



# LAST MONTH'S EVENTS

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## FALL FEST BAZAAR

It was to be a "mini" bazaar, but there was nothing "mini" about all of the volunteer KOKUA and the SUPPORT received through donations of time, labor, goods, rummage, ingredients, and the all-mighty \$. The camaraderie and solidarity of purpose are always the high point of bazaar time. MAHALO to all of you who helped to make FALL FEST a success.



*The staff camera just can't be at all places at all times. And so, a lot of dedicated labor and the volunteer workers do not get in the news. However, what the camera missed is still viewed and much appreciated by all.*



### Post-Event Recap

The 'movers & shakers' of annual bazaars have learned that planning for bazaar, as well as the final outcome can never be an "exact science". What sold out last time becomes second-best the next year. Things forgotten on the ingredient shopping list were over-bought the year before. AUWE. Hey, but it's all okay ... the one thing that we can always count on is the kindness and commitment of members, family, friends, and the community. For that, we are always grateful.

# LAST MONTH'S EVENTS, continued

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## MUBWA FALL ASSEMBLY

This event was held at Makawao Hongwanji. The 2013 coordinating officers of MUBWA are Makawao BWA officers – President Diane Kosaka, Secretary Peggy Kono, and Treasurer Bobbi Nakagawa.



BWA ladies 'talk story' and scan the program before the service begins in the temple.



Three Lahaina Hongwanji BWA members are among the ladies who were sworn in to serve as the 2014 MUBWA Officers: **Auditor Aileen Cockett, Director Carol Inaba, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Sharon Nohara.**

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## EITAIKYO SERVICE



Rev. Ai Hironaka and Guest Speaker, Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani.

## Highlights of Dharma Message:

- Rev. Umitani shared that " ... *most positive experience is not to become rich or famous. .... Actually, what may have been a difficult experience at one time is sometimes a positive experience [now].*" The Sensei spoke about a phone conversation he had with his mother, who lived in Japan. She had asked him how he was doing and he answered, "I am fine." His mother persisted by asking again, "... *but are you really okay?*". She said that even as a child he sometimes tended to be "fura-fura" (in English perhaps "casual, wishy-washy" ?) Umitani Sensei's mother passed away soon after that conversation.
- Referring to that conversation, Rev. Umitani talked about 'missed opportunity' – saying, "*every day we have the opportunity to listen to the dharma, but we don't take it. We think it's someone else's business. And so, the dharma doesn't sink deeply.*"
- The guest speaker, in retrospect, felt that his mother "*...was admonishing me to accept the dharma.*" When he thought about that conversation at a later time, he explained – "*the 'ki' to hear the dharma was finally matured. My mother guided me to the Buddha's boundless compassion.*"

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## Hospital Visitations / Picnic / Persimmons / 'Gokurosama' Exhibit



← Remembering 'faces' and talk-story time.



"Ono" Bento picnic at Keokea Park in Kula.



UPCOMING EVENTS



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Maui Adult Day Care Centers

PRESENTATION  
(1 of 4 presented quarterly)

LAHAINA HONGWANJI MISSION

**Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – 9:00 am**

Meet in the temple. 1-1½ hours.

Light refreshments.

*PUBLIC IS INVITED.*

Topics: Aging / Dementia / Caregiving, etc.

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BODHI DAY SERVICE



DECEMBER 8, 2013

9:30 am

On December 8, 566 BCE, Siddhartha Gautama attained Enlightenment while he meditated under a Bodhi tree. The Bodhi has since been known as the Tree of Enlightenment.

