



April 2024

## Dates to Remember

April 7, 10:00am  
Hanamatsuri

May 26  
Memorial Day and  
Eitaikuyo Service

**Our Mission:** Paia Mantokuji is a Soto Zen Buddhist temple founded in 1906 by Reverend Sokyo Ueoka and a community of Japanese immigrants. Our mission is to be a place of compassion, respect and kindness for all who seek truth through the teachings of Buddha, the practice of Zen meditation and arts, and the fellowship of the temple sangha.

**Our Vision:** Paia Mantokuji's short term vision is to stay in place in Paia, as a vibrant and relevant Soto Zen Buddhist Mission.

**Our Values:** Honor Traditions  
Respect Ancestors  
Embrace Inclusivity  
Nurture Fellowship  
Practice Compassionate Kindness  
Gratitude  
Appreciation & Humility  
Live the Dharma  
Embody Buddhism

## Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission

P.O. Box 790207,  
Paia, HI 96779

Tel: (808) 579 - 8051  
E-mail: info@paiamantokuji.org  
Web: www.paiamantokuji.org  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Mantokuji/

## Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle

## Reverend's Message

Aloha everyone,

First of all, I would like to express my appreciation for the many donations, help, and all of your support at our 45th annual bazaar on March 3. It was a great success with lots of visitors and beautiful weather. The food line started forming at 6:30! We prepared a lot of food including nishime, chow fun, maze gohan, baked goods, and other items which sold out quickly. We also sold a lot of clothes, crafts, collectibles, plants, rummage, and vegetables donated by generous Kula farmers,

This was my second bazaar. Last year I could not participate as much because of the coronavirus, but this year I was able to participate a lot. I even helped make yaki manju for the first time. It was difficult to wrap the dough evenly around the lima bean paste, but with strict instructions, I was able to do it well and everyone thought the manju was delicious!

By Friday, my body was sore all over because of a lot of muscle work setting up the booths, moving boxes and furniture, and building tents. I was very impressed with how energetic and strong the volunteers, especially the ladies, were even though some of them are my parents and grandparents ages! Someone said the ladies were like Energizer Bunnies! In addition, I found that the bazaar is not only hard work for us, but also a great opportunity to reconnect with family and friends in a busy working atmosphere with time to share old stories. Although hard work, it was fun and a pleasure for me. So, I'm looking forward to our next big event, Obon. I hope you will come back to Mantokuji again!



In April, we have the Hanamatsuri service to celebrate and appreciate the birth of the Buddha. We are reviving the tradition of a joint service with Rinzai Zen. It will be held on April 7 at Mantokuji Temple. If you have not yet met Rev. Haga, this is a good opportunity to meet Monk Sen. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mahalo.

In gassho.

Tomoki Hirasawa

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**Fujinkai News** The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meeting and clean up as follows:

**April 14, 2024 at 8:30am**

**May 19, 2024 at 8:30am**

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentlemen who came to help clean the nokotsudo, temple, grounds and finish clearing and restoring the hall on Sunday, March 11.

**Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Kay Hanano, Chester Kakiuchi, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Isabelle Scholl, Nora Takeuchi and Neil Watanabe.**

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## Hawaii Soto Mission Association Spring Meeting Report

Sunday, February 25

The Hawaii Soto Mission Association's Spring Meeting was held at Nuuanu Soto Mission / Betsuin on Sunday, February 25, 2024. Reverend Hirasawa was present along with Mantokuji delegates Eric Moto and Cathy Murayama. The meeting was called to order at 10:25 am following a morning service. On the agenda:

- Treasurer's report by Thomas Itagaki showed a healthy amount of net assets as of 12/31/2023.
- Revisions to HSMA's Policy Guidelines and By-Laws discussed at the 2023 Fall Meeting were to be voted on at this meeting; however, the revised documents were not completed by the Executive Board and will be presented at a later meeting.
- The Board was able to address treasurer Itagaki's long-standing retirement request with the nomination and election of Glenn Tango as the new treasurer.
- Treasurer Tango will revive stalled efforts to develop a Retirement Fund Program for ministers. Kauai Zenshuji minister, Reverend Scott Mangis, reported a background in financial planning and offered to work with treasurer Tango on the Retirement Program.
- It was reported that \$5000 in donations was collected for Maui wildfire relief and the Hawaii Buddhist Council will divide the money equally for each of the three destroyed Lahaina Buddhist temples.
- Reverend Jiko Nakade from Kona Daifukuji proposed a new program for possible HSMA support. Rev. Nakade's online Dharma educational program targeting children within the preschool to about 3<sup>rd</sup> grade range is based on her "The Sunday Sangha" program for children and is tentatively called "Dharma Keiki." Rev. Nakade also announced plans for a three-month long online study session focusing on the Soto Zen Buddhist precepts beginning in June.
- Reverend Shuji Komagata presented his ambitious ideas for the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. Soto Conference to be hosted by HSMA on October 23 – 26, 2025. The conference planning committee will be putting together a variety of interesting and informative work/study sessions in hopes of attracting 300 to 400 participants.
- Finally, the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual UHSSWA Conference at Hilo Taishoji on April 27 & 28 was announced, along with the 2024 Fall HSMA Meeting in October also at Hilo Taishoji. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.

