



December 2022

Dates to Remember

December 4
Jodo-e Service & Shakyo Session

December 18
End of Year Clean-up Day

December 31
Joya No Kane

Our Mission: Paia Mantokuji is a Soto Zen Buddhist temple founded in 1906 by 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

Reverend's Message

Aloha.

Time flies, and it is now December again. It is the time of year when our hearts are aflutter with excitement as the new year approaches. Coupled with this anticipation, is an important date in December for Buddhist. December 8 is the day Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. Celebrating Buddha's awakening, Rohatsu (Buddha's enlightenment) Sesshin is intensive zazen for 8 days beginning on December 1, a practice of Zen Buddhist and monks all over the world. The goal of sesshin is to realize one's own Buddha nature. Rohatsu Sesshin will be held from 7 to 8 am everyday from December 1 – 8 at Mantokuji Zendo. Please join us to calm your mind at the end of this very busy year. Of course, you can also do zazen at home. Then you'll be ready to prepare for the new year.



By the way, what do you do to prepare for the new year? My annual tradition was cleaning up my family's temple. In the freezing cold, it was hard work polishing so many windows and dusting many Buddha statues, but as I worked, I felt my mind was cleared and peaceful. After cleaning and decorating with New Year's decorations



such as Kagamimochi (left) and Kadomatsu (right), I felt that everything was ready to welcome the new year with a clear mind and a bright heart.

What was 2022 like for you? It may have been a year of happy, fun, sadness, pain, busyness, and many other things for different people, but I am sure that all the events must have helped you to grow. May 2023 be a wonderful year for all of you.

In gassho,

Tomoki Hirasawa



Brian Moto, Rev. Tomoki Hirasawa, Eric Moto
(Oct 20th 2022 – see article page 2)

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Fujinkai News

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

December 11, 2022 at 8:30am

January 15, 2023 at 8:30am

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentlemen who came on Sunday, October 16, 2022 to help clean the nokotsudo, help with the rummage and help with the maintenance on the temple grounds. We are always grateful.

Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Kay Hanano, Rev. Hirasawa, Yuki Hirasawa, Chester Kakiuchi, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Lois Sato, and Nora Takeuchi .

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentlemen who came on Sunday, November 13 to help clean the nokotsudo, finish packing up the rummage, and help with the yard maintenance:

Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Rev. Hirasawa, Yuki Hirasawa, Chester Kakiuchi, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Lois Sato, and Nora Takeuchi.

Kyodan Meeting Report

Held Sunday, November 13, 2022

Below are some of the topics that were discussed at the meeting.

- Shoreline Erosion project is completed.
- Shoreline landscaping is proposed.
- Darumaki Service was held on October 9, 2022.
- Shichi-Go-San Ceremony was held on Sunday, November 6, 2022. Two children were blessed.
- Nishime & Mazegohan Sale on Saturday, November 19, 2022. Pick up at Mantokuji only.
- National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) follow up visit by regional supervisor JB on December 2 at 10:00am.
- Rev. Hirasawa will be having Rohatsu Sesshin December 1-8, 7:00am – 8:00am
- Jodo-e Service will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2022 @ 10:30am followed by a Shakyo session at 1:00pm.
- Joya no Kane will begin at 11:30 pm on December 31, 2022 followed by a New Year's Blessing service.
- End of the Year cleanup will be on Sunday, December 18 at 8:30am.

Next Kyodan meeting will be on **Sunday, January 15, 2023.**

Please join us for future meetings and be involved in these important discussions.

Historic Hawaii Foundation 2022 Preservation Honor Award



Thank you to architect Jim Niess for nominating Paia Mantokuji's Bell Tower Restoration Project for the 2022 Preservation Honor Award. Restoring the Bell Tower was a process that spanned about three years. Through the leadership of Lorraine Minatoishi of AEPAC, the construction work of ProBilt-Construction Co, Inc. – Aldon Mochida, and the structural engineering expertise of Engineering Design Group, and J. Uno and Associates our beautifully restored Bell Tower now stands majestically on the north shore of Maui.

On October 20th, Rev. Hirasawa, Kyodan President Eric Moto, and Kyodan Treasurer Brian Moto attended the awards banquet to receive the award at a lovely reception hosted by the Historic Hawaii Foundation at the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Ho'okupu Center in Kaka'ako, Oahu.

MAHALO Foodland's Give Aloha Program

Our sincere MAHALO to those who made a donation to the Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program, September 1 – September 30. Mantokuji members and friends donated \$3,532,46 at a Foodland or Sack-n-Save. The matching gift we received from Foodland and Western Union totaled \$916.44. We received checks totaling \$4,448.90. WOW! Thank you for your KOKUA and participation. A big MAHALO to Foodland and Western Union for their matching gift .

Rummage & Plant Sale

held on November 5, 2022

Mantokuji held another successful rummage and plant sale! Thank you to all who came to support the temple with their purchases. And thank you to the many, many donations we received. Shoppers perused the hall of dishes of all sorts and crafts, the garage filled with clothing and footwear, the tents with Christmas items and toys, the tents out front with collectibles and plants and vases, and the tent fronting the temple filled with tools and plastic and cement pots. WOW! There was so much to choose from.



