

## Puna Hongwanji Mission



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# July 2019 Hi-Lites

## *Of Special Interest This Month*

July 4 - Obon Set Up

July 5 & 6 - Hatsubon

July 7 - Obon Clean Clean Up



August 24 - Pahoa Obon

August 30 - September 1

BWA World Convention

## *2019 Honpa Hongwanji Slogan*

**Embrace Change: Transformation  
(Walk in Peace)**

## *Puna Hongwanji Vision Statement*

Puna Hongwanji Mission will be a dynamic and unique temple for Hawaii serving the spiritual needs of the community through Jodo-Shinshu teachings.

## *Puna Hongwanji Mission Statement*

Puna Hongwanji Mission is a community of people joined in the joy of a common faith in Amida Buddha to share the Dharma in our daily living.



## *The Hi-Lites Monthly Newsletter*

The Hi-Lites is published monthly by the Puna Hongwanji Mission. The articles and opinions expressed by the editors and individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Puna Hongwanji Mission.

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## *Temple Clean-up Schedule*



Each section will be responsible for weekly clean-up of the temple for the entire month. Section leader will contact members on the clean-up dates and times

**JULY** - Pahoa  
**AUGUST** - Hilo

## *Toban Refreshment Schedule for Sunday*

**JULY** - M/K/V  
**AUGUST** - Keaau



## *Memorial Service (Nenki)*

Families, relatives, and friends of deceased members listed, please contact the temple if there are any corrections or omissions.

Researched and compiled by Reverend Satoshi Tomioka



### **July 2019**

1 yr.	None	
3 yrs.	Akira Yamamoto	June 17, 2017
	Anna Shizuko Yoshida	June 20, 2017
7 yrs.	Loren Hiromu Mochida	June 14, 2013
13 yrs.	Yuriko Koshi	June 2, 2007
	Richard Sakoda	June 3, 2007
	Frank Kunio Miyamoto	June 5, 2007
	Yasue Watarida	June 30, 2007
17 yrs.	Jean Setsuko Kimura	June 3, 2003
	Norito Nagao	June 4, 2003
	Noboru "Pinhead" Shimabuku	June 6, 2003
	Kaoru Nakahara	June 7, 2003
25 yrs.	Yoshiko Ushio	June 5, 1995
	Yamato Asato	June 20, 1995
33 yrs.	Kame Yogi	June 3, 1987
	Sunao Nishida	June 5, 1987
	Uto Arakawa	June 9, 1987
50 yrs.	None	



## *With Deepest Sympathy*



Puna Hongwanji Mission extends its sincerest sympathy and condolences to the family and relatives of the following member(s) who recently passed away.

*Pamela Kamei*

# July 2019

## *Puna Hongwanji Mission Calendar of Events*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM Pahoa Service	<b>2</b> Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>3</b> PiYo Live! 4 PM Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM Bon Dance Practice	<b>4</b> Meditation 6:30AM Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM <b>Obon Set Up</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Hatsubon</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Hatsubon</b>
<b>7</b> Obon Clean Up	<b>8</b> Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM	<b>9</b> Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>10</b> PiYo Live! 4 PM Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM	<b>11</b> Meditation 6:30 AM Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>12</b> Choir 3:30 PM Yoga 9 AM	<b>13</b> Yoga 8 AM
<b>14</b> Columbarium Service	<b>15</b> Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM	<b>16</b> Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>17</b> PiYo Live! 4 PM Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM Bon Dance Practice	<b>18</b> Meditation 6:30 AM Taiko 3 PM <b>BOD Meeting</b>	<b>19</b> Choir 3:30 PM Yoga 9 AM	<b>20</b> Yoga 8 AM
<b>21</b> Family Service 9 AM	<b>22</b> Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM	<b>23</b> Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>24 BREAD</b> PiYo Live! 4 PM Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM Bon Dance Practice	<b>25</b> Meditation 6:30 AM Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>26</b> Choir 3:30 PM Yoga 9 AM	<b>27</b> Yoga 8 AM
<b>28</b> Family Service 9 AM	<b>29</b> Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM	<b>30</b> Taiko 3 PM Judo 6:30 PM	<b>31</b> PiYo Live! 4 PM Judo 5:30 PM Karate 7 PM			



