



DECEMBER 2013

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

Phone: 808.622.4320 [Mon-Fri 8 am to 12 noon] email: office@wahiawahongwanji.org

Website: www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

President: Mr. Glenn Hamamura — Minister: Rev. Kojun Hashimoto

Happy Holidays

Wahiawa Hongwanji Museum-Archives

Hidden Treasures of WHM

The history of Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission is a long and interesting one. It was founded in 1907 in Wahiawa, the "Pineapple Capitol of the Islands." Almost eighty years later in May of 1990, a committee was formed to create and preserve this long history in a repository or archive. Approval was granted by the board in Mid-October. The following is a brief recap of its establishment:

- November 1990 Board approval for \$2000 to start-up the project
- January 1991 Renovations in full swing
- April 1991 Club Asoka donated \$500
- Mid-April 1991 Dai-ni Fujinkai donated \$1000
- Mid-May 1991 Dai-ichi Fujinkai increased the base by \$1500
- Project now independent of the Kyodan funding
- June 15, 1991 Museum finally completed
- June 16, 1991 After Sunday service, temple members were invited to visit the Museum

Members of the Archive Committee were: Lawrence Honmyo, Evelyn Komori, Sarah Nagai, Ethel Nakagawa, Mildred Segawa, Jean Shimaura, Betsy Yamamoto, Stella Kakazu, and Dorothy Yamane.

Maintaining the artifacts in the museum proved to be difficult for a number of years until Kyodan President, Yuki Kitagawa, appointed Barbara Ladao to be the "archivist" for the museum. It is the archivist's job to maintain the artifacts and provide continuity in receiving more historical items from members and friends. This year Kahuku Temple closed its doors and WHM had the privilege of

receiving some of the artifacts.

One of the more interesting features of the Archive is the number of old pictures dating back to 1918. A photo history of Wahiawa is preserved in black and white and in color, for all to link with friends and relatives from many years before. Buddhism is all about appreciating our lives through holding dearly to our thoughts, memories and lessons of our ancestors and friends. Interdependence and interconnectivity with the past and present are essential parts of learning about our own existence.

Come and enjoy this valuable resource we have preserved in the heart of Wahiawa at the Wahiawa Hongwanji Museum-Archives! If you are interested in visiting our museum, please call the WHM office and leave your name and phone number and date of visit.

In Gassho, Barbara Ladao



Barbara Ladao



REVEREND'S MESSAGE
Dharma Talk Theme for this month is Sho-Jin
“Trying to do my best”

Mochi

There are two big events from Japan in Hawaii. It is Bon Dance and Mochi Tsuki. In December, almost all Buddhist temples will plan to make mochi. It is a Japanese custom for people to get together to pound the mochi at someone's house in December. They make mochi, share the mochi, and decorate the entrance room or in the most important room of the house with the mochi to welcome a new year. Immigrants from Japan brought mochi making to Hawaii as well as Bon Dance. Through the years, Mochi Tsuki became a popular event in Hawaii.

Mochi making is fun. We should understand why we make mochi at the end of the year as a Buddhist. The key is the word, “mochi.” This word expresses the word “motsu” which means having something or having something for a long time. It reminds us of what we have or have had for a long time.

So, mochi reminds us at least two things.

1. Harmony
2. Interrelationship

Harmony

When we make mochi, we need many people, and we should work together because there are many processes to make mochi. And when we see mochi gome (mochi rice) in the box, there are countless mochi gome. In the process of mochi tsuki, we should smash each mochi gome to connect each other. If some mochi gome is still in there, the mochi does not taste good.

Interrelationship

When you try to separate fresh mochi, it is hard to separate it, like melting cheese. It expresses strong connection. And if you put mochi in the freezer, you can keep it long and when you thaw out the mochi, it still has elasticity. So, I realized that mochi tells us of a relationship between Amida Buddha and us. We

are all different like mochi gome. Through Buddha's teachings, we remove our attachments and begin to support one another. We become “one” It is like the mochi gome are smashed by the wooden mallet to make a nice mochi. And after we connect Amida Buddha's link, it becomes strong interrelationship.