Shoppers were delighted to find delicious foods sold at this sale... pipinola sanbaizuke, pickled pipinola, pumpkin bars, lemon bars, sponge drops, pizzelles, mazegohan, sekihan, chocolate chip cookies, wedding tea cookies, energy bars, and okoshi. YUMMY!



Thank you to all the volunteers who worked for months sorting, cleaning, pricing, and organizing as the donations came in. And thank you to those who came to help with the Sale. Your help was invaluable! MAHALO! Our apologies if we inadvertently missed anyone.

Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Erick Domingo, Jaelyn Fukuda, Karlynn Fukuda, Kyren Fukuda, Mary Graner, Jon Hanano, Kay Hanano, Peter Hanano, Sue Hiraga, Marcus Karlstad, 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, Brian Moto, Eric Moto, Allan Murayama, Cathy Murayama, Melina Murayama, Jennifer Nishiki, Marilyn Nishiki, Shari Okada, Diane Orikasa, Amy Pung, Priscilla Rafferty, Lois Sato, Douglas Straight, Kelcie Takayama, Nora Takeuchi, Joy Ueoka, Neil Watanabe, Hans Whittenburg and Laura Yamada.



Shichi-Go-San Ceremony

held on Sunday, November 6, 2022

Rev. Tomoki Hirasawa officiated the Shichi-Go-San Ceremony for two children on Sunday, November 6th. Sage Domingo who turns 5 years old on December 1 and shares the same birthday as his cousin, Isaac Arcinas, invited Isaac to be blessed with him. Isaac will turn 7 years old on December 1. The children were individually blessed and each family wrote on an ema (wooden plaque), with their wishes for a long, healthy life. Sage and Isaac were gifted with a bag of sweets (chitose-ame) as is the traditional custom.

Here's wishing each of the children a healthy long life!



Isaac Arcinas, Rev. Tomoki Hirasawa, Sage Domingo.

President's Message

Aloha everyone,

I know it's so cliché at this time of the year, but really, how time flies. This year has been packed with milestone events beginning with the rededication ceremony for our renovated bell tower in January, the arrival of our new resident minister Reverend Tomoki Hirasawa and his wife Yuki in April, and then the start and completion of our desperately needed shoreline erosion control structure in September and October. Coming out of the covid lockdowns and setbacks we hit the ground running in 2022. There is still much work ahead for Mantokuji as we work on addressing the State and County permit requirements to formulate a plan for the future of our historic property. While some major milestones are behind us, we always depend upon your continued help and support for what's ahead.

This month we start with a week of Rohatsu Sesshin (morning zazen meditation sessions) from Thursday, December 1 to Thursday, December 8. On Sunday, December 4 Rev. Hirasawa will conduct the Jodo-e Service at 10:30 am followed by a Shakyo Session. We end with our Joya no Kane service on Saturday, December 31 at 11:30 pm. Please join us. Take care.

With aloha,

Eric Moto

President, Mantokuji Kyodan

Looking for a gift... Mantokuji has a variety to offer!

Cookbooks:

Oiishi Mono (beige cover) - Mantokuji's first published cookbook - \$10

Kizuna (blue cover) – Mantokuji's Centennial cookbook - \$10

United Hawaii Soto-Shu Women's Association Cookbook – Sharing Our Favorites with You! - \$12

Shipping cost will be added to cost.

Bell Tower watercolor painting:

notecards – set of 3/\$5

matted print - \$15

framed print - \$25

Shipping cost will be added to cost.



Please call or text Cathy Murayama at 808.283.6125 or email info@paimantokuji.org to order any of the above and schedule pickup/delivery.

Jodo-e (Bodhi-Day) Service

Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 10:30am

Jodo-e or Bodhi Day is the occasion of the birth of Buddhism. The special day marks the moment of the enlightenment of Shakyamuni Buddha and beginning of the spreading of his compassionate teachings. Let us celebrate Bodhi Day together with friends and family.

Please join us to celebrate this special day!

Shakyo Session

Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 1:00pm

Shakyo means "tracing sutras." The Buddhist practice of Shakyo is a means of spreading the Buddha Way among people. Mindfully tracing the Heart Sutra and pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas in silence unifies body, breath, and mind. During the Shakyo session, participants quietly sit at a table and trace the Heart Sutra, "Hannya Shingyo." We have English and Japanese versions. We will also have pictures of the Buddha and bodhisattva art works to trace.

Please join us for this opportunity to practice Shakyo.

Rohatsu Sesshin (8 days of morning zazen meditation)

December 1 – 8 (Thursday to Thursday) at 7:00am – 8:00am

Please join Rev. Hirasawa for Rohatsu Sesshin, 8 days of zazen meditation, designed to enable one to get in touch with one's own Buddha nature. Although it's preferred to attend all sessions, you are welcome to join for the days you are able to attend.

End of the Year Clean Up Day – Sunday, December 18, 2022

An annual yearly tradition at Mantokuji is to thoroughly clean the temple, buildings and grounds in preparation for the New Year. It is believed that good luck visits each household on New Year's Day, so we thoroughly clean our homes in preparation for the New Year.

