

Puna Hongwanji Mission



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*unless called away by other duties

Thurs. – day off

Kyodan Pres.: Jason Hashimoto (Cell: 937-5941)

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March 2020 Hi-Lites

Of Special Interest This Month

March 22 - Spring Ohigan

March 28 – Puna Spring Festival



****COMING UP IN APRIL****

April 1- Sr. YBA Meeting

April 5 - BIBF Hanamatsuri

April 12 - Buddha Day

April 19 - Lady Eshini Service

April 26 - Earth Day



2020 Honpa Hongwanji Theme & Slogan

Building Healthy Sangha

(Embracing Generosity and Openness)

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

MARCH - 3

APRIL - 4

Toban Refreshment Schedule for Sunday

MARCH - 4

APRIL - 2



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.



****Addition to February 2020****

Ronald Hideo Kawada

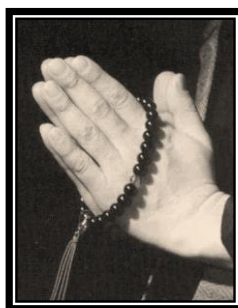
February 9