

Jushin 樹心



June / July 2014
Volume 4 Issue 3

inside your Jushin

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Bon is Bombu Time

By Jim Dote
2014 Bon Dance Committee

With the joyous ring of the last school bell, summer is here. And it's soon Bon Dance time at the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji. Listen to the lively music! Smell the food cooking! Enjoy the night with family and friends. Be "bombu!" (foolish)

We encourage our Jushin readers far and near to attend our 2014 Bon Dance and Obon Service. Our temple records show that 2014 will be Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji's 60th bon dance! That's about three generations. Golly, Kaneohe then was a very small, country town 60 years ago with maybe one traffic stoplight. And cars could park on Kamehameha Road before it became a "highway" with a capital H.


Obon is an annual Buddhist event begun 1,500 years ago to welcome home deceased spirits in celebration - not sadness. Reverend Hiroko Maeda will offer the traditional Shin Buddhist service in the temple at 6 pm and also recognize the memory of those who have passed on during the past 12 months. Families are welcomed to attend and gather together here.

To me, Obon also gives each of us precious and joyous reasons to gather together as a family again despite our very busy, modern lives. Our Bon Dances are fun gatherings, and that's another special reason for you to come.

We are planning to keep a popular segment of our bon dance — experienced dancers will teach the Tanko Bushi - a simple dance - to youngsters and first-timers. Two years ago, a spirited preschooler not only learned the Tanko Bushi, but continued dancing almost every number until 10 pm, outlasting both parents, grandfather and grandmother. That's some spirit!

Please refer to the Bon Dance article on page 4 for more information. Mark your calendars, get out your geta and yukata. In fact, this June 8th, Mrs. Jeannie Kawawata will teach people how to dress in their yukata, with obi, and footwear. Please see the enclosed "flyer" on page 3. (*Don't be confused, the kimono dressing class is Sunday, June 8 and our Bon Dance is Saturday July 5.*)

If any of your family albums contain photos of our bon dances, please contact me and we'd be happy to scan them and publish them with your permission. It would be such precious fun to go back in time and share some Kaneohe Higashi memories.



The Taste of Sufferings

Reverend Hiroko Maeda

“When one moment of thought filled with joy and love rises, one attains Nirvana even without destroying the evil passions.” “能發一念喜愛心 不斷煩惱得涅槃”

This passage is one of the important Shin Buddhist teachings and comes from Shoshin-ge, a poem written in simple Japanese by Shinran Shonin. During our Sunday services, all congregants are encouraged to chant the entire Shoshin-ge poem together.

When I think about this sentence, I realize that I always desire to do things the opposite way, so I live my daily life and work to destroy the evil passions.

To illustrate what I mean, I would like to share one of my memories about my teacher. About four years ago I attended Dobo University in Aichi prefecture to study Shin Buddhism and prepare for my second ordination to become a minister. My life was not going well at the time because my best friend was very depressed. I felt worthless as I worried about her and

was disappointed in myself that I could not help her.

Through my Buddhism studies at the university I learned that Buddhist teachings, or Shinran Shonin’s teachings, encouraged one to be patient or humble. One such passage I remember is, “Never blame others. Blame the thought in your heart which desires to blame others.”

As I studied Buddhism more, I started holding my opinions to myself. In spite of the teachings to be patient or humble I was learning, one day my hidden feelings started overflowing. I started crying and complaining in front of my teacher. I kept saying, “I am sorry to grumble but...” or, “I shouldn’t feel this way, but...”

After listening to my feelings, my teacher said calmly, “I think Shinran’s teachings are not what you are thinking now. (You are thinking

that you can) try to be a better person or a ‘good person’ by hiding or pushing away your real feelings. What Shinran taught us is to know

one’s own self — receiving another eye to examine our own self through Dharma teachings, seeking who truly you are.”

After we talked, I reflected on my feelings. I realized my way of thinking and achieving – without looking within myself as taught by the teachings – was wrong.

At this point, let’s go back to the Shoshin-ge passage and ask, “What are the evil passions?”

