

# Mantokuji Newsletter



MAN GAN  
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**June 2026**

## Dates to Remember

**June 28**

Yagura Construction

**Mantokuji O-Bon**

**July 10** (service) & **July 11** (Festival)

**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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha, everyone.

The summer season officially starts on June 21, but things are already heating up here at Mantokuji. With the start of summer comes Maui's busy O-Bon season as well. There is no service on this month's calendar, but there is a weekly work schedule for all of the preparation work days leading up to our July 11 O-Bon Festival event. And as always, we call out to all those with the time and energy and generosity of spirit to come and help in whatever way you can. Please give a call or check the work calendar and we'll make sure you are kept busy and productive.

We hope that the gentler waves of summer on our Northshore bay provide us the opportunity to address our fuel tank / lines and sandbag structure maintenance. You may be noticing heavy equipment on-site if work can be approved and arranged.

No word yet on the status of Mantokuji's / Betsuin's US Customs immigration application for our new resident minister (and spouse), but we will continue to keep you informed as we wait for further news. In the meantime, thank you for your patience as our Kyodan Board and the Bishop's office work to assure that all services and activities and events go on as scheduled, and maybe we'll see you here with your comfortable work shoes and apron to join in the fellowship. Take care.

Mahalo,

Eric Moto  
President, Mantokuji Kyodan



## Enclosed in this Issue

TOBA REQUEST FORMS  
MAUI BUDDHIST TEMPLES  
O-BON SCHEDULE

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## FUJINKAI NEWS

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

**June 7, 2026 at 8:30am**

**July 12, 2026 at 8:30am** (clean up only)

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentleman who came to help prepare items to sell at the UHSSWA Conference's Country Store on April 18-19, 2026 held at Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission.

**Kay Hanano, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa and Lois Sato.**

## 59<sup>TH</sup> UHSSWA CONFERENCE

APRIL 18-19, 2026, HOSTED BY KONA DAIFUKUJI SOTO MISSION

Buddha's Golden Chain of Love: Creating a Peaceful World, was the theme of the 59<sup>th</sup> UHSSWA Conference, held at Kona Daifukuji where more than a 100 ministers, UHSSWA members and friends gathered to spend a weekend of new and renewed friendships, sharing and remembering the influence the words of the Golden Chain had on many of us as we grew to understand the Buddha's way.



The weekend began at the temple with a delicious continental breakfast with lots of sweet fresh fruit prepared by the Daifukuji Fujinkai followed by the Opening Service and Memorial service where Nancy Fukagawa was one of eleven members remembered. A song and hula, "Dewdrops on a Red Lehua Blossom" by members of Daifukuji and Taishoji Soto Mission danced to honor them touched the heart. Thank you Reverend Jiko for composing the song.

After the traditional group picture on the steps of Daifukuji to archive our annual gathering, the group returned to the temple for the General Membership Meeting where a lot was accomplished in a record one hour meeting. The name change to UHSSWA is now official, the Panda Fundraisers will be held once a quarter, an in-person medicare presentation on Oahu and zoom presentation for outer island members will be coordinated and the slate of new officers was approved and elected. Since the meeting, a zoom presentation for the outer island units is set for August 16.

The popular country store was set up and opened after lunch. Baked goods, produce, crafts and Taishoji's popular Kakuma were for sale. Mantokuji's shibori ti-shirts and dishtowels and zen rocks were hot items that sold out fast. We thank Brian Watanabe for sharing his artistic talent with us.

The highlight of the Saturday night banquet, after the introduction of the ministers and their families, the UHSSWA officers and the performance by the dynamic Kona Daifukuji Taiko, is always the candle light ceremony with the reading of "Tomoshibi" where we stand shoulder to shoulder and as each candle is lit we renew our pledge to keep our association a steppingstone to the Buddha's way and to keep our link in the golden chain bright and strong to attain perfect peace.

After the Sunday closing service, special recognition of the Jizoku, Installation of Officers, and Chair Exercises by Reiko Sekina, the Dharma session began. Highlighted was guest speaker, Trinidad Hunt, the granddaughter of Dorothy Hunt, author of The Golden Chain. Ms. Hunt described her grandmother as a Renaissance woman who was a great influence on her and many others, especially with "The Golden Chain." The history of the Hunts is an inspiring journey.



Thank you Kona Daifukuji for an inspiring conference that was well planned and executed. The theme was an important reminder to continue to strive for world peace. The homemade bags were very much appreciated. The hula at the memorial service was a first and heart-felt. The take-home decorations, candle with bodhi leaf, will be a reminder of a successful conference.

