



Mililani Hongwanji

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Mililani Town, HI 96789

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# Dharma Connection

March 2025

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 48 Issue No.3



## March 2025

- 2 8:30am Sangha Day at Pearl City Hongwanji.  
No service at Mililani Hongwanji.
- 9 9:00am Joint Memorial and Family Dharma Service.
- 9 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 16 9:00am Family Dharma Service and Dharma School  
Lay Speaker: Mel Hayase
- 22 9-1pm Spring Fling-craft fair/country store/  
plant share
- 23 9:00am Spring Ohigan Service & Dharma School
- 30 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School  
Lay Speaker: Stephen Chinen

## April 2025

- 5 11:00am Hanamido Flower Decorating
- 6 9:00am Buddha Day (Hanamatsuri) and Joint Memorial & Dharma School
- 13 9:00am Joint Memorial and Family Dharma Service
- 20 9:00am BWA Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Family Dharma Service & Dharma School  
Guest Speaker: Edythe Vassall
- 27 9:00am Baccalaureate Family Dharma Service, Program and Luncheon

Temple activities should be posted as soon as possible on the "MASTER CALENDAR" located on the bulletin board for inclusion in the Dharma Connection calendar and for general temple planning.

# Minister's Message

by Reverend Joshin Kamuro



## “Dharma Messages from This Year’s 2025 Calendar”

On New Year’s Day, I turned the page of the 2025 “Ten Schools of Shin Buddhism” monthly calendar published by the Shinshu Federation and encountered this Dharma message:

**“The practice that enables anyone, at anytime, anywhere, to become liberated is none other than the Nembutsu (いつでもどこでも 誰でもたすける行 それは念仏 Itsudemo dokodemo daredemo tasukerugyo sorewa nembutsu).”**

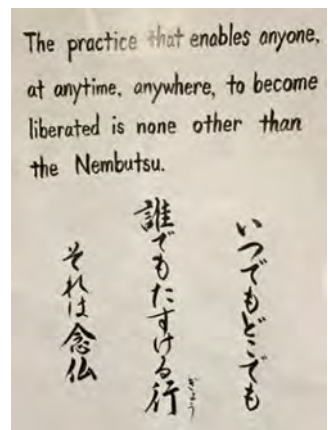
The Nembutsu teaching is accessible to all regardless of age, gender, nationality, or background. Through the recitation and hearing of the Nembutsu, Amida’s liberation reaches us, anytime and anywhere. The working of Amida Buddha manifests itself as the Nembutsu whenever I say, “Namo Amida Butsu.”

Since the theme and slogan of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for 2025 is “Nurturing Nembutsu: Cultivating Awareness,” I asked my wife, Minako, to write that Dharma message in calligraphy to present to our sangha members at our New Year’s Day Service. Amida Buddha liberates all sentient beings through the Nembutsu alone. Let us continue to cultivate our awareness of the compassionate call of Amida Buddha by attending Sunday services.

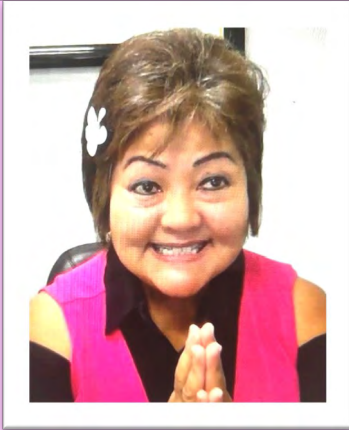
Sensei Minako Kamuro, who helps me write Dharma messages in calligraphy from the monthly calendar, will hold calligraphy classes for adults starting this month, on Friday, March 14 at 9:30 a.m. The class is on Fridays every other week and will take place in the temple building.

Minako Sensei started studying Japanese calligraphy at the age of 6. She earned her certificate of calligraphy mastery 師範資格 心芸社 (Shihan Shikaku Shingeisha) in 2000 and a second certificate of calligraphy mastery 師範資格 日本教育書道研究会 (Shihan Shikaku Nihon Kyoiku Shodo Kenkyukai) in 2011. If you are interested in attending, please call Mililani Hongwanji at (808) 625-0925 or email Minako Sensei at [kamina3751@gmail.com](mailto:kamina3751@gmail.com).

