



# Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

NOVEMBER 2013

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

## What is Buddhism?

At a time when people appear to be motivated by a “what’s in it for me” syndrome, Buddhism provides a balanced approach for managing happiness in our lives through spiritual development and survival tradeoffs. Jodo Shinshu

Buddhism is one path of many that guarantees the attainment of Pure Land or nirvana through a concept of Other Power. Pure Land is a term used to describe universal wisdom and compassion. This Other Power is described as Amida Buddha, a concept of universal power, infinite light and compassion. Because these concepts are difficult to grasp they are translated metaphorically through stories.

Buddhism was established over 2500 years ago. A prince named Siddhartha Gautama came into the world, and because of his father’s position and wealth, he had every desire fulfilled. He even married and had children. After 29 years of a life that most of us would accept as ideal, he learned that there was more to life. This included sickness, aging, and death. He spent six years of deep searching attaining a state of universal awareness, and became, a Buddha, or the Awakened One. He spent the rest of his life of 80 years, sharing what he learned. There is no God in Buddhism, and logically, no judgment. It is about living this life now, in a balanced way, and appreciating every moment. It is an ever-progressive quest of learning about oneself, improving all life around us in peace and compassion.

His teachings are founded on Four Noble Truths: Life is suffering (dukkha), meaning dissatisfaction,

stress, anxiety, and unhappiness.

Suffering (dukkha) is caused by greed, anger, and ignorance.

Suffering can be stopped.

Following the Eightfold Path is the key to the cessation of suffering.



The Eightfold Path involves:

- Wholesome view
- Wholesome intention
- Wholesome speech
- Wholesome action
- Wholesome livelihood
- Wholesome effort
- Wholesome mindfulness
- Wholesome meditation

The quest of a Buddhist is learning these principles through a maturation process of learning. Because these are universal truths, and we all learn over time, there are

countless ways of experiencing this maturation process. Its complexity is buried deep within its simplicity. Life is ever changing. Buddhism is ever changing as new things are learned and invented. Adapting to change, and adjusting our lives to a compassionate understanding of ourselves and others, promote peace and harmony. Learning through shared stories and being part of an interconnected community brings reality and understanding over time. There are no set rules. Please join this adventure as we all learn to live our precious moments together in harmony.

By Rod Moriyama For WHM Handbook

### ***“I am Awaken”***

It is said that when Buddha was first Enlightened he was asked,

"Are you a God?"

"No," he replied.

"Are you a saint?" "No."

"Then what are you?" And he answered, "I am awake."



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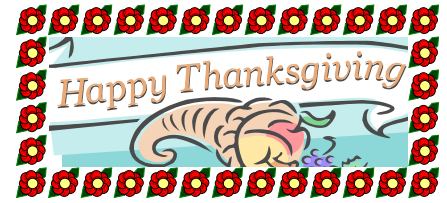
WHM newsletter is published by friends of the Dharma. Volunteers are welcome to serve on the committee. Please send comments and change of address to WHM office or email at [news@wahiawahongwanji.org](mailto:news@wahiawahongwanji.org). Roy Higa, Editor



# President's Message

Glenn Hamamura

We are in the final months of the calendar year 2013. It seems that we just started, and it has been an eventful year.



First, we honored the passing of key leaders of the temple, those who made possible the continuity of leadership from the later 1980's through the early 2000's. These great volunteers included Evelyn Komori, Hideto Imai, Sarah Nagai, and Vicky Hoshibata. Many others who passed away this year also helped during this period, but these were individuals I worked with directly when I started my own volunteer path at the temple in the 2003 time frame. I learned about Buddhism in action from them, and from others like Jimmy Iha. I still have a lot to learn.

We completed September and October with many, many events that were held at our temple, for the Hongwanji Oahu District, and for the Hawaii Kyodan. Countless people were involved, but I would be remiss if I did not thank specifically Elaine Kawamoto and Joyce Fujimoto, who, behind the scenes, ensured that the hospitality which I believe we at Wahiawa prize as part of our culture, were key players at these events. I know there were others whom I am forgetting to mention. My apologies.