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## President's Message

Aloha everyone,

Thank you all for supporting Mantokuji through our big fundraising event last month with your volunteer work and/or your food and rummage purchases. The monies raised will be used for routine administrative and maintenance expenses, our events and services, and, of course, Mantokuji's ongoing erosion mitigation and beach restoration efforts.

This month, Mantokuji is delighted to once again partner with our friends and neighbors at the Rinzaï Zen Mission for a combined Hanamatsuri service on Sunday, April 7 at 10:00 am here at Mantokuji. At our initial meeting, Rinzaï Zen's new minister, Reverend Kodai "Sen" Haga was quick to offer to resume our temples' relationship. Mantokuji will host the Hanamatsuri service this year and then we will alternate temple sites each year. We welcome everyone to join in with the Rinzaï Zen sangha for this special service. Take care.

With aloha,

Eric Moto

President, Mantokuji Kyodan



## Climate Change Toolkit Workday – Site Visit from Adam Klein (FEMA) – Site Visit from Senator Lynn DeCoite

Friday, February 23

Friday, February 23 was a very busy day at the temple. It was not only another day of Bazaar preparation work for our temple volunteers, but it was also an important Climate Change Toolkit workday for student interns: Dyther Bugtong, Samuel Dameg, Llyw MacMillan, Noah Munz, and Peyton Tokishi and their Oceanit mentors: Mike Foley, James Yehambaram, Dylan Kobayashi, and Louise Currie. From 8:00 am until 3:30 pm, under the supervision and guidance of their mentors, the interns collected sand and water samples, made drone video recordings of the study area, launched coconuts to observe ocean currents, setup video cameras along the shoreline, and conducted video interviews. Our guests were treated to a delicious lunch prepared by our Fujinkai kitchen crew. Mantokuji is grateful for everyone involved in the Climate Change Toolkit work that day and we know that their month's long efforts with this project will result in a vital collection of scientific data needed in future beach restoration and shoreline erosion mitigation efforts. Mantokuji will also greatly benefit from the community interaction and the opportunity to help others learn about the significance of our long spiritual and cultural history in Paia.

Another important part of the workday was a 9:00 am site visit from FEMA representative Adam Klein who is with the Department of Interior's Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Support Functions. His focus is on environmental issues that are a part of disaster recovery. Mr. Klein's visit follows a site visit from other FEMA representatives earlier this year. Mike Foley and Eric Moto offered a brief history of Mantokuji at the Mantokuji Bay site, talked of Mantokuji's spiritual and cultural connections to Paia, reviewed the temple's efforts to address the ongoing shoreline erosion challenges, and outlined current projects and plans associated with beach restoration proposals. Mr. Klein spoke of possible grant funds available through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). A two-page letter outlining Mantokuji's project proposals can be submitted by June for FEMA to consider whether Mantokuji is eligible for HMGP funds. Mike Foley and Mr. Klein will maintain follow-up communication on this matter.

And Mantokuji was pleased to welcome one more important visitor during our busy workday. At 11:30 am State Senator Lynn DeCoite arrived for a site visit. She was impressed by the data collection work of the Oceanit mentors and interns, and she learned how the information resulting from the current project would benefit future beach restoration plans. Sen. DeCoite spoke of her long-time interest in our temple bay and even shared that our beach area is sometimes her getaway spot for a quiet lunch break. Sen. DeCoite mentioned that as the legislative chair of Economic Development and Tourism she sees how our erosion mitigation and beach restoration efforts tie into "regenerative tourism" and that the approaches that Mantokuji and Oceanit have adopted also tie into current preferences for "nature-based solutions" that are "climate resilient." Sen. DeCoite and Mike Foley also agreed to maintain follow-up communications on possible future legislative proposals for project funding.





