



May 2018

## Dates to Remember

**Memorial Day and  
Eitaikuyo Service**  
May 27, 10:30am

**Yagura Construction**  
June 24

**Mantokuji O-Bon**  
July 13 and 14

## President's Message

The calendar of events for this month may appear lite, but there are always a lot of important activities going on behind the scenes at Mantokuji. While members of the "baby boomers"/sansei generation have stepped up to take on those tasks, it is the nisei women, currently in their 80's and 90's, that are the most inspiring. These women, also affectionately known as the Fujinkai ladies, continue to play important roles and take on vital responsibilities. Their shrinking numbers make them all the more precious to us. We are forever grateful for their wealth of knowledge and skills, and their years of dedicated service to Mantokuji.

One noteworthy member of the Fujinkai ladies is Gladys Nagata, who celebrates her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 29. She may not make it to temple services and events like she used to, but we still benefit from the many lessons learned from her, especially in the kitchen, and we still enjoy the delicious vegetables she shares with us from her garden. It is because of people like Gladys that the rest of us try our best to carry on Mantokuji's traditions and Soto Shu teachings. We wish Gladys Nagata all the best on this milestone occasion. Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Gladys!!!!

If any of you have the time and energy to come do some volunteer work alongside the Fujinkai ladies please come by and join us. The good work will energize your soul and the fellowship will lift your spirits. See you at our next event. Take care.



### Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission

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### Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle

With Aloha,

Eric Moto  
President Mantokuji Kyodan

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

**May 6 2018 at 8:00am**

**June 10 2018 at 8:00am**

Thank you to those who came to help with the preparation for Hanamatsuri on Saturday, May 31 and who helped with the preparation of lunch on Sunday, April 1:

**Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Yuriko Fukagawa, Kay Hanano, Julie Higa, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Cathy Murayama, Judith Matoi, Carol Moto, Eric Moto, Isabelle Scholl, Ann Takakura, Michie Tamane, Sachie Toyota, and Misa Umetsu.**

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentleman who came on Sunday, April 8 to clean the temple and nokotsudo and work in the yard:

**Tokuko Abe, Bobbie Arita, Kathleen Davis, Yuriko Fukagawa, Kay Hanano, Chester Kakiuchi, Judith Matoi, Elvira Mehlich, Heidi Mehlich, Carol Moto, Bernice Nagato, Isabelle Scholl, and Sachie Toyota.**

Your dedication to keeping Mantokuji a beautiful place is most appreciated.



## Fujinkai Luncheon

**Sunday, June 3 at 10:30am**  
**Kaanapali Beach Hotel**

The Fujinkai ladies and friends will be having a luncheon on **Sunday, June 3 at 10:30am at Kaanapali Beach Hotel**. All Fujinkai members are invited to participate. Bus transportation will be provided from the Pukalani Shopping Center and the War Memorial Stadium parking lots. We hope you will all be able to join us!

**Deadline to sign up is May 25.** Call Kay @ 269-8176.



Hanamatsuri 2018



## Kyodan Meeting Report

Held Sunday, April 8, 2018

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

- Update on the work of planner, Maria Isotov, who is assisting us with the shoreline erosion
- Update of the Strategic Planning the Board has been involved in with Linda Morgan
- Update on Grants available to assist with addressing the cemetery erosion and renovation of the Bell tower
- Repair of Columbarium eaves and roof
- Repair of Columbarium toilets and ceiling

- Request for services (funeral services, memorial services) to the Soto Mission of Hawaii
- Rev Hoshino officiated two funeral services and Rev Ishii officiated one
- Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi service was held on Sun, Mar 18, 2017 with Rev Hoshino officiating
- Rev Oyama officiated eight services during his visit including Hanamatsuri service (April 1)
- 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Bazaar report
- Hanamatsuri participation report
- Freelance journalists interested in erosion situation and Japanese immigrants history

- Next Kyodan meeting will be on Sun, June 10, 2018. Please join us for future meetings and be involved in these important discussions.

## Paia Hanamatsuri Service

April 1, at Paia Mantokuji Soto Zen Mission

The Paia Hanamatsuri Service was held jointly with the members of Paia Rinzai Zen Mission and Maui Dharma Center on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a joyous celebration! We were blessed with good weather and dined on delicious food. Thank you to all who contributed to the luncheon.

The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Kenji Oyama, visiting from Yamagata, Japan, and assisted by Rev. Ryoza Yamaguchi, Lama Gyaltzen and Therese Fitzgerald.