## **Hi-Lites Photo Publication** **Ethics Statement**

1. While photographing subjects in public places without permission is legally acceptable, we maintain sensitivity towards “camera shy” subjects and those that request photo ID anonymity.
2. We always seek permission when photographing subjects in private places (residences, care homes, etc.).
3. We provide appropriate photo credits of public domain, online or copyright material.
4. We provide appropriate and accurate context documentation when publishing all photos.
5. We strive to be accurate and comprehensive in the representation of subjects.
6. We do not intentionally contribute to, alter, or seek to alter or influence events by staged photos.
7. We insure that edited photos maintain the integrity of the photographic images' content and context and not mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects.
8. We strive to follow normal sensibilities and the highest ethical standards in all our reporting efforts.



The articles and opinions expressed by the editors and individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Puna Hongwanji Mission.

Give us your feedback and suggestions

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## **Minister's Message**



“Where will you go when you die?”

Obon season has come. Every weekend, there will be a bon dance held in temples across the Big Island. Dancing, Onolicious concession, Taiko drumming, family and friends gathering time awaits for each of us. Let us make unforgettable memories at Puna Hongwanji Buddhist

Temple Gathering of Joy (Bon) Dance and the other bon dances! For the meaning and origin of Obon, please refer to the other article.

Every time Obon season comes, a story comes to my mind and reminds me of the significance and uniqueness of Obon in Jodo Shin Buddhism shared by my senior ministers.

One day, a minister was on duty at night. At midnight when a minister was asleep, the sound of an emergency cell phone rang and woke him up. That was a call from a hospital asking for a bedside service for a patient. The minister prepared for a service and left the temple for the hospital. When he arrived and on the way to the nursing station to ask for the patient's room location, he met a mother holding a child in her arms. The child was quietly sleeping and he guessed the mother took the child out of a room for a sleep. He approached the mother and said “so pretty boy. How old?” The mother smiled and said “3 years old.” While they were talking, a nurse found the minister and thanked him for coming for a bed- side service. Then, the minister asked for the location of the patient. It was not a nurse but the mother who answered, “Reverend, patient is in my arms. My child passed away.” The minister saw mother's eyes were full of tears running down. The bedside service was respectfully conducted on that night surrounded by parents and family. Wake, funeral, first 7<sup>th</sup> day, 49<sup>th</sup> day and inurnment services were respectively officiated by that minister. Since the parents' shock was immense and they were going through hardships, the minister had counseling and talk

story with them occasionally. Obon season has come. That family observed their First bon (Hatsu bon) service at a temple. A mother put a photo of her child on a table with a lei placed over the photo. When her turn came to offer incense, she moved forward and touched her son's photo crying, crying and crying. Then she said "I want to be with my son. He must be sad and feel lonely. I can't leave him alone. Since he passed away, every morning I talk to his picture, offer incense and rice. Whatever I do and wherever I am, I think of him. Why this happened to my son? I want to be with my son." The minister listened to her and said "My words and sympathy may only touch the surface of your deep sorrow and indescribable emotions of losing your child." He continued, "Obon season has come. In this season, people show their appreciation and respect to those who have gone before us by visiting niches, offering flowers, cleaning graveyard. We remember and reflect with joyful gratitude on our departed loved ones and their continued guidance in our lives." The minister paused and said "You said you want to be with your son." Mother nodded. Minister continued "There is a place or realm called hell. In the hell, all existence are fighting each other with selfish desires and anger. Even a mother and a son are killing and fighting each other without knowing. Even in that situation, do you want to be with your son? When you die, where will you go?" This conversation with a minister became a turning point in her life. If her son was in the place called hell, and if she goes to a hell when she died, she can't be with her son as a mother. Before listening to this minister's words, she read many books about Buddhism and attended many seminars. Learning that virtue of merits is needed to send a deceased to a better place after life, she prayed a lot and had rituals, services, and offered incense wishing her son doesn't go to hell. Everything she did was for her son. However, the question "where will you go when you die" hit the nail on the head and led her to ask herself, "where will I go when I die?" This was the first time for her to regard rituals and service of Buddhism not for the deceased but for her own self. Then, she had to think about the way of going to a better place, not a hell and how she can go to the same place in the afterlife with her son. At this point, the minister's words she had heard before came to her mind. "All living things in this life and world cannot avoid the end of life. In Shin Buddhism Tradition, when a person passes away, at

