to truly live the teachings. Namo Amida Butsu.

## **Daily Morning Service**

Start your day with gratitude by chanting the *Shoshinge* together. A daily morning service is held Monday through Saturday beginning at 8:00 am and 7:30 am on Wednesdays.

Written by Shinran Shonin, the *Shoshinge (Hymn of True Entrusting)* is the most popular chant in the Hongwanji tradition because it summarizes the basic teaching of the Pure Land Way and expresses Shinran's gratitude to Amida Buddha and the Seven Masters.

Sutra chanting has a meditative quality which settles our heart and mind, helping us to hear the calling voice of the Buddha. As the Dharma is heard and received, our chanting becomes an expression of profound gratitude for the Buddha's compassion.

Join in the chanting or simply sit and listen to the beautiful words of Shinran. All are welcome!

## **Mindfulness Monday**

Begin the week with a moment of contemplation and self-reflection at our meditation session. Join us on Mondays from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm for quiet sitting, walking meditation, and sutra chanting. As we calm our mind and body, we can focus on the present moment and hear the calling voice of wisdom and compassion in our lives. All are welcome!

## **Compassionate Care**

Providing a compassionate presence through spiritual care is a primary way of caring for Sangha. The Dharma offers guidance and support for our whole lives and especially during times of difficulty. I am here to be a companion to you on life's journey and am available for a private consultation, hospital, or home visitation. Please contact the temple office at 808-323-2993 to schedule an appointment. -Rev. Blayne

#### **Onizuka Memorial Service**





## **BWA News**







On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Kona BWA honored the following centenarians: Mrs. Setsuko Deguchi, Mrs. Nobue Teshima, and Mrs. Sumiko Yamamoto (Pictured). Mrs. Sally Murakami and Mrs. Mildred Kaneko (Pictured) were also honored as Keirosha. Mahalo to all the honorees for your dedication to the BWA and Kona Hongwanji!

## Giseikai 2020



Joey Gusman, Linda Nagai, and Rev. Blayne attend the 108<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii held at Hawaii Betsuin on February 7-8. Can you guess the familiar face in the background?



The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Living Treasures of Hawaii banquet sponsored by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii was held on February 8<sup>th</sup>. This year's honorees were: Carolee Nishi, Dr. Larry Kimura, Sachie Saigusa, and Robert Cazimero.

## **Nirvana Day Service**





We welcomed Rev. Shinsho Hata of Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission as our guest speaker for our Nirvana Day Service on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 2020 Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon





We recognized our Keirokai honorees for 2020: Janet Kunitake, Richard Nagata, George Shimamoto, Nobuko Shimamoto, Fred Uchima and Kenneth Uyeda. Thank you for all that you do for our Sangha!



Congratulations to our newly elected Temple Officers and Directors! Morris Nagata (Immediate Past President), Joseph Gusman (President), Linda Nagai (Vice President), Wendy Terada (Secretary), Elaine Nakagawa (Assistant Secretary), Dean Uemura (Treasurer), Steven Kaneko (Assistant Treasurer), Jim Miller (Auditor), Pauline Oshiro (Auditor), Aaron Nagata (Member Welfare Director), Betty Takeoka (Spiritual Affairs Director), Claudia Chang (Youth Programs Director), Marsha Boyle (BWA Director).

Mary Katayama was recognized for her many years of serving on our Temple Board and as Project Dana Coordinator. Project Dana Executive Director Cyndi Osajima and Big Island Coordinator Claudia Ueda also made a special presentation. Mahalo Mary for all that you do!



We enjoyed lots of ono food and fellowship during our Annual

#### **Donations Needed for Taste of Hongwanji**

Kona Hongwanji has been invited to participate in the Hawaii Betsuin Taste of Hongwanji Spring Bazaar on March 29<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to be a vendor at this very popular event in Honolulu. Rev. Blayne, some temple members, and friends will run a booth selling specialty items from Kona. We plan to sell Kukui Nut Onenju, Avocado, and Kona Coffee.

We are asking for donations of Avocado and Kona Coffee. Avocados should be solid for shipping to Honolulu. Coffee should be pre-packaged roasted ground or whole bean (up to 1 pound). Please drop off all donations to the temple by Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

You kokua is also needed with making Onenju. Announcements will be made during service. Thank you very much for your support of this temple sustainability project. For more information, please contact Rev. Blayne. Mahalo!