We would like to ask for your kokua to assist us with cleaning our temple, buildings and grounds before the New Year so we don't carry over impurities of the past year to the New Year. On this day, we like to do cleaning that we normally don't get to do on our regular monthly cleaning days.

Our annual end of the year cleanup day is scheduled for **Sunday, December 18 2022 from 8:30am**. Please come with your gloves, face masks if you choose, and any other tools you need for cleaning. **We would appreciate your kokua.**

Joya no Kane

Saturday, December 31, 2022 @ 11:30pm

According to ancient custom, the bell is typically rung 108 times on December 31 and into the New Year. Bridging one year to the next, the bell is rung a total of 108 times. This number represents the **108 worldly desires** (These desires refer to the anxiety and hardships caused by material wants.) that a person experiences throughout the course of their life. When the bell is finally struck for the 108th time, it is believed that you'll be cleansed of your problems and worries from last year.

Come and join us for Joya no Kane, the ringing of our big bronze bell 108 times. A New Year's Blessing Service will be held following Joya no Kane.

There will also be a New Year's Blessing Service on Sunday January 8, 2023 at 10:30am.

Looking forward to seeing you at Joya no Kane or the New Year's Blessing Service!

Donations made in October

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

General Donations

HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union (Employee matching gift donation on behalf of employee Lauren Sodetani-Yoshida), Kay H. Hanano, Rogers & Karen Ishizu, Lawrence & Gloria Nashiwa.

Lon & Terrie Mizoguchi	In Memory of Naomi Suehisa
Moto Family	Memorial Service for Violet Moto (3 rd Year Memorial) and Buster Moto (23 rd Year Memorial)
Orikasa Family	Workplace Blessing
Susan T. Oshiro	Shoreline Erosion Construction Project
Garth & Faith Sodetani	In Memory of Douglas Sodetani on his birthday – October 19 th
Lauren Sodetani-Yoshida	In Memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani
Les & Linda Takahashi	Shoreline Erosion Project
Amy Misa Umetsu	In Memory of Ishi Umetsu – 23 rd Year Memorial
Louis & Jean Wada	In Memory of Misao Nakagawa
Yonezawa Grandchildren	In Memory & Support of Tanji & Wase & Kinzo Takahashi niche

Donation made for Darumaki Service held on October 9, 2022

Yuriko Fukagawa, Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Rebecca Kikumoto, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Deacon & Tomoe MacMillan & Family, Gary & Judith Matoj, Eric Moto, Allan & Cathy Murayama, Melina Murayama & Erick Domingo, Diane Orikasa, Amy Pung, Mark & Lois Sato, and Nora Takeuchi.

Recipe of the Month



This Lilikoi Chiffon Squares recipe is shared by Lois Sato. The original recipe was a guava chiffon and her late mother helped her to adapt the recipe using lilikoi juice instead of guava. It has several steps but you'll find that it was worth the trouble! A good local dessert to share for the holidays.

Lilikoi Chiffon Squares

By Lois Sato

Crust

2 cups flour
2 blocks butter
2 tbsp sugar
Preheat oven to 350° F.
Mix flour and sugar.
Cut in butter until crumbly.
Press into a 9" x 12" pan.
Bake for 30 minutes or until light brown

Filling

1 cup whipping cream, whipped
½ cup sugar
8 oz. cream cheese
½ tsp. vanilla
Cream cream cheese and sugar until soft.
Add vanilla and mix.
Fold in whipped whipping cream.
Spread over cooled crust and chill.

Topping

1 pkg. unflavored gelatin
¼ cup water
Soften gelatin in water. Set aside.
4 egg yolks (separated from whites, refrigerate whites)
½ cup sugar (add 1 T. more if lilikoi pulp is very tart)
¼ tsp. salt
½ cup lilikoi pulp
Beat egg yolks slightly. Add rest of ingredients.
Cook until thickened in a double boiler. Stir frequently.
Add softened gelatin.
Remove from heat. Refrigerate to partially set.
4 egg whites
½ cup sugar
Beat whites until stiff. Add sugar and beat.
Beat partially set juice mixture and fold into beaten egg whites.
Pour onto filling.
Chill. Top with Cool Whip and serve.

Bell Tower Blessing

New Minister & Wife's Arrival

Erosion Mitigation Construction



Obon Drive Through

Tent Sale



2022 AT A GLANCE!

Hanamatsuri



Darumaki Service Online Auction



Shichigosan Rummage Sale

UHSSWA Conference

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December 2022

	Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December					1 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	2 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	3 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin
	4 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin 10:30am Jodo-e Service 1:00pm Shakyo Session	5 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	6 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	7 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	8 7:00am-8:00am Rohatsu Sesshin	9	10
	11 8:30am Cleanup, Fujinkai Meeting	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18 8:30am End of Year Clean-up Day	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31 11:30pm Joya no Kane

Coming up in January (Tentative Schedule)

Sunday 8	New Year's Blessing Service & O-fuda Yaki Service
Sunday 15	Clean up, Fujinkai Meeting, Kyodan Meeting

Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations
are scheduled during the month.