From now on, when you make a mochi or eat mochi, may we remember that we have a permanent connection with Amida Buddha.

In Gassho,
 Rev Hashimoto





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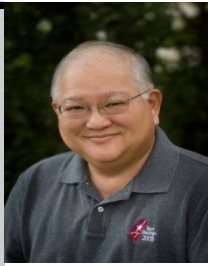
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WHM newsletter is published by friends of the Dharma. Volunteers are welcome to serve on the committee. Please send comments and change of address to WHM office or email at news@wahiawahongwanji.org.
Roy Higa, Editor



President's Message

Glenn Hamamura



We have come to the end of another calendar year.

This has been an eventful and a busy year for the temple. Several former leaders of the temple, part of the generation that supported and led the temple through the 1980's and 1990's, have passed away. The board has also continued its work on maintaining our facilities, and major expenditures were made to ensure that our buildings and property can support the temple into the future.

I had an opportunity to speak to our BWA members in November, and I reflected that we are all part of a chain of Hongwanji families and individuals that connect back more than 100 years to the temple's forming in 1908, and that this is our time in history to maintain and extend the temple's benefits, to continue this chain.

We will begin planning for 2014 to ensure that this legacy continues. If you have the interest and the availability, I encourage you to be an active participant in this journey.

There are some changes to the end of year services in December. Instead of a Joya-e Service on December 31, Reverend Hashimoto will open the temple from 4 pm to 7 pm for any families or individuals who would like to offer incense in preparation for the New Year.

The installation of officers will be held on Sunday, December 29, as part of the 9 am service.

Best wishes for a great holiday season. And best wishes for a rich and full 2014.

— In Gassho —

Glenn Hamamura

Buddhist Thoughts

Interdependence

Enjoying the holiday season and the traditional Christmas movies, it occurred to me that this season in particular is about people connecting with one another. Once a year, herculean efforts are made to catch up on life and news... letters are written, gifts exchanged, cards are sent—both by snail mail and email—and phone calls are made. Families get together and celebrate the occasion. It's actually a pretty stressful time for just about everyone, but it's worth it!

The movies shown at this time are also about reflection and family values. My favorites are "It's a Wonderful Life" and "A Christmas Carole." Actually, both movies are quite dark and it's not until the end that the main character appreciates life and learns where priorities should be. Both are very heartwarming and never fail to bring tears to my eyes. It's the contrast between conflict, greed, and overall darkness ending in gratitude and giving that makes this so emotional.

Aren't the teachings of the Buddha just like this? We recognize that there is impermanence, suffering and death in life, accept it as reality, and make the most of it by living life in gratitude as best as we can. Perhaps this is the reason why I am more conscious of living as I accumulate more and more "years of experience." It's curious that in relative youth (years gone by), I only focused on getting through "life," struggling to "get ahead," supporting and raising a family.

In Buddhism, this is a yearlong striving to be more aware of impermanence and interdependence...not just during the holidays. We say "let the spirit of the holidays extend throughout the year!" Being interconnected with members of the temple, having discussions with both young and older members, can truly be a satisfying, risk free environment. Learning life's experience through Dharma talks and relating to people as they go through their struggles provides a learning experience for all of us. Isn't that what being Buddhist is all about? It's about learning to live and appreciate life in this moment while managing the trials of living. This is true for everyone young and old.

The principle that Life is Interdependent is discussed by Dr. Ken Tanaka in *Ocean*. He discusses a much broader perspective of how all "systems of nature are all linked

together."

"Our failure to appreciate this truth fosters greater egotism and social isolation. We really do need others for our well-being. Our insistence on raw individuality at all times leads to neglect of our communities and loss of the sense of belonging. Without connection to our communities, we find ourselves stripped of values that give meaning to our lives."

How can we better promote this principle and create an environment for learning and growing for everyone? Please let me know your thoughts!

In Gassho,
Rod Moriyama

December 8 is Bodhi Day.