### **Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Service**

Eshinni and Kakushinni were the wife and daughter of Shinran, who are remembered for their support in bringing his teachings to all. Shinran developed the profound insights that are the basis for Shin Buddhism, but he had not intended to start a new school of Buddhism. It is through the efforts of Eshinni and Kakushinni that Shinran's teachings are available to us today.

Our Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Service will be on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am. Mrs. Lois Toyama, President of the Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations will be our guest speaker. Lois is a member of Jikoen Hongwanji and is married to Pieper Toyama, former President of Hawaii Kyodan. Please join us in remembering Eshinni and Kakushinni!



## **Spring Ohigan**

Ohigan services occur twice a year around the spring and fall equinox when the daylight and nighttime are equal. In many ancient cultures, it was a time of celebration to remind us of our deep connection to the



rhythms and cycles of the earth and the entire universe. Ohigan translates as "the other shore" and is metaphor for crossing from this shore of ignorance, anger, and greed to the other shore of nirvana and peace.

We will observe Spring Ohigan on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00am. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Alan Urasaki, Supervisory Chaplain of the Federal Detention Center in Honolulu. Rev. Urasaki was born and raised in Hilo and is an ordained Shin Buddhist minister. He previously served at Hawaii Betsuin and at Aiea Hongwanji. Please join us to celebrate Spring Ohigan!

## **Everyday Buddhism Seminar**

"Buddhism IRL (In Real Life)" with Rev. Alan Urasaki Saturday, March 21, 2020 1:00pm-2:30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend this free seminar on practical everyday Buddhism. Donation appreciated.

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#### **TAIKO NEWS**

Cherry Blossom Festival 2020 in Kamuela. A busy day for some of our members. First our Taiko Hongwanji Taiko Group performed at a bon dance held there led by Alice Fujii from Kamuela Hongwanji. We even had a special guest drummer the Consulate General of Japan perform a number with us. Thank you to Alice for inviting our group to perform with you.

After pounding away on those drums we went to do a different kind of pounding. The Kona Hongwanji did a mochi pounding demo BUT unfortunately this year it was a very short demo because our Usu cracked while some of our spectators started pounding. Hopefully we can find another one by next year. Thank you to all who came out and helped!







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#### **JODO-SHINSHU TAIKO**

by Daren Katayama

How does Jodo-Shinshu teachings relate to taiko?

But before I start, I must add a disclaimer, I am not an expert. What I am about to discuss is from <a href="my own personal perspective">my own personal perspective</a>. Many of you remember **Reverend Shoji Matsumoto**. I enjoyed the many one-on-one talks we had, and he would often start his reply with, "I could be wrong, but... ". Rev. Shoji was very knowledgeable, and several senior ministers said they were going to miss Rev. Shoji because he was their "source" for theological questions. I asked Rev. Shoji, why do you say, "I could be wrong"? He said, first, no one knows everything; and second, things change and what we understand today may be totally different later on. I reflected on outdated concepts, such as a flat Earth; a Sun centered universe, and in my relationship with my wife that I was the boss (lol). Yes, lots of things change in time! So I too have adopted this.

Okay, so let's start with, what is Jodo-Shinshu? Well, <u>I could be wrong, but...</u> for me, I look at our Buddhist tradition as "Mindfulness", or being aware... which I think can be subdivided into Gratitude and One-ness! <u>One-ness</u>, I look at "one-ness" as connection and dependency... we are <u>CONNECTED to each other</u>; and we are <u>DEPENDENT upon each other</u>... and that makes us "One"!

<u>Connection</u>: We are <u>inter-connected</u> because I have an impact on others; and others have an impact on me. For taiko, trust me, you will be impacted by the drummers next to you... for good or for bad, you WILL BE impacted! So, as drummers, we are connected to each other!

**Dependency**: We are *inter-dependent* because I depend on others; and others depend on me. For taiko, you are dependent upon your fellow drummers. You depend on each other to play a consistent pattern, to stay in rhythm; you rely on each other to play the song accurately! And so too, the dancers are dependent upon your drumming... they are happier if we drum "in rhythm"! And so too, the families and friends of the dancers are happier, when the dancers are happier, when we are playing in rhythm... the "circle of life" in bon dancing!

Thus, without the dancers, their families, and friends, there would be no bon dance, and no reason for taiko drummers. They depend on our drumming, and we depend upon their participation.

"One-ness" through connection and dependency does not just apply to taiko drummers... not just to those of us here at temple today... this "one-ness" applies to everyone, to everything! Have you heard about the "six degrees of separation"? Six degrees of separation is an idea that all people are six, or fewer, social connections away from each other; that any two people on this planet can be connected within six steps. For example, that's your (1) mother's - (2) cousin's - (3) neighbor's - (4) daughter's - (5) best friend's - (6) grandma... yeah, that's how we're connected!

And "one-ness" is not just for people, last week Rev. Blayne said when we say the Three Treasures, the three are not individual and separate treasures, but rather, they are taken all together as "one"! See Rev. Blayne... I was paying attention!

<u>Gratitude</u>: We should try to be grateful for what we have in this moment. We often suffer when we desire something but it does not happen.

- \*\*\* Sometimes we wish we could alter the past, but that is not possible; what has occurred is done. In taiko, you may miss a beat... let it go, that's in the past and it can't be changed! Focus too much on the past and you may screw up what you are currently playing!
- \*\*\* Sometimes we wish for something to occur, but there are no guarantees of future results. We do not have full control of what will happen in the future. In taiko, if you start thinking too far into the future, such as thinking "you got this" and you are going to play "perfectly" to the end... again, you may end up losing focus and play out of rhythm.
- \*\*\* So we try to focus on the here-and-now... the present. If we are grateful for what we have at this moment, then there are less things that can cause us suffering. For taiko, we try to stay in the moment; stay in rhythm on the current beat; be grateful you have this moment to play with your fellow taiko members!

One of my favorite movie lines is by Master Oogway from the movie "Kung Fu Panda" when he says, "Yesterday is history... tomorrow is a mystery... but TODAY is a GIFT. That is why it is called the 'present'!"

Focus on the present moment... enjoy and appreciate this <u>unrepeatable</u> moment. This moment will soon become the past, it will be gone; and there is no guarantee of a future (e.g. "The Epistle on White Ashes" by Rennyo Shonin... "our bodies may be radiant with health in the morning, but by the evening they may be white ashes"). So just be grateful for THIS moment!

There are many more concepts in our Buddhist tradition, for example, Karma and Acceptance, just to name a couple more. And for me, these fall within "One-ness" and "Gratitude". Karmic causes and conditions... what someone else did may impact me, and what I do may impact someone else... that's part of being connected and dependent on each other.

Acceptance... if I am truly grateful for what I have, grateful for this moment, then, it is easier to "accept" my current condition. And if I can accept, then I should experience less suffering. Acceptance is tied to gratitude.

In conclusion, I come back full circle to Mindfulness... of being "aware". If I am <u>aware of "one-ness"</u>, of my connections and dependencies.... if I am <u>aware of gratitude</u>, of everything I should be truly grateful for, which helps lead to acceptance... then, with the awareness of "one-ness" and gratitude, I should be in a better position to view things; to view things NOT as "right or wrong", but rather, just how things are... without judgement. And life should then be more joyful!

These are quotes by Dr. Wayne Dyer [on "brainyquote.com" and "goodreads.com"], which for me, sums up mindfulness and being aware...

- "If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."
- "When you dance, your purpose is not to get to a certain place on the floor. It's to enjoy each step along the way."
- "Conflict cannot survive without your participation."
- "When given the choice between being right or being kind, <u>choose kind.</u>" [from the movie "Wonder", based on a novel by R. J. Palacio].

All of these principles apply to our everyday life, and so of course, they certainly also apply to taiko; and to everything else, such as school, home, sports, family gatherings. We are in the holiday season, what better time to take a moment and reflect on mindfulness... connectedness... dependency... gratitude... acceptance.

Thank you very much for your support of our Taiko Group. Thank you to all our taiko members and families for a job well done this year. And thank you the opportunity for this precious moment... in Gassho, Namo Amida Butsu!

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### **CONDOLENCES**

Mrs Fujie Matsuoka of Kealakekua passed away on November 16, 2019 at the Galanto Care Home at the age of 88.

Kona Hongwanji extends our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and relatives of those members who recently passed away. May the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha surround you and your family with loving memories of your loved one in the years to come.

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Hisako Hatta, In Memory of Shoyei Hatta

Mr. & Mrs. Wally Ichishita, New Year

Elaine Kawasaki, In Memory of Masayuki & Chiyoko Kawasaki

Gary Kirihara, In Memory of Tokiko Sakata

Rinko Matsuoka

Tami Murakami

Okamoto Family, In Memory of Frank & Wayne Okamoto's Birthdays, Dec. 19th and 21st

Okamoto Family, New Year In Memory of Frank & Wayne Okamoto and Wayne's

January 3rd Anniversary

Setsue Okuda, In Memory of Rikita and Ichi Mori

Satsuye Tanaka, In Memory of Sahei & Fuji Matsumoto

Glenn & Pauline Yano, New Year

Carol Zakahi, Jiho & Special Donation

Ellision Deguchi, In Memory of Yasunori Deguchi

Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, In Memory of Glenn Matsumoto

Kaneo Family, In Memory of Fujiyo Kaneo

Fred & Nancy Nonaka, In Memory of Mr. Glenn Tatsuki Matsumoto

Carol Zakahi, Hakasoji

Total - \$2,085.00

#### **Acknowledgements Continued:**

#### **MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Judy Amano & Family, In Memory of Katsumi & Yukito Takamoto

Janet Fujikawa & Family, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Memorial Service for Yukito Takamoto and 1<sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service for Katsumi Takamoto

Sharon Hynynen, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Service for Katsumi Takamoto and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Service for Yukito Takamoto

Alan Matsumoto, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Glenn Tatsuki Matsumoto Rose Onaka, 7<sup>th</sup> Year Service for Lyndon Onaka

Kathy Takamoto & Family, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Service for Katsumi Takamot & 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Service for Yukito Takamoto

Boyce Aoki & Family, 49th Day Service In Memory of Dale Aoki

Brice Aoki, 49th Day Service In Memory of Dale Aoki

Dale Aoki Family, 49<sup>th</sup> Day Service fo Dale Aoki

Leon Aoki & Family, 49th Day Service In Memory of Dale Aoki

Sidney Aoki & Family, 49th Day Service in Memory of Dale Aoki

Claudia Chang, In Memory of Dale Aoki

Shirley Matsuoka, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for George Matsuoka

Arnold & Lynn Tokuyama & Family, 49<sup>th</sup> Day Service In Memory of Dale Aoki

Glenn & Pauline Yano, 49th Day Service for Dale K. Aoki

Total - \$1,975.00

## **JANUARY and FEBRUARY SUNDAY SERVICES**

Total - \$846.00

## **GOSHOKI HOONKO SERVICES**

Mr. & Mrs. Colin Byars

Geri Ann Aoki-Davidson				
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Chon				
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gusman				
Mr. & Mrs. Sadayuki Inouye				
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroki Ishimaru				
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko				
Mr. & Mrs. Daren Katayama				
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kunitomo				
Janet Lindner				
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka				
Deron Matsuoka				
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano				
Chizu Nakashima				
Carol Okuna				
Suga Suzuki				
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue				
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama				

Mr. & Mrs. George Nakamoto

Ellen Nishikawa

= ya.c
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Fujikawa
Blanche Hiraishi
Nelson Harano
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Kunitake
Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Lori Marcello
Ann Matsumoto
Shirley Matsuoka
Morris Nagata
Shigeko Nakasone
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Oshiro
Eugene & Richelle Tagawa
John & Shelley Tsue
Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakam
Mr. & Mrs. Ichiro Shikada
Suga Suzuki
Total - \$1 160 0

Marsha Boyle Lisa Ciriako Hisako Hirai Fujie Ichishita Mary Katayama Nancy Katayama Sachi Katoku Nora Koyanagi Cheryl Marshall Norma Matsumoto Satsuko Matsuoka Linda Nagai Helen Oishi Kazumi Oshita Alan Matsumoto Makiko Yamaguchi Sandy Iwashita Keith Nishihara **Doris Yamamoto** 

## **Acknowledgements Continued:**

## **NIRVANA DAY SERVICE**

Claudia Chang

Sachi Katoku

Mr. & Mrs. Colin Byars Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Chong Mr. & Mrs. Sadayuki Inouye Mr. & Mrs. Gail Masunaga Ann Matsumoto

Ann Matsumoto Yooko Moriguchi

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue Satsuko Matsuoka Morris Nagata Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina

> Helen Oishi John & Susan (Sasaki) Uliveto Total - \$349.00

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gusman

Mr. & Mrs. Hiroki Ishimaru

Elaine Chapman Lisa Ciriako Mary Katayama Alan Matsumoto Kimie Mizoshiri Elaine Nakagawa Chizu Nakashima Suga Suzuki Lilly Ushiroda