



*Hakalau Jodo Mission*

PO Box 296  
Hakalau, Hawaii 96710

### **March – April 2024 Newsletter President’s Message**

In this issue, we are pleased to share the following special features along with the schedule of services and special training for the next three months plus the March-April schedule of meetings and classes:

- Preserving the Mission: the Past 5 Years (p. 2)
- Preserving Our Legacy: Shinnenkai and Chicken Hekka (p. 3)
- Clean-Up Before the Shinnenkai (p.4)
- “Our” Karate Students Head for Texas And Japan to Compete (p.4)
- Mahalo Members and Friends—Old and New! (p. 5)
- 2024 Member Meeting (p. 5)
- Rev. Miyazaki’s Nehan-e Sermon (p.6)
- Announcement of Upcoming Bonsai Workshop (p. 8)

We hope you enjoy this issue. Please contact me at [hakalaujodominion@gmail.com](mailto:hakalaujodominion@gmail.com) with recommendations for topics to include in future issues.

In gassho, *Susan Forbes*

## PRESERVING THE MISSION: THE PAST 5 YEARS

2018 was an important year for the Mission's preservation. First came the designation as a Registered State Historic Site by the Hawai'i State Historic Preservation Division, then the Freeman Foundation awarded \$50,000 to carry out preservation projects in the Temple, Social Hall, and outside. The Final Report was just submitted and approved. Accomplishments include:

**Temple:** We've repaired water and termite damage to plywood in walls and painted the interior. In addition, as shown in the photo on the right, all windows have been repaired and are fully functional with no broken panes.

Replacement screens have been built and installed. The Temple walls and ceilings, plus all trim work have been painted.



**Social Hall:** The Social Hall was repainted in 2020 and water damaged plywood panels replaced and painted in 2023 and 2024. All windows have been repaired and are functional. Screens were built and installed. Period-appropriate doors, consistent with the original doors, have been installed.

The photo on the left shows the repaired, aligned, and functional windows, now being protected by the new screens.

**Outside:** All gutters, downspouts and drains have been cleaned. Repairs to the Temple roof were made in 2021 and additional repairs in 2024. Replacement medallions have been fabricated and await painting, although installation is deferred until scaffolding is erected for painting the exterior. Jalousie windows on the breezeway (bridge between parsonage and Temple) have been replaced with newly fabricated windows in the style of the Temple windows, shown in the photo to the right.



Both the Capital Campaign and volunteer labor contributed substantially to our success in completing the “Freeman Foundation Projects”. The Capital Campaign raised about \$36,000 beyond the Freeman Foundation funding, most of which was applied to the “Freeman Foundation Projects”. The volunteer labor attributed to these projects totaled \$32,953, covering the costs of needed work without cash outlay.

We are grateful for the support of the Freeman Foundation, our Capital Campaign contributors and hardworking volunteers.

## **PRESERVING OUR LEGACY: SHINNENKAI AND CHICKEN HEKKA**

Our New Year’s Celebration, the Shinnenkai, is all about gratitude. This year, 50 people participated, enjoying great food, fellowship, toasts to the New Year, and prizes.

We are grateful for our current and former members; Friends of the Hakalau Jodo Mission; neighbors; friends at neighboring temples; senior lunch sponsors, chefs, and volunteers; those who help preserve our facilities and grounds; teachers and participants in our classes (bon dance, yoga, tai chi, karate, and art); Obon volunteers; Rev. Miyazaki, and so many more.



Many thanks to Carmela Orchids for donating blooming orchid plants for each table, a prize for the guest sitting in the “lucky” chair.

Mike Stolp, Sandy Spiedel, and Heather Fryer did a great job managing the drawing and awarding of prizes. Thank you!



Thanks also to Mike Stolp and Tammy Tanaka, Dorothy Kansako, and Arlene Takara of the Tsukikage Odorikai for helping us toast to the New Year.

Lunch was spectacular, featuring chicken hekka, rice, sweet potato tempura, salad and dessert, prepared and served by Michi Ochi, her daughter Marissa and son-in-law Ryan! [Michi is the daughter of the late Masa and Yukiko Chinen of Chin Chuck. Masa and his wife were lifelong residents of Wailea and Chin Chuck.]