Minako Sensei seated at center with students and Nanami at Hilo Betsuin



# Rene's Review



President  
Rene Mansho

**Aloha Friends!**

**Our "SPRING FLING!" is coming on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Our mission is to invite the community to share in the spirit of homemade goodies, fundraising for community organizations, enjoying the people's passion for plants, Booth space is still available. Country Store, crafts, food, plants, cookbooks, whatever your heart desires! Oahu Hongwanji District temples are invited for a free booth to fundraise, as well as affiliates and community partners. PLANT SHARE is popular because no money is involved; it's all about sharing the love for plants.**

**You may order our fundraiser MARIAN'S bentos in advance: Saturday Special or Vegetarian, Yumm!**

**Pearl City Hongwanji Cookbooks on sale, Jr.YBA Exclusive Secret Recipe Manju with limited amounts, first come, first serve! So ono! Also, our**

**Honolulu Police Dept. asked for a booth to offer free KEIKI ID cards, and please join our Karaoke entertainment galore!**

**Of course you heard about the fantastic Legislative Assembly also known as Giseikai, where we learned about the latest happenings with our statewide Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii temples and programs, and amazingly, our business sessions went smoothly. Our budget showed areas where we saved money and new projects being funded to help keep us on a steady course for the future. I was especially impressed with our JrYBA reporting on their creative activities and commitment to do more for our Hongwanji Ohana. They have determination and the will to strive to do more! The hottest topic was WINWARD BUDDHIST TEMPLE (also known as Kailua Hongwanji Mission) because they found ways to re-invent themselves, increase membership and have more fun! We plan to do a temple visitation, so curious, sounds so intriguing. Many thanks to your hard working delegates and observers: Alex King, Clifford Togo, June Asato, Dean Sakamoto, and me.**

**March is a busy time for gratitude. Thankful for getting together for Oahu temples on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for Sangha Day at Pearl City Hongwanji. Stay tuned, because I haven't attended one in a while and I want to share the experience and hospitality of Pearl City Hongwanji and Roy Sakuma!**

**Finally, I am always humbled meeting visitors, and in the old days, I was always used to having lots of empty seats on Sundays, and able to socialize with newcomers, but lately, it's been FULL HOUSE SUNDAYS AT MILILANI HONGWANJI! For real!!!! I kid you not! I mean if you come on Sundays, you will be mesmerized by the entire experience, from the Kansho Bell ringing by Brandon Hee, the majestic minister Rev. Joshin Kamuro enters, the vibrant MC welcomes everyone and you will see very few empty seats. Best part is you will always see Mrs. Minako Kamuro with Baby Nanami, and teenager Yuma Kamuro sitting up front. What a great feeling to spend the morning with a thought provoking dharma message, joyful singing of gathas, and the best part of all, the snacks and the fellowship. Whew! I used to be jealous of large traditional temples, but filling our hall is such a great experience. Visitors and regular attendees make our Sundays so comfortable and gratifying that our Mililani Hongwanji Ohana has the right recipe for gratitude, compassion, and fun!**

**Please continue to ask me questions and/or share your ideas!**

**[renemansho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renemansho@hawaii.rr.com) / 808-291-6151**

**Me ke aloha pumehana,  
Rene**

## Summary of February 12, 2025 Mililani Hongwanji Board Meeting

The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via Zoom with a quorum. President Rene Mansho presided.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Cliff T) The January 31, 2025 Financial Report was presented. The report reflects the actual amounts for January with no budget amounts listed. The Finance Committee (Dennis O, chair) will be submitting a proposed budget for 2025 at the next Board meeting. Donations in January were high as many members pay their Gojikai dues in full at the beginning of the year. The balance in the checking account will be reduced as funds were transferred to the HHMH Combined Investment Fund 2. Anyone wanting to serve on the Finance committee and learn about temple operations should contact Dennis or Cliff. Dennis O will also serve as the Finance person for the 50th Anniversary. A separate checking account may be established for this purpose.

**Minister's Report:** (Rev. Kamuro) Written report received showing various meetings, services, seminars, and other activities for the current and future months. Attending the 113th Legislative Assembly was the highlight in February. Sangha Day at Pearl City Hongwanji on March 2nd. New replacement front table for altar will be arriving shortly. Personnel matters: Effective Feb 28th, Rev. Yamagishi at Kamuela Hongwanji will be resigning being temporarily replaced by Rev. Blayne Higa of Kona Hongwanji. Rev. Daido Baba will then be assigned to Kamuela effective July 1. Also effective July 1, Rev. Blayne Higa will be part time Director of the Buddhist Study Center and resident minister at Kona Hongwanji.