Included on page 4 is Rev. Kenji Oyama's sermon given at the Hanamatsuri service. Please take time to read it as he explains Hanamatsuri and Baby Buddha's first words upon his birth and how Buddha's words relates to our lives.

Thank you to Eric Moto for decorating the Hanamido for the ceremony. The fresh flowers donated by Allen & Janet Fukuda, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka and Kay Hanano added to the festive occasion. We thank the generous hearts of Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Paul & Gwen Ueoka and Colin Watanabe for the donation of prizes for the BINGO games.

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## Announcements

### Gannenmono (First immigrant plantation workers during the Gannen Period)

2018 marks 150 years since the first Japanese immigrants came to Hawaii. To celebrate and honor these pioneers, the Kizuna Group (made up of various groups on Oahu) has planned events through 2018. In commemoration of these Japanese immigrants to Hawaii, Ai Jinguji, who has lived on Maui for 17 years and works for the news branch of NHK Los Angeles is currently working on research about the gannen mono. She is seeking families who have ancestors in the Mantokuji cemetery who immigrated to Hawaii during that time. Please call Cathy Murayama at 283-6125 to inform us of any families with ancestors in the Mantokuji cemetery from this period. We would like to share their stories.

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### Old photographs of cemetery and/or Mantokuji's shoreline

Please help us with our work to protect Manatokuji's shoreline due to the erosion that has been occurring each year, faster and harsher in the last few years. Our consultant is asking for these photos to document the erosion that has occurred through the years.

Remember the pillbox that used to sit on the sandy beach? There's no longer a sandy beach with the pillbox --- pillbox was last seen way out in the ocean a few years ago. We have lost a lot of the beach and land to the fierce ocean.

If you have old photos of the cemetery and/or pictures of Mantokuji's beach, please call Cathy Murayama at 283-6125 to make arrangements to share the pictures. We will make copies and return all photos. Thank you very much for your help in the preservation of Mantokuji.

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### Meditation and Dharma Study Sessions

Sundays, 4:00-5:30pm (No zazen sessions in April / Zazen sessions will resume on May 6th.)

You are warmly welcomed to join us for meditation and Dharma study sessions at Mantokuji Soto Zen Mission on Sundays, 4:00-5:30 pm, led by Dharma teacher, Therese Fitzgerald. These sessions include an opening period of looking at foundational Buddhist teachings that hold us in good stead in our daily lives, followed by two twenty-minute periods of meditation with walking meditation in-between.

Therese Fitzgerald trained at San Francisco Zen Center and Tassajara Mountain Monastery in California. She was ordained as a Soto Zen priest by Richard Baker-roshi in 1986. Therese also trained with Tich Nhat Hanh and received Dharma teacher ordination by him in 1994.

Please join Therese on Sundays.



# Hanamatsuri Service Sermon

By Rev. Kenji Oyama



For my talk today, I will be going back to the basics and speaking about Hanamatsuri and giving my interpretation of Hanamatsuri.

Our service today is called Hanamatsuri. It means “flower festival” when translated into English. This is one of the three Buddha Days – Nehan-e, Jodo-e, Gotan-e (other name for Hanamatsuri).

Hanamatsuri signifies the birth of the historical Buddha, Siddharta Gautama. As the story goes, Siddharta Gautama was born on April 8 about 2600 years ago in India. This exact date differs depending on the country and tradition. I am talking from the Japanese Buddhist history.

The legendary story of his birth:

His mother, Maya was on the way home to give birth to her child, as in her culture it was the custom that the mother would return to the home they were brought up in to give birth. I learned that this is the same in Japan even today although it does not always work that way. As she was on her way, she stopped in a place that we call the Lumbini garden. Surrounded by colorful flowers, this is where the Buddha Shakyamuni was born. And in great happiness, from the heavens sweet water rained upon him. In Japanese, this rain is called “kanro no ame”.

The “hanamido” that you see in front of you now, this special altar decorated with flowers, is symbolizing the Lumbini garden, and the amacha, or sweet tea that you poured on Baby Buddha’s head is the sweet rain, kanro no ame.

As legend has it, the Baby Buddha walked seven steps upon his birth and with his right pointer finger pointing to the sky and his left pointer finger pointing to the earth, he said these famous words, first in Japanese, “ Tenjo Tenga Yuiga dokuson” or “Ten ni mo chi ni mo ware hitori.” These words you may recognize because we just sang it in the songs today. In English, it can be translated as, “In all heaven and earth, there is only one that is honored.”