*Mike Stolp and Sandy Spiedel award prizes...to EVERYONE!*

Desserts were in abundance, thanks to the generosity and culinary talents of many of our members, neighbors and other guests.

Did you know that chicken hekka is part of the Mission’s legacy? It’s **impossible** to find local newspaper accounts of Mission and Hakalau activities from the 1920s through the 2000s without mention of community gatherings in which chicken hekka was served. A December 29, 2020 Hawaii Tribune Herald article about mochi pounding at Akiko’s Buddhist Bed and Breakfast in Wailea, mentioned the chicken hekka fundraiser dedicated to fixing up and painting the Hakalau Jodo Mission. **We are grateful for chicken hekka!**

## CLEAN-UP BEFORE THE SHINNENKAI

What a crew we had to help clean the Temple, Social Hall, bathroom areas, walkways and stairs the week before the Shinnenkai! Fifteen showed up on clean-up day, and others showed up on other days to clean, paint the wall fans, and handle last minute details.

The pictures tell the story:



Many thanks to Sifu Slade Shim, our Tai Chi instructor; Karate Parents and students Christian, Lindsey, Olivia, Jason, Sophie, Brooke, Sophia, Lilia, Ricky, and Darlene.

Thanks also to our Members and Friends of the Jodo Mission who pitched in to help: Joe Hampton, Mike Stolp, Ken and Susan Forbes, Debbie Kuntz, and Lembi James.

## “OUR” KARATE STUDENTS HEAD FOR TEXAS AND JAPAN TO COMPETE



Sensei Patricia Taniguchi began teaching karate to children ages 4-6 and 7-12 at the Mission in August 2020. Since that time, the classes have expanded and the kids have grown. Now the classes are held for children 6-12 and 13 and older. Each year, the “Karate Kids” and their parents operate a concession to raise funds to purchase protective equipment and cover travel expenses for their trips to karate competitions. Their dedication is paying off:

Lilia and Ricky Lundburg will be representing World Karate Academy Hakalau at two upcoming tournaments over Easter weekend in Ft. Worth, Texas. Both are sanctioned by the USA National Karate Federation, the highest level for traditional karate which feeds into the Olympic system. The first tournament is the International Junior Open and the second is the US Open. They will be competing in both kata (forms), and kumite (sparring) in their respective age and experience levels.

Both kids have competed here on Big Island and on Oahu. Lilia has won gold in every match, and Ricky has placed silver. This will be their first out of state competition with fellow competitors from all over the US and the world. They have been training diligently since last year and have turned it up since the beginning of the year.

Sensei Patricia Taniguchi will also be taking them to Japan for an extremely high level tournament in Seto, Japan on April 28. They will spend 12 days in Japan training at our headquarters dojo and meeting lots of fellow karate kids. We would appreciate all good thoughts and support from the community. Both kids will be creating a multimedia project about their adventures for school and family and friends.

We are grateful for Sensei Taniguchi's dedication to her students and for embracing the Hakalau Jodo Mission as her training site.

We send our best wishes to Lilia and Ricky as they compete—do your best, have fun, and savor the experience. We are proud of you!

## **MAHALO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS—OLD AND NEW!**

Once again this year your response to the annual membership campaign was overwhelmingly positive. We are especially pleased to welcome a number of new members and friends.

As you know, annual dues from members and friends are vital to meeting our basic operating expenses like utilities, insurance, supplies, and maintenance.

Everything we do is because of you and we are sincerely grateful for your commitment and support.

Thank you!

## **2024 MEMBER MEETING**

We will be holding our annual member meeting by ZOOM on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and in the Mission's dining room. The purposes of the meeting are to:

- (a) Elect Directors and Officers, all of whom shall be members of the Mission;
- (b) Conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting;
- (c) Provide a report of the past year's activities; and
- (d) Present a financial summary of the past year's receipts and disbursements.

About 2 weeks before the meeting, letters and/or emails will be sent to current members with the agenda, nominations, other relevant information, and instructions for the ZOOM meeting.

## SERMON FROM REV. JUNSHIN MIYAZAKI: NEHAN-E



Buddha is said to have died at the age of 80 in a place called Kusinagara. Buddha and his monks stayed in monasteries during the rainy season and moved around to practice and spread Buddha's teachings during the dry season. Memories of the Buddha's last journey became the basis of several sutras.

