

Junshin Miyazaki  
97 Olona St  
Hilo, HI 96720



## HAKALAU JODO MISSION



PO Box 296, Hakalau, HI 96710

808-923-6110

[hakalaujodominion@gmail.com](mailto:hakalaujodominion@gmail.com)

### November & December 2019

---

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**CLEAN-UP**—We will be re-starting our monthly clean-up after the New Year. Many improvements will be implemented in 2020--details in the next bulletin. We hope you will be able to help us with 'sprucing' up our humble mission.

**O-Juya Service:** Sunday, November 10, 1:00 p.m., at Hakalau

**Big Island Buddhist Federation Joint Bodhi Day Service:** Sunday, December 1, 9:00 a.m.,  
at Hilo Meishoin

**Bodhi Day Service:** Sunday, December 8, 1:00 p.m., at Hakalau

## NENKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Please contact Rev. Miyazaki at 808-936-7828 or email him at [gongqi326@hotmail.com](mailto:gongqi326@hotmail.com) to schedule a service.

Jean Noji	11/4/1997	23rd
Stanley Arakaki	11/7/2013	7th
Tomoe Shishido	11/18/1973	47th
Mac Sunabe	12/5/2013	7th
George Oshiro	12/12/2007	13th

### CONTACT LIST

- **Junshin Miyazaki**, Minister: 936-7828 or [gongqi326@hotmail.com](mailto:gongqi326@hotmail.com)
- **Jan Nakamura**, President: 295-7797 or [ja.nakamura001@gmail.com](mailto:ja.nakamura001@gmail.com)
- **Susan Forbes**, Treasurer: 808-286-6130 or [sksforbes@gmail.com](mailto:sksforbes@gmail.com)
- **Kerry Browning**, Secretary: 963-6452 or [browningke@yahoo.com](mailto:browningke@yahoo.com)
- **Yumiko Bamba**, Grounds Oversight: 238-5533 or [ybamba555@gmail.com](mailto:ybamba555@gmail.com)
- **Clyde Chinen**, Facilities Oversight: 963-6759 or [cschin643@gmail.com](mailto:cschin643@gmail.com)
- **Akiko Masuda**, Senior Luncheons, Community Liaison: 963-6422 or [msakiko@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:msakiko@hawaii.rr.com)

### PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Thank you very much for allowing me to attend the Kyoku Convention in Honolulu. We elected the new bishop, Kosen Ishikawa. Currently he is minister at Koloa and Kapaa Jodo Missions but will transfer soon to the Jodo Mission of Hawaii. Rev. Takano, who arrived in Hawaii from Japan earlier this year, will continue to serve as resident minister of the Jodo Mission of Hawaii in Makiki. Another minister will be designated by the Bishop and assigned to Kapaa and Koloa. In addition, Leonard Chow of Hilo Meishoin was elected to be our Kyoku President for the next two years. In this role he will oversee all temple organizations. He will also visit Japan and, with assistance of Japan’s ministers, will recruit another minister to serve at the Koloa and Kapaa.

Currently I am busy trying to sell my home, preparing to move to Honolulu to live with my daughter and her family. I will continue to serve you, coming back to Hawaii Island as often as I can. If you have any issues to discuss when I am not available, please contact Clyde Chinen or Susan Forbes. The temple is in good hands with Clyde, Susan, Rev. Miyazaki, Akiko Masuda, Kerry Browning, and Yumiko Bamba (Banchan). Please talk to them. (See our **Contact List**.)

This has been a very good year for the Hakalau Jodo Mission. I thank all of you for your help and devotion.

In gassho,  
Jan Nakamura, President

### TREASURER’S REPORT

September-- October was a fairly quiet period for the Mission, with no services held onsite. With the exception of the rent payment and donation by Miyo’s Restaurant for Obon, all funds collected were cash donations. Funds collected September 1 to October 31, 2019:

Donation Type	Amount
Rent	\$1,100
Senior Lunch	\$960
Donation – Obon*	\$400
Presentation – John Cross	\$270
Recycle Fund	\$35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,765</b>

\*Donation by Miyo’s Restaurant

The January-February 2020 Bulletin will contain the notice about the 2020 membership dues and donations in lieu of bazaar or fundraiser.

In gassho,  
Susan Forbes, Treasurer

## **MINISTER'S MESSAGE**

### **An interesting history lesson:**

*On August 25, the annual Ireito (a monument to comfort Japanese ancestors' spirits) service was held at Alae cemetery. It was sponsored by the Japanese Community Association. The Big Island Buddhist Federation supports this event, and Hilo Meishoin was the toban temple this year, so we provided the MC, refreshments, and the service. It was a good chance for me to learn about Sanji Abe, who wished to build the monument. I would like to share what I learned.*

*Sanji Abe was born in Holualoa, Kona on May 10, 1895. His parents came from Fukuoka in 1893. The Japanese government started to send laborers to Hawaii in 1885. Between 1885 and 1924 when the U.S. government banned Japanese immigration, there were about 200,000 Japanese already in Hawaii.*

*Sanji was an early born Nisei. He was granted U.S. citizenship after Hawaii was annexed by the U.S. in 1898. His family moved to Hilo when he was about 12. He was drafted into the U.S. Army during WWI. He was one of a few hundred Nisei WWI draftees.*

*He started to work for the Hilo Police Department in 1916. He was promoted to assistant chief. He worked hard, saved money, and bought Yamatoza Theater on Mamo Street. He was actively involved with the Big Island Baseball Association, Sumo association, Nisei Club, Higashi Hongwanji, and so forth. He was a very popular and important person in Japanese American society on the Big Island.*