This day honors the enlightenment of Siddhartha Gautama. Bodhi Day would be a good way to start integrating the winter holidays with Buddhism. Here are some suggestions for integrating our customs with Buddhism:



Bodhgaya, India. Where Buddha was enlighten.
Photo by R. Higa

- String multicolored lights around your home. These lights represent enlightenment. That they are multicolored represents the many pathways all of which are valid. Turn on the lights each evening starting on December 8 and for 30 days after.
- The Bodhi tree is the tree under which the Buddha sat. Suggestion: use your pine tree that your family normally buy at this time of the year and decorate this tree with lights, strings of beads representing how all things are united, and three shiny bulbs representing the three jewels of Buddhism—the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha.

Sujata offered The Buddha milk and rice which helped him to regain his strength so that he could become enlightened. A breakfast of milk and rice would be a way to start Bodhi Day with mindfulness.

Temple News

Hawai'i Conference of Religions for Peace (HCRP)

On Sunday, October 27 the Hawai'i Conference of Religions for Peace held an interfaith service "Mindfulness for Peace", co-sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance Hawai'i (TIAH). The welcome address was given by HCRP President Rev. Irene Matsumoto. It was held at the Gedatsu Church of Hawai'i with participation by various members of the religious community - Baha'i, Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Islam, Judaism, Konko Mission, Rissho Kosei-kai Buddhist Church of Hawaii, Gedatsu Church of Hawai'i, Church of Perfect Liberty, and Buddhism.

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto represented the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i. He spoke about his experiences in Japan as a young child in Hiroshima and the effects of the atomic bomb on him. He was fortunate to have been evacuated from the area before the bomb was dropped.

In 2014 the Aloha Peace Project led by Masago Asai will be bringing artifacts from Hiroshima for display. Isn't it appropriate for the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i because next year's theme and slogan is "Path of Entrusting: Share Peace"?

The Offerings of Peace included a Japanese dance "Hana wa Saku", by Ke'ala Takahashi and a hula "The Queen's Jubilee", by Queen Lili'uokalani danced by Masago Asai.

The keynote address was given by Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kupono Kwong of the First Unitarian Church of Honolulu. He shared that peace begins with the individual and it can be achieved here and now. These are the 3 points he emphasized.

1. We need to make sure everyone's basic needs are met - a place at the table, clean air, safe place for growing, and justice and equality for all.
2. A person's well-being is tied to another's well-being. We are part of an interdependent web of life.
3. Like Martin Luther King Jr. we should engage our conflict in a non-violent way by respecting each other. We can only build community by respecting people's differences.

Rev. Dr. Kwong ended by quoting Thich Nhat Hanh saying that peace exists within each of us. We need to be awake, alive in the present moment. It's in every breath you take and every step you take. Just be mindful of the present moment.

The program closed with the sharing of the "Cup-full of Peace Project" initiated by Rev. Tatsunori Kamiya of Gedatsu Church of Hawai'i for the annual interfaith service HCRP Peace Prayer Gathering since 2008. Rev. Kamiya turns out ceramic cups that are then personalized with messages and thoughts in the form of drawings or words on the cups. The "art work" is a reminder about the importance of personal involvement in building peace in one's self, the community we belong to, and the world at large.

As in any gathering in Hawai'i the evening culminated with the sharing of the evening meal with those in attendance.

Dharma School News

December 1 - Dharma school students will be cleaning their classroom - the BWA room.

December 15 - Dharma Sunday at the Wahiawa Hongwanji for Bodhi Day and the MC will be Jay Acohido.

December 22 - Dharma school students will be visiting the Plaza at Mililani. The students will be presenting to the residents the twelve - sided ball they have worked on to hang on the 4th floor. Rev. Hashimoto will give a short talk about the old year and the new year. Residents will jot down notes about 2013 and look forward into 2014.



Capital Campaign Update

The Wahiawa Hongwanji Board of Trustees appreciate your contributions to the Capital Campaign. Our goal for 2013 is \$100,000 and as of the end of October we have collected 22% of that amount. All donations will bring us closer to our final goal of \$400,000 by 2017.