We look forward to the 60<sup>th</sup> conference next year at Waipahu



## TOBA AND MEMORIAL RIBBON REQUESTS

Buddhists remember their departed loved ones and family ancestors during the O-Bon season throughout the summer. Prayers and toba (memorial tablets) are also offered in their memory during the O-Bon Service which will be held on Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. At the O-Bon Service, Reverend Ryohei Ishii of Waipahu Soto Mission Taiyoji will chant the toba memorial dedications and the merit dedications to the deceased.

If you would like to offer toba to family members who have passed away, and especially for those who are having their first O-Bon or Hatsubon, **please send in the Toba Request Form enclosed by June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Reverend Ishii will be writing the toba so please be sure to meet the deadline to give him enough time to write your toba.

This year, we are again adding the option to honor your departed loves with a Memorial Ribbon. Like the chochins hung outside during O-Bon with memorial ribbons hanging from them, we will hang chochins in the temple to give others an opportunity to pay tribute and honor their departed loved ones with a Memorial Ribbon hanging from a chochin. On Sunday, after the O-Bon Festival, we will dismantle the chochins in the temple and remove the Memorial Ribbons. These Memorial Ribbons will be burned in a ceremonial fire. **Please fill in your Memorial Ribbon request on the form and send in by June 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

At the present time, we do not have a resident minister, therefore, we are not able to offer O-Bon House Visitations (Tanago) this year. Thank you for your understanding.

## HATSUBON (FIRST O-BON)

Hatsu Bon means "the first O-Bon" for those who had passed away within the last year from May 24, 2025 to May 22, 2026. We will be honoring the following who are having their Hatsubon during the O-Bon service on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

*Jonathan Fumio Alike Shibata - June 26, 2025*

*June Uyeno - July 20, 2025*

*Tetsuo Charles Tomita - September 27, 2025*

*Thomas Tanaka - January 9, 2026*

*Yukie Ueoka - February 10, 2026*

*Tokuko Abe - April 3, 2026*

## MANTOKUJI'S O-BON SERVICE ON FRIDAY, JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>

Mantokuji will have their O-Bon Service on Friday, July 10, 2026 at 6:00pm. There will be no dancing or food concession after the O-Bon Service. There will be no O-Bon Service on Saturday.

## MANTOKUJI'S O-BON FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>

Mantokuji is happy to announce their O-Bon Festival on Saturday, July 11, 2026. Here is the schedule of events for our O-Bon Festival:

3:00pm	Graveyard Service
5:30pm	Food Concession opens
6:00pm	Zenshin Daiko performance
6:30pm	Maui Taiko performance
7:00pm	Reverend Ryohei Ishii will perform a short blessing service at the yagura
7:15pm	Bon Dance

Additional parking will be available at the Paia Community Center and the Paia Hawaiian Protestant Church, both across the street from the temple. Parking is limited, so we encourage car-pooling whenever possible. Added lighting and police officer supervision will be there for your safety.

We hope you will be able join us for this festive occasion when we welcome back our ancestors as they temporarily return to visit their families during the O-Bon season.

## BON DANCE PRACTICE AT MANTOKUJI

Sensei Shannon Loo and Maui Minyo Kai members will be coming to Paia Mantokuji to conduct two Bon Dance practices on **Sunday, June 7 at 1:30pm** and **Sunday, June 14 at 1:30pm**.



## 2026 MAUI BUDDHIST TEMPLES' O-BON SCHEDULE

Date	Temple	Service / Dance
Jun 6 (Sat)	Puunene Nichiren	6:00pm / 7:00pm
Jun 19 (Sat)	Wailuku Jodo	6:00pm / 7:00pm
Jun 20 (Fri)	Wailuku Shingon	6:00pm / 7:30pm
Jun 27 (Sat)	Kahului Jodo	6:30pm / 7:30pm
Jul 10 (Fri)	Paia Mantokuji	6:00pm / No Dance
Jul 11 (Sat)		No Service / 7:00pm
Jul 17 - 18 (Fri/Sat)	Kahului Hongwanji	6:00pm / 7:30pm
Jul 24 - 25 (Fri/Sat)	Makawao Hongwanji	5:00pm / 7:00pm
Jul 31 - Aug 1 (Fri/Sat)	Wailuku Hongwanji	6:30pm / 7:45pm
Aug 7 (Fri)	Hale Makua Kahului	6:30pm (Dance)
Aug 14 (Fri)	Lahaina O-Bon Festival	5:00pm-9:00pm (Festival)
Aug 15 (Sat)	Kula Shofukuji	6:00pm / 7:00pm
Aug 22 (Sat)	Paia Rinzai Zen Mission	6:00pm / 7:00pm
Sep 12 (Sat)	Hana Buddhist Temple	5:00pm (Festival)

## REMINDER: 2026 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES & NOKOTSUDO/CEMETERY FEES

Thank you to those who have already sent in your dues and fees. A reminder to those who have not done so yet, please send them in at your earliest convenience.