**President's Report:** (Rene M) First Japanese language class taught by Yuma and Minako Kamuro was held on Feb. 2nd. Also Minako Kamuro will be offering Japanese calligraphy classes on Friday mornings. MHM will be participating in Mililani High School's Culture Fair on Feb 19th. Will attend the MHS Quarterly Community Luncheon with Rev. Kamuro on Feb 28th. Spring Fling (fundraiser) in full swing on March 22nd, 9:00-1:00. Crafts, food, games, entertainment, plant sharing being planned. Will register trade name "Mililani Buddhist Temple" with Hawaii DCCA Business Registration Division. MH will participate in MTA Senior Fair planned for May 3, Rec Ctr 5.

**BWA Report:** (Lani Y) Successful food drive on Dana Day. Collected 309 pounds of food and \$700 in monetary donations. Maria Morales, new Executive Director of DANA Project was guest speaker for DANA Day service. Maria shared the history of the DANA Project and the importance of caring for our Kupuna. We wish her well in her new position. Spring luncheon planned for April 6 at Gyotaku. Request donations for Spring Fling's Country Store.

**VP Operations:** (Kevin A-excused) (June A) Hurricane insurance is an issue that many temples statewide are grappling with. Looking for someone with insurance background to assist with temple insurance matters.

**VP Facilities:** (Steve K) Did repairs to Ed Bldg roof above shower area. Planning to replace rotting wooden table near outdoor sink. Mr. Yagi has been pruning and shaping outdoor plants. BWA purchased a new lawn mower for the Thursday Gang. Mahalo!

**VP Religious & Temple Activities:** (Dean S) Disposition of old Gatha books needs to be addressed. What to do with songs that are not in the new Gatha book? When should temple services be cancelled? Committee will address.

**Jr. YBA:** (Gay T) Thanks to those who contributed to the Toys for Tots in December. Mochitsuki and Bowling activity at Aiea was fun. Note: Rev. Kamuro is a good bowler. Mahalo to those who donated pet friendly items to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal (SPCA). Donated funds to the SPCA will be matched from the Social Concerns.

### **Other Reports or Announcements:**

Due to technical difficulties, David Thomson will continue his presentation of proposals received from several contractors at the next BOD meeting regarding Solar PV and Solar Water Heating.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 7:00pm via ZOOM.



# BWA News

## MARCH BWA NEWS

Welcome to our newest BWA members, Georgiana Kobayashi and Claire Matsumoto. May they be embraced by our Jodo-Shinshu Teachings as they enjoy the fellowship of fellow Buddhists. We also welcome back returnees Karen Oshiro and Madonna Thompson. Registration is on-going and open to all members of the Temple. Thank you to Joyce Ogawa for updating our roster. We are 46 Active Members and 5 Associate Members Strong!

February 9 ushered in our Annual BWA Sponsored Dana Day Service and Food Drive:

President Lani Yamami served as MC and introduced Maria Gonsales, who spoke on Volunteerism and The Project Dana Project. Project Dana was originally founded to address a need to reach out to frail elders in our community. Dana volunteers perform home visits and may offer to run errands or do light house-keeping/small chores to provide respite for caregivers.

Mililani Hongwanji volunteers recognized and thanked for their Dana were Mel Hayase, Jill Kyhos, Susan Koito, Carrie Kawamoto, Earl Nishimoto, Joyce Ogawa, Cliff Togo, Shirley Yamakawa, and Diane Yoza.

A recent Honolulu Star-Advertiser article stated that one in three households - 30% - suffer from food insecurities and lack access to safe and nutritious food. This prompted our BWA to organize a Food Drive on Dana Day to heighten awareness of this problem. Donors were met at our Temple entrance and greeted with smiling faces and warm "Thank You's" by VP Aileen Sato, Carrie Kawamoto, Joyce Ogawa, Lyn Watanabe, and Warren Hahn.