The sutra we read today says that Buddha's remains were divided into eight parts and pagodas were built to enshrine them.

The monument that housed the remains of the Buddha was called stupa in the Indian language. Stupa is translated as pagoda in this book, but the original stupa was dome-shaped, and when Buddhism arrived in China, it took the form of a pagoda.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century B.C., a king named Ashoka arose and ruled over most of the Indian subcontinent. Ashoka was a Buddhist. He excavated seven of the eight monuments of the Buddha, redistributed the remains stored in them, and built many stupas in various places.

Stupas played a major role in the spread of Buddhism to the people. Around the stupa, stories of Buddha were carved or painted, and people gathered to contemplate him.

Many traditional Buddhist monks began to devote themselves solely to their own practice and neglect their followers. Around the first century, a movement for Buddhist innovation took place between the followers gathered at the stupas and the progressive monks. This is called Mahayana Buddhism. Most of the Buddhism introduced to China was Mahayana Buddhism. Our Jodo Shu, Odaishi-san, Zen, Hongwanji are all Mahayana.

In Indian Subcontinent, Buddhism was oppressed by Hinduism from about the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and further attacked by Islam, and in 1203 the last Buddhist temple was destroyed by Islam, nearly wiping out Buddhism on the Indian subcontinent. The monuments that would have been here and there are, of course, gone.

In 1898, a jar containing the Buddha's remains, which King Asoka had been unable to find, was discovered in the northern part of India. This discovery also confirmed that Buddha was a real person. Buddha's remains were transferred from the British government to King Rama V of Thailand, a Buddhist country. The King gave some to Japan in 1900. To worship the Buddha's remains, a temple was built in 1904 jointly by various sects. The temple was named Nittaiji, which means Japan-Thailand temple. Now Abbots from 19 sects serve as the chief minister of Nittaiji on a three-year rotation.

In the sutra we read today, the Buddha says 'Make of yourself a light. Rely upon yourself: do not depend upon anyone else. Make my teachings your light. Rely upon them: do not depend upon any other teaching.' This phrase is well-known as his final message.

This is not a denial of helping each other in daily life, but a teaching about enlightenment. For us, as Jodo-shu believers, Buddha's teaching is Nembutsu. With that merit, we will one day go to the Pure

Land, where we will become Buddhas. We are the future Buddha, and it is not other people who make us Buddha, but the Nembutsu and Amida Buddha.

Although there are hard times in this world, let us live our lives repeating Namu Amida Butsu and believing in the rebirth in Pure Land.

**UPCOMING SERVICES AND SPECIAL TEACHING**

<p>Sunday, <b>MARCH 10</b>, 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Spring Higan:</b> Higan-e takes place twice a year, at the time of the spring and autumn equinox. <b>Higan means literally "the other shore", that is the other shore of enlightenment which contrasts this worldly shore of birth and death. It is a ceremony to honor ancestors and to chant the nembutsu. Sermon to be followed by special teaching, continued discussion about the Buddha's life and religion in the Indian subcontinent at the time.</b></p>
<p>Sunday, <b>APRIL 7 @ BIBF MEISHION</b>, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday, <b>APRIL 14 @ HAKALAU</b>, 1 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Hanamatsuri:</b> Buddha's Birthday--It is said that when Shakyamuni was born, birds sang, flowers bloomed, and two elephants poured sweet dew for bathing Shakyamuni. At the service, members pray by pouring sweet tea over the statue of Shakyamuni placed in a miniature flower garden of Lumbini. Shakyamuni's right hand points to heaven and left hand to earth. <b>This is a service of remembrance and celebration. Sermon to be followed by special teaching, continued discussion about the Buddha's life and religion in the Indian subcontinent at the time.</b></p>
<p>Saturday, <b>MAY 25</b>, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Hakalau Veterans Park Followed by lunch at the Mission</p>	<p><b>Memorial Day Service:</b> The Memorial Day Service is one of our commitments to the greater Hakalau Community. It takes place in front of a monument honoring the boys and young men from this area that died in World Wars I and II, Korea, and Vietnam. <b>This service is a Buddhist service of remembrance</b> and there is also a veteran speaker. This is followed at the Hakalau Jodo Mission with an "All American" lunch.</p>