Temple News

Bodhi Day (Jodo-E)

Date: December 8, 2013

Place: Jodo Mission of Hawaii

Near H1 freeway and Punahou Street

Time: 10:00am

Guest Speaker: Dr. Soho Machida



*Professor Soho Machida left home at the age of 14 to practice as a Zen monk in a conservative monastery in Kyoto, Japan for 20 years. He left for the United States in 1984, he received a master's degree from Harvard University's School of Divinity and a PhD from University of Pennsylvania. He has taught at Princeton University, the National University of Singapore and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Currently he is a Professor at the Graduate school of Integrated Arts and Sciences and Director of the Center for Ecological Peace Studies at Hiroshima University. Professor Machida appeared on a monthly Japanese national television (NHK) program (2010-2011) that focused on Buddhism in Japan. He conducts meditation and fasting seminars throughout Japan. He has authored nearly 40 books including *Renegade Monk*, *Can Mankind Overcome Religion?*, *Why Religion Prevents Peace?*, etc. The topic of his talk will be: "Buddha Dharma – The Way of Life."



Ha Phan at Batu cave in Malaysia 7/18/2013

Photo submitted by Doris Matsuoka

PEACE BEGINS WITH ME.

Come and hear the perspective of an all-youth panel discuss experiences with Peace from within. These representatives have been involved in various of youth activities the HHMH has to offer. The panel will share a brief reflection and will answer a few questions regarding Peace.

WHEN: January 11, 10 AM– Noon

WHERE: Buddhist Study Center

Open to the public, RSVP appreciated.

E-mail: Jake Chang—youth@honpahi.org

St. Stephen's Food Collection

Thank you for your generous donations to the Food Pantry, especially at this time of the year. Please turn in your canned goods on December 15, Dharma Sunday, for the St. Stephen's Food Pantry. Let's work together to help the people in the Wahiawa community. A person's or family's day will certainly be brightened with your contributions. Remember Peace begins with YOU.

TEMPLE CLEAN-UP AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013

Looking forward to seeing many temple members on this day to help clean out the cobwebs and brush off the dust. The windows also need to be cleaned and the blinds wiped. Volunteers are also needed to help clean the BWA Room, the Social Hall, the Columbarium and the kitchen.

Lunch will be served in the Social Hall, followed by our annual General Membership Meeting, at which time election of our 2014 Kyodan Officers will be held. All temple members are encouraged to come in the morning to help clean, and to stay for lunch, meeting, and fellowship in the afternoon.

Help us to maintain our ‘house of worship’. Have a say in how the temple is run, and by whom! Enjoy the delicious cooking right from our own kitchen. And get caught up with the latest news and gossip!

Join us on Sunday, December 1, 2013 from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

BWA MONTHLY BRIEFS

Our next BWA meeting date has been changed from Dec. 8, 2013, to Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013 at 10am, immediately following Sunday Service. The change comes as a result of a temple calendar change of events. There will be no Sunday Service at WHM on Dec. 8. A special Bodhi Day Service is being held at Jodo Mission in Honolulu on that day to which everyone is invited to attend. Bodhi Day Service at WHM will be held on Dec. 15, 2013 at 9am.

Those who have not yet paid their 2014 BWA Dues are asked to do so immediately, so that we (Wahiawa Unit), in turn, will be able to forward this money to the Oahu District (Rengo) in a timely manner. Make your check for \$15.00 to: WHM/BWA, and drop into the BWA box at the temple office. Thank you for attending to this matter promptly.

VETERAN’S DAY PARADE What a beautiful day it was for a parade! Some 69+ temple members and friends turned out in their purple shirts and red, white and blue leis, waving American flags and red and white pom poms. Among the group were Bishop Eric Matsumoto and his family, Bishop’s Assistant, Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani and his family, and Rev. Jay Okamoto and his family.