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BWA MEMORIAL SERVICE and  
MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

BWA Memorial Names

- Momoto Nishibayashi
- Margaret Tatsue Fujiwara
- Hajime Yukiko Yamaguchi
- Sueko Sue Hirata
- Yoshie Oba
- Asako Masuda
- Akiko Akiyama
- Edna Taira



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NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE



DECEMBER 31, 2013

9:00 pm

Haiku Poetry from the Internet:

last year's moon  
waning on the horizon  
a new dawn

--- Pris Campbell

another year

another

letting go

--- sbpoet

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2014 BWA SLATE of OFFICERS

President: Sharon Nohara    V.P.: Aileen Cockett  
 Secretary: Phyllis Nakamura    Ass't. Sec.: Alice Imano  
 Treasurer: Dawn Fujiwara    Ass't. Treas.: Carol Inaba  
 Auditors: Violet Nishijima, Emiko Fujikawa, Yumiko Nishimoto, Vivian Ichiki

Advisors: Rev. Ai & Mrs. Megumi Hironaka

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If any Lahaina Hongwanji BWA member would like to nominate another candidate for any position on the BWA board, please call Phyllis Nakamura. Officers will be installed at the New Year Party.

In GRATITUDE and with COMPASSION, let us donate to MAUI FOOD BANK. Collection boxes for canned goods and other non-perishable food items (please, no out-dated items) will be available in the temple and the social hall. DEADLINE: **December 15, 2013.**

The donated items and a monetary donation from Lahaina Hongwanji will be delivered to MAUI FOOD BANK. **Mahalo.**



## NEWS FROM RELATED LINKS

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji Ha

### HONGWANJI INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Fun at the temple~Toy library at Kumejima branch office

"Having toys readily available at Hongwanji's Kumejima branch office, together will help in the nurturing and education of our children's bright future.

The Jinjin Omocha Library began its The Jinjin Omocha Library began its operations in conjunction with the monthly Kids Sangha gathering that was held on July 21. Gathered for its opening, children and parents enjoyed playing with the new toys and books. (photo) In Okinawan dialect, Jinjin refers to fireflies.

The Kumejima facility, along with the other 450-plus public play facilities referred to as libraries, operate throughout Japan provided with toys and supported by government-related organizations, schools, and child care groups. In Okinawa, sangha member, Mr. Yasunori Ota, has been taking the leading role in supporting the Kids Sangha program which began last year, hoping to make the image of the temple more appealing. "Having the library (at the temple), we hope will let the children know that the temple is a place where they are always welcome to come and play." Ota's wife, Yumi, adds, "Inviting other mothers and friends of my daughter, one person telling another person started a chain reaction and livened things up. In Kumejima, it is still common to see children playing in a common area" which is why it is anticipated that the temple will be able to serve as another community area for the children. The temple teaches children about the good and bad, as well as the importance of gratitude. This is also a valuable experience for myself, reminding me of the important things I had forgotten. I am happy to be able to bring my child here from now on." expresses Saori Itokazu, a parent visitor to the facility.

Participant Hiromi Nagayama shared, "The temple is where we can hear an assortment of stories and our lives can be enriched. Although the temple is still not widely known in Okinawa, it is only after reflecting back on my own parents that I myself have started coming to the temple. If we come to the temple regularly, doing so, it is bound to be passed down to our children."

(Hongwanji Journal, August 20, 2013, p.

Buddhist Churches of America  
WHEEL OF DHARMA

### What Buddhism Means to Me: My Everyday

By Mallory Shiroyama, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple  
[excerpts]

"I have literally grown up at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. So many people have told me "I remember when you were we only this tall!" though I find it hard to remember that time myself.

At first, I only went to temple because my mother made me. My attention span was short and the Reverend's talks went over my head, so service was a time to giggle and write notes with my friends while our feet dangled off the pews.

As I got older, I started to value my time at the temple. I began to feel at home and part of the community as I became familiar and comfortable with the members. I started to listen to what the Reverend had to say about Buddhism, and I realized how relevant and helpful it was to my life. When life got hard, Buddhism seemed to always hold an answer. I started to look forward to Sundays when I would be surrounded by the comfort of my Buddhist family and able to learn more about Buddhism and life.

But Buddhism is more than just my Sundays. It's my Mondays when I am confident for a speech at school because of the public speaking practice I have from chairing services—introducing gathas and thanking Hazelle Miloradovitch for her musical offerings. It's my Tuesdays when I reach outside the car window and hand a homeless man a box of blackberries because they mean more to him than they do to me.