Six boxes of food, totaling 309# - enough for 257 meals!- were packed into Diane Yoza's car by Cliff Togo, Warren, and Jill. They were dropped off by Diane at Hawaii Food Bank's Mapunapuna warehouse together with \$700 in monetary donations. Non-perishables included several cases of dried noodles, 15# bags of rice, and many cans of spam, tuna, and vienna sausage. There were even unusual food items like Shirakiku Fukujinzuke, Argo Corn starch, and caramel syrup. THANK YOU Sangha and Friends for your generosity!

Mililani Hongwanji BWA will be offering a \$1500 scholarship to any member's child or grandchild who wish to pursue post-high school education or training. Those seeking advance degrees are also welcome to apply. Deadline for applications is March 30. Please visit the Mililani Hongwanji Website for info or see Chair Diane with questions.

We will be having our annual Zippy's fundraiser to help support our community outreach programs. You may obtain tickets from Chair Luana Fukutomi or any BWA member. Tickets are \$11 each and can be redeemed for one of the following:

- 1-1/2# of chili
- 1-1/2# of Portuguese bean soup
- Meat and eggs breakfast with coffee or drink
- 5 pieces of cornbread

Luana can be reached at 808-778-3796. Help support the BWA!

A motion was made and carried that Mililani Hongwanji and Mililani Hongwanji BWA jointly celebrate their 50th Anniversary in 2027.

DID YOU KNOW? The hardworking Thursday Gang also includes two BWA members.

Our sincere Get Well wishes to Carrie Kawamoto and Theodine Hirai.

March "Special Birthday Wishes" to Nancy Tanaka, Theo, Joyce Ogawa, Gail Yakushiji, and Janice Yasunaga.

Upcoming Calendar of Events:

...March 1 Federation Meeting

...March 2 Sangha Day at Pearl City Hongwanji. A 14-seat van has been rented for participants and Steve Chinen has volunteered to be the driver.

...March 22, "Spring Fling" at Mililani Hongwanji, 9 am - 1 pm. BWA will participate with other vendors and food trucks with a Mini-Bazaar and Country Store.

Please kokua with donations of food items. Popular sellers in the past have been sekihan, cookies, cakes, energy bars, trail mix, and tsukemono. Drop-off will be on Saturday morning (3/22) from 8 - 8:30 am. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Temple's bulletin board or you may contact Diane or Claire Doi.

...April 20, Eshinni-Kakushinni Service - there will be a sign-up sheet for light refreshments for lunch.

...and, for some well-deserved FUN, our Spring Luncheon will be held on April 6, at Gyotaku Japanese Restaurant from 12 noon - 2 pm. Order forms for entree selections are available on-line or from Chair Aileen Sato.





# Dharma School

## Dharma School News



### SAVE THE DATES!

**BACCALAUREATE - Sunday, April 27**

**STATE DHARMA SCHOOL GATHERING – Sunday, October 19**

We had a packed month of February, starting with our Sangha Appreciation Breakfast on Sunday, February 2!

In appreciation for all that the Mililani Hongwanji Sangha and the temple do for the Jr. YBA and the Dharma School, our Jrs and Dharma School students and their families, along with Reverend Kamuro and the Dharma School teachers, rose early in the morning to be at the temple at 6:30 a.m.! We had a wonderful assortment of breakfast items consisting of pastries, fruits, scrambled eggs, rice, delicious little smokies by Jill, and our new addition to the menu, Mari’s delicious cheesy croissant casserole made by Mari and Crystal! Thank you to Lester Ogawa and Mel Hayase, who prepared the chairs and tables, ready for Sgt. Rainbow and team to set up early Sunday morning!

Thank you to our Sangha, the Jrs., Dharma School and their families, Reverend Kamuro, and our teachers for coming together to enjoy this time of appreciation!

Scout Sunday was a very eventful service with Yuma Kamuro, Jr. YBA, Scout Sunday speaker, who did a great job with his talk! Raylie Okazaki with her mom, Raimi, and their troop did a wonderful job emceeding this service! There was representation from the King Family with Julia and Robbie and past Scouts, Brian Frey, Melvin Hayase, Gordon Watanabe, and John Ishikawa. Thank you, Scouts!

A focus for the Dharma School this spring semester is the memorization of “The Golden Chain of Love” in stages and demonstrating proper belly breathing to Sgt. Rainbow. In doing so, our students are rewarded with extra points that go into “The Gratitude Bowl” for the semester-end drawing and encourage us to be mindful in all that we do.