We have kicked off our capital fund raising campaign, led by Carolyn Uchiyama, Alan Kakazu, James and Karen Hirai, and others. It is ambitious, multi-year, and of course, voluntary. I sincerely hope that your consideration of this effort, mindful of your own financial situation, will be supportive. We've had to fix a lot of things, but our leadership goal is to handle them in this generation, and not leave issues for the next as much as possible.

Please note that we are getting ready for the next set of fundraising events in December – the annual mochi sale and kadomatsu sales. I ask for your help in purchasing what you need, selling the value of this to your friends, and helping, if possible, to make these events a success.

Best wishes for a great November.

In Gassho

Glenn Hamamura

## Capital Campaign Kick-Off

We are kindly asking for \$300 per year beginning 2013. We will accept whatever you are able to contribute to this cause and all donations are tax deductible. In the future months we will be able to inform you of our goal and our advancement towards it. We will be sending letters to each donor and list the names of donors in the temple newsletter monthly for your record keeping.



# REVEREND'S MESSAGE

## Dharma Talk Theme for this month is Ryo-Ge "Realization"

### Why the chicken's head is red

Let me share a story to understand the compassion of Amida Buddha.

A long time ago, a chicken met and played with rabbit's (parent and children) in the forest. Suddenly, a wildcat attacked them. They managed to run away from the wildcat.

Soon after that, the chicken was captured by a human. The human tried to catch more chickens. The human demanded that chicken call other chickens. The chicken cried. But his cry was not to attract other chickens, but to warn them NOT to come to here because of the human waiting to catch them. The human was so upset when he noticed that. In his anger the human coiled up the chicken and tossed it away into the forest.

The wildcat came after the chicken again. When the wildcat tried to eat the chicken, the mother rabbit shouted "I'm here. Can you eat me?" The mother rabbit called the wildcat to distract him and rescued the chicken.

One day, there was a forest fire. The god of fire tried to consume all of the young rabbits in the forest. The chicken requested to the god of fire, "instead of all of the young rabbits, please eat me." The forest fire was stopped. But next, the god of fire tried to eat the chicken. The mother rabbit appealed, "Do not eat the chicken because he rescued all of the young rabbits." But the god of fire did not listen to her.

The god of fire hung up the chicken and made the fire under the chicken to eat it. The chicken said nothing. When the god of fire saw the chicken, he said "you are so strong and kind. I will forgo eating you because of your good heart. But you have to have the fire on your head forever.

When the mother rabbit saw his head, she said "You look more excellent with the new addition to your head." The red comb is a symbol of his courage and kindness for his personal sacrifice for others.

Through this story, we think of Amida Buddha's compassion.

"Why he made Forty Eight Vows?"

"Why he decided to establish the Pure Land?"

"Why he is calling the holy name, Namo Amida Butsu, to us?"

Amida Buddha is trying to help us like the chicken and mother rabbit in this story. When we understand Amida Buddha's heart as he always thinks of all life as equal. We should also always think of how we should react and treat others.

In Gassho,  
Rev Kojun



Bishop's wife, Sensei and Yuji Sasaki and wife, nephew of Sadako's cranes, and Rev Jay and his wife.

Picture by Arlene Ogata.


  
**Hongwanji Ministers (Canada, BCA, Hawaii, Brazil)**
  
 will respond to questions and concerns submitted by October 25, 2013. Please watch this live Broadcast on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 from 7:30-9:00pm (PST) (Hawaii time is 5:30-7:00pm. Access to USTREAM channel is [www.ustream.tv/ihope-203-nov-q-a](http://www.ustream.tv/ihope-203-nov-q-a)


  
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# Buddhist Thoughts

## Candyland Adventure

“Let’s play Candyland, Poppy!” Said our four year old grandson Jason. It had been a while since we last played it. He is always preoccupied with something else so this was a pleasant surprise after dinner.