It's my Wednesdays when I remind my boyfriend not to make any crude remarks or hand gestures to the car that just cut him off because it will only work him up more. It's my Thursdays when I am overwhelmed by the complexities of life, but I remember that everything is impermanent and that tomorrow will come.

It's my Fridays when shootings, bombings, and natural disasters may happen, but at the end of the day, I still believe that people are good and that the world is a beautiful place. It's my Saturdays when I choose to have a movie night with my mom instead of going out because I do not appreciate her enough and those nights I stay in with her are the ones I am going to miss the most when I move out.

Buddhism is my every day. It has shaped me into the person I am. Perhaps I don't see how religious I am because my religion has seamlessly become a part of me. I am a Buddhist, although I may not always realize it. So maybe I am religious after all.



## DECORATING FRONT STREET

Each Christmas, Lahaina's Front Street is adorned with festive decorations. One of the features of the decorations are the wreaths that are hung from each light pole on both sides of the street. Those wreaths finally needed to be replaced. So, the Town Action Committee carried out a fundraiser to obtain the funds needed to replace the old, worn wreaths.

The fundraising efforts were directed at many businesses and private entities. The response was overwhelming. Lahaina Hongwanji was asked if the temple would be interested in making a contribution. We committed to cover the cost of one wreath. An appeal for donations was made to the Sangha, with the assurance that the Kyodan would make up the difference. Together, donations and a contribution from the Kyodan made it possible for our temple to help purchase a wreath.

Although Christmas is not a Buddhist holiday, this season inspires families to come together in kinship and in fellowship. Besides, the temple is an integral part of the Westside community, so we, too, can play a small part in making the holiday season a festive one for everyone to enjoy. So, if you happen to stroll Front Street – look for the wreath inscribed with "Lahaina Hongwanji". And, Arigato Gozaimasu to all who contributed.

-- 'Noosh' Nishihara, Kyodan President

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### A Buddhist Holiday Season

*Posted on Internet by Doug McLean, 2010 (Excerpts are printed here, not the entire piece.)*

" My Japanese wife and I are raising our little girl Buddhist, which presents some challenges in a country where Buddhism is little understood and hardly visible.

Holidays in Buddhism are few and far between. Every day is a day to walk the Buddha Path, a day to practice wholesome conduct, and practice goodwill toward others. Every day is a day to reflect upon one's own actions, for better or worse. Thus, holidays are not particularly prominent in Buddhism, aside from very local, cultural ones. In Japanese Buddhism, the Enlightenment of the Buddha is celebrated as Bodhi Day or *Jodo-e*, on December 8<sup>th</sup> of every year in accordance with the belief that the Buddha awakened on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month.

So, while Buddhists do have Bodhi Day to look to, we don't want to leave our children out of the festive season either. Japanese religion is highly syncretic in nature, and over the centuries various deities, traditions and practices have been absorbed by Buddhism and undergone a kind of transformation that I like to call "Buddhification." This may seem strange to Westerners used to more clearly defined walls about what is and isn't part of a religion, but one must bear in mind how many Pagan traditions are now part of the Christmas "canon". Buddhism is more tolerant of this practice I believe, so long as the message of goodwill, wisdom and appreciation of the impermanence of life are still core values.

Thus, with the Japanese approach to religion in mind, I look at my Christmas memories and my desire to give my daughter a happy upbringing, and I believe it more than suitable to celebrate Christmas with her as well. The story of Santa Claus bringing gifts to the children of the world is a very pleasant one, and I like to joke that Santa Claus may secretly be a Bodhisattva as well: a Buddhist figure who strives to awaken and benefit all beings before reaching full Buddhahood himself."



Dharma Message: “**Outside-In**” (October)

By Rev. Ai Hironaka

... there was no school this week, so it was pretty busy and close time with all my children. Megumi and I were trying to keep them from getting bored this week. So, we decided to go visit Haleakala to see sunset and beautiful stars for the first time. Megumi made homemade Bento dinner, I took furo with them around 3 p.m. And somebody told me that up there is very cold, so my kids wore long sleeve, long pants and socks and shoes, not barefoot and slipper.

We were so excited during car riding. Kokoro said, is there any snow at the top of Haleakala? I said, not that cold. My children have never seen and touched snow, so they were imagining some kind of very cold place. But, it was my first car riding to Haleakala, so I was little nervous to drive the car. After we got to the section for making left turn into Haleakala Highway, plants and trees began to change – they were different from rest of Maui. I saw some super big leaf plant that I don't know the name of and super big trees. Although it was easy way to get there, all these different big plants made me feel a little nervous that I am in unreal world.

Then, we drove up to big digital sign that says “Closed”. And “Shut Down”. Megumi and I said, “*What ?? Oh, my ... Never experienced in Japan. Yes, it is national park ... What shall we do?*” Of course it was getting dark outside. Hoken kept saying, “*I am hungry, I am hungry ...*” I said, “*If you feel hungry, other ones also hungry too.*” I talked to myself that, if I took more interest about this news, I wouldn't choose to come here, but I totally did not have such sense. That congress ... Why failed? ... They broke our short trip to Haleakala ... I took some pictures right by the digital sign. But I was wondering how deep down inside the crater is it? And how long does it take to find a place to eat Bento Dinner? Here is the I-Phone !! Yes !! I used the Google map, and it showed me where we are now. And try to find closest public park from here. We decided to go to the park in Kula which we visited together with Fujinkai ladies and had a lunch Bento. I-Phone told me where we are, how long it takes to the park and the way to get there. Then I can picture in my mind and tell Hoken to wait about 30 minutes, then we will have Bento at the park. Kids were happy to play and run down the hill at the park. But, Megumi quietly said to me, “*What are we doing here ...*” I responded, “*The congress people's fault. Not us. Obama also could not go to attend APEC Meeting in Indonesia too. Too bad.*”

Anyway, when we encounter unexpected or unforeseen happening and matter, we are surprised, shocked, disturbed and flustered. I was okay to be with I-Phone, Google Map, but I remembered once I lost my way in middle of Mililani residential area on Oahu. I could not find my way for about thirty minutes. But the thirty minutes was like over three hours to me. Once I got lost at Waipahu area too. That time I did not have I-Phone of course, and did not have GPS also. And it was right after I moved from Big Island so I could not find out exactly where I was at. If we don't know where we are, we cannot figure out where to go. So, wherever we go to, first thing first – it is very important to know where I am now. Whenever you go to shopping center nowadays, when you see a map on the wall, it tells you with the red star sign where you are located now.

At the past Spring Ministers Seminar, we had a lecture by Professor Reverend Nobuhiro Fukagawa from Ryukoku University. I was interested in following lecture about the significance of Shin Buddhist Theory about Hearing the Buddha. He taught us as follows:

*Shin Buddhism (Jodo Shinshu Buddhism) is grounded on the Amida Buddha's Vow that we hear and receive. It means that I hear myself, I know myself, and I see myself.*

*Without knowing myself, I have no idea where I should go. In order to know where I should go, I need to know where I am.*

*I cannot see my real self as long as I stay inside myself. My real self is revealed in the Buddha's Vow and in the Buddha's eyes of wisdom.*

Here is the story that Rev. Professor Fukagawa heard from Sachiya Hiro, a Japanese religious scholar and a popular contemporary writer of Buddhism. He even confirmed Hiro's story with a former pilot he knew. **The story is about how a pilot flies with two eyes.**

*One eye is called "Inside-Out" eye, which can see the outside view from the inside of the plane. This is a normal eye, just like a pilot flies the airplane from inside, looking at the outside. The pilot needs to carefully navigate the airplane by looking at the hand or flag signal when entering the apron area from the runway. When landing, the pilot sees the special instrument showing the landing angle indicated by red and white lamps. This is the eye of "Inside-Out".*

*This is not good enough for the pilot to fly safely, however; he needs another eye, called "Outside-In".*

*Going into clouds or at night, the pilot has no clue where he or she is. The airplane needs the eye of "Outside-In", which can tell where the plane is and which direction it is heading to.*

*To make this story short, the pilot definitely needs two sets of eyes, which are "Inside-Out" and "Outside-In".*

*So do we. We maneuver our body during our lives, while depending on the eye of "Inside-Out" for most of the time.*

We live our lives by looking at the position and direction we are heading, but sometimes we lose ourselves. Don't we sometimes sense around us that a person does not really see deeply into him or herself?

Even maintaining our health, it is easy to lose ourselves. If it is sunny and clear day, we may figure out and predict the current position and direction, but what about a rainy and stormy day? On a rainy and stormy day, we certainly need the eye of "Outside-In".

For the pilot, one eye of "Outside-In" is the air traffic tower. An air traffic controller tells the position and direction of the airplane. The airplane is safe by following the instructions. Also, there is GPS, Global Positioning System, which informs us of the position by satellite. Tracking the position and direction of the airplane will be clear with the instruction of an air traffic controller and GPS.

How does the air traffic controller help us in our lives? It is the same as a master, teacher, friend and family. Therefore, HEARING the Buddha, and Buddha's Vow is to receive the help of "Outside-In". This is why it is so important to HEAR the teaching of Buddha-Dharma.

Ultimately, hearing myself means to receive the Buddha. And, we navigate ourselves following the Buddha. Shinran revealed Shin Buddhism, Jodo Shinshu, by explaining that Amida Buddha always embraces us and never abandons all sentient beings.

So, it teaches us importance of having another guidance. Like the guidance from the air traffic controller, Shinran Shonin tells us where we are, what condition we are in and who we really are. When we have this knowledge, we now know exactly where we should be heading. The Buddha says, our ideal is attaining the world of Amida Buddha's Pure Land which is a place of perfect peace and harmony, as we are already grasped by the working of Amida's original vow when we hear the Amida Buddha's Commanding Voice, "Namo Amida-butsu".

# Aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan that hit the Philippine Islands.



Maui Hongwanji Council Sponsors:  
Special Service Dedicated to the  
Victims of Typhoon Haiyan

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2013  
6:00 pm

Kahului Hongwanji Mission  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



## HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

November 22, 2013

To: Members, Supporters and Friends of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

RE: 2013 PHILIPPINES DISASTER RELIEF

We have seen the massive destruction in the Philippines when Typhoon Haiyan struck earlier this month. As the country begins the process of rebuilding and healing after this disaster, our Sangha would like to do its part in supporting relief efforts there. The Committee on Social Concerns has approved a total of \$15,000 to aid in relief efforts. The following organizations will receive the funds: American Red Cross Hawaii Chapter \$5,000, The Filipino Community Center/Consuelo Foundation \$5,000, and the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu-Chi Foundation \$5,000. It is only through your generous contributions to our annual fund drive that makes this kind of immediate response possible.

We know many members would like to personally contribute to aid in relief efforts. The Committee on Social Concerns recommends the following organizations to donate to:

**American Red Cross Hawaii Chapter**

4155 Diamond Head Road Honolulu, HI 96816; Phone: 734-2101

<http://www.redcross.org/hi/honolulu>

Checks made payable to: "American Red Cross—Aloha for Philippines"

**Filipino Community Center/Consuelo Foundation**

94-428 Mokuola Street, Suite 302 Waipahu, HI 96797; Phone: 680-0451

<http://filcom.org/donate-to-relief-efforts/>

Checks made payable to: "Filipino Community Center—Aloha for Philippines"

You can also donate to these organizations at any of the following banks:

American Savings Bank

Finance Factors

Ohana Pacific Bank

Bank of Hawaii

First Hawaiian Bank

Pacific Rim Bank

Bank of the Orient

Hawaii National Bank

Territorial Savings Bank.

Central Pacific Bank

HomeStreet Bank

Donations may also be sent to the following organization:

**Tzu Chi Foundation, USA, Hawaii Chapter**

1238 Wilhelmina Rise Honolulu, HI 96816; Phone: 737-8885

<http://hawaii.us.tzuchi.org/>

Checks made payable to "Tzu Chi"

Thank you for your continued generosity and support during this time of tragedy. Mahalo!

In Gassho,

Bishop Eric T. Matsumoto



It's the end of the year. Have you paid your GOJIKAI (membership dues) ?