<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>\$50 per household</b>
<b>Nokotsudo Fees</b>	<b>\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per niche</b>
<b>Cemetery Fees</b>	<b>\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per plot</b>

The 2026 Membership Form was sent with the January mangan or can be accessed on our website at [www.paiamantouji.org](http://www.paiamantouji.org)

## SPECIAL THANKS

To **Neil Watanabe** for fixing the toilet in the minister's residence and for changing the light fixture and repairing the water damaged ceiling in the master bathroom.

To **Carrol Takahashi** (Oceanit Research Foundation) and **Ken Cheung**, our lead Oceanit consultant, for all the work they have been doing behind the scenes on Mantokuji's behalf to gain approval for alternate solutions to the Mantokuji Bay erosion problems and for trying to procure sources of funding.

# SPECIAL O-BON / HELP NEEDED

## IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PREPARING MANTOKUJI'S O-BON!



Mantokuji's annual O-Bon Festival will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup>. It takes a whole community to put on this annual festival. Please come whenever you are able to help and for as long as you are able to! We really appreciate any kind of help that you can give us.

In preparation of O-Bon, on **Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**, we **will be constructing the yagura** and we will also be cleaning the temple and nokotsudo. Your kokua will also be needed to tidy the temple grounds and give the kitchen a thorough cleaning

On the day of the O-Bon Festival, we are also in need of parking attendants at Paia Community Center, the Hawaiian Protestant Church and Mantokuji grounds.

The work schedule is shown on the right. Please come out and give us your helping hands!

<b>Sunday, June 28</b>	
8:00am	<b>Yagura construction and move Choba</b> General Clean-up Day
<b>Thursday, July 9</b>	
8:00am	Prep food, set up hall
<b>Friday, July 10</b>	
8:00am	Prep food, set up hall Set up chochins in temple and nokotsudo
10:00am	Set up tents, tables and Choba
6:00pm	O-Bon Service
<b>Saturday, July 11</b>	
8:00am	Prep food Set up concession area
5:00pm	Parking attendants
5:30pm	Food concession opens
9:00pm	Clean up
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>	
8:00am	Dismantle yagura and chochins Clean up

## DONATIONS MADE IN APRIL

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

### General Donations

Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Wayne Kobayashi, Nancy & Jamie Shishido.

Hideo & Joyce Kawahara	In Memory of Yukie Ueoka
Paul & Mae Matsui	In Memory of Gary Sato – 13th Year Memorial Anniversary
Daniel Okada	In Memory of Tanaka/Nikaido Family
Mark & Lois Sato	In Memory of Florence Kamimoto
Lloyd Sodetani	Brennan Tanaka's Eagle Scout Project at Mantokuji

### Donations received for the Hanamatsuri Service on April 5, 2026

Reverend Seiya Chisaka, Elaine Fujita, Traci Fujita, Kay Hanano, Risa & Anna Hiester, Julie M Higa, Wayne & Evelyn Kajiware, Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Rebecca Kikumoto, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Blair & Patti Kitkowski, Deacon & Tomoe MacMillan & Family, Judith Matoi, Janet C Miyahira, Eric Moto, Allan & Cathy Murayama, Melina Murayama & Erick Domingo, Alan & Fran Nago, Peter Niess & Naomi Yamaguchi, Diane Orikasa, Mark & Lois Sato, Ann K Takakura, Andy Taira, Nora H Takeuchi, Sherry Tamayose, Betty Tsugawa, Joy Ueoka, Sharon Ueoka.

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**June 2026**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8:30am Clean-up 10:30am Fujinkai & Kyodan meetings 1:30pm Bon Dance Practice	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 1:30pm Bon Dance Practice	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:30-11:30 Ikebana
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 8:00am Yagura Construction 10:30am O-Bon committee meeting	29	30				

**Coming up in July (Tentative Schedule)**

- Sunday 5: O-Bon setup, committee meeting
- Friday 10: O-Bon Service
- Saturday 11: O-Bon Festival
- Sunday 12: Yagura dismantling, Clean up
- Sunday 19: O-Bon committee meeting & Evaluation

**Nokustudo Hours:**

*The nokotsudo will continue to be open on Saturdays and Sundays until further notice, 9:00am – 3:00pm.*

*If you need the nokotsudo opened outside of these hours, please call 808.283.6125.*