that moment, immediately and spontaneously, that person is born in the Pure Land and become an awakened one, a Buddha through the Amida Buddha's Vow and virtuous working. Amida Buddha made vows to save all sentient beings who live in this world with unconditional Compassion and Wisdom. Your child was also embraced by Amida Buddha's Vow and now guiding and teaching you the truth of life. Since your child and our loved ones attained supreme enlightenment, rituals and offerings are not meant to accumulate virtues to send deceased to a better place, but as an expression of our gratitude and remembrance, and moreover and essentially, to show our deep appreciation and respect to Amida Buddha who have saved our beloved ones and embraces each of us in this life. With and through our loved ones and memories of them, we listen to the teachings of Buddha. Before we think of them, before we pray for them, before we offer, before we worry about them, from our loved ones who attained the enlightenment, they think of us and guide us so that we can live a life full of true peace and true happiness in the midst of worries and sufferings. Our human life has a limitation and is finite, but in embrace of Amida Buddha whose life is infinite, our loved ones live in that Vow and are always with us. And we shall meet again in the Pure Land with the most beautiful appearance. That vow is Namu Amida Butsu. When we are awakened to the Vow that embraces our loved ones and each of us gently and warmly, we recite Namu Amida Butsu." After hearing the minister, the mother put her hands together and recited Namu Amida Butsu with tears, but not only sadness but also with joy of being embraced by the same Amida Buddha's Compassion and Wisdom. For the mother, she never forgets her son and will miss him forever. However, now she realized her son became an awakened one and guides her and teaches the truth of life and embraces her through memories, words, smile, warmth guided by Amida Buddha. "Even after years there are still times when tears come to your eyes. But in the embrace of Amida Buddha, also a smile and assurance. How grateful for Great Compassion!" In this obon season, let us reflect with joyful gratitude on our departed loved ones and their continued guidance in our lives. Amida Buddha's Great Compassion never abandons us and never forsakes us whatever happens in our

lives. Don't worry, be happy, I shall embrace no matter what. This is the calling from Amida Buddha.

When you go to a bon dance, please make sure to visit an altar at their temple and show your respect and recite Namu Amida Butsu. With gratitude, hands together in reverence. Mahalo.

Reverend Satoshi "Ka'imipono" Tomioka.



### **Puna Hongwanji Mission Minister's Report July 2019**

July 1-Monday, Hawaii District Ministers

Association mtg. 9 a.m. via skype

July 1-Monday, Pahoa/Kapoho gravesite service, monthly service

July 3-Wednesday, Japanese Class, 5 p.m. @Puna

July 5-Friday, Interfaith meeting, 9 a.m. @Hilo

July 5-6, Friday-Saturday, Puna Gathering of Joy (Bon) 5:30 p.m. service, 7:30 p.m. dance. Guest Speaker: Rev. Jiko Nakade, Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission for Saturday

July 6-Saturday, Memorial Service, 10 a.m. @Naalehu

July 7-Sunday, Gathering of Joy (Bon) clean up. NO Sunday service

July 7-Sunday, Calligraphy at Japanese Cultural Event, 10-2p.m., @Imiloa

July 8-Monday, Monthly Pahala & Naalehu Service, 3 p.m./6 p.m.