Candyland is a board game for children under 6. On the surface, it is a game to help children learn colors. There is a stack of cards which is turned in sequence, and a color tile is usually pictured on it. Sometimes there are two tiles showing the same color which directs the player to jump to the next two-say blue-tiles on the board. There is a long winding route of colored tiles to follow to the end where there is a castle. The winner is the first person to reach the castle. Along the way, there are surprise treats like ice cream cones or cake or lollipops. There are cards with pictures of these treats, also, so one may be close to the end, only to pick a “treat” and have to return to the that specific tile.

We’ve been playing this game for at least two years. There is a built-in “win-lose” duality...and neither of us likes to lose! In recalling Dr. Mark Unno’s lesson on Duality and Oneness, I tried to be mindful of the positive nature of the game. It occurred to me that pulling a “treat” card can be considered a penalty. In some cases, one has to start almost from the beginning. During the game, whenever I pulled a “treat” card, I would say “Yum!” I should also say I lost three times!

When one sees the bigger picture of the game, it is not about the duality of winning or losing, it’s about just interacting with the child, taking turns in sequence, playing by the rules, experiencing disappointment and learning from each other. How often do we think this way in life? Are we always just thinking about winning?

In our daily living, we are presented with duality challenges every day. How often do we say: “Life is not fair?” Being mindful provides a learning opportunity every moment of the day!

Namu Amida Butsu!

In Gassho,  
Rod Moriyama



**How about writing a gratitude list for things that we are grateful for.**

Writing a gratitude list doesn’t really require instructions or steps. Just: **Take a clean sheet of paper or blank computer document, and write a list of things you are grateful for. That’s it.** Many people do this when they catch themselves being particularly ungrateful. Some do it every morning. But here are a few tips that may help you:

1. If you feel blocked and don’t know where to start, try to just free associate one. Don’t worry about coming up with a good one. Just write the first thing that comes to mind. It might be silly, or you might not be sure about it. Just write it down.
2. Do not censor yourself. Don’t think of something you’re grateful for and then say to yourself, “Oh, that’s silly,” or “That’s not a proper thing to put down on the list,” or “I shouldn’t be grateful for that.” If you think of it, put it on the list.
3. Conversely, don’t put anything on your list that you don’t really mean. This list is for you, not for appearances.

Leave off explanations and rationalizations. Enjoy your list and make it alive for what you are grateful for. Some times, we need to see it written on paper to appreciate those grateful things in our lives.



## Temple News

### **A Concert for Peace**

The last event for Peace Week-end on Sunday, September 22 was "A Concert for Peace" at Wahiawa Hongwanji sponsored by the Dharma School Teachers of Oahu. Due to the nature of this event we had guests from West Kauai Hongwanji, Bishop Eric, Tamayo and Caden Matsumoto, HHMH President Alton Miyamoto and his wife, Business Manager Art Nakagawa and his wife, and of course our special guests from Japan Mr. & Mrs. Masahiro Sasaki and Mr. & Mrs. Yuji Sasaki with their translator.



his sister Sadako as well as his experiences in Hawaii. After his speech, his son Yuji Sasaki sang the song he created for his aunt describing her experiences through her illness with leukemia after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima during WW II. We appreciated his effort to sing his song in English for the audience.

Following the concert, the cranes made by the following Hongwanjis: Jikoen, Pearl City, Waianae, Mililani, and Wahiawa were strung, tied together, and taken to Hiroshima by Rev. Edna Yano of the Konkō Mission of Wahiawa while on a tour of Japan. The cranes were received at the Hiroshima Peace Park and placed in cases behind Sadako's statue.

The day began with a morning service led by the Oahu District ministers Revs. Hashimoto, Nishiyama and Okamoto. The Dharma speaker was Stephen Chinen who explained how his own experiences in war led to the formation of his crusade to have the name of the UH Warriors changed to the former name of Rainbows.