The 2025 Oahu District Poster Contest, sponsored by the Oahu District Buddhist Education Committee, “Sharing My Gratitude with Others,” continues as we will be completing the posters and turning them in on March 2nd, Hongwanji Day Service at Pearl City Hongwanji!

We look forward to March, focusing on our theme “Ohigan-Rededication Day.”

**March 2. There is no Dharma School.** We encourage everyone to attend Hongwanji Day at Pearl City Hongwanji. Posters are due.

**March 16: The Four Noble Truths**

**March 23: The Eightfold Path – Wisdom (View/Intention)**

**March 30: The Eightfold Path — Ethics (Speech/Action/Livelihood)**

Thank you, Dharma School students, families, and the Sangha, for your support!

In gassho, your Dharma School ‘Ohana



# Jr. YBA Happenings

Hello Spring! We have been continuing to be productive since our last big event which was the Winter Federation Meeting.

We'd like to thank everyone who made donations to our collection for the Oahu Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SCPA). We received generous donations at all our district temples and we really appreciate your support to Jr. YBA and all we are doing. These items will provide some additional comfort for the animals who are looking for their "forever home" as they wait to be adopted.



## Upcoming Important Dates:

**Next Meeting: Sunday, March 9, at Pearl City Hongwanji at 1:00 pm.**

**Manju Making for Mililani Hongwanji Spring Fling: Friday, March 21, at Waipahu Hongwanji at 2:00pm**

**Mililani Hongwanji Spring Fling: Saturday, March 22 at Mililani Hongwanji, 9:00am-1:00pm**

We encourage anyone who is a youth ages 13-23 join us for YESS Camp 41, April 18-April 20. Registration by March 15 is \$75 and Late Registration by April 8 is \$90. There is a referral discount if you have attended before and refer a first-time attendee. For information and to register, visit: <https://www.yesscamp.com/>

We welcome any youth who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Auntie Aryn Ishikawa (advisor) at [arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com) or [jrybafoahu@gmail.com](mailto:jrybafoahu@gmail.com) if you have questions or for more information.



Follow us on Instagram! [@jrybafoahu](https://www.instagram.com/jrybafoahu) and [@hawaiiifedjryba](https://www.instagram.com/hawaiiifedjryba)

## YESS CAMP 41

**Final Deadline: April 8, 2025** **MĀLAMA AMIDA**

Bring a friend for a 50% registration refund! Neighbor island flight subsidies available.

- Bonding
- Games
- Service Project
- Dharma Learning
- Campfire

**REGISTER Here**

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE [YESSCAMP.COM](https://www.yesscamp.com)

**April 18-20, 2025**

**YMCA Camp Erdman**

More info: Contact [yesscamp@honpahi.org](mailto:yesscamp@honpahi.org)

## 2025 Baccalaureate Callout: Due March 9th

Our 2025 annual Mililani Hongwanji Baccalaureate recognition events are planned for Sunday, April 27, 2025. The Baccalaureate service and luncheon are traditionally held to honor our high school graduates and provide them spiritual guidance as they enter into adulthood. The Baccalaureate Committee is asking our Mililani Sangha family and friends to provide names of any graduating high school seniors who would like to participate in our annual service and luncheon. Names of college graduates are also welcome and will be recognized in the event program. Please contact David Thompson at [david.thomson.no.p@icloud.com](mailto:david.thomson.no.p@icloud.com) with any interested graduates by March 9, 2025! Upon confirmation of participants, the Baccalaureate Committee will distribute more info about the luncheon sign-ups.

Stay tuned for updates!

Aloha Mililani Hongwanji Ohana,

You are cordially invited to participate in our "SPRING FLING" at Mililani on Saturday, March 22, 2025. You will have a booth consisting of 1 table and 2 chairs, free of charge to do your fundraising, have fun, etc. Yes, you keep what you earned. Since it is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fundraiser, you may make a donation if you wish, not required. Having fun is required! Food, crafts, games, Dharma Store, calligraphy, karaoke, etc., competitions will be fun. Outside groups will be paying \$100.00 for a booth.

Looking forward to hosting our Spring Fling and having all MH organizations joining in the fun!! Hope you will join us to share the many wondrous talents of our Hongwanji Ohana from BWA, Dharma School, Jr. YBA, Judo, Aikido, Kumon, Adult Day Care, Crocheting, Ikebana, and much more!