July 9-Tuesday, Educational seminar for college students, 3:30-5:30 p.m. via skype

July 10-Wednesday, Japanese Class, 5 p.m. @Puna

July 13-Saturday, Memorial Service, 10 a.m. @Puna

July 14-Sunday, Columbarium Service

July 14-Sunday, Hawaii District Hongwanji council mtg., 2 p.m. @Hilo

July 16-Tuesday, Blood Bank

July 17-Wednesday, Japanese Class, 5 p.m. @Puna

July 18-Thursday, Puna Board of Director's mtg., 7 p.m.

July 19-Friday, Guest Speaker @Hilo Hongwanji Bon service

July 21-Sunday, Guest Speaker @Hilo Hongwanji Sunday Service

July 23-Tuesday, Memorial Service, 10 a.m. @Puna

July 24-Wednesday, Japanese Class, 5 p.m. @Puna

July 27-Saturday, Puna Golf Tournament

### **1. State Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary District Ceremony**

Reverend Soryu Kagahi arrived in Hawaii on March 2, 1889 and conducted the first service on March 3, 1889. Therefore, March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Hongwanji Day and Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii celebrates our 130<sup>th</sup> year in Hawaii this year. Hawaii District will observe its anniversary ceremony on October 12 & 13, at Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall. Please save the date!

### **2. Buddhism Classes**

Reading of Tannisho. Friday, July 12, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Open to public. No Registration needed. Donation appreciated. Tannisho is one of the most influential books about Shin Buddhism. A material will be provided.

Shin Buddhism 101. Saturday, July 20, 10-11:30 a.m. Open to public. No registration needed. Donation appreciated. Participants will learn the basic teachings of Shin Buddhism, rituals, and temple etiquettes. Instructor: Rev. Satoshi "Ka'imipono" Tomioka.



*Listen and Silent are  
spelled with the same  
letters. Think about it.*



## Project Dana News



On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Kay Aoki, Marilyn Sato, Jean Tamashiro, Warren Tanigawa, and Eileen Usagawa drove Ilene Hara, Iris Asato, Dora Hashimoto, Lei Kakugawa, Masayo Kanetani, Kay Kawazoe, Tomiye Kukino, Tokimi Miyatake, Kazumasa Okamoto, Kiyo Sumi, Mitsuye Toma, and Yuki Uchida to Aunt Sally's Luau Hale for the Hawaii State Senior Karaoke Revue. At the door, they were presented with bento lunches which were to be eaten before the show began. A simple bento with cake as dessert was enjoyed by all the attendees.

The Karaoke Revue was organized by the Kamana Karaoke Club and County of Hawaii, Parks and Recreation and Elderly Recreation Services to showcase talented karaoke singers from Hilo, Kona, and Maui. Emcees Emma Sousa and Hiroshi Suga kept the audience entertained as they introduced a total of 39 singers. The majority of songs were sung in Japanese and many of our seniors knew some of the songs and couldn't help but quietly sing along or nod their heads as they listened to nostalgic melodies. It was a very enjoyable day for our seniors who sat through three hours of singing.



In April, Anne Toma took Keaau volunteers Mitsuye Toma, Kiyo Sumi and Yukiko Uchida to Hale Anuenue, Life Care Center and Okutsu Veteran's Care Home for visitation. Besides seeing Puna Temple members, they also visited family members and friends.