Early monks clarified what the human mind is. It is said that there are six fundamental evil passions that exist within us:

1. Mind of greed,
2. Mind of anger,
3. Mind of arrogance,
4. Mind of illusion,
5. Mind of doubt, and
6. Mind of value judgment.

Continued on page 6

Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Mission

YUKATA DRESSING CLASS

Ladies and Gentlemen, do you have a yukata in your closet that you would like to wear this bon dance season?
Or, would you like to have the experience of wearing a yukata, just for fun?

Please bring, if you have,

- *Yukata
- *Obi
- *2 Kimono ties (6 feet long) or 2 elastic bands
- *Zori or Geta
- *Camisole or tank top
- *Kimono slip or bicycle shorts.

Date: June 8, 2014 (Sun)
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Place: Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Sangha Room
45-520 Keaahala Rd. Kaneohe, HI 96744
Tel: (808) 247-2661
Email: kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org

*There is no fee for this class, however donations will be gratefully accepted.

Please also bring your cameras and your smiles.
First-time yukata wearers are welcome !!

Bon Dance

Sat July 5

GET YOUR GETA, SUMMER YUKATA, KANEOHE DANCING FAN AND DANCE TOWEL READY FOR JULY 5!!!

Please bring the entire family and car load of relatives down to partake in our short Obon Buddhist service and then have lots of fun and great foods at our Kaneohe community Bon Dance!

This year's line up promises to be lively! Kaneohe's famous Koolau Sukiyaki Odori Kai with their pink happi coats will be joined by the energetic Hawaii Shinyuu Eisa Odori Kai, and spirited Iwakuni Aiko Odori Kai.

Again this year we are featuring a section for preschoolers to grandparents to learn a popular dance - *Tanko Bushi* - taught by our many dancers. This would be about 7pm. We want the whole 'ohana to join in.

We are fortunate that the entire 62nd Cherry Blossom Festival Court will be present to greet you, answer questions about Bon traditions, and enjoy the evening with you. We also have invited the "muscled" Honolulu

Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce to help us in the food concession as a Kaneohe community service project. We are appreciative of their advice and community service given to Kaneohe over the past three years.

Lastly, it is because of your continued aloha, love, caring for tradition and Dharma, and financial support that our small temple is able to carry on this tradition and open it up to the wider Windward Oahu community for three generations. Doomo arigatou!

Tentative Menu includes
Chicken & Pork Combo Nishime,
Maeda Sensei's Beef Curry Rice,
Hot Hog on Bun, Spam Musubi,
Edamame Rice (*new item!*)
(*vegetarian dish made w/soy beans*)
Ice-Cold Watermelon Slices,
Creamy Ice Cake, Cookies, Pie,
Freshly-made Andagi, Ice Cream



July 5 – Tentative Schedule

Also see full schedule on page 5

- 8 am Work Volunteers Needed
- 5:30pm Food Concession Opens
- 6 pm Obon Service in temple
- 6:20 Welcome Speech
- 6:30 Dancing begins
- 7-7:15 Kids' lesson in dance ring
– Tanko Bushi
- 10 pm All Pau

Your Help Needed for Bon Dance

Staging our temple's bon dance is a massive job. We put up the yagura and lights one week ahead and also do food prep during the week. Please join with us to make this a success!

TENTATIVE WORK SCHEDULE

Saturday June 28 – 8am

Setup Yagura, lights, clean kitchen

Tuesday July 1 – 7pm

Bon dance practice session

Wednesday July 2 – Please call

Kitchen Prep:

Thursday July 3 – Please call

Food Prep:

Friday July 4 – 8:30 am

Food Prep: cut veggies, meat; begin sauces or gravies

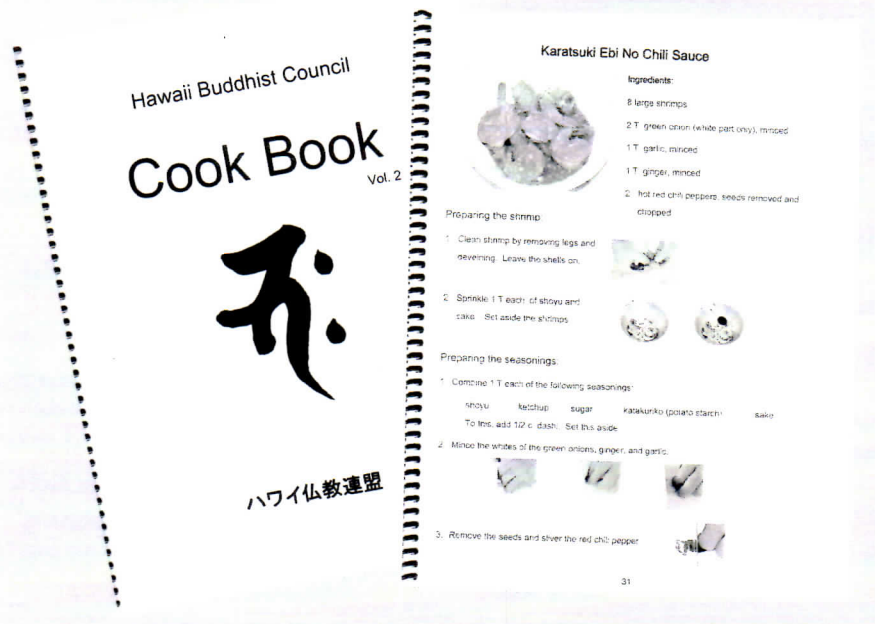
Saturday July 5 – 8 am

*Set out chairs, erect tents, canopies
Food Prep from 8:30; bake pies,
spam musubi prep and grilling, final
prep of nishime and curry rice.*

New Cook Book Now Available

The Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) has just printed Volume 2 of its cook book. We have a limited number of cookbooks at our Kaneohe temple

available for purchase. If you would like a copy, please call the temple office, 247-2661 or email us. The HBC cook book is \$20 and is destined to become a collector's item like Volume 1.



Bzz-it! Bzz-it! Crick! Crick!

YOUR Photos Wanted for 2015 Hawaii Higashi Calendars

Submitted by Julian Ng, 2015 Calendar Committee
Kaneohe Higashi Representative

Hi everyone! Planning for the 2015 Higashi Hongwanji calendar has begun - and we are asking members and friends to help us create another unique calendar for the Hawaii District.

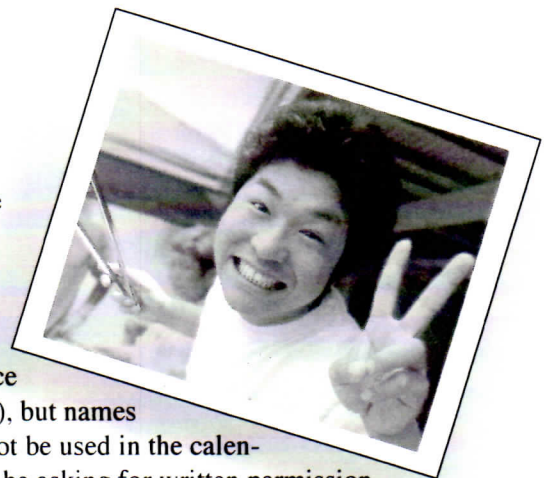
We'd like to show temple activities, nature, people, and other everyday things that are important to us. Photographs of families, parents, grandparents, kids, aunties and uncles, flowers and other plants, pets, and even 'selfies' are welcome.

Please share your favorite "pix" - they may be displayed prominently or in a collage in next year's calendar. Multiple submittals are welcome, but there is no guarantee that a submitted photo will be used.

Knowing names of the people in the photograph would be nice

(for history!), but names will likely not be used in the calendar. We will be asking for written permission for use of personal images (especially minors) and release forms will be provided.

Please send your digital photos to calendar@hbht-hi.org (or if you only have a print, submit it to your minister and we can scan it and return your print, along with a digital copy via email or on a CD). Deadline for submitting photographs is July 31, 2014.



The Taste of Sufferings

Continued from Page 2

Later, Buddhists subsequently analyzed the six fundamental evil passions in more detail and the number of evil passions increased to 108.