**2024 NENKI SERVICES OBSERVED FOR DEATHS OCCURING IN:**

<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1988</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>1975</b>
1 yr	3rd	7th	13th	17th	23rd	25th	27th	33rd	37th	43rd	47th	50th

**MARCH**

Ume Masaki	3/14/1992	33 <sup>rd</sup>
Richard Shimabukuro	3/20/1998	27 <sup>th</sup>
Isao Yoshida	3/26/1998	27 <sup>th</sup>
Hoichi Ueda	3/31/2008	17 <sup>th</sup>

**Please contact Rev. Miyazaki for scheduling:  
(808) 936-7828**

**APRIL**

Harry Yamanaka	4/5/2022	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Shiro Udo	4/8/1975	50 <sup>th</sup>
Kiyojin Miyashiro	4/8/1975	50 <sup>th</sup>
Aaron Sugino	4/23/2022	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**Namu Amida Butsu**

**CLASSES: Advance registration, please. Contact instructors directly.**

- **Art Classes open to all age groups-- "My Art, My Journey", an art class with Ilze Sims in the Dining Room. Tuesdays, 3-4:30 p.m.** This is a class for anyone who would like to start their art journey and for those with some experience who would like to find new inspiration to express themselves through their art. Ilze's method balances inspiration and play – crucial elements in expressing ourselves, along with principles of good design and color harmony. The first few classes will **address**

finding inspiration, creating a good design, and harmonizing color. Call or text Ilze 808-557-2797 or send an email to sign up for classes: [ilze@HawaiiArtStudio.com](mailto:ilze@HawaiiArtStudio.com).

- **Bon Dance Practice with Sensei Jane Heit:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. **Contact Jane Heit at [bonqueen@gmail.com](mailto:bonqueen@gmail.com).**
- **Karate for Children with 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt Patricia Taniguchi:** Twice Weekly for each age group on Wednesdays and Fridays. Children 6-12 years old, 5:00 - 5:50 p.m.; 13 years and up, 6:00 - 6:50 p.m. **Contact Patricia Taniguchi at [WKA.hakalau@gmail.com](mailto:WKA.hakalau@gmail.com).**
- **Tai Chi with Sifu Slade Shim:** Wednesdays, 8:30 -10:00 a.m. **Contact Slade Shim at [wsi808@yahoo.com](mailto:wsi808@yahoo.com).**
- **Practice Yoga with Alison Simpson:** Three times weekly including Tues. 9:00-10:30 a.m., Thurs., 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Fri., 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. **NOTE: There will be no yoga classes from March 26<sup>th</sup> until May 16th. Contact Alison Simpson at 808-825-7856 or [alison@mahanahouse.com](mailto:alison@mahanahouse.com).**

## **BONSAI WORKSHOP--MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, NOON – 3 PM HAKALAU JODO MISSION SOCIAL HALL**

Bonsai enthusiast Phil Hulbert will conduct this workshop with the following objectives:

- To offer residents living north of Hilo, the opportunity to learn and practice Bonsai, the Japanese art of growing and shaping miniature trees in containers.
- To offer participants the opportunity to share their skills and knowledge of Bonsai and figure out how we can help each other.
- To create a group of enthusiasts in support of perfecting this art form.

### **THIS WORKSHOP IS FREE**

We welcome all levels of experience and knowledge, from no knowledge to avid practitioner.

### **ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUESTED.**

**IF YOU HAVE THEM, PLEASE BRING TOOLS AND TREES TO WORK ON.**

**CONTACT PHIL HULBERT** to register or request more information:

TEXT to (360) 791-8091 EMAIL [philhulbert1611@gmail.com](mailto:philhulbert1611@gmail.com)

**Hakalau Jodo Mission is located at 29-2271 Old Mamalahoa Hwy., Hakalau**

## **PLEASE CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS, OR IF YOU NEED HELP!**

- Junshin Miyazaki, Minister: (808)-936-7828 or [gongqi326@hotmail.com](mailto:gongqi326@hotmail.com)
- Susan Forbes, President/Newsletter Editor: (808)-286-6130 or [hakalaujodominion@gmail.com](mailto:hakalaujodominion@gmail.com)
- Akiko Masuda, Community Liaison: (808)-963-6422 or [akikobandb@gmail.com](mailto:akikobandb@gmail.com)

**Let your Buddha nature shine brightly.**

--Rev. Miyazaki