

LAST MONTH'S EVENTS



Project Dana Strategic Planning Meeting Honolulu, Oahu

Principal 'Figures': *Founder*-Shim Kanazawa; *Chairperson* – Rose Nakamura; *Facilitator*-Dr. Michael Cheang; *Guest Speaker*-Dr. Mary Bitterman.

Attendees: Statewide Project Dana representatives from Hongwanji temples and from organizations of other faiths.

Topics: Fall Prevention Consortium / Family Caregivers' Coalition / support groups / Moiliili Hongwanji's Care Day / year 2014 Project Dana 25th Anniversary

Strategic Planning: Attendees voted to prioritize strategic planning areas of concern. In order of highest to lowest priority, these were: 1) Sustainability, 2) Partnership/Publicity, 3) Training, 4) Ongoing Education, 5) Funding.

Maui Attendees: Janie Karimoto (Makawao), Joan Yokoyama (Kahului), Betty Yamashiro (Wailuku), Phyllis Nakamura (Lahaina).

AUTUMN HIGAN SERVICE



Resident Minister Rev. Ai Hironaka & Guest Speaker Rev. Sol Kalu

The Higan Service was emceed by Carol Inaba. Rev. Hironaka introduced Rev. Sol Kalu, Resident Minister of Makawao Hongwanji. Rev. Kalu was born in Quezon City, Philippines. Prior to receiving tokudo (2007) and Kyoshi (2010), Rev. Kalu had a professional career as a registered nurse, having worked in New Jersey, California, and Hawaii.

In his introduction, Rev. Kalu stated that in his hospital work with the elderly and disabled, he encountered a lot of suffering and dying, and it had bothered him. On a trip to Japan in 1994, he met a professor from Ryukoku University, which led him on the path to Jodo Shinshu ministry.

Highlights of dharma message:

In some Buddhist temples (as at Mt. Hiei), there is a big space between devotees' seating and the *naijin* (main altar). This arrangement illustrates the gap between this world of delusion, ignorance, & suffering and 'the other shore'. Below the space sits a monk – to help ordinary beings to make the crossing. At our own level of self-power, we are unable to cross the Sea of Samsara to reach Nirvana.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Dharma School Teachers' Conference

OCTOBER 13-14, 2012

WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION



Maui Hongwanji Council Sponsors:

Nembutsu Seminar

NOVEMBER 2 – 4, 2012

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

Workshop Leader: **Dr. Kenji Akahoshi**

Shin Buddhist minister with background in transpersonal psychology, personal growth, and body-mind-spirit disciplines.

Topics:

- **If Life is a Nightmare – Wake Up To a Dream**
Introduction to Shin Buddhism; basic principles of Buddhism; question & answer.
FRIDAY, NOV. 2ND, 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm
- **Human Nature – Buddha Nature**
Clarifying basic principles of Shin Buddhism as they apply to contemporary American life. Using amusing activities to move from a deep philosophy to a personal experience.
SATURDAY, NOV. 3RD, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
- **Nembutsu: Heart of Shin Buddhism**
Defining Nembutsu in 21st-Century America. Discussion to elaborate and share stories of the experience and practice of Nembutsu.

Registration:

- \$15.00 per person; includes meals, snacks
- Checks to: Maui Hongwanji Council
- Deadline: October 16, 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS



Maui United BWA Fall Assembly

LahainaHongwanji Mission
SAT. NOVEMBER 10, 2012
10:00 am

Guest Speaker: GEORGE J. TANABE
Professor Emeritus (Religion), UH

George Tanabe's PowerPoint presentation will be on the topic of **Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii**.

The guest speaker will be bringing a few copies of the book, **Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii**, which he co-authored with his wife, Willa Tanabe. The books will be available for purchase, and signing by George Tanabe.

The General Assembly portion of the event will be for Buddhist Women's Association members from the Maui County Hongwanji temples. George Tanabe's presentation will be open to any other interested parties – such as ministers and members of Maui's Buddhist temples. The time slot for Tanabe's talk will be announced in the November bulletin.



EITAIKYO SERVICE

NOVEMBER 11, 2012 – 9:30 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
KapaaHongwanji

[From website livingdharma.org]

The word Eitai means "perpetual" and Kyo means "sutra", or "teaching of Buddha". Eitaikyo is defined as a "perpetual memorial service" – a general memorial service for all departed members of the temple.

. . . the Eitaikyo Service was originally established by the followers of Buddha. They wished that the Buddha's teachings could continue to their descendants from generation to generation, so they began to observe the Eitaikyo Service and to establish an Eitaikyo Fund for the maintaining of their Sangha or temple. In our Shin Buddhist tradition, it's said that the Abbot Jakunyo, the

14th Abbot of Honganji (i.e., descendant of Shinran) during the Edo period in 1679, was the one who began the Eitaikyo Services in Shin Buddhism.



News From Related Links

HonpaHongwanji Mission

Headquarters Update

Former Bishop Rev. Fujitani Receives Consul General of Japan Commendation Award On the evening of July 12, 2012, Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, the 11th Bishop of HonpaHongwanji Mission of Hawaii, was recognized for his contributions and dedication in serving the community and his efforts to promote harmony and better relations between all people. He and Mrs. TomiFujitani were special guests of the Consul General Yoshihiko Kamo as he personally received the Commendation at the Japanese Consulate at a reception hosted by the Consul General and Mrs. Etsuko Kamo. Congratulations, Rev. Fujitani, and thank you!

Interfaith Celebration – Friday, September 20, 2012, 7 pm at HonpaHongwanji Hawaii Betsuin

- 2nd annual Interfaith Celebration of "Peace".
- Gathering with ministers of different religious organizations, choir groups, Pacific Buddhist Academy students.
- Niko (Chinese violin) performance – Dr. Jiang Xiaoyan.
- Sponsored by: PBA, HonpaHongwanji Mission, Hawaii Betsuin, Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, Hawaii Buddhist Council,

Building the Future – an update on the Capital

Campaign(Pacific Buddhist Academy \$5 million campaign for construction of a new classroom facility.) To date, over \$3.8 million has been raised, thanks to donations from individuals, foundations, and corporations, such as: HonpaHongwanji Mission; HonpaHongwanji Hawaii Betsuin; First Hawaiian Bank; Island Insurance; Teruya Foundation; Kono Foundation; Taniguchi Family; Cooke Foundation; Atherton Family Foundation. We would like to acknowledge a very special gift of \$250,000 from Flora Fujii of Lihue in memory of her parents, Riuichi and ShigenoFujii. Ms. Fujii's generous contribution opened the way for PBA to qualify for final funding needed from mainland foundations and enable PBA to begin construction in January of 2013.

Re-visiting PROJECT DANA – What is it? Why does it need our attention?



Get to Know Project Dana

[Information from Project Dana headquarters, Moiliili Hongwanji Mission]

Project Dana is a *National Volunteer Caregiving Network* program that provides a variety of services to the frail elderly and disabled – to ensure their **well-being, independence, and dignity** – in an environment of their choice.

Support comes from a corps of trained volunteers guided by the principle of “Dana”, which combines selfless giving and compassion without desire for recognition or reward.

Project Dana recruits and trains volunteers across the state to assist the frail and elderly with:

- Friendly Visits
- Respite service
- Transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping, and religious services
- Telephone visits
- Minor home repairs, light housekeeping, and home safety assessment
- Family Caregivers Support



The Facts

- Founded in 1989.
- Comprised of a coalition of 32 churches/temples across Hawaii.
- 850 volunteers serve 1,000 persons totaling 50,000 hours annually. *[numbers subject to change]*.
- Collaborates with more than 150 public and private agencies.
- Recipient of national awards and recognitions:
 - 1st Rosalyn Carter Caregiving Award, 1993.
 - Best Practice program in the Family Elder Caregiving Report of Fordham University, 1999.
 - (and others)



Who's Who of Project Dana



Shim Kanazawa, Founder, has been serving the needs of others selflessly for decades. She has chaired and/or served with numerous agencies – a few of which are: Commission on Children & Youth; Commission on Aging; Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs.

Rose Nakamura, Chairperson, 1990 to present time. Rose has a history of 25 years of service assisting the East-West Center's international students. After retiring from the center, Rose worked to co-found Project Dana. She received the 2009 Inspire Award from AARP, receiving recognition as a “Compassionate Caregiver”

Project Dana Advisory Council Among the 31 names listed on the Project Dana website for the Advisory Council, the following are familiar through readings of the Honpa Hongwanji bulletins: Rev. Earl Ikeda, Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, Rev. Shigenori Makino, Mr. Blayne Higa (ex-officio), Bishop Eric Matsumoto, (ex-officio), Mr. Alton Miyamoto (ex-officio), Rev. David Nakamoto, Mrs. Carol Yamamoto, Mrs. Chihoko Yosemite.



Project Dana Maui

Project Dana – Maui meetings are held periodically at Makawao Hongwanji, led by Janie Karimoto of Makawao. Advisor is Rev. Sol Kalu. Other representatives of temple units are: Joan Yokoyama of Kahului Hongwanji, Betty Yamashiro of Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai / Wailuku Hongwanji, and Phyllis Nakamura of Lahaina Hongwanji.

Lahaina Hongwanji members who have attended Project Dana-sponsored Eden at Home workshops and/or volunteered their services are: Jane Agawa, Aileen Cockett, Emiko Fujikawa, Dawn Fujiwara, Derrick Fujiwara, Carol Inaba, Sylvia Neizman, 'Noosh' Nishihara, and Phyllis Nakamura.

If you have any questions regarding Project Dana services; if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity – phone visits, transportation, minor home repairs, etc.; if you would like to be an advisor regarding hands-on caregiving in the home --- PLEASE CALL Phyllis Nakamura, 661-4032. MAHALO!

KUPUNA FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK ACTIVITIES BEGIN SEPT. 22

[The document has been re-typed to alter a 2-page document to 1-page.]

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Systems Branch and the Hawai'i Fall Prevention Consortium, in collaboration with the Queen's Medical Center, FOODLAND Supermarkets, MINA Pharmacies, TIMES Supermarkets, and KTA Superstores, are sponsoring Kupuna Fall Prevention Awareness Week activities from September 22 to 30, 2012. The week coincides with National Fall Prevention Awareness Day on September 22, established by Congress.

"On average, every five hours in Hawai'i a senior suffers a fall injury so serious he or she must be hospitalized," said Director of Health Loretta Fuddy. "Fall prevention is a major concern for the safety and well-being of our beloved kupuna, the fastest growing segment of our population."

Falls and fall-related injuries impact individuals, families, the community at large, and the health care system. Fall incidents increase dramatically in the years after age 65, and those who have fallen once are much more likely to fall again. Every year in Hawai'i, an average of 108 kupuna die, 1,840 are hospitalized and 5,715 are treated in emergency departments due to falls, resulting in almost \$118 million in hospital and physician charges. Adding the costs of rehabilitation and nursing care can double that amount.

"We are very excited about the commitment to senior well-being exhibited by our partners: The Queen's Medical Center, FOODLAND Supermarkets, MINA Pharmacies, TIMES Supermarkets, and KTA Superstores," said Dr. Linda Rosen, Chief of Emergency Medical Services and the Injury Prevention Systems Branch. "By conducting free in-store reviews of seniors' medications, pharmacists will be providing a much-needed and valued service that can help prevent serious and tragic accidents."

Throughout the week, partnering pharmacies will be offering free medication reviews, and "Fall Prevention Tips for Seniors" bag-stuffers will be distributed statewide by participating stores. Sponsor newsletters will also include fall prevention stories and tips, and magnets with fall prevention messages will be available.

Kupuna fall prevention tips include exercising regularly to increase balance and flexibility, having your doctor or pharmacist review medications yearly, having eyes checked annually, and making the home safer by removing fall hazards, installing safety devices like railings and grab bars, and improving lighting. For more information about fall prevention for kupuna, contact the DOH fall prevention coordinator at (808) 733-9202.

[The following is a re-configuration of a flyer to announce a workshop that is sponsored by PROJECT DANA.]

HOME SAFETY / FALL PREVENTION

OCTOBER 13, 2012 – 10:00 am to Noon

@ KAUNOA SENIOR CENTER, 401 Alakapa Place, Paia, HI 96779



Presentation By:

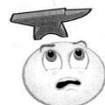
MR. MIKE HIRANO

Fall Prevention Specialist

Project Dana Office

No Registration Fee; Limited Seating

Please call any one of the following Project Dana coordinators for reservation: Janie Karimoto – 572-7229; Joan Yokoyama – 871-4160; Betty Yamashiro – 871-8178; Phyllis Nakamura – 661-4032



Headquarters



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

1727 PALI HIGHWAY / HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 / PH: 522-9200 / FAX: 522-9209

September 17, 2012

Memorandum

To: Temple Presidents
Resident Ministers

From: Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns

Re: 2012-2013 Social Concerns Fund Drive

In November we celebrate the important holidays of Thanksgiving and Eitaikyo. Both remind us to be mindful of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live connected to each other and to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

The generous contributions from Sangha members provides the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii the ability to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community and to provide compassionate action during times of disaster. Your contributions also allow the Committee on Social Concerns to plan for future programs related to social issues affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness we were able to continue lending our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance of Hawaii, and various food banks across Hawaii. We were also able to assist members of our community affected by disasters and other emergency situations. We have also been able to establish the Golden Chain Grant program that promotes compassionate action through service to others in our community. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world.

Envelopes have been provided to temples wishing to use them. If your temple did not request envelopes but would like to use them, please feel free to ask as there are extra envelopes available in limited supply. Please make all checks payable to **YOUR TEMPLE**. Your temple treasurer will then make one combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person.

Your kokua is greatly appreciated. Please encourage your members to continue supporting the Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive. Mahalo!

cc: Bishop Eric Matsumoto
President Alton Miyamoto
Presidents of District Hongwanji Councils

Dharma Message from Rev. Ai Hironaka, Resident Minister

End of last month [August], my son went to his doctor for checkup with my wife Megumi. After coming back home, my wife said to me that “The doctor said Hoken’s heart sound has little bit noise. She believes that it is not too serious. But in case, she recommends sending him for checkup at Kapiolani Hospital in Honolulu.” Since he was born, besides his too much Koloheness, he has had very healthy life. So, the doctor’s recommendation made me anxious and since then I could not stop myself from studying small children’s heart problem.

After that, my wife and I had to make plans to take him to Honolulu. HMSA will only cover half of the air fare fee for two people, and do not have coverage for rental car. We thought one of us will need to stay here. We decided that Megumi will take him to Honolulu. That decision was Ok to me and Hoken was happy too. But, problem was Megumi did not want to take Minori to Honolulu...Hey,,, No way... As you may know, Minori still sometimes needs breastfeeding, especially before she takes nap or sleep. I was ok for Kokoro and Ayumu, but not Minori please... But Megumi said that “Minori need practice away from breastfeeding. It is good chance for practice. Yes yes.” After that no matter how I tried to explain how hard it is going to be, Megumi just smiled and said “Da-me or No” No good... No good at all...

From that day, I had to start to think about how I will take care of my three daughters. I mean especially Minori. The flight schedule was leave Kahului around 8 am and coming back Kahului at 4:30 pm. But, the more I thought about Minori, I got more stressed and had no idea. So, I just simply decided I will follow what she wants to do. Whatever she likes to do I will give and offer. I will try to adjust and do what they want me to do.

The 31st day of August, Megumi woke up early and she left to Honolulu with Hoken. After I took Kokoro to school, there were only me and two daughters. I cooked two toast and made hot coffee for myself. I do not know why but somehow this kind of day, I got many phone calls. When they began to get bored, I said “Hey, let’s walk and go to the library!!” which I planned before. Then Ayumu said that I don’t like to go walk because it is so hot outside... “Don’t say that, let’s go to the library and try looking for fish from the harbor!!” And, we went for a walk.

When I put Minori on the stroller, Ayumu also wanted to ride too. And I only can push one stroller. But I was a genius. I put Ayumu on stroller first, and then put Minori on Ayumu and she holds Minori to ride. We walked Luakini Street first. When we reached Dickenson Street, we turned left to library. But the library was under renovation. We could not get inside. We were so disappointed. So, I put them out from the stroller and went to the grass area to walk. Here is the problem. Up until then I was able to walk with my pace. But, from that time I had to adjust walking at their pace. When Ayumu wanted to find fish, I had to hold her hands. In the meantime, Minori want to be carried so it means I have hard time to push the stroller. Ayumu was grumbling for wanting shaved ice, in the meantime Minori wanted to carry Ayumu’s stuffed toy bear. Ayumu said “I want to go to shishi” I responded library closed so there is no restroom here. Can you wait until restroom at harbor? But, she said cannot. I tried to find bush but there was no such thing. To get through the grass area takes only one minute I think. But, I do not know how long it took us to walk through the park. It took quite long. I had to listen to both of their requests, keep them safe and push the stroller. It was lots of fun but not easy to walk with the peaceful mind. Later on, I had to take Bunta to walk. Please imagine how hard to walk with Ayumu, Minori and Bunta...

Through this experience, I was able to relate the relationship between Amida Buddha and myself. And I recall a class at Ryukoku University. The sensei taught us, Shinran Shonin tried very hard to be the man who Amida Buddha wants us to be. But he could not and he went to Honen Shonin's place. But his teaching was totally different. I am not adjusting in the way that Amida wishes. Amida Buddha is adjusting, adapting, or accommodating to the way you are. Just like when parents walk with children, they adjust speed to child's walk. Just like when a parent listens carefully what a child is saying, the parent kneels down to ground, and adjusts eye level same with small child, and listens carefully. Always 100 percent adjustment and accommodation by Amida Buddha.

The teachings of Jodo Shinshu is not that we adjust to Amida Buddha. Jodo Shinshu teaches that Amida Buddha is adjusting to every single life and to keep listening to his Primal Vow "You are saved, please come to my Land." "You are not alone, I always nestle close with you, your life is suffering but I will walk with you." "Please call my name, Namo Amida Butsu"

In our life, we need some time to rush, walk and stop. We need to go left, right, go ahead and go back sometime. If we need to adjust or follow Amida Buddha's wish, we cannot do that. But, because of the Primal Vow, we can live as we are. Let us keep listening to the Amida Buddha's Primal Vow, and enjoy the Lif of Onembutsu.

By the way, Hoken's heart sound test was ok. Thank you very much!

Namoamidabustu