*On March 25, 26, and 27, 1938, at the Yamatoza Theater, Sanji held an event called 'movie nights in commemoration of 20 years' of his service in the police department. He held this event to raise funds to repair, maintain, and improve neglected old cemeteries for early Japanese immigrants. The movie night was successful. He collected \$1400. The average income per year of a U.S.*

*citizen was \$ 1,731 at that time so \$1400 was good money.*

*Abe called a meeting. On February 4, 1938, 46 public-spirited people in and around Hilo got together at Yamatoza. They decided to form an association called 'the Association for Cemetery Maintenance in Commemoration of Mr. Sanji Abe's 20 Years' Service.' The association decided to support 30 cemeteries on the Big Island. First, they donated to Niulii cemetery for church maintenance. It stimulated people there, and a Niuli cemetery maintenance committee was formed. The association supported other cemeteries, and in 1939, the Ireito was built in Alae cemetery.*

*Meanwhile, militarism grew in Japan. Japan won the Sino-Japanese War in 1895, and that is the year Sanji was born. In 1905 Japan won the Russo-Japanese War, and Japan annexed Korea in 1910. In WWI, when Sanji was drafted, Japan declared war against Germany in 1914 and took over interests of Germany in China and Micronesia. From 1918 to 1922 Japan participated in the Siberian Intervention. In 1931 Japan won the Manchurian Incident and colonized Northeast China. The Manchurian Incident was criticized, and Japan seceded from the League of Nations in 1933.*

*In 1937, Japan started the Second Sino-Japanese War. Japan predicted an easy victory again, but it turned into a quagmire. In September 1939, WWII started in Europe. In September 1940, the Tripartite Pact between Japan, Germany, and Italy was signed. U. S. national feeling against Japan became sour.*

*Sanji Abe decided to run for the territorial Senate in May 1940. The rivals denounced his dual citizenship. Sanji emphasized his loyalty to the United States as a WWI veteran and renounced his Japanese citizenship. In November 1940, Sanji Abe won the election and became the first Hawaii senator of Japanese ancestry. Senator Abe energetically submitted bills, told Japanese Americans to be loyal to the United States, and even offered Yamatoza to comfort U.S.*

*soldiers. Military tension between U.S. and Japan, however, intensified.*

*On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. The Second Sino-Japanese War never ended. U.S. stopped selling oil to Japan. To get oil, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and Southeast Asian countries at the same time.*

*Military authorities watched Sanji as one of a group of dangerous persons. In July 1942, Sanji was arrested after a Japanese flag was found at Yamatoza theater. It was probably a fabrication. He was interned and was forced to resign from his Senate seat in February, 1943.*

*After the war he came back to Yamatoza Theater, and he never returned to politics. In 1960, the tsunami destroyed Yamatoza. He moved to Oahu, battled diabetes, and passed away on November 26, 1982 at the age of 87. He should be remembered.*

## PRESENTATIONS ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

It's funny how one thing leads to another...In April, Akiko Masuda organized a gathering to hear Ed Kawasaki talk about his experience as a Hiroshima Survivor, a hibakusha. A neighbor suggested we host periodic presentations...Good idea! Through presentations we embrace the community and carry out our purposes of providing education about Buddhism, conducting activities to better the condition of mankind, and promoting happiness among members and the community.

So far, we have held three presentations:

- In June, Rev. Miyazaki and Akiko Masuda shared some Buddhist history and dance steps in **“Ready, Set, Obon!”**. About 40 attended.
- In August, part-time Wailea resident, Heather Fryer, Ph.D. presented **“Uncovering the History of Shinmachi”**, highlighting the ways in which **plantation values** sustained Shinmachi's small business families through the Great Depression, World War II, and the destructive force of the

tsunami. Eighty two people attended including 20 Shinmachi survivors and descendants.

- In mid-October, Chin Chuck neighbor and sugar industry historian John Cross presented, **“The End of Sugar: Land and Water Use Then and Now on the Hilo – Hamakua Coast”**. Seventy attended, mostly area residents and a few who grew up here.

2020 presentations are now being planned.

Suggestions welcome! To make sure you receive notices about upcoming presentations, send your email address to [sksforbes@gmail.com](mailto:sksforbes@gmail.com).

## OUR SPECIAL TREES:

### ENLIGHTENMENT AND PEACE...and ART

Come and see our Enlightenment and Peace trees on the stairs of the Temple. The Enlightenment Tree (Bodhi tree) will shed its leaves and bloom again just before the Obon. The Peace Tree (persimmon tree) is a sapling for us to nurture. Both trees are planted in ceramic pots created by Ron Hanatani, a renowned Volcano ceramist. Jan Nakamura donated the pot for the Enlightenment Tree and Mr. Hanatani donated the pot for the Peace Tree. We are so fortunate to have artists donating works to our temple. Future bulletins will feature more about other artists and their artwork.

Our Enlightenment tree was donated to us by the Puna Hongwanji. The tree had been a gift from Herbert Shipmen upon his return from a trip to India. It is said to be from the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment or *Bodhi*. Mr. Earl Mukai air-layed the tree, donating one to the Hakalau Jodo Mission, one to Kurtistown.

Our new sapling Peace Tree was grown from seeds from the Hiroshima bomb site. We acquired the tree by making a donation to the Rotary Hiroshima Survivor Trees (Heiwa), a coalition of Rotary clubs in Japan and the US. These survivor plants from Hiroshima come with the message of peace, hope, and survivability. We embrace this message.