The message that this phrase sends is important to understand.

When first hearing the phrase, “In all heaven and earth, there is only one that is honored”, it may sound like the Buddha was talking about himself and saying that “I am the only one to be honored in all heaven and earth.” It may sound very prideful, egoistic if you understand it in this way but I don’t think he meant it that way.

So what did he mean? Let us first ask ourselves these questions. What is the reality of our existence? How do we define our existence in this world? In this society? So in short, “who are we?”

I think we all have the tendency to be unconsciously comparing ourselves to others to define our self, and to recognize our existence in this world. We use people around us to measure ourselves, to kind of place ourselves in this world and society. We are always without thinking, comparing ourselves to others. We compare our physical appearance. That person is darker color skin than me, that person is lighter color skin than me, or that person has longer hair than me, or that person has less hair than me. That person is bigger than me, that person is smaller than me. Or that person dresses in fine clothes, that person wear rags.

And we compare other people to our self and see what category we are in. We identify our self after looking at others. We may even think, I am better than that person or I am not as good as that person.

And we may compare the social status or lifestyle of others to our own self. We look at the person’s job, that person is a doctor, or that person is a homeless, and so forth.

And because we are doing this unconsciously, we may not even realize that we may be hurting someone or being very prideful of ourselves. We are very ignorant.

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And because we are doing this unconsciously, we may not even realize that we may be hurting someone or being very prideful of ourselves. We are very ignorant.

“Tenjo tenga yui ga dokuson” - “In all heaven and earth, there is only one that is honored” actually means that we shouldn’t compare ourselves to anyone and just be who we are. It means that we are unique, one and only. To look at our self, our true self in this very moment. To look at our life and our existence without comparing our life and existence to others. Our eyes face outward, it is only natural that we look outside. We cannot help but compare ourselves to other things, other people. But at times, in order to realize that we are really not much different from each other, we need to look within, to turn our eyes inward and to see ourselves. Not the self that has a name, age, and nationality, but how we are in relation to nature and how our life is a part of the past, present and future – the life force that is continually flowing.

There is a famous Japanese song sung by a popular idol group of five guys called Smap which recently disbanded after over twenty years. The song is called “世界に一つだけの花”. This is translated as “The one and only flower in the whole world.” This song is about a person who is standing in front of a flower shop and thinking to himself how beautiful each flower is even though each has a different price and different popularity. Each flower in the buckets are sitting there honorably. They are not competing against each other to see who is number one.

This person then reflects on how we, human beings like to make comparisons and compete, even though it is perfectly okay not to.

In reality we are one of a kind, we are each the one and only flower in this whole world, we all have different seeds within us and we should each concentrate on our own flower blooming brilliantly. There is never a duplicate, there is only one of each flower and there is only one of us. We don’t have to be #1, because we are already a special only one. Each of us have an equally important life. No one life is more important than another. If you compare with others, then you will naturally rank yourself and there can only be one # 1 in that case. But this # 1 is only in the relative sense. It is only an illusion. There is no ranking in life. When we do not compare, each flower is #1, each is the only special one that can not be compared to others.



Just like you and me, we can compare all we want but when you really look inside of yourself, you will see that you can not be compared to anyone. You are who you are and I am who I am. We are unique.

No matter how much the values of society may change, the value of each and every life will never change. We should all be like the flower, sitting honorably, knowing that we are all special.

Each of us can say the words of the Buddha to ourselves “Of this heaven and earth, there is only one who is honored”.

Thank you for listening and having me today. It is a great honor to be here.

# Donations made in March

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

## General Donations

Betty N Alberts, Ralph Arakaki, Lora Epler, Miyoko Gusukuma, Addison Bud Harrison, Roy & Barbara Huntley, Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Thomas & Yoshie Kimizuka, Gwen Kunishige, David Langille & Sherry Allison, Bill & Carol Lau, Joyce Masuda, Fumiko Nagata, Joyce Ogawa, Hachiro & Susan Shimanuki, Sandra Shimomura, Anna Mae Shishido, James & Nancy Shishido, Colleen Suyama, Bob & Carol Suzuki, Katherine Takatani, Michie Tamane, Ross & Mildred Tamayose, Thomas Tanaka, Gertrude Ueoka, Ron & Vivian Ueoka, Albert & Glenda Ujiie, Rev. Kenzen Yamamoto, Stanley Yumen.