What a lot of evil passions we always have!

In general Buddhism today, we still consider that there are six fundamental and 108 evil passions within us. When we think of the evil passions carefully we can see them appearing in our daily lives.

The evil passions prove that we are living right now and right here. As long as I live, I have thousands of evil passions. In other words, I experience distresses and anxieties like all people – children and adults alike. We all are misled by many distresses, anxieties, or evil passions. As we live each day, we encounter distresses and anxieties. But if we

destroy all of those, how can we find our true self?

I am not saying that Buddhist teachings encourage us to live with a defiant attitude. But the Buddha’s teachings awaken us that it is impossible to be truly happy by suppressing our unwelcome distresses and anxieties. If we do suppress these, we forget the truth of “Life.” The quality of distress and anxieties will be converted into our inner power for us to seek the significance of our lives through the Buddha’s Wisdom.

“Enlightenment exists solely because of delusion and ignorance; if they disappear, so will Enlightenment. And the opposite is true also: there is no Enlightenment apart from delusion and ignorance, no delusion and ignorance apart from Enlightenment.” (the Teaching of Buddha)



Mauna Kea Photos by Hiroko Maeda

Now as I think of my distress and anxieties, I feel like these are special spices that enrich my life. It might be little bit too spicy or bitter at times, but I am sure that through the Buddha’s teachings, the spices will add richness to my life.

Namu Amida Butsu.

Plant Sale - A “Growing” Success

Our Saturday, April 19 Plant Sale was a great success in that many people were able to buy plants, giving them a loving garden to grow in. We had hundreds of plants grown from the Koolaus to Waianae Valley.

Plant lovers, however, were happy to find a great selection of anthuriums, gingers, and plants of all kinds.

Sincere thanks go to our growers, farmers for making our plant sale a success. We also handed out leaflets about fire ants and beetles to help the state Dept. of Agriculture.

All plant sale proceeds go to our capital improvement fund for repairs and modernization of our facilities.

Nokotsudo (Collumbarium) Will be Rebuilt



Our existing collumbarium with open shelves.

Photo by Jim Dote

This year marks the 50th year that our present temple building was built, and the 90th anniversary of our temple’s establishment. We are undertaking a 50th-90th Anniversary project to rebuild our 50 year-old

nokotsudo (collumbarium) shelving and cabinet. Our temple designed the new, built-in unit and an experienced Kaneohe-based cabinet maker is building it with care. Installation will be the first week of June.



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*"Contentment is
the greatest wealth"*
Shakyamuni Buddha

Temple Service & Activities Calendar

June

6/1	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
6/2	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
6/7	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
6/8	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
		10-11:30	Yukata Dressing Class
6/14	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
6/15	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
6/16	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
6/17	Tue	7-8:30pm	Oko Night @ Kaneohe
6/21	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
6/22	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
			Speaker: Bishop Ken Kawawata – Discussion Group
6/28	Sat	8am	Yagura Set up (see list)
		8:30am	Flower arrangement
6/29	Sun	9am	Sunday Service

July

7/1	Tue	7-8pm	Bon Dance practice
7/2	Wed	call us	Bon Dance food prep
7/3	Thur	call us	Bon Dance food prep
7/4	Fri	call us	Bon Dance food prep
7/5	Sat	8am	Build tents, set tables, chairs
		8:30am	Bon Dance food prep
		6pm	Bon Service
		6:30	Bon Dance begins
7/6	Sun	9:30am	Temple Clean-Up No Service
7/7	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
7/12	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
7/13	Sun	9am	Sunday Service, Ohana Hike after
7/15	Tue	7-8:30pm	Oko Night @ Betsuin
7/19	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
7/20	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
			Speaker: Bishop Ken Kawawata – Discussion Group
7/21	Mon	6-7pm	Ukulele Stars
7/26	Sat	8:30am	Flower arrangement
7/27	Sun	9am	Sunday Service

Please check our new website for interesting Kaneohe Higashi news and photos, and other temples' schedules, too!