Please sign up asap!

In gassho,

Rene Mansho, President

# March Memorials

Those who have passed during the month.

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Hatsue Akamine</i>    | <i>Tetsusaburo</i>      |
| <i>Takeshi Aoki</i>      | <i>Matsumoto</i>        |
| <i>Alvin Masatsune</i>   | <i>Jane Mikami</i>      |
| <i>Arakaki</i>           | <i>Shigeyo Miyasaki</i> |
| <i>Shoichi Awaya</i>     | <i>Toyoko Miyasato</i>  |
| <i>Emi Egami</i>         | <i>Harold Morikawa</i>  |
| <i>Ethel Funasaki</i>    | <i>Yone Nakagawa</i>    |
| <i>Takeshi Hayashi</i>   | <i>Howard Nakamura</i>  |
| <i>Hatsuyo Hironaka</i>  | <i>Harriet Nogami</i>   |
| <i>Tsuna Hiyakumoto</i>  | <i>Byron Rodby</i>      |
| <i>Takeo Hupalar</i>     | <i>Chieko Sako</i>      |
| <i>Yoshitaro Ige</i>     | <i>Alvin Tabata</i>     |
| <i>Kikue Iida</i>        | <i>Alice Tamura</i>     |
| <i>Ann Jones</i>         | <i>Clyde Tanaka</i>     |
| <i>Earl Kajiwaru</i>     | <i>Masao Taniguchi</i>  |
| <i>Beatrice Kawamura</i> | <i>Shigeo Tengan</i>    |
| <i>Kazuo Kiyota</i>      | <i>Sarah Uchima</i>     |
| <i>Matsuko Masuda</i>    | <i>Doris Yoshida</i>    |

Please call (808) 625-0925 and/or email [dharma.connection@gmail.com](mailto:dharma.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 2025, special memorial years are observed for loved ones who passed away in:

- |               |                |                |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2024 1st Year | 2013 13th Year | 1993 33rd year |
| 2023 3rd Year | 2009 17th Year | 1976 50th year |
| 2019 7th Year | 2001 25th year |                |



## MILILANI HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE



# SPRING FLING!

Saturday, March 22, 2025

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

95-257 Kaloapau St. (next to Rec.Ctr. 3)

**E Komo Mai! Please Come and Enjoy!**



**PLANT SHARE - 10:00-11:00 AM**

- \* CRAFTS *Ono Homemade Foods*
- \* FOOD *Baked Goods*
- \* GAMES *Sekihan Rice*
- \* ENTERTAINMENT *Takuan*
- So Much More !!*

Contact: [renemansho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renemansho@hawaii.rr.com) Ph: 808-291-6151  
<http://www.mililanihongwanji.org>

### BWA Scholarship

The BWA is offering a \$1500 scholarship to a child or grandchild of a BWA member who is going to attend college or is currently attending college. It is also for someone who is going for a master's degree.

The application is available on the Mililani Hongwanji website. Click on Activities and Organizations, click on BWA, then Scholarship. The entire application and requirements are stated. Deadline to submit your application is Sunday, March 30. You can send your application to [diane.yoza@gmail.com](mailto:diane.yoza@gmail.com) or hand it to Diane Yoza at temple.



## Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up

By: Tyler Oshiro, Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

A big MAHALO to the volunteers who helped with the first Adopt-A-Highway clean-up for the year on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>! The trash was no match for our fabulous crew of regulars—Arynn I, Claire M, Cliff T, Gay T, Lester O, Mas N, Mel H, Rev. Kamuro, Stephen C, Stephen K, Warren H. Thank you to Helen H, Dane N, and Lisa S for joining us for the first time as well. We'd also like to thank Arynn I, Claire M, Gay T, Mel H, and Lester O for helping with the refreshments.

Anyone 12 years of age and older are welcome to participate! Please arrive at the temple by 8:00 a.m. Please wear covered shoes. Trash bags, gloves, and safety vests will be provided. The clean-up usually runs for about an hour. Upon return to the temple, water, coffee, and a light breakfast will be provided.

The remaining cleanup dates for 2025 are almost finalized. As of now, our **Q2 cleanup is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2025**. Please keep an eye out for confirmation of this date in upcoming issues of the Dharma Connection and on the temple bulletin board/calendar in the near future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [tylerkoshiro@gmail.com](mailto:tylerkoshiro@gmail.com). Thank you!



# ADULT JAPANESE CLASS

Sunday 11:15 - 12:15  
@Mililani Hongwanji

Start New or Get Back on Your Japanese Learning Journey!!

Upcoming Class Dates:

February	March	April
2/23	3/16 3/30	4/20 4/27

Join Us!

## Japanese Calligraphy Class

Learn to write fascinating Japanese names with traditional calligraphy ink and brush!!

SIGN-UP if you are interested in learning

Dates: Fridays Time: 9:30 AM  
Class limited to First 10 to register

Mililani Hongwanji  
808-625-0925  
[dharma.connection@gmail.com](mailto:dharma.connection@gmail.com)

# Mahalo for your DANA

(January 15, 2025 to February 7, 2025)

**Dharma School**  
Amy Nakamura

**Funeral**  
Carrie Kawamoto

**General Donation**  
Lotus Connection Group  
Mililani Support Group  
State Termite & Pest Control, Inc.  
Fujiko Motobu

**Hoonko Service**  
Janet Abe  
Claire Doi  
Sharon Freitas  
Myra Fujino  
Luana Fukutomi  
Warren & Nora Hahn  
Melvin Hayase  
Harriet Hori  
Karl & Carol Ann Kakehi  
Sharon Kaneko  
Georgiana Kobayashi  
Stanley & Sharon Kuboyama  
Thelma Kushimi  
Masami & Joyce Nishimoto  
Joyce Nishioka  
Lester & Joyce Ogawa  
Karen Oshiro

Frances Saito  
Dean & Doreen Sakamoto  
Aileen Sato  
Christine Sato & Richard Lightner  
Charles & June Shimata  
Nancy Tanaka  
Hiroyoshi & Satoko Terao  
Gordon & Lyn Watanabe  
Steven & Lani Yamami  
Ethel Yamashige  
Diane Yoza

**Memorial Service**  
Carol Saito  
IMO Edwin Saito

**Social Concerns(HQ)**  
Theodine Hirai  
Sharon Kaneko  
Amy Nakamura  
Joyce Nishioka  
Saxon & Linda Nishioka  
Norman & LaVerne Tada  
Nancy Tanaka

For Dennis Kawamoto

Parkinson's Group  
Special donation of pest control services



**In Deep Gratitude.**

**Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu**



# Photo Gallery





# EWA HONGWANJI MISSION

91-1133 Renton Road, Ewa, Hawaii

mail:

P.O. Box 60549

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

phone: (808) 681-5222

email: EwaHMI901@gmail.com



## NEWSLETTER

March 2025

### Calendar

Mar 19 (Wed)	9:00 am	Before service cleanup
23 (Sun)	11:00 am	Gotan-e Service

Wednesdays 9:00am-12:00pm - weekly Hosha and Rev. Fujimoto's office hours (Phone 808-348-9458)

### Rev. David's Thoughts

Rev. David K. Fujimoto, BBC

#### The Gift of Selfless Giving

One of the basic spiritual Teachings of the Buddha is "selfless giving." This is the practice of giving without expecting anything in return. The foundation to this is the idea of releasing ego, selfishness, greed and self-centeredness. It symbolizes the "altruistic" act of supporting others and brings to life the Teachings that we are all dependent on each other.

However, psychologically thinking, and perhaps even spiritually, this "behavior" also fosters increased happiness and well-being. So, while we may not receive anything material in return, we still receive something greater in return. When we give, we demonstrate empathy, compassion, strengthen relationships and social connections. All a quality of the Buddha's Infinite Wisdom and Incomprehensible Compassion.

All these lead to deeper, more meaningful relationships which contribute to our overall sense of appreciation and gratitude and an overall sense of belonging and acceptance. In recent studies, it was found that selfless giving also is linked to health benefits. It was shown that people who regularly engage in continual selfless giving tend to have lower blood pressure, reduced stress levels and a stronger immune system.

So as we head into Ohigan, let us reflect on the true meaning of selfless giving and how much we truly receive in return.

### Bon Dance - June 21, 2025

Bon Dance preparations are underway! Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 10:00 am at the temple Social Hall. New ideas are welcome, so please come out to share your input with us. Emails will be sent out shortly so be on the lookout and we will be looking forward to seeing you soon!

### Mahalo for your Donations

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