On May 17, Kay Aoki, Keri Furukado, Stella Miyashiro, Jean Tamashiro, Warren Tanigawa, and Eileen Usagawa took Fusaye and Claire Arakawa, Iris Asato, Dora Hashimoto, Masayo Kanetani, Kay Kawazoe, Kay Kuwahara, Florence Nishimura, Mariko Ogawara, Kazumasa Okamoto, Annie Robinson and her friend, Kiyo Sumi, Mitsuye Toma, and Yuki Uchida to Hakalau Jodo Mission for a day of fun and good food. Akiko Masuda began the day with exercise and taught two bon dances, Pokemon and Tanko Bushi in preparation for the upcoming OBon season. Those who could, stood up to follow her instructions and to dance around the hall. She followed the exercise with a video of Rap

Reiplinger, a comedian who kept everyone laughing with his antics.

Florence Nishimura was then presented with a birthday cake as the seniors sang “Happy Birthday.”. Everyone enjoyed cake, desserts and Miyo’s delicious lunch of cold somen, rice, saba, kabocha, kakuma, and a baked egg omelet. As they left, everyone received a bag of bananas and stalks of olena as a gift. It was a nice ending to an enjoyable luncheon.



In May, volunteers made six separate private home visitations. Carol Tsunezumi and Jean Tanaka made a friendly visit with a resident on May 8th. A day later, Stella Miyashiro drove Dora Hashimoto, Mieko Nagao and Nancy Yamada to Paradise Park for two morning visitations. After lunch, the volunteers made a third visit to a Hilo private home. The residents were very happy to have visitors and to catch up on news.

On May 21st, Stella took Lei Kakugawa and Satsuyo Taira to two Puna private homes. The clients were given two floral bouquets created by Sats in honor of Mother’s Day. When Stella started to sing Japanese children’s songs, the residents perked up and became engaged in singing. The residents expressed their appreciation to the volunteers for the visit.

Finally, on May 30, Ann Toma drove the Mountain View/Kurtistown ladies, Mieko Nagao,

Dora Hashimoto and Nancy Yamada to care facilities in Hilo. During their visit, they were surprised to see a Puna temple member who had moved into Hale Anuenue recently. They also learned that an Okutsu resident had transitioned into a private care home.



Birthday wishes to Cliff and Dora!

Project Dana would appreciate information regarding transitions into or out of care facilities so that visitations can be made. Thank you for your much-appreciated donations and support in keeping the Puna Project Dana alive and well.

In gassho,  
Eileen Usagawa and Stella Miyashiro.





## TEMPLE CHEF OF PUNA



Congratulations to Puna Taiko's team which consisted of Marson Cabay, Tyler Ogawa, and Tiffany Soares. They worked together to create a delicious dish that won the judges choice. They made a noodle-less chicken yakisoba. Due to the rules of the competition they were limited to what they could utilize and problem solved. They replaced the noodles and used enoki mushrooms. They garnished their dish with bonito flakes and beni shoga (pickled red ginger). They were amazing as on Saturday night they did a great job at their taiko concert performance. They showed up Sunday morning to participate in the cooking competition, and in the afternoon had to go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> taiko concert performance.



Team Noble Path consisted of Anthony Carvalho, Lei Kakugawa, and Angelyn Carvalho. As soon as the secret ingredient was revealed and time started everyone in the hall heard the chopping master chopper Lei. Lei has some incredible speed in chopping and all the vegetables are consistent in size. They made a Thai Spicy Basil Eggplant with Tofu that was truly a Blue Zone friendly dish. They were the first team to be completed with their dish and had it plated and ready for the judges.



Team Sr. YBA consisted of Clinton Koyler, Bryon Toma, and Kay Aoki. They worked on a Japanese okonomiyaki dish. Clinton made his own okonomiyaki sauce and his own mayo to top the okonomiyaki. As their garnish they used sea asparagus.



Rev. Tomioka did the reveal of the secret ingredient that everyone needed to incorporate into their dish. The secret ingredient was Bok Choy.

Thank you to all three teams that participated in this event. You all did a wonderful job! We would also like to thank our professional judges – Debra Ching Maiva, Mike Miyahira, and Misty Inouye. Our MC's Paul Sakamoto and Emily Sakamoto did a great job interviewing the teams as they were cooking and explaining what was going on throughout the cooking. We also want to thank all the people supported this event by staying to watch the event. It turned out great and we received many positive comments. We have done an evaluation of how we can improve or do things differently. But first a first time, it was a success. We were able to show case our hidden talents from our temple.

Thank you to Rev. Tomioka for the idea. This event was just like a flower that starts off as a bud, it blossoms into a beautiful flower.

*“Hope is wishing something would happen. Faith is believing something will happen. Courage is making something happen.”*

Thank you,

Rev. Satoshi “Ka’imipono” Tomioka, Jenn Kurohara, Robin Sato  
Temple Chef of Puna Committee



## ANNUAL PUNA DISTRICT INTERFAITH MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

On behalf of the Memorial Day committee we would like to thank everyone that helped make this event a success. We could not have done it alone and appreciate everyone that came out to support this event. We had many positive comments and many people indicated this was a very touching observance.

There are many people involved that were front and center and also behind the scenes. Thank you to Pastor Alan Tamashiro for helping us get Dr. Peter Matsuura as our keynote speaker and getting Dr. Peter Matsuura's mother Dr. Ruth Matsuura to share a prayer. Thank you for sharing a prayer also to Rev. Satoshi “Ka’imipono” Tomioka (Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple), Pastor Alan Tamashiro (Puna Baptist Church), Michael Donenfeld (Mindfulness Meditation Facilitator, Artist, Community Builder); and Gary Thomas, Colonel, USAF (ret) (Sure Foundation – Puna). This is a community event so it's nice to see other area churches that participate in this event.

We also must share our thank you to those that donated flowers, those that made the beautiful bouquets, those that distributed the bouquets, Marilyn Sato, our MC, the Scouts for raising the flag and accepting the floral bouquets, the Veteran's groups in attendance, the families and friends of those killed in action, the political delegation for their messages, the representatives that attended the service, the Puna Hongwanji Sr. YBA for taking the lead in setting up and cleaning up, the Puna Hongwanji Choir for sharing with the group “One Little Candle”, those that took care of the PA system, the Hawaii County Band for playing patriotic songs prior to the service and playing during the service, Claton Mine for playing “Taps”, Jean Tamashiro for the beautiful cigar lei for Dr. Peter Matsuura, the toban that helped with the food preparation, those that prepared and cleaned the yard, and all of you that attended the event. As you



see this event takes more than just a handful of people. This event involves a lot of people.

*“We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together.”*

Interfaith Memorial Committee,  
Glenn Watarida, Jan Nakamura, and Robin Sato



Beautiful floral arrangements made by our talented members



Hawaii County Band performing



Flag raising by our Puna Hongwanji Scouts Troop 67



Everyone enjoying themselves after the Memorial.





## Orgin of Obon Obon-gathering of Joy.

Part of the inspiration for Obon comes from the Ghost Festival of Chinese folk religion, as re-envisioned in a Buddhist context. The word Obon is the shortened form of urabon-e which means to suffer as if being hung upside down, and comes from of the Ullambana Sutra. The Sutra tells the story of Mogallana, one of Sakyamuni Buddha's ten great disciples, had the extraordinary sense perceptions-seeing after life. He saw his mother was in the hungry ghosts and how he suffered over the death of his mother and a fact of being in the hungry ghosts, feeling a deep sense of regret and sorrow. He believed that her devotion to him had been a barrier to her understanding the Dharma. To love, take care and protect her own son, she might have not paid attention to other child and people. Although Mogallana tried to save her from suffering in the hungry ghosts, he couldn't make it. The Buddha told him to make offerings to Sangha of disciples. And Buddha also told him to reflect upon mother's situation, and Mogallana, known for his deep insight, came to realize that his mother's devotion to him was based on an unselfish love. With virtuous merit and three treasure-Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha, her mother was saved from the hungry ghosts. With this deep insight into his mother's life, he danced with joy as his regret and sorrow were transformed into appreciation and gratitude. It is said this is an origin of bon dancing. For Hongwanji Shin Buddhist Tradition, outdoor folk dancing (bon odori) is done in memory of the deceased and not to welcome back the spirits of deceased or to generate merit for them. In the embrace Amida Buddha's Wish, our loved ones attained enlightenment and free from all sufferings and attachments. Guided and inspired by Buddha's Compassion and Wisdom, our loved ones are always with us and lead us to a life of gratitude and harmony. Thus, the bon is also called Gathering of Joy (Kangi-e) in grateful remembrance of all those who have influenced our lives. We remember and honor those who have gone before us and celebrate our family ties with and through our loved ones.