## A Very Successful 45<sup>th</sup> Mantokuji Bazaar!

Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

The year-long collection of donated rummage and the month-long preparation by dedicated members and friends of Mantokuji culminated on March 3<sup>rd</sup> with a very successful 45<sup>th</sup> Mantokuji Bazaar. Once again we were fortunate to have had a beautiful day on Sunday . . . no rain and some sun which made for a pleasant working and shopping day! It definitely took a community . . . generous donors, volunteers who hauled and cleaned items and set up the hall and tents that housed the crafts, plants, collectibles, clothing, cooks and bakers who prepared Mantokuji favorites, bread, scrumptious desserts and the important meals for the workers, those who came to sell and cashier and everyone who came to browse, buy and support this worthwhile fundraiser . . . THANK YOU! It was a lot of hard work but "many hands made for light work" and a lot of fun! We are truly grateful.

**Janice Abe, Bobbie Arita, Logan Barcoma, Kazuko Boeker, Lori Carillo, Rodney Carillo, James Char, Kathleen Davis, Erick Domingo, Jaelynn Fukuda, Karlynn Fukuda, Kyren Fukuda, Mary Graner, Kathy Guaderrama, Cassidy Hanano, Jon Hanano, Kay Hanano, Peter Hanano, Julie Higa, Sue Hiraga, Reverend Hirasawa, Yuki Hirasawa, Chester Kakiuchi, Joyce Kawahara, Becky Kikumoto, Donald Kimizuka, Jayne Kimizuka, Kevin Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Gary Matoi, Grant Matoi, Judith Matoi, Ross Matoi, Sandy Matsuda, Wayne Matsuda, Ralph Miyamoto, Brian Moto, Eric Moto, Allan Murayama, Cathy Murayama, Melina Murayama, Guy Nagamine, Steven Nagamine, Alma Nakano, Ken Nakano, Naomi Nemoto, Richard Nemoto, Jennifer Nishiki, Marilyn Nishiki, Diane Orikasa, Ed Orikasa, Susan Oshiro, Tilly Ota, Sienna Poepoe, Priscilla Rafferty, Nicole Saito, Doreen Sarceda, Janet Sato, Lois Sato, Isabelle Scholl, Sandy Takahashi, Ann Takakura, Kelcie Takayama, Nora Takeuchi, Chaysen Tanaka, Joy Ueoka, Sharon Ueoka, June Uyeno, Brian Watanabe, Colin Watanabe, Neil Watanabe, Laura Yamada.**

We apologize if we inadvertently missed anyone.





## In-Kind Donations for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Bazaar

The 45<sup>th</sup> Mantokuji Bazaar was another great success because of the donations we received from you. The buyers always look forward to finding treasures when they come to the bazaar. Thank you very much!

We apologize if we inadvertently missed anyone.

<b>Advertising</b>	Jennifer Matsumoto of Matsumoto Studios
<b>Baked Goods</b>	Sherry Allison & Dave Langille, Kay Hanano, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Cathy Murayama
<b>Crafts</b>	Sue Hiraga, Esther Shigezawa, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Brian Watanabe
<b>Flowers</b>	Allen & Janet Fukuda
<b>Food Ingredients</b>	Colin Watanabe
<b>Furniture</b>	Lois & Mark Sato, Russell & Wanda Taira, Misa Umetsu
<b>Guppies</b>	Sue Hiraga
<b>Plants &amp; Pots</b>	George Cagasan, Kay Hanano, Sue Hiraga, Joyce Kawahara, Les & Linda Takahashi, Gertrude Ueoka, Brian Watanabe
<b>Produce</b>	Gilbert Edo, Jamie Shishido
<b>Refreshments</b>	Bobbie Arita, Rodney & Lori Carillo, Kay Hanano, Sue Hiraga, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Wayne & Sandy Matsuda, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Alma Nakano, Richard & Naomi Nemoto, Diane Orikasa, Priscilla Rafferty, Lois Sato, Ann Takakura, Nora Takeuchi
<b>Rummage</b>	Janice Abe, Tokuko Abe, Bobbie Arita, Jeanette Elliott, Alma Hanzawa, Debra Hepner, Risa Hiester, Barbara Huntley, Ann Kusunoki, Trudy Lee, Sabrina Louie, Tomoe MacMillan, Eric Miyajima, Irene Miyake, Paul & Jessie Mizoguchi, Cathy Murayama, Melina Murayama, Norman Nagata, Jay Nakamura, Richard & Naomi Nemoto, Sharon Otsubo, Valerie Richter, Roxalyn Santiago, Joanne Shibuya, Bill Springstead, Sally Suda, Russell Taira, Les & Linda Takayama, Kelcie Takayama, Treyson Takushi, Misa Umetsu, Brian Watanabe, Laura Yamada



## Special Thanks

To **Peter Hanano** for providing the tent supplies.