Following the parade that took us to District Park, we turned our attention to the Grand Marshall and honored speaker of the event, Keith Tamashiro, nephew of Judi Kakazu (Wahiawa temple member) and Aki Kakazu (Club Asoka President and Mililani Hongwanji member). Keith, a very good friend of the temple, had been invited to speak to us on numerous occasions. On this day, throughout his speech, Keith made several references to WHM, even remembering the “Welcome Home Luncheon,” that we had for the troops right here at our temple.

All of us present were again very proud, as Rev. Hashimoto took the stage and closed the event with the Benediction. It was the first time in the 67 year history of the Veteran’s Day parade in Wahiawa that a Buddhist minister had been invited to participate in the program, and Rev. Hashimoto did not disappoint us, as he did a great job!



Keith Tamashiro Rev Hashimoto

Acknowledgements

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Every effort has been made to accurately present these records. Please call the office 622-4320 to report any errors. If you do not want your name to be published, please mark your donation. "Do Not Publish." *Thank you very much.*

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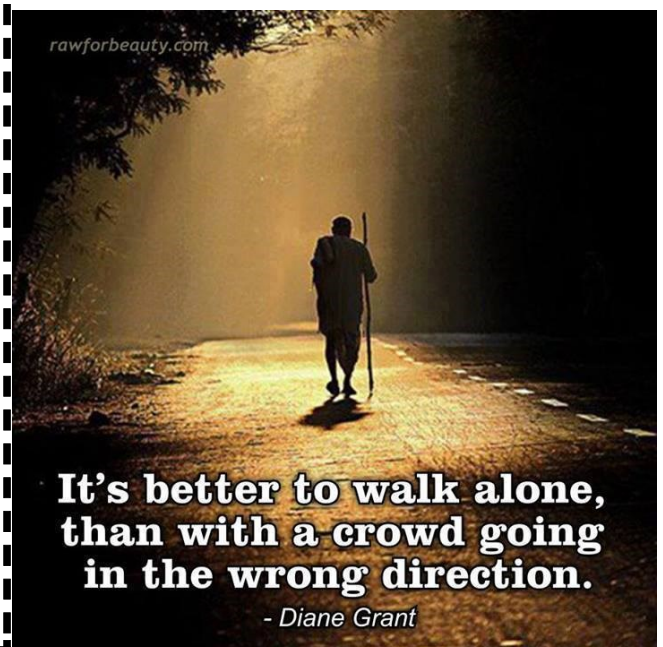
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**It's better to walk alone,
than with a crowd going
in the wrong direction.**

- Diane Grant

December 2013

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|--|--|--|-----------|--|
| 1 8a-12p General Cleanup and Membership Meeting (No Sunday Service) | 2 | 3 | 4 Dharma Meeting cancel this month | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 9a-10a Bodhi Day Svc- Jodo Mission Honolulu (Jodo Mission Honolulu) | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 7:30a-10:30a Hosha Kai 7p-8p Club Asoka Meeting BWA Room | 13 | 14 4p-5:30p Mochi Pick Up |
| 15 9a-10a WHM Bodhi Day Service and Dharma School (WHM Temple) 10a-12p BWA Meeting | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 11a-12p Hospital Visitation (PD) | 20 | 21 4p-5:30p Mochi Pick Up |
| 22 9a-10a Sunday Service and Dharma School | 23 | 24 | 25 Christmas | 26 7:30a-10:30a Hosha Kai | 27 | 28 3p-4p Kadomatsu Pick Up (WHM) |
| 29 9a-10a Sunday Service & Installation of Kyodan Officers | 30 | 31 4p-7p Temple Open For Offering (WHM Temple) | Notes: | | | |

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Mochi Rice Dessert EJK's Version

- 6 standard measuring cups mochi rice
- 6 cups of water - Wash and cook rice in cooker like regular rice.
- 1 box (16 oz.) dark brown sugar
- 1 can (13.5 oz.) coconut milk.
- 1 cup Mound's Sweetened Coconut Flakes
- ½ cup sifted Fiesta Tropicale Coconut Milk Powder (optional, Tamura's Market)
- ¼ cup raw Turbinado sugar

While cooked rice is still warm, add the whole box of dark brown sugar, coconut milk, coconut flakes, and sifted coconut milk powder. Mix well. Pour into greased 9" x 13" pan. Sprinkle top with Turbinado sugar and bake, uncovered at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Cool completely before cutting.

