



SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII

BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

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Buddha Day Service (April 7, 9:30 AM)

We will observe Buddha Day with a Service sponsored by the Hawaii Buddhist Council on Sunday, April 7 at 9:30 am at Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The guest speaker will be Dr. Willa Tanabe, speaking on the topic, "Sparking Joy by Preserving the Past."

BUDDHA DAY SERVICE PRESENTED BY HAWAII BUDDHIST COUNCIL



UHSSWA Conference (April 13-14)

The annual meeting of the United Hawaii Soto-Shu Women's Association (UHSSWA) will be held this year at Soto Mission of Hawaii and the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel on April 13 and 14. Fujinkai members from Temples on Oahu and the Neighbor Islands will gather for the two-day event.

Deadline for Registration is March 31

Saturday, April 13 @ Soto Mission of Hawaii (Day 1)

- 7:15 am Breakfast at Betsuin
- 9:00 am Opening Service and Memorial Service
- 10:00 am Group Photo (\$15)
- 10:15 am General Membership Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch (\$10)
- 12:15 pm Special Donation Drive
- 1:15 pm Dharma Session (Juzu Making and Mini Dharma Talks)
- 2:30 pm End of Day 1

Sunday, April 14 @ Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel (Day 2)

- 8:00 am Check in at Kapuni Room
- 8:30 am Morning Chair Zazen
- 8:45 am Morning Service
- 9:15 am Installation of Officers, Recognition and Presentation of Gifts
- 9:45 am Dharma Session - Guest Speaker: Dr. George Tanabe
- 10:45 am Break
- 11:00 am Buffet Luncheon (\$45)
- 11:45 am Closing Program
- 1:00 pm Bus to Airport leaves hotel
- 1:15 pm End of Day 2



Mindfulness Class (April 26, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM)

We are holding a special class on Mindfulness. Led by Clear Englebert, teacher of meditation and mindfulness at Zen temples. He received his lay Buddhist ordination at Shasta Abbey, California in 1976, and was a monk there in the 1980s and 1990s. He lives with his husband on a farm in Kona, Hawaii. He is active at Daifukuji Temple where he serves as the head librarian, gift shop manager, and founder/leader of the Gay Sangha group at the temple. If you are interested, please sign up on our homepage or call the temple. The class is open to the public and free of charge. Seats are limited so please sign up right away.



Office Hours Change (Sunday, April 14)

The Temple will be open in the morning hours only due to UHSSWA Conference. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding.

2019 Membership Dues (Reminder)

If you have not yet submitted your membership dues for 2019, please help the temple by sending in your check. Your membership dues help to maintain the Temple and allows us to better serve you and the community.

Donations

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for your generous donations during the month of February.

Pari Nirvana/Nehan-e Service Donation

Wayne and Ann Uradomo, Hiromi Shimada, Pualani Kondo

New Year's Party Donation

Thomas and Chiye Itagaki, Miyeko Hashimoto, Pualani Kondo, Jane Shiraki, Arden and Mary Loomis, Keiko Kawagishi, James and Toshiko Sato, Shugen Komagata, Bernice Koike

Kannon-Ko Donation (February)

Ellen Nishimura, Jean Maekawa, Arden and Mary Loomis, Sally Nozaki, Bernice Koike, Helen Tsuchiya, Ethel Watanabe, Thomas and Chiye Itagaki, Jane Shiraki, Katherine Higuchi, Kawagishi Family, Michiko Sasaki, Mona Sawai, Kenneth Kunisaki, Warren and Karen Motosue

Memorial Service / Funeral / General Donations

Beatrice Yoshimoto, Suwa Family, Aki no Kai, Family of Emiko Hirokawa Uehira, Keiko Ikeda, Sue Nishiguchi, Valerie Okamoto, Judith Akagi, Alan Hayashida, Ryuko Kokuzo, Baron Fukata, Valerie Okamoto, Colin Watanabe, Akiko Shibuya, Family of the late Dennis Shiroma, Fuchat Chan & Yeeling Chan, Family of the late Yukiko Tamaru, Family of the late Umeko Iijima, Hawaii Soto-shu Head Office, Thomas and Chiye Itagaki, Craigside Retirement Residence, Carrolyn Iwamoto



Dharma Lei



Bishop's Office Newsletter

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Second Quarter, 2019

Issue No. 28

Bishop's Message: Bishop Shugen Komagata

Greetings from the Bishop's Office!

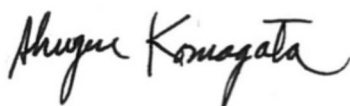
I hope you and your families are doing well. I feel this past winter has been quite cool, so I am looking forward to the warmth spring in Hawaii brings, when we can enjoy longer days. Before we know it, though, I'm certain we will find ourselves moving into summer and the annual Bon season.

Later this year, on Saturday, October 26, 2019, the 9th U.S. Soto Zen Members' Conference will be held at the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. This one-day event is hosted by Los Angeles Zenshuji and the North American Bishop's Office. It's so interesting that when a survey was taken to see where attendees would like to visit, Las Vegas was the top choice!

The U.S. Soto Zen Members' Conference has been held every several years and is hosted by either the Soto temples in Hawaii or the mainland. The purpose of the Conference is to promote fellowship amongst Soto Zen members throughout North America.

The theme of the Conference is "American Buddhism," and the keynote speaker for the event is Rev./ Dr. Duncan Ryuken Williams, a professor of Religion and ordained Soto Zen priest. I feel the Conference theme is perfect for the audience at this Conference. As I look back to the first U.S. Soto Conference held over thirty years ago, I remember that nearly all the participants were of Japanese ancestry coming from Soto Zen temples on the mainland and Hawaii. I am pleased that through the years, there has been a steady increase in the diversity of people attending this Conference. This year, the invitation to attend this Conference has been extended to several Zen Centers on the mainland as well as Hawaii (Alaneo Zendo in Hilo). With over 100 attendees expected to join the event, I look forward to the opportunity of meeting members from congregational Buddhist temples as well as zazen practitioners from Zen Centers. There will certainly be a lot to discuss and learn from one another.

I hope you will attend this Conference in Las Vegas in October, to get acquainted or reacquainted with members from Soto temples or Zen centers in the mainland, and to both learn and share our Buddhist ideals that can be implemented in the American way of life. As we look forward to attending the Conference we would like to thank the ministers and members of Los Angeles Zenshuji and the North American Bishop's Office for being the host and planning this exciting get-together.



Bishop Shugen Komagata



Trainee Monk from Sojiji Head Monastery Rev. Bunryu Yanai's Hawaii Report



Aloha, everyone! My name is Bunryu Yanai. I am training at the Soto Zen Buddhism Sojiji Head Monastery in Yokohama City, Japan. There is a program here that happens every year in which one representative trainee monk goes to America for a training course—and this time I was chosen to go. During the program I stayed in Hawaii for one month (Dec 14th to Jan 25th). While most of my time was spent in Honolulu, I visited seven other Soto temples, and I could feel the efforts of the Soto Zen in Hawaii.

What I felt at the temple in Hawaii is that historically the Temples had functioned as the center of a Japanese society. Although much has changed, there are still some traditions that are observed to this day. I participated in some of these kinds of events, like Mochitsuki (pounding steamed rice into cake), and the New Year's Day celebration. I was really surprised by the large number of volunteers who came to help us and participants at services. I think in Japan it is not that common to see so many people livening up and gathering at events like that.

There has been so much change during the 150 years since the first Japanese immigrants came to Hawaii, but it was amazing to see how many descendants of the Japanese immigrants who have been American citizens for generations now still treasure their Japanese heritage. I'm so happy to see how the temple is passing on the rich Japanese culture and history to the new generation.

My training course in Hawaii was a wonderful experience. I no longer view Hawaii simply as a sightseeing spot. My experiences in Hawaii helped me see and understand from various angles rich and beautiful Hawaii really is. Thank you very much for this short time with you.



Shushogi, Chapter 2 : Verses 7 - 10

By Rev. Masataka Hoshino

Aloha everyone!

Repentance brings guidance to our life. However, just because we repent of having done evil things, it does not mean that the karmic consequences of our deeds disappear. There is no reset button we can press to fix real life problems that our acts cause. Let us study together so that we can experience what Buddhist repentance means in our real life.

7. We stand in front of the vast gate of compassion through which the Buddha and ancestors have already passed. Fortunately, this gate is always open. There are no preconditions we must meet in order to pass through this gate. However, our passing through does not necessarily make us happy. We must still face what wrongs we have done. But repentance gives us the power to carry on with life in spite of our guilt.

8. Once we pass through the gate, we can look back on our lives. We see the evils we have done and the karma that results from them. If we can admit our wrongs and their consequences in the presence of the Buddha and repent, our heart will be pure. This pure heart will help us go upon the right path, and when this pure heart emerges, it affects not only us. Everybody and everything, including mountains, rivers, and all of nature will feel the effects of our pure heart.

9. When we decide to repent, we pray and vow, and we realize there is a true path, and decide to seek it. Our many bad deeds can seem like obstacles that block our path, and we might think we are not entitled to pursue the truth. This is why the Buddha and the ancestors who first walked this way now watch over us without abandoning us, and show us mercy and compassion. We are able to become a Buddha when we are purified through repentance.

10. "All our past evil deeds were the result of beginningless greed, anger, and ignorance: products of our body, speech and mind. Of all these do we now repent."

Gashaku Shozo Shoakugo
Kaiyuu Mushi Tonjinchi
Jushinkui Shishosho
Issai Gakon Kaisange

我昔所造諸悪業
皆由無始貪瞋痴
徒身口意之所生
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Calendar

March 2019

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31						

April 2019

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May 2019

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28	29	30				

■ Soto Mission of Hawaii

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Closed Afternoon	1 6:30 AM Zazen 7:00 PM Exercise with Bon Dance	2 7:00 PM Sanshin Class	3 6:30 AM Zazen 9:00 AM Tomonokai 4:00 PM Tea Ceremony Class	4 7:00 PM Kyudo	5 6:30 AM Zazen 4:00 PM Shodo/Sumie Class	6 1:00 PM Koto Class
7 9:30 AM HBC Buddha Day Service	8 6:30 AM Zazen 7:00 PM Exercise with Bon Dance	9 7:00 PM Sanshin Class	10 6:30 AM Zazen 9:00 AM Tomonokai 4:00 PM Tea Ceremony Class 7:00 PM Zazen	11 7:00 PM Kyudo	12 6:30 AM Zazen 11:00 AM Usato Pop-Up Store	13 UHSSWA Conference 1:00 PM Koto Class
14 UHSSWA Conference Closed Afternoon	15 6:30 AM Zazen 7:00 PM Exercise with Bon Dance	16 7:00 PM Sanshin Class	17 6:30 AM Zazen 4:00 PM Tea Ceremony Class	18 7:00 PM Kyudo	19 6:30 AM Zazen	20 1:00 PM Koto Class
21 9:30 AM Kannoko Service 9:30 AM Sunday Service	22 6:30 AM Zazen 7:00 PM Exercise with Bon Dance	23 7:00 PM Sanshin Class	24 6:30 AM Zazen 4:00 PM Tea Ceremony Class	25 7:00 PM Kyudo	26 6:30 AM Zazen 4:00 PM Shodo/Sumie Class 7:00 PM Mindfulness Class	27 1:00 PM Koto Class
28 9:30 AM Sunday Service	29 6:30 AM Zazen 7:00 PM Exercise with Bon Dance	30 7:00 PM Sanshin Class	1 6:30 AM Zazen 9:00 AM Tomonokai 4:00 PM Tea Ceremony Class	2 7:00 PM Kyudo	3 6:30 AM Zazen	4 1:00 PM Koto Class