DSTO appreciated everyone's donations of backpacks and school supplies to help foster children. They were taken to the agency passing them out. And finally, DSTO thanks all the temples for working together to pull off this great effort that brought the Hongwanji and larger community together to celebrate peace.

After the service the Dharma schools performed for the audience with their renditions of Wahiawa's "Many but One"; Sangha Strummers' "E Huli Makou" and "I Am What I Am"; Pearl City's/Waipahu's "One Ohana, We are Colors"; Mililani's "Imagine"; and the Ministers' "Radio Exercise." The audience enjoyed the variety of performances and gave each a rousing applause.

### **Dharma School News**

Dharma Sunday will be on November 10, Veterans' Day and the MC will be Cy Acohido. Dharma School will be held on November 17 and 24. The students will be working on the idea of sharing between themselves and members of the Sangha.

After the intermission the community groups began with Laurie Rubin featuring her new song "The Girl I Am", and Jennifer Taira accompanying Laurie as she sang "Buddha's Great Light" which was written by Carrie Kawamoto and set to music by Jenny. Following was the Warm Pockets Band from Ohana Arts who played songs of their own creation. Continuing under the direction of Ms. Debbie Agpaoa, the Wahiawa Middle School Jazz Band stormed the stage and rocked and rolled and played their way into the hearts of the audience.

### **St. Stephen's Food Collection**

Thank you for your generous donations to the Food Pantry. Please turn in your canned goods on November 10, 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 is brightened with your contributions.

Next, Na Kamalei 'O 'Iliahi with instructor Tom Yamamoto solemnly began with the video and song they created for Sandy Hook Elementary stirring everyone's emotions through the words of their song. Using students as MCs, Mr. Yamamoto translated the songs they were singing into Japanese for our special guests, the Sasakis.

### **Veteran's Day Parade.**

For the first time in the history of the Veteran's Day Parade in Wahiawa, the Lion's Club has decided to have a Buddhist minister do the benediction to close the program that follows the parade. Rev. Hashimoto has been asked to do the honors.

The final performers for the day were the Sasakis. Mr. Masahiro Sasaki through his translator shared about

So let's all turn out in force to represent our temple, and to support our minister!

If you are not yet signed up, please call the temple office at 622-4320 between the hours of 8a-12noon, M-F.

## Temple News

### 2013 Mochi Project.

To help ease the burden of the growing number of mochi orders and the declining manpower, mochi-making this year will take place on December 14 and December 21.

Deadline for turning order forms to the temple office is 12 noon on Friday, November 15, 2013. People who send in their orders early will be able to pick up their mochi on the 21st. Once that quota is met, the rest of the orders will have to be picked up on the 14th. The families picking up on December 14 will be notified by phone. Pick up time on both days will be from 4:00p-5:30p in the Social Hall.

**All mochi, whether picked up on December 14 or 21, should be put into the freezer as soon as you get home to keep them from molding. Take them out from the freezer just prior to use.**

So please begin clearing your freezers to make room for your mochi coming in early to mid-December.

Any questions, call Dale at 392-3253.

### 2013 Mochi Project – Manpower.

A sign up sheet is out for everyone interested in helping on December 14 and December 21. We ask that you please sign up, and not just show up, for these reasons: 1) You come with an assignment, and 2) You know what time to show up for your assignment. Not everyone needs to show up at 6:00am.

All who sign up will be called; some groups will be asked to come in for lessons/practice sessions prior to December 14 and 21. We will ask even the experienced to show up to learn to do things the “WHM Way”, for the sake of uniformity.

If you wish to sign up for more than one assignment, just check the “start” and “end” time of each assignment, and make sure those assignments do not overlap. You must complete your first assignment before moving on to the next.

Remember, this is a major temple fund raiser and people are paying for our product. We, therefore, must produce the very best end product that we possibly can.

Please don't think that you cannot be of help because you don't know how to make mochi. The actual making of the mochi is only a small part of the project. We need help in the kitchen washing dishes, we need help with set up and clean up, we need runners, etc, etc. Check the sign up sheet, there is always something you can do if you want to help.

### BWA MONTHLY BRIEFS-TSUITO-E SERVICE.

The Wahiawa Hongwanji BWA ladies held a very successful Memorial Service on October 6, 2013 to honor their deceased members who have passed on to the Pure Land. About 130+ families attended the service and lunch that followed. It was especially nice to meet so many young family members of former BWA ladies.

**Special** thank-you to Rev. Hashimoto for conducting the service and also for chanting the great length of time to accommodate all the people offering incense. Thank you also to Takako Hashimoto for her assistance with planning, the Planning Committee, chaired by Judi Kakazu, Mildred Segawa, Tsuki Kitagawa and Lana Bender, the Hosha men who assisted with set-up and clean up of the hall, and pick up of osonae; to those who brought ferns and flowers; to all the member and nonmember ladies who decorated the hall and helped in the kitchen; to Jan Matsuura who played the organ; and to all of the members who attended and participated, either at the reception table, reception line, ushering, passing out of programs, passing out of osonae in the back of the temple, and in the service.

**Evaluation** meetings have been held and discussion has begun for the planning and improving of the service for next year.

**-2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES.** Those who have not yet sent in your 2014 membership dues of \$15.00, please do so ASAP! Make your check out to: Wahiawa Hongwanji/BWA, and send attention: Louise Stevens.

**- NEW BWA MEMBERS.** We have two new members this month. They are: 1) Caitlin Ohashi, granddaughter of deceased member Gladys Ohashi, and 2) Cindy Kimoto, daughter of member Mildred Segawa. Both are already participating actively in BWA matters. Welcome, Caitlin and Cindy!



DESSERTS AT TSUITO-E LUNCHEON  
Picture by Dale Shimaura

## **HEADQUARTERS UPDATE**

### **125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will be celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the year 2014, and the plan to hold district-centered celebrations was approved at the Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors' September 2013 meeting. In order to carry out the celebration, the following members were selected as the Planning Committee members.

#### General Chair

Mr. Alton Miyamoto / Bishop Eric Matsumoto

Correspondence / Communication Chair

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

General Consultant for Services

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

Finance Mr. Arthur Nakagawa

#### District Co-Chairs (Kanji Ministers & Lay members)

Honolulu Rev. David Nakamoto/Mr. Pieper Toyama

Oahu Rev. Mary David /Ms. Carolyn Uchiyama

Maui Rev. Ai Hironaka /Ms. Janet Shimada

Kauai Rev. Kazunori Takahashi /Ms. Carol Valentine

Hawaii Rev. Kosho Yagi /Mr. Morris Nagata

***\*Information of the anniversary will be shared periodically through this HQ Update.***

### **2013-2014 SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE**

In November we celebrate the important holidays of Thanksgiving and Eitai-kyo. Both remind us to be mindful of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

The generous contributions from Sangha members provides the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii the ability to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community and to provide compassionate action during times of disaster. Your contributions also allow the Committee on Social Concerns to plan for future programs related to social issues affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving kindness we were able to continue lending our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, and the various food banks across the state. Your generosity allowed Hawaii Kyodan to lead the fundraising effort to build the Sadako Sasaki Peace Crane exhibit at Pearl

Harbor and to help bring the Sasaki family to Hawaii for the recent dedication ceremony and numerous Peace Day events.

Because of your kokua over the years, we have also been able to help with recovery efforts after natural disasters and assist members of our Sangha affected by misfortune and other emergency situations. We have also been able to establish the Golden Chain Grant program that promotes compassionate action through service to others in our community. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please make all checks payable to your temple. The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person. Any donation you are able to give will make a difference in the lives of others. Your help is needed to continue our mission of sharing the Dharma through compassionate action. Mahalo!

### **PBA OPEN HOUSE**

Wednesday, November 13, 2013, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm @ Hawaii Betsuin Annex Temple

You are cordially invited to learn about the progressive educational programs that Pacific Buddhist Academy offers students grades 9-12. As the only Shin Buddhist college-prep high school in Hawaii, academic excellence is only the beginning as we seek to develop the next generation of compassionate leaders for our community. Open enrollment and financial aid available. Come learn about who we are and enjoy light refreshments. Please RSVP by Friday, Nov. 8th. We look forward to seeing you!

For more information, go to [www.pacificbuddhistacademy.org](http://www.pacificbuddhistacademy.org) or contact Assistant Head of School Flynn Corson at 532-2649 or at [info@pbahi.org](mailto:info@pbahi.org). Mahalo!

### **HAWAII FEDERATION OF BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS**

Congratulations to the 2014-2015 Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Federation Buddhist Women's Associations Officers who were recently installed on October 5, 2013.

The BWA will be looking forward to two major events in the next two years:

**12<sup>th</sup> BWA State Membership Conference**, May 3-4, 2014, Kona, HI.

Theme: "Peace and Oneness of Life"

**15<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Women's Convention**, May 30-31, 2015, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Theme: "Embraced by the Oneness of Life"

# Acknowledgements

## Columbarium

	In memory of
Marrion Johnston	Ume Fujimoto and Yoshimi Fujimoto
Wayne Masaki	Eizo and Miki Yuruki
Betsy Miyamoto	
Robert Soma	

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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.*



# November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:30a-10:30a Quilt Club-BWA Room-POC Ethel Yamamoto 625- 1745	2
3 9a-10a Dharma Sunday Service 10a-11a Board Meeting	4	5 Election Day	6 7p-9p Dharma Group Mtg (BWA Rm)	7 8a Aloha visit/ Wahiawa	8	9
10 9a-10a Veteran's Day Sunday Service 10a-12p Soc Hall BWA Meeting	11 Veterans' Day	12	13	14 7:30a-10:30a Hosha Kai 7p-8p Club Asoka Meeting BWA Room	15 8:30a-10:30a Quilt Club (Fujinkai Room)	16 8a-9a Altar Awareness
17 9a-10a Etiakyo Svc (Combined Japanese/ English) 9a-10a Sunday Service and Dharma School	18	19 8a Aloha vis- it/Other	20	21 11a-12p 11:am Hospital Visita- tion (PD)	22	23
24 9a-10a Sunday Service and Dharma School	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

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### ***Graham Cracker Cookie***

One small box Nabisco graham crackers  
2 sticks butter (not margarine)  
1/2 cup sugar  
1-8oz. pkg. sliced almonds

Line cookie sheet (with edges) with foil. Line pan with single layer of crackers (you won't use entire box).

Simmer butter and sugar mixture until thickened. About 2 minutes rolling boil. Stir constantly with wooden spoon. Pour over crackers as evenly as possible with spoon. (Be sure to saturate crackers.) Sprinkle almonds on top.

Bake at 350 degrees until almonds are slightly golden (12-15 minutes.) Pieces will crack when removing from pan. Allow cookie to harden and then serve or store in an airtight container.

#### **Hints:**

Line large pan with foil.

Lay Graham crackers, try to fit as many as you can in the pan.

Melt 2 blocks butter till melted, add sugar a little at a time while stirring. Melt sugar and butter on medium heat until full boil, then time for 2 minutes.

Sprinkle evenly on crackers. Then sprinkle almonds on top. (Half a bag for one recipe).

Bake at 350 degrees about 10-12 minutes. When the center starts to bubble, it usually will be about 10 minutes.

Leave it in another minute or so.

Cool in pan, then break into pieces. Put it in an airtight container. Submitted by B.H. Higa

