

Mantokuji Newsletter



April 2025

Dates to Remember

April 5

Hanamatsuri

May 25

Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service

REVEREND'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone.

First, I would like to express my deep gratitude for the many donations, help, and other support we received from everyone for our rummage sale on March 2 and bazaar on March 8. Although it was raining hard when we sold the food on March 8, we had many people come on both days and the Bazaar was a great success despite the rain.

I experienced many things in preparing for this bazaar. I cleaned many donated items and arranged them on the shelves, set up tents, cut ingredients, and helped cook them. I remember how happy I was when I cleaned something, and it sold. I became attached to each item as I wiped it clean. I also remembered my Buddhist training at Sojiji Monastery where I cut ingredients for the meals we prepared. I am so glad that my experience cooking for guests at the monastery for 6 months has been so useful.

The preparation for the bazaar is not only hard work for us, but it is also a great opportunity to reconnect with family and friends in a peaceful atmosphere and enjoy conversations while working but especially at lunch. I learned some new English words during these conversations which may have improved my English a little. In exchange, I was asked a lot of questions about various Japanese words frequently used. For example, what is the difference between "Sumimasen." and "Gomennasai" and when should each be used? Even if it was hard for me to answer at times, everyone was engaged and seemed to be having a good time. Our next big event is Obon in July. Please join us again!

In April, we have the Hanamatsuri Service. Hanamatsuri is the service to celebrate and appreciate the birth of the Buddha. Mantokuji will join Rinzai Mission on Saturday, April 5, to celebrate Hanamatsuri. Reverend Haga will be joined by two Rinzai ministers from Japan for the celebration. Please join us on Saturday, April 5 at Rinzai Mission to celebrate Hanamatsuri. Thank you.

Tomoki Hirasawa

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

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Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle



Graveyard service for deceased ministers
- Kaisan Rekijyu-ki, March 16.

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FUJINKAI NEWS

The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meetings and clean up as follow:

April 13, 2025 at 8:30am

May 18, 2025 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 9.

Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Kay Hanano, Reverend Hirasawa, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama and Neil Watanabe.

HAWAII SOTO MISSION ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING REPORT

HELD ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The Hawaii Soto Mission Association (HSMA) held its 2025 Spring meeting on Sunday, February 23 at the Soto Mission of Hawaii (Betsuin). Rev. Hirasawa, Eric Moto, Bobbie Arita, and Cathy Murayama were in attendance. Along with the regular items of business and committee reports, these were topics discussed and decided upon:

- Improved involvement of and communication with the Jizoku (minister's spouses)
- Discontinuing HSMA Soto Shu calendar as a cost-saving measure
- Review of Minister Training Program and recruitment to address anticipated vacancies (4-5)
- Financial support for the online Dharma Keiki Program
- Purchase of 60 10-book sets of the Daihannya Tendoku to be shared amongst temples
- Plans underway for a 7-day Japan tour in October 2026

Announcements included the UHSSWA 58th Conference at Aiea Taiheiji on April 26 & 27 and the Fall HSMA Meeting on Saturday, October 25 during the U.S. Soto Conference weekend.

46TH MANTOKUJI RUMMAGE SALE AND BAZAAR – SUCCESS!

RUMMAGE SALE – SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND AND BAZAAR – SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH

Having the annual Bazaar on two days proved to be very successful – the first day was just a RUMMAGE SALE with kitchenware, bedding, fabrics, collectibles, crafts, plants, clothing, shoes, toys, tools, furniture and the second day was the BAZAAR as we know it with Mantokuji's favorite foods, bread, scrumptious desserts and rummage.

The year-long collection of donated rummage and the month-long preparation by dedicated members and friends of Mantokuji culminated on March 2nd and 8th with a very successful 46th Mantokuji Rummage Sale and Bazaar. We were fortunate to have a beautiful day on March 2nd, although the early rain on March 8th may have discouraged some from venturing to Paia. It definitely took a community . . . generous donors, volunteers who hauled and cleaned items and set up the hall and tents and the cooks and bakers who prepared Mantokuji favorites 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 . . . MAHALO! It was a lot of hard work but "many hands made for light work" and a lot of fun! We are genuinely grateful.



46TH MANTOKUJI RUMMAGE SALE AND BAZAAR – CONT'D

Janice Abe, Bobbie Arita, Lori Carillo, Rodney Carillo, James Char, Kathleen Davis, Erick Domingo, Seth Domingo, Karlynn Fukuda, Mary Graner, Cassidy Hanano, Jon Hanano, Kay Hanano, Peter Hanano, Julie Higa, Sue Hiraga, Reverend Hirasawa, Craig Hirayasu, June Kato, Joyce Kawahara, Becky Kikumoto, Donald Kimizuka, Jayne Kimizuka, Kevin Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Patricia Konecny, Tomoe MacMillan, Arlene Matoi, Grant Matoi, Judith Matoi, Priscilla Matoi, Ross Matoi, Sandy Matsuda, Wayne Matsuda, Setsuko Minatoya, Ralph Miyamoto, Brian Moto, Eric Moto, Allan Murayama, Cathy Murayama, Alma Nakano, Diane Orikasa, Susan Oshiro, Yukie Pye, Nicole Saito, Doreen Sarceda, Janet Sato, Lois Sato, Isabelle Scholl, Stacey Sueoka, Kelcie Takayama, Nora Takeuchi, Joy Ueoka, Sharon Ueoka, Colin Watanabe, Neil Watanabe, Laura Yamada.



We apologize if we inadvertently missed anyone!

IN-KIND DONATIONS FOR THE 46TH ANNUAL 2-DAY BAZAAR

The 46th Mantokuji Rummage Sale/Bazaar was another great success because of the donations we received from so many people. The customers always look forward to finding treasures when they come to the bazaar. Thank you very much!

Advertising	Janet Sato & Nicole Saito
Baked Goods	Bobbie Arita, Kathy Fujii, Sherry Allison & Dave Langille, Kay Hanano, Donna Hayashida, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Cathy Murayama, Lois Sato
Crafts	Sue Hiraga, Judith Matoi, Cathy Murayama, Brian Watanabe
Eggplant Tsukemono	Nora Takeuchi
Flowers	Janet Fukuda
Food Ingredients	Jon Hanano, Colin Watanabe
Furniture	Travis Ueoka
Guppies	Sue Hiraga
Plants	Janet Fukuda, Kay Hanano, Sue Hiraga, Joyce Kawahara, Wayne Matsuda, Les & Linda Takahashi, Gertrude Ueoka, Betty Yamashiro
Produce	Henry Koja, Jamie Shishido
Refreshments	Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Julie Higa, Sue Hiraga, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Wayne & Sandy Matsuda, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Alma Nakano, Diane Orikasa, Lois Sato, Nora Takeuchi, Laura Yamada
Rummage	Janice Abe, Tokuko Abe, Bobbie Arita, Gavin Campbell, Lynn Curtis, Jon Hanano, Kay Hanano, Peter Hanano, Risa Hiester, Julie Higa, Todd & Heidi Hiraoka, Craig Kakiuchi, Tom & Krys Lam, Trudy Lee, Tomoe MacMillan, Grant & Priscilla Matoi, Eric Miyajima, Paul & Jessie Mizoguchi, Eunice Muraoka, Norman Nagata, Ken & Alma Nakano, Megan Nakashima, Gloria Nashiwa, Joanne Orikasa, Yukie Pye, Elsie Sakugawa, Bobby & Sharon Shimabukuro, Lisa Sodetani, Lloyd & Sharon Sodetani, Lauren Sodetani-Yoshida, Bill Springstead, Sally Suda, James Suehisa, Warren Taguchi, Brian & Joyce Takahashi, Ann Takakura, Kelcie Takayama, Steve & Ileene Tanabe, Teruko Terry, Dale & Joyce Tsubaki, Gwen Ueoka, Travis Ueoka, Lynette Viela.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOINT HANAMATSURI SERVICE AT PAIA RINZAI ZEN MISSION

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025 AT 10:00AM



Together, Paia Rinzai Zen Mission and Paia Mantokuji will be celebrating Buddha's Birthday (Hanamatsuri) at Paia Rinzai Zen Mission on Saturday, April 5th at 10:00am. You are cordially invited to join us for this service.

To celebrate the birth of Siddharta Gautama, the Shakyamuni Buddha, born on April 8th nearly 2600 years ago, we will offer flowers and incense and pour amacha (sweet tea) on the baby Buddha statue enshrined in a floral-decked Hanamido.

Please call Paia Rinzai Zen Mission at 808.268.4216 to let them know your name and the number of people in your group if you will be attending the celebration.

10TH U.S. SOTO CONFERENCE IN HAWAII – OCTOBER 23 – 26, 2025

SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII BETSUIN

Registration is now open: <https://web.cvent.com/event/ae433737-a88e-4144-9f34-a1dd44b26fb8/summary>.



The conference unites Soto Zen Buddhist communities from Hawaii, the mainland USA, and Canada to deepen our practice and understanding.

With nearly 30 sessions to choose from, attendees can register for up to eight, covering a range of topics such as lectures, activities, and meditation. Whether you're traveling from across the country or joining us from Honolulu or a neighbor island, the committee is committed to making your experience fulfilling and memorable. There's something for everyone!

Early Bird Registration ends on April 30, 2025 . . . register early to take advantage of the discounted registration fee.

IN MEMORIAM

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of:

Naomi Nemoto, 77 years, passed on February 18, 2025.

We pray for her and give our love and support to her family in this time of great loss.

Namu Kie Butsu, Namu Kie Ho, Namu Kie So



Rummage Sale and Bazaar, March 2nd and 8th.



DONATIONS MADE IN DECEMBER

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

General Donations

Ralph Arakaki, Ronald & Kay Fukumoto & Amy Watanabe, Isaac & Reiko Haupt, Joanna N Ito, Arnold Imaye, Wayne & Evelyn Kajiwara, Thelma Kasai, Dawn Komine, Joyce Masuda, Deborah Takahashi, Nora Takeuchi, Phyllis Tempo & Martin Rosenblum, Henry & Betty Yamashiro.

Lydia Furomoto	In Memory of Tetsuo Tada – 23rd Memorial Anniversary Service
Julie M Higa	Bazaar Donation
Donald & Faith Ito	2025 New Year
Donald & Faith Ito	In Memory of Gary Matoi
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara	In Memory of Clara Sodetani on her birthday – February 7th
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara	In Memory of Robert Takahashi
Francine Paxson	In Memory of Masaaki and Misao Nakagawa
Lois Y Sato	In Memory of Marion Watanabe
Faith & Garth Sodetani	In Memory of Grandma Clara Ueoka Sodetani on her birthday – February 7th
Amy M Umetsu & Glenn Umetsu	Gobutsuzen

Donations made for the Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Services on February 2, 2025

Howard & Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Becky Kikumoto, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Allan & Cathy Murayama, Mark & Lois Sato, Joy Ueoka.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha everyone,

I am happy to report that March's big fundraising events were a success. Mantokuji is grateful for all our members and community friends who lined up in those cold, wet early morning hours for the opportunity to purchase bag and box loads of our rummage, craft, collectible, and food items. It is always nice to greet so many loyal, returning shoppers. We thank you all for your generosity and support. This year we tried a new schedule with one weekend of non-food rummage sales only and a second weekend sale of remaining rummage along with most all of our classic food favorites. The altered schedule helped ease the burden on our hardworking volunteers, and next year you might see the food sale later at the end of the summer to allow us even more time to handle the workload.

This April, Mantokuji is pleased to once again celebrate Hanamatsuri at our neighboring host's temple, Rinzai Zen Mission. Hanamatsuri is one of Buddhism's important events of the year, and the service is made extra special by partnering with the Rinzai Zen sangha. Our Mantokuji sangha is invited to join together on Saturday, April 5 at 10:00 am at 120 Alawai Road, next to Baldwin Beach Park. We will be welcoming back our okusan, Yuki Hirasawa and baby Ruri, accompanied by Yuki's mother on the 20th. Then, on the last weekend of the month, Reverend and Yuki Hirasawa will travel with a group of Fujinkai members to Honolulu for the annual UHSSWA Conference hosted by Aiea Taiheiji.

Thank you again for all of your help and support! Take care.

Mahalo,

Eric Moto,
President, Mantokuji Kyodan

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April 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 10:00am Hanamatsuri @ Rinzai
6 7:30am-8:30am Zazen	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 7:30am-8:30am Zazen 8:30am Clean-up, Fujinkai & Kyodan Meetings	14	15	16	17	18	19 9:30-11:00am Ikebana
20 7:30am-8:30am Zazen	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

*Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations are
scheduled during the month.*

Coming up in May (Tentative Schedule)

Sunday 18: Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up,
O-Bon Newsletter Making & Committee Meeting

Sunday 25: Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service

Nokostudo Hours

open daily, 9:00am – 4:00pm

The nokostudo will be closed April 23 to 27.