Janice Abe & James Char	In Memory of Tadashi Abe – 13 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary
Roy & Edna Abe	In Memory of Tadashi Abe
Tokuko & Ted Abe	In Memory of Tadashi Abe
Dr. Seiya Ohata	In Memory of Dr. Seiichi Ohata, Hisa Ohata & Kiyoko Ohata
Wayne Takehara	In Memory of Masayuki & Yoshimi Takehara
Gordon Tamasaka	In Memory of Tadayoshi Tamasaka – 17 <sup>th</sup> Year Memorial Service
Meyer Leigh & Sharon Ueoka	Bazaar Donation
Louis Wada	In Memory of Masaaki “Mohawk” Nakagawa

Donations received for the Spring Ohigan & Kaisan Rekijyuki Service on March 18, 2018

Tokuko Abe, Howard & Bobbie Arita, Yuriko Fukagawa, Akio & Kay Hanano, Donald & Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Gary & Judith Matoi, Carol Moto, Allan & Cathy Murayama, Bernice Nagato, Bob & Carol Suzuki, Sachie & Eric Toyota, Misa Umetsu.

## Special Thanks

To our team (**Scott Hanano, Chester Kakiuchi, Roland & Tobi Uehara & John Badoyen**) who keep the grounds of Mantokuji well manicured.

To **Sadae Kasahara's Family** for donation of senko, matches & lighters.

To **Neil Watanabe** for taking care of our Japanese Garden.

To **Satoko Yamada's Family** for donation of senko.

## Recipe of the Month

### Seaweed Soba Salad

*by Edith Kawakami Tan*

#### Ingredients

- 1/3 pkg Hijiki (dried black seaweed)
- 1 pkg (0.25 oz size) Wakame (dried green seaweed)
- 1 pkg (8 oz size) Soba (buckwheat noodles)
- 4 oz Daikon sprouts (Kaiware)
- 1/2 Maui onion
- 1 bunch watercress (optional)
- 1 small Japanese cucumber
- 1 small carrot

#### Dressing

- 6 tbsp soy sauce
- 6 tbsp vegetable oil
- 4 tbsp sugar
- 3 tbsp lemon juice
- 2 tbsp Japanese vinegar

#### Preparation

1. Soak Hijiki in warm water and let stand covered for 20 minutes. Rinse, drain, and squeeze to remove liquid. In a small skillet, heat 1 tbsp salad oil, add Hijiki and cook for 1 minute. Add 1 tbsp soy sauce and 1 tbsp sugar and cook until liquid is absorbed. Set aside.
2. Soak Wakame in tap water for 15 minutes. Chop, squeeze, and set aside.
3. Mix dressing ingredients in a cruet or jar and shake.
4. Slice Maui onion paper thin, julienne carrots, toss with Wakame and 3-4 tbsp of dressing. Set aside in refrigerator.
5. Cook Soba according to directions on package, rinse, and drain.
6. Cut off root ends of daikon sprouts and watercress. Cut watercress into 1 1/4 inch lengths and thinly slice cucumbers.
7. To serve, place Soba on a platter and toss with Wakame mixture. Top with cooked Hijiki, cucumber and/or watercress, and daikon sprouts.
8. Have guests use dressing to taste.

Note: Preparation may be done day or night before, refrigerated, and put together just before serving.



## May 2018

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4	5
<b>May</b>	6 8:00am Cleanup, Fujinkai Meeting 4:00 pm Zazen	7	8	9	10	11 4:45-6:00pm Taiko	12 9:30-12:30 Ikebana
	13 4:00 pm Zazen	14	15	16	17	18 4:45-6:00pm Taiko	19
	20 4:00 pm Zazen	21	22	23	24	25 4:45-6:00pm Taiko	26
	27 10:30am Eitaikuyo Service 4:00 pm Zazen	28	29	30	31		

Please note: Shorinji Kempo classes are continuing at Deacon MacMillan's home in Haiku.

If you would like to enroll, please call Deacon at (808)-312-9116.

<b>Coming up in June (Tentative Schedule)</b>	
Sunday 10	Clean up, Fujinkai & Kyodan Meetings
Sunday 24	O-Bon Committee Meeting & Yagura Construction

Hospital and Hale Makua  
Visitations are scheduled during  
the month.