Rev. Tomioka, Dr. Peter Matsuura, Wendy Matsuura



Dr. Ruth Matsuura and Rev. Tomioka

(references- "Jodo Shinshu a guide" Hongwanji, "Shin Buddhist Service Book" Buddhist Education Center)

July 5, 2019 5:30pm Hatsubon, bon dance to follow.

July 6, 2019 5:30pm Hatsubon, bon dance to follow.

### Membership Committee News

Thank you for your dues payment.

Please make yourselves available and offer help wherever is needed for our annual Bon Dance.

If you are head of household and in a care home situation, your dues are exempt.

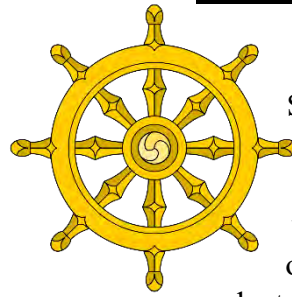
In Gassho,

Roy Toma  
Membership Chairman  
Ph: 935-7712



Baccalaureate graduates with their families and Reverend Tomioka.

### Dharma School News



On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Dharma School committee presented our Baccalaureate Service which honored 3 outstanding senior

graduates: Sharyse Molina, Shylyn

Kawamoto and Tyler Ogawa. Sharyse is a former Dharma School student and all three are Puna Taiko affiliates. An inspiring and heartfelt moment was when the graduates were given the opportunity to show their gratitude to their parents and family. They also presented a gift of 2 fans to Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple to memorialize this day.

We had over 100 attending this event. Thank you all for your help and dedication to make this a special day for the graduates.

We are now in the process of planning another Dharma School Jr. Olympics on August 13. Any comments or suggestions will be appreciated. The Dharma School will be having classes on the first Sunday of the month, starting on August 4, 2019. We are planning to meet in our Dharma School classroom after refreshments. The first class will be taught by Craig Shimoda. We will be trying to get more teachers to participate so if you want to volunteer your talents to the Dharma School, you will be welcome with gratitude. Please encourage any young person to attend our class.

*Yoroshiku Onegaisimasu*



Shylynn, Sharyse, and Tyler





President Jason Hashimoto sharing a story about himself sitting in the graduates seat many years ago



Guest Speaker Janice Ikeda, JI Consulting



Shylynn and Jennifer



Kerry, Alex, Wane, and Tyler



Jeff, Sharyse, and Tammy.



## **BIBF “KIZUNA” T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER**

Big Island Buddhist Federation (BIBF) will sell a “KIZUNA (絆)” T-shirt as a fundraiser. KIZUNA means bonding. At the Bodhi day service 2018, a Japanese calligrapher, Mr. Koki Takehara, drew the character of KIZUNA on the huge canvas to deepen our bonds with ancestors, family and community which we have to cherish. The cost is \$20. If you buy one, \$5 will be donated to BIBF. The size is S to XL. The color is only dark blue. The deadline is on August 1<sup>st</sup>



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### **BIBF “KIZUNA” T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Size	Price	Total Amount
S	\$20	
M	\$20	
L	\$20	
XL	\$20	
Total Order		

Please make checks payable to: Tatsunori Hata  
275 Kinoole Street Hilo HI 96720