2013 KADOMATSU PROJECT

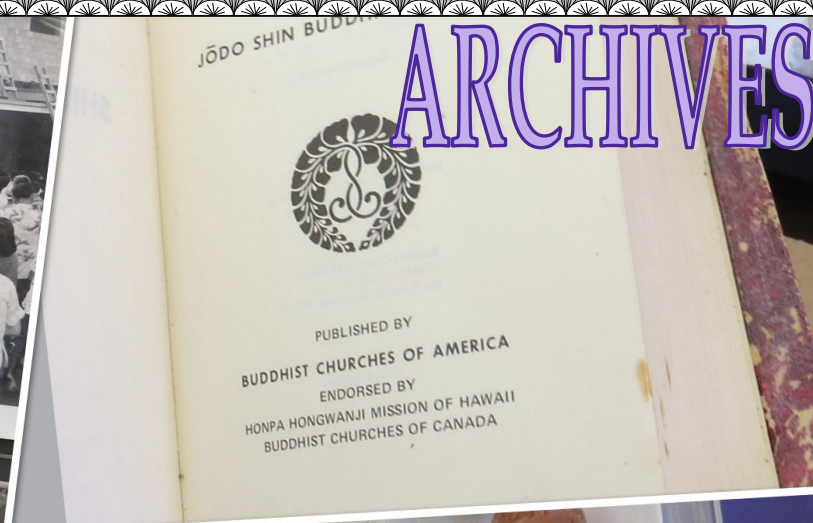
Order form for kadomatsu is enclosed. Please fill out and turn in with your check to the temple office by 12noon on Friday, December 13, 2013.

Pick up date is: Saturday, December 28, 2013, from 3:00 to 4:00pm at the WHM Social Hall.

Any questions call Dale at 392-3253.



ARCHIVES



1949 APRIL 17 WAHIAWA HONGWANJI DE





WHM's "Sangha Strummers" enjoying a jam session with the Moiliili Hongwanji's "Happy Strummers". Photo by Dale Shimaura



Veteran's
Day
Parade



Photos by Dale Shimaura

2013 WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION –KADOMATSU PROJECT

Order deadline: **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2013**

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|----------------------|---|-------|
| 16" KADOMATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$19.00 (Member) | = | _____ |
| 16" KADOMATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$24.00 (Non-Member) | = | _____ |
| 2' DOOR MATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$6.00 (Anyone) | = | _____ |
| 6" VASE MATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$5.00 (Anyone) | = | _____ |

_____ TOTAL

Check payable to: **WHM - KADOMATSU PROJECT**

Pick-Up Date: **Saturday, December 28, 2013**

Time: **3:00pm to 4:00pm**

Location: **Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission – Social Hall**

Questions? Call Dale at 392-3253.

(Cut here and return bottom portion with payment by Friday, Dec. 13, 2013. Keep top portion for your records)

2013 WHM KADOMATSU ORDER FORM

Temple Member? Yes / No (Circle One)

Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone _____ Cell: _____

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|----------------------|---|-------|
| 16" KADOMATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$19.00 (Member) | = | _____ |
| 16" KADOMATSU | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$24.00 (Non-Member) | = | _____ |
| 2' Door Matsu | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$6.00 (Anyone) | = | _____ |
| 6" Vase Matsu | (Number desired) _____ | x | \$5.00 (Anyone) | = | _____ |

_____ TOTAL

Check payable to: **WHM – KADOMATSU PROJECT**

(Office Use Only)

Date Rcvd _____ Cash/Check# _____ Payment Amt _____ Rcvd By _____
(Full Name-no initials)

Comments: