



Mililani Hongwanji

P.O. Box 893308

Mililani Town, HI 96789

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Dharma Connection

September 2023

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 46 Issue No. 9



**Lahaina Hongwanji
Temple**

In its former grandeur.

September 2023

- | | | |
|----|---------|--|
| 3 | 9:00am | Family Dharma Service and
Dharma School |
| 10 | 9:00am | Joint Memorial & Family
Dharma Service |
| 10 | 10:15am | BWA Meeting |
| 17 | 9:00am | Ohigan Family Dharma Service &
Dharma School |
| 24 | 9:00am | Dharma School Activity |
| 24 | 10:00am | Maui Wildfires Memorial Ser-
vice (Hawaii Betsuin or Zoom)
Zoom viewing will be available
in Mililani Hongwanji Temple. |

October 2023

- | | | |
|----|---------|---|
| 1 | 9:00am | Family Dharma Service &
Dharma School |
| 8 | 9:00am | Family Dharma Service |
| 15 | 9:00am | Joint Memorial & Family Dhar-
ma Service |
| 15 | 10:15am | BWA Meeting |
| 22 | 9:00am | Family Dharma Service &
Dharma School |
| 29 | 9:00am | Family Dharma Service &
Dharma School |



Minister's Message



Truly Apocalyptic: The Lāhainā Wildfire



The aftermath at Lahaina Hongwanji, only the yagura and columbarium left standing.

As of this writing, it has been a more than a week since the devastating wildfire ripped through the town of Lāhainā. Our thoughts go to all who have lost their homes, businesses, places of worship, those who have lost loved ones, and their community. I am at a lost for words as I see, hear, and read the latest ongoing, as more information is being relayed.

As we saw the first videos being posted on social media, the scenes were truly horrific, if not apocalyptic. One of the first I saw still haunts me, when I heard “There is nothing we can do for them!” I am sure for that person; those

words must still have repercussions.

There is a Jakata Story that mentions that the Buddha was once born as a small little grey bird. One day, there was a great fire in the forest. All the animals in the forest were trying to run for safer ground as this fire continued to spread. Seeing the little bird, perched on the branch of a tree, one of the animals yelled out “What are you doing?!?!?” Determined, the bird yelled back, “I may not be able to stop this fire, but this is all that I can do for my beloved forest, the place I call home!” And with that the bird flew back and forth diving into the nearby lake and dropping beads of water from its wings over the fire.

In times of need, we all must do what we can, even if it may seem insignificant. We all have been affected by this tragic event in one way or another. As many of you know, Lāhainā Hongwanji was lost in the fire.

Its going to take years to rebuild Lāhainā. The Metta Sutta and the Golden Chain of Love encourages loving kindness, goodwill to all and identifies the moral characteristics and qualities of protecting all who are weaker than myself. May their sadness be our sadness, and may we nurture the resilience and help in their time of need.

Many organizations have set up ways to help, including the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai’i. Please consider contributing to these organizations to help those who are in need. One word of caution, please do your research into not only the organization, but also where your contributions are going to.

For those of you who are interested in contributing through Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai’i please go to hongwanjihawaii.com for more information.

In this time of great sadness, if you feel you are in need of spiritual guidance, please know that you are not alone, please feel free to contact me here at the temple. All conversations are confidential.



Rev. David Fujimoto

President's Corner

Greetings Mililani Sangha,

Mahalo and Congratulations to all,

You've Done it again!! With everyone pulling together, we had another great Bon Dance at Mililani Hongwanji. Great weather and large crowds on both nights contributed to a memorable event. Thank you to chairs Cliff Togo and Stan Sasaki, all activities were implemented by the many volunteers. It's time to start thinking about Admission Day weekend in 2024.

The Mililani Town Senior Fair will be held at Rec Center V on Saturday, September 9 and Mililani Hongwanji and Project Dana will be participating. Drop by our tables when you come to this popular event and see if you can help cover some of the shifts when we firm up our program for the day. Sign up with Mel, Susan Koito, June Asato or Lani Yama-mi to commit an hour or more at our tables.

Order your bento for Ohana Day with June Asato, sign up for Peace Day bell ringing with Rene Mansho, and see you at Sunday service. Details elsewhere in this newsletter and on the bulletin board at temple.

In the next few months we will be setting up our calendar of events for 2024 and the years to follow. Not too far in the future is the 50th Anniversary of Mililani Hongwanji in 2027. How old will you be in 2027? Where will you be 50 years from 2027? Start thinking about how we should celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Mililani Hongwanji in 1977?

Mililani Hongwanji wants you—The nomination committee will be seeking 10 or more volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors for the next two years. Please say Yes when they call you.



June Asato



Some of the many volunteers that made the Bon Dance happen. A big Mahalo to everyone!

Summary of August 9, 2023 Kyodan Board Meeting

- The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via ZOOM with a quorum. Pres. June Asato presided.
- Treasurer's Report: (Cliff) Distributed the monthly financial report as of July 31, 2023. Insurance claim from roof damages received from Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company of America, paid from CIP funds the cost of the new speaker system, also paid insurance premiums for current year to Pyramid Insurance agency. Effective July 2023, the temple is required to pay GET on a monthly basis which were previously paid quarterly.
- Minister's Report: (Rev. Fujimoto) All eyes on Maui and Lahaina Hongwanji due to wildfire. Rev. Hironaka and family are okay and support for affected people are being initiated. Mahalo to Bon Committee and all those who volunteered to prepare for the Bon Dance. Rev. Ko'e Umezu will be on the program for Honolulu/Oahu district seminar "Diversity & Acceptance in Buddha's Vow" on Aug. 12th. Special thanks to Ty Wakahiro who has been hard at work updating the temple's website, especially the section on O Bon.
- President's Report: (June) Attended new Bishop Umitani's Welcome banquet. Will be focusing on the 50th Anniversary celebration after Bon Dance. The HHMH Going Green initiative is moving forward. We must all do our part in making this initiative a success. A committee should be formed to lead this program. Will try to coordinate a meeting with temples leaders who are included in the group insurance policy being administered by Pyramid Insurance. Senior Fair at MTA Rec 5, Sept. 9th, 2 activity tables to be set up.
- Facilities: (Steven) Replaced LED bulbs that were not working properly, painted the back wall in the Ed Building, fixed clogged drains and toilets, Fire Alarm inspection passed, ADC to obtain additional cleaning.
- Operations: (Kevin) Nominations Committee will start search for potential Board members for 2024. Supportive of temples with group insurance to meet. Policy needs to be well understood and complied.
- Religious Activities & Programs: (Brandon) Need to find a chair for Sangha Day, big Dharma School Rally Day's "Joy with Food" activity planned on August 27th. Keirokai planning in progress, need to identify those turning 80 this year, see Claire Doi.
- BWA: (Diane) Requested & got approval to hold a Bazaar in March 2024 after many years of not having one. Warren and Nora Hahn will co-chair the event. Aryn will spearhead another Zippy's Fundraiser beginning September. Members are busy preparing for Bon Country Store and helping with other temple setup for the big event.
- Jr. YBA: (Ty) Helping with various temple Bon Dances, will be selling soft drinks at Mililani's Bon Dance. New District Officers were elected for upcoming year. Mililani is well represented. Aloha Ty.
- Bon Dance: (Cliff) All committees are progressing well and will be ready for August 18-19 Bon Dance. A general meeting on Wednesday, August 2, 7:00 was held and everything is a go. Many came out on July 29th to set up the Yagura and electrical wiring. Thanks to Diane Yoza and the BWA who took care of lunch after work. Major work day is Thursday & Friday prior to Bon to set up. No Service Sunday, clean up day.
- Approved Actions: Increased Lay Convention budget line item to \$1,000 to defray cost to attendees. No objection to proposed "Plant Swap" activity at temple being planned by David Thompson. Next Board ZOOM meeting on September 13, 7:00 pm.



BWA News

The BWA wishes to thank everyone who was involved in the success of the Mililani O-Bon's Country Store last month. To all the volunteers who diligently baked, cooked, pickled, and concocted various edibles, and those who created beautiful crafts, we extend a heartfelt "thank you". You made it all possible. Of course, to the shoppers who ultimately made the decision to purchase the items we owe you all a big "mahalo", as well.

We were fortunate this year, as Mother Nature provided us with a beautiful weekend in which to celebrate our O-Bon. The evenings were very cool, with slight breezes, making the night conducive to dancing and eating while sitting on the cool, dry lawn.

Next for the BWA will be our Zippy's fundraiser. As before, buying a ticket from one of the BWA members will entitle you to either a breakfast, Zippy's famous chili - meat or vegetarian, Portuguese bean soup, or cornbread. Please see a member to purchase your ticket.

Discussions are now being held for the Oahu United Convention/Seminar. The Oahu United BWA consists of several BWA units from the temples on the West side of Oahu, including Pearl City, Aiea, Mililani, and Waipahu. Details will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

We hope to see you at our next meeting on September 10.



THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

I'd like to extend a very HUGE thank you to Carrie and Michael Kawamoto, Joyce Ogawa, Gay Tanaka, Kellen Hayase, Lola O'Brien, Brandon Hee and Mari Wakahiro who were at temple Friday morning

who put up the yagura skirt and assisted arranging, zip tying, and taping flowers and leaves to the posts and offering directions from the ground. I don't get how there's always wind when we are trying to get this put on but it turned out just fine!

Also, a big THANK YOU to everyone who brought flowers or greenery for our yagura. Mahalo for your generous donations. I don't know how it would have gotten done without you! As always, the yagura set up is quite an undertaking so I look forward to the support that will continue for our Bon Dance next year.

Keirokai 2023 Sunday, November 5th

The Keirokai committee is looking for members of Mililani Hongwanji who will be 80 years of age during this 2023 calendar year. We would like to recognize these individuals for their hard work and contributions to our community. The Keirokai Recognition Program will be held on Sun-day, November 5, 2023, where we celebrate, honor, and show our gratitude to our Keirosha honorees! Please let us know if you know of a member who has reached or will be 80 years old this year, please contact Reverend David Fujimoto, by phone at (808) 625-0925.



Continued-

If there is anyone who would like to tackle the project to adjust the yagura skirt length, please speak with me regarding this. I have some ideas. Thank you!

In Gassho, Aryn Ishikawa



Dharma School

Welcome to September and the 2023-2024 Dharma School Year! We have a great schedule of classes and activities planned for this school year.

The last month of summer was filled with some fun activities! See below for a recap of the 2nd annual Youth Bon Dance event held on Sunday, July 30th. This year's bon dance was very successful as evidenced by all the happy people who attended on the two nights! Did you come into the temple to see the 2023 Oahu District poster contest winners? Many of our own Dharma School students placed in this year's competition with their wonderful creations around the theme "Sharing Joy Together."



We had a very special Rally Day on August 27th. It's always a fun way to kick off the new school year, gather again, and sign up/register for Dharma School...but this year was extra special! Thank you to Auntie Ann Ishikawa for organizing "Sharing Joy Together" with FOOD that featured a make-and-eat Oshizushi and Manju station, and the very unique Somen Nagashi station! Look out for Rally Day photos in next month's newsletter.

Our school year will again consist of lessons about the Buddha's and Shinran Shonin's teachings, shared in an interesting and fun way. Here's what we have planned for September:

- Sunday, September 3rd, 10am: Ice breaker activities and meditation story reading
 - Sunday, September 17th, 10am: Chocolate meditation and magic by Dennis the Great!
 - Sunday, September 24th, 9:00am: Betsuin visitation, 10am: Maui Wildfires Memorial Service,
- Dharma student activity: Classes start about 10am and go for about an hour. And we don't have classes on the 2nd Sunday.



If you know a student (preschool to high school), in Mililani, Hawaii, or even on the mainland, who would like to join in on our next school year beginning in September, please contact Claire Doi at clairedoi@hawaiiantel.net to be added to our email list to get our meeting agendas. Or please feel to contact us if you have any questions or need more info about our Dharma School sessions.

MILILANI HONGWANJI DHARMA SCHOOL SUMMER ADVENTURE PROGRAM YOUTH BON DANCE PRACTICE JULY 30, 2023

Our deepest appreciation goes out to Master Teacher, Myra Fujino and assistants Joyce Nishioka and Brandon Hee for conducting this unique, very special practice session for the youngsters ...and their parents! The dozen children were joined this year by their parents for this energizing activity. Two infants slept while their older siblings joined in the fun. Also in attendance were three adult volunteers.



This year's repertoire included: "Tanko Bushi," the Coal Miner's Dance; "Yo Yatta Ne," Good Job!; "Natsu Daiyo, Umi Daiyo, Ondo Daiyo," It's Summertime, It's Time to Swim, It's Time to Dance; "Hatsukoi Ondo," – First "Puppy" Love Dance; and "Gowasande Negaimashitewa."

As Myra sensei concluded, a request for "Beautiful Sunday" came from Jillian Freitas. Instant dance vibes penetrated the air! What a joyful conclusion to a successful practice session for our Youth.





Jr. YBA Happenings

As we say goodbye to our seniors who are headed off to college, we welcome the new school year! We can't believe the summer went by so fast but we did so much!

This summer, the United of Oahu was able to provide help at 5 of our district bon dances and attend one as part of our convention activities. Thank you to all our members and friends for giving your time to help support our district temples! We had a great time!



We also had a really enjoyable senior celebration for Ty and Chihiro

planned by Kana Suzuki and her mom, Yumi. Our United took our graduates to Shabuya at Ala Moana for all you can eat Shabu Shabu. There were so many choices of meats and vegetables and seafood to choose from. We probably ate our weight in meat and vegetables but found some space for dessert at Meet Fresh, a Taiwanese dessert shop that serves boba drinks, shaved ice, grass jelly and other delightful goodies!



In August we had our election of officers and installation. Congratulations to our new officers for the 2023-2024 year:

President: Diandra Thomson (Mililani)

Vice President: Dymin Kakazu (Mililani)

Secretary: Arie Yamasaki (Mililani)

Treasurer: Taylor Kunimitsu (Aiea)



We started planning our upcoming activities and will be having our next meeting on Sunday, September 3 at 11:30am at Mililani Hongwanji.

We are always open for new members to join Jr. YBA and membership is open for students entering 6th grade through students up to 2 years after High School graduation. Please contact Jr. YBA advisor Aunty Arynn Ishikawa at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com if you'd like more information.

You can also follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaiiifedjryba

Bon Dance Attracts Large Crowds to Mililani Hongwanji

The members of the Mililani Hongwanji Sangha planned for the Bon Dance event months in advance hoping that the community would be able to enjoy a night of fun, food, music, dance, and especially a chance to remember our loved ones. It happened.

As the crowd trickled in as early as 4:30, the excitement was building. The early birds could find prime street parking and stood in line in hopes of getting some good purchases at the Country Store and Silent Auction. Meanwhile the craft vendors were busy setting up their booths to sell their homemade wares, and arts and craft items. The aroma of freshly fried andagi permeated the air along with the scent of BBQ chicken being cooked on the grill. The weather couldn't have been better as it was a nice sunny trade-wind weekend.



It was a beautiful sight to see young girls and boys dressed up in their kimonos and hapi coats along with the rest of their family. The older generations were just as excited hoping to spot a familiar face in the crowd. As the music started and people got up to dance, it was great to see everyone having a nice time. Families brought their mats and beach chairs, placing them on any available space to enjoy the festivities.



The Bon Dance festival has been a cultural and religious tradition for over a century in Hawaii as it spreads a feeling of Joy and Gratitude in our daily lives.

In Gassho, Namo Amida Butsu

SILENT AUCTION

"A gracious Mahalo to all of our volunteers - Lea Uehara, Susan Oshiro, Alice Toguchi-Matsuo, Winnie Singeo, Jill Freitas, Sharon Freitas, Tyler Oshiro, Dymin Kakazu, Jan and Scott/ Eric Yamauchi, Mara McDonald, Karen Yamamoto and Claire Doi, the Thursday Gang and Co-Chairman Cliff Togo for their tireless support of our popular Silent Auction at last month's Bon Dance. Many hours are devoted by receiving donations and sorting them out, pricing, and then selling them to benefit the Kyodan. All proceeds were turned over to the Kyodan. We are especially grateful to the Yamauchis for their first-class plants and generous attitude over many, many years. We also very much appreciate the consistent support of the Sangha, who generously donated many goods and services from their homes. Also, to Ewa Hongwanji, we once again appreciate your donation as well. We are always looking for volunteers as it normally takes a year to gather and store your donations, so don't hesitate to call me at 223.6077 or chariye@al.com. I still recall starting this journey about ten years ago with our first proceeds at \$100, and now, we are surpassing by many thousands. We are truly humbled."

In Gassho, Chariye Watanabe

BON Country Store

THANK YOU So Much!

A very grateful and appreciative mahalo to everyone who shared the wonderful donations of their favorite homemade recipes for delectable baked goods, tsukemono, sekihan, jams, homegrown vegetables, fruits, and plants! Thank you also for the beautiful assortment of kimonos, yukatas, and hapi coats and creative craft items of scubbies, dishcloths, blankets, and the many handmade items designed and packaged by you!

We could not have had another successful Country Store without the help of everyone to get us set up, ready to go, and hydrated!

Thank you to all of you, our BWA, the Sangha, our temple, and our community for coming out and sharing this wonderful event with us! Thank you so much!

In Gassho, Co-Chairs Diane & Claire





Statement regarding the Disaster on Maui

I would like to express my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives as a result of the disaster in Maui, and my heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost their homes and are living as evacuees.

The fire that broke out on August 8, 2023, devastated the city of Lahaina. As of today, 93 people are confirmed to have died, and more than 2,000 buildings have been damaged or destroyed. The historic town of Lahaina, which was once the capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom and a beautiful tourist destination visited by many people, was burnt to the ground.

Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, located in the center of the city, was not spared the destruction by the fire. The Resident Minister, Reverend Ai Hironaka, his family, and many of the temple members have safely evacuated and are currently living a life of inconvenience. As for the damage to the temple, it is expected to take some time to confirm its state, partly because the town is under lockdown.

The history of the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission began in 1904. Since then, the light of the Nembutsu Dharma has been successfully passed down through the dedication and contribution of the Resident Ministers, their families, temple members, and many people in the community. Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, along with other churches and temples, was the place of refuge for the people living in the area. I remember the sound of the Nembutsu reverberating in the Hondo on Sundays. It is truly sad for all of us that such a practice hall of the Nembutsu was destroyed by the disaster.

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund. Since then, we have received much support not only from within the State of Hawaii but also from all over the world, including the mainland United States, Canada, and Japan. On behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii ministers and members, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those who extended compassionate words and actions for those on Maui. I would like to humbly ask for your continued support.

Recovery on Maui could take years. Many people are living in anxiety about their uncertain future. As fellow travelers of the Nembutsu, let us stand in solidarity with those who are experiencing suffering and sorrow brought about by this unprecedented encounter.

Even though the temple buildings have been damaged, our sincere aspiration of listening to and sharing the Nembutsu teaching never disappears. This is not the end of 119 years of the history of Lahaina Hongwanji. We are all the more determined to dedicate ourselves to establishing a society where the sound of the Nembutsu prevails.

May the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha embrace us all. May the sound of the Nembutsu brings us peace and comfort, and gives us the courage to move forward. Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
Bishop
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

August 13, 2023



September Memorials

Those who have passed during the month.

Lawrence Akasaki	Torakichi Miyasaki
Raymond Asato	James Nakashima
Karl Chikazawa	Takino Nomura
Jhoane Fukunaga	Norman Okino
Richard Fukunaga	Rumi Sagara
Charles Hamasaki	Sally Sakaida
Jack Masao Hayase	Kotaro Sako
Chiemi Hiyakumoto	Tadayoshi Sako
Naoki Honda	Ronald Masahiko Sato
Uichiro Honda	Toshio Sugita
Haruko Iwamoto	Marsha Tagami
Jay Izuo	Kelsey Takara
Sharon Kai	Haruyuki Tamamoto
Kenya Kanagawa	Fusayo Tanabe
Yumiko Kanagawa	Dennis Tanaka
Robert Kimoto	Emily Tanisue
Yoshio Kunimitsu	Nobuya Tashima
Ayame Matsumoto	Genchi Tonaki

Please call the minister at (808) 625-0925 and/or email dharm.connection@gmail.com if there are corrections or additions to the published list. Families may call the minister to schedule special family memorial services for their loved ones. For 2023, special memorial years are observed for loved ones who passed away in:

2022 1st Year	2011 13th Year	1991 33rd year
2021 3rd Year	2007 17th Year	1974 50th year
2017 7th Year	1999 25th year	

Adopt-A-Highway

A big Mahalo to all who attended our 3rd quarter Adopt-A-Highway clean-up on Saturday, August 26, 2023. As always, this project would not be possible without the dedicated members of the Sangha!

Upon returning from their assigned areas along Kam Hwy., the group gathered outside for McDonald's breakfast snacks, coffee, water, and fellowship.

Many hands make light work! Please mark your calendars for our last clean-up day of 2023 on Saturday, November 18th, 8am.

If you haven't participated in the cleanup in a while, please consider coming back! If you have not participated before, please feel free to join us! After a brief safety meeting, you will be assigned an area to clean, then we wrap up with refreshments. It's a great way to spend one morning a quarter with your fellow Sangha members and help keep our Mililani community clean. **We hope to see you there on November 18th!**

Coordinator Tyler Oshiro



**TRASH
FREE
HAWAII**



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
 STATE HEADQUARTERS
 1727 PALI HIGHWAY ■ HONOLULU, HI 96813 ■ PH: (808) 522-9200 ■ FAX: (808) 522-9209
www.hongwanjihawaii.com

August 10, 2023

Dear Dharma Friends,

We have been watching in disbelief the tremendous destruction caused by the recent wildfires on Maui. The loss of life, livelihood, and property has been devastating. Lahaina Hongwanji and its Sangha were directly affected by the fires. The temple, columbarium, classroom building, and minister's residence were completely destroyed in the horrific fires that devastated historic Lahaina town. Many temple members were forced to evacuate, and many homes were burnt to the ground. Our hearts go out to all who have been impacted by this disaster. As residents and our fellow Sangha members begin the process of rebuilding and healing, Hawaii Kyodan is committed to supporting relief efforts on Maui.

In the spirit of compassionate action, we have established the **MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND**. You can donate in the following ways:

1. Online at www.hongwanjihawaii.com by clicking on the "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" button under the "Donate" tab.
2. Through GoFundMe at the following link: <https://gofund.me/f77a520>
3. Check and cash donations can be sent directly to Hawaii Kyodan Headquarters. Please make check payable to HHMH and in the memo line designate "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" to ensure proper credit.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
 1727 Pali Highway
 Honolulu, HI 96813

All donations collected will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji and relief efforts on Maui. The Office of the Bishop and Committee on Social Concerns will prioritize addressing the immediate and short-term needs of temple families displaced by the fires and supporting the greater community as it rebuilds. The Committee will select reputable relief agencies and organizations to support in order to ensure our donations will directly aid those impacted by this disaster. Updates will be shared on our website at www.hongwanjihawaii.com.

Mahalo for your generosity and support during this time of tragedy.

In Gassho,

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
 Bishop

Dr. Warren Tamamoto
 President

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
 Committee on Social Concerns

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Tax ID #49-17735127

E Ho`ohanohano i ke Ola o Mary Mikahala Foster



Please join us for a
 twilight concert honoring
 Mary Mikahala Foster

Sponsored by the Honolulu District
 Hongwanji Buddhist Temples and
 Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens
 at the Foster Botanical Garden, Daibutsu area

September 8, 2023

5:00 - 6:30 pm [Donate here!](#)



Free admission; donations welcome
 Picnics permitted / no alcoholic beverages
 Bring beach chairs and mats

Performers include: Nola Nahulu Choral Group; Udi Bar-David (Cellist,
 Philadelphia Symphony); Herb Lee Trio (Hawaiian Slack Key); Lehua Marsuoka (Hula
 o Lehua o Nana'ihale); Katsumi Takemoto (Shakuhachi Japanese Flute); Pacific
 Buddhist Academy (Taiko Drummers)

For more information, please contact Jon Matsuoka at (808)536-7044 or jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

2023 PEACE DAY IN HAWAII International Day of Peace

You're Invited!

"RING YOUR BELLS for PEACE DAY"
 Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023 - 8:30 AM-HST

Register here: bit.ly/PeaceDay2023

In the spirit of promoting Peace Day in Hawaii and
 throughout the world, we invite the world to join us
 in ringing bells for PEACE DAY,
Thursday, September 21st at 9:01 AM.

At 9:00 AM, we will have a minute of silence
 to honor all those who sacrificed for us to
 achieve peace.

Immediately following the minute of silence, bells
 will be rung by representatives at all the respective
 temples, churches, schools, and community
 organizations and individuals. They're our future
 in ensuring peace throughout the world.

We are also planning to capture the program and
 all participants on a Zoom Screen, simultaneously,
 so get your computers ready when you are sent
 the link to join the event.

Please RSVP by Sept. 12, 2023
 You may request a Participation Form to

Rene Mansho - ph: 808-291-6151
renemansho@hawaii.rr.com

"Building Healthy
 Sanghas-
 Sharing Joy
 Together!"

HONPA HONGWANJI
 MISSION OF HAWAII
 Bishop Toshiyuki
 Umitani
 Rev. Daido Baba
 Executive Assistant
 Kyodan Board Pres.
 Warren Tamamoto
 2023
 PEACE DAY COMMITTEE
 Oahu
 Rene Mansho, Chair
 Carolyn Uchiyama
 Honolulu
 Dave Atcheson
 Big Island
 Miles Okamura
 Maui
 Kallie Keith-Agaran
 Marilyn Morikawa
 Kauai
 Roberta Yanagawa
 Pacific Buddhist Academy
 Joshua Hernandez Morse
 Liane Viorla
 United Nations Hawaii
 Joanne Tachibana
 KTUH - Ari Eisenstat
 ShootersFilmProduction
 David Rosen

MISSION
 • To promote Peace
 Day in Hawaii -
 September 21st
 • Temple activities to
 promote peace and
 harmony in the world

PEACE DAY
 Hawaii September 21st

Open Invitation to All...

5th Virtual State Dharma School Gathering

Featuring Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

Sunday, October 15, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
 (8:45 - 9:45 am - DS Teachers/
 Educators Session)



"Just
 As You
 Are"

8:45 - 9:45 am - DS Teachers/
 Educators Session
 10:00 - 10:30 am - Intergenerational
 Service: Dharma Message by
 Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani
 10:30 - 11:30 am - Breakout Rooms:
 DS & Adult Rooms
 11:30 am - All return to Main Room:
 DS Groups share creations
 12:00 pm - End

RSVP Deadline:
 October 1, 2023

Click on the link
 to register:
<https://forms.gle/Et3a9wvzWp27>

Questions?
 Please
 Contact:
 Debbie Kubota-
dekub88@gmail.com

Gathering Zoom Link
 will be emailed to
 participants by Friday,
 October 13.

A Commission on
 Buddhist Education
 (CBE) Project of
 Honpa Hongwanji
 Mission of Hawaii





FYI...



Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Minister: Rev. David Fujimoto
 Kyodan Pres: June Asato
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 893308
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 Phone: (808) 625-0925

Dharma Connection Publication

3 ways to get the Dharma Connection:

1) By mail—US Post Office will deliver to your mailbox.—available by request only!

(This edition is online at: mililanihongwanji.org)

2) In your "inbox"—available by subscription only! If you wish to receive the Dharma Connection by email, contact: dharma.connection@gmail.com

3) download a copy from the temple website: mililanihongwanji.org

For additional information check out our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mililani-Hongwanji-Buddhist-Temple/114271522485>

2023 Temple Board

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 VP Oper.-Kevin Asato
 VP Rel. Svc./Programs-Brandon Hee
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Adult Day Center at Mililani Hongwanji

Aloha! We would like to let everyone know that we are accepting applications for Adult Day Center enrollment. Do you know anyone caring for a loved one that needs respite or help caring for their loved one throughout the day? We are welcoming new clients in our **air conditioned** facility.

For any interested new applicants, we are offering tuition assistance. Please contact our ADC Director Trece Scott for more information at (808) 561-2147. We are OPEN 5 Days a week Monday thru Fridays from 8am-5pm, and early drop off can be arranged beginning at 7am.

Memorial Services

Mililani Hongwanji conducts memorial services in honor of those who have passed away. The Shotsuki Memorial Service is a general memorial service which are held monthly to remember members and friends who passed away during the month in which the memorial service is held. These services are held primarily for those individuals that do not fall in the yearly service interval cycle.

Nenki Hoyo Memorial Services are memorial services which are held separate from the monthly memorial services in yearly intervals. These separate private services can be held before, on or after the memorial dates. It is a personal opportunity to gather as a family to encounter and listen to the Buddha Dharma and remember your family members and friends who have passed on and through these services, we are able to reflect on all that we have received from them in our daily lives. It also gives families the opportunity to reconnect with members they otherwise would not see during the course of the year.

Monthly Joint Memorial Service

Mililani Hongwanji's monthly joint memorial service is on the **SECOND Sunday** of each month. Mililani Hongwanji will continue to publish the names of the members and friends that will be honored in the monthly memorial services.

For families attending the joint memorial service, please sign in on the memorial service tablet on the counter, which will be made available every Sunday leading up the service.

For those who wish to add or remove family members or friends from the published list, please let Rev. Fujimoto know as soon as possible to ensure proper action.

Minister's Private Visitation

Are you unable to come to the temple? Please call Rev. David Fujimoto at 808.625.0925 to request a private visit. The minister would love to reach out to you and be the bridge between you, the temple and the sangha!



Mahalo for your DANA

(July 14, 2023 to August 15, 2023)

Funeral

Anonymous

General Donation

Mililani Support Group

Mililani Support Group

Brandon Hee

James & Karen Nakasone

Tomeo Yoshizawa

Tomeo Yoshizawa

General Donation(Bon Dance)

Edith Otsuka

Margaret Tanabe

George & Irene Toguchi

Harry & Shirley Yamakawa

Hatsubon Service

Richard & Taeko Nakasone

Joint Memorial Service

Trudy Akamine

Michie Ando

Sharon Freitas

Melvin Hayase

Melvin Hayase

Wayne & Roberta Kishinami

Elsie Morikawa

Edith Otsuka

Aileen Sato

Margaret Tanabe

Diane Yoza

Obon Service

Janet Abe

Claire Doi

Sharon Freitas

Warren & Nora Hahn

Melvin Hayase

Theodine Hirai

Harley & Martha Ishii

Karl & Carol Ann Kakehi

Masami & Joyce Nishimoto

Arnold & Sandra Okubo

Frances Saito

Charles & June Shimata

Clifford Togo

Brad & Mari Wakahiro

Gordon & Lyn Watanabe

Steven & Lani Yamami

Diane Yoza

Bon Dance Choba

Bon Dance Choba

Bon Dance Choba

Bon Dance Choba

IMO Reiko Goya

IMO Natsuyo Hayase & Eileen Hayase

IMO Hiyokichi Ando & Naka Ando

IMO Vivian Oishi

IMO Eileen Hayase

IMO Natsuyo Hayase

IMO Kazumi Sanehira & Robert Nakata

IMO Momono Hayashida

IMO Tsutomu Otsuka

IMO Jason Sato

IMO Masami Tanabe & Seiichi Tanabe

IMO Nora Nakamura

IMO Kazuo & Chiyoko Nishimoto

IMO Kiyoe Tanioka



**In Deep Gratitude.
Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu**



***Donations made at the 2023 Bon Dance Choba will be reported in
October's issue of the Dharma Connection.
Mahalo for your Contributions!***

Photo Gallery





EWA HONGWANJI MISSION

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Ewa Beach, HI 96706

phone: (808) 681-5222

email: EwaHM1901@gmail.com



NEWSLETTER

September 2023

Calendar — Note special time for this month's service —

Sept 21 (Thu) 9:00 am **PEACE DAY** Bell Ringing at the temple, before service clean-up
24 (Sun) **10:00 am** Maui Wildfires Memorial Service (will be broadcast at Ewa Hongwanji via Zoom from Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin)
Speaker: Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

President's Message

Aloha. As you probably know, the staff of the church, including me, are retirees. We give unconditionally whatever free time we can give to upkeep the church. Recently, there was a rumor that our church was closing. NO IT IS NOT! But if there is no next generation, so be it. We all have our reasons for doing and not doing things. That is our choice. But I hope being part of a church, or any social activity can keep us retirees going? I again have used the words hope and time. Nike's slogan, "Just Do It!". For me, how easily said than done. We encourage you to volunteer your time to help perpetuate the legacy of Ewa Hongwanji.

Have a good everyday, everybody.

In Gassho

Craig T. Tsutsumi

Mahalo for your Donations

General

Kurizaki, Jayne

Sawamoto, Michael

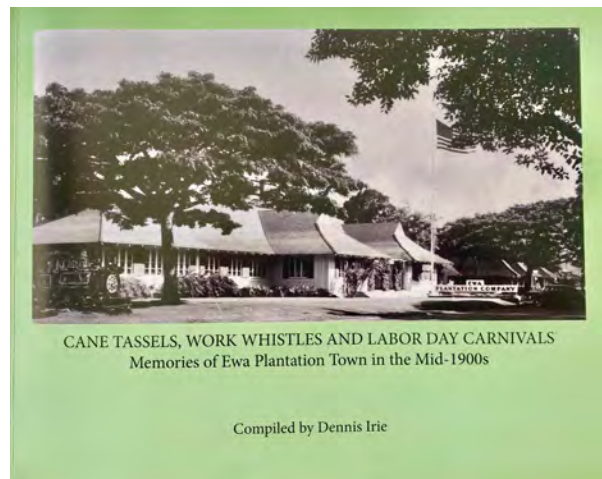
Wakimura, Rae

Wakimura, Ruth

Obon

Takemoto, Rodney

Ewa in the Mid-1900's...



Personal accounts of more than 60 former Ewa Plantation residents are included in this compilation by Dennis Irie. Reminisce in the glory days of growing up in Ewa! Includes over 175 pictures/maps.

The first printing has sold out and we will be ordering another set. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this iconic book, please let us know so that we can reserve a copy for you. Estimated availability is mid-September.

Please include your name, phone number, and address for shipping

email: ewahm1901@gmail.com

phone: (808) 681-5222 (leave a message)

Donation of \$20 will be accepted (shipping included)
Proceeds will go to repair and maintenance fund for Ewa Hongwanji Mission

Order your copy now! Great Christmas gift!