To **Sue Hiraga** for repairing the cranes in the Japanese Garden.

## Announcement

### Joint Hanamatsuri Service with Paia Rinzai Zen Mission

Sunday, April 7, 2023 at 10:00am

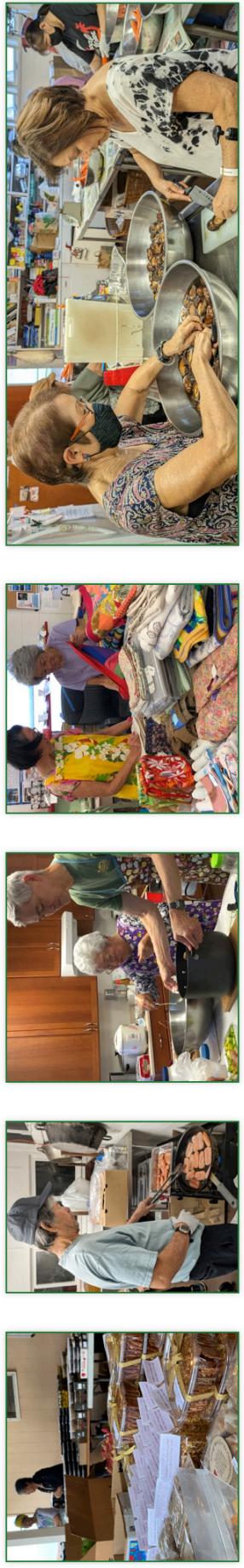
Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission together with Paia Rinzai Zen Mission will be celebrating Buddha's Birthday (Hanamatsuri). You are cordially invited to join us for this service on:

**Sunday, April 7, 2024 at 10:00am**

To celebrate the birth of Siddharta Gautama, the Shakyamuni Buddha, born on April 8 nearly 2600 years ago, we will have a service to commemorate his birth, offer flowers and incense and pour amacha (sweet tea) on the baby Buddha statue enshrined in a floral-decked Hanamido. After lunch we'll end the day with some Bingo games .

Please bring your families and friends to this celebration. To help with planning, please call 808.579.8051 or email [info@paiamantokuji.org](mailto:info@paiamantokuji.org) to let us know you will be coming.







# Donations made in February

We would like to sincerely thank you for your very generous donations.

## General Donations

Rene Egami, Dennis & Grace Ishii, Faith Ito, Robert & Ginny Karpovich, Dawn Komine, Leonard & Merlyn Nagata, Margaret Nakashima, Jamie Shishido & Nancy Shishido, Ted & Carol Mae Takahashi, Sharon A Taniguchi.

Alan & Carol Arai

In Memory of Stella Kimura & Ty Shimabuku

Rodney & Lori Carillo

In Memory of Stella Kimura & Ty Shimabuku

Rene Egami, Roger & Judy Ueoka, Arlene Tsue, Sonia Sato & Susan Oyama

In Memory of Bernice Ueoka

Kay Hanano

Bazaar – refrigerator truck rental

## Donations made for the Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Services on February 4, 2024.

Howard & Bobbie Arita, Yuriko Fukagawa, Kay Hanano, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Gary & Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Allan & Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Nora Takeuchi, Amy Misa Umetsu & Glenn Umetsu, Brian K Watanabe, Neil & Joyce Watanabe.



PAIA MANTOKUJI SOTO MISSION  
P.O. Box 790207  
Paia, HI 96779

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## April 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
<b>April</b>		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen 10:00am Hanamatsuri @ Mantokuji	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen 8:30am Cleanup 10:30am Fujinkai & Kyodan meetings	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:30-11:30 Ikebana
	21 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen	22	23	24	25	26	27 57th UHSSWA Conference /Hilo
	28 57th UHSSWA Conference / Hilo	29	30				

<b>Coming up in May (Tentative Schedule)</b>	
Sunday 19	Clean up, Fujinkai Meeting, O-bon letter making & committee meeting
Sunday 26	Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service

Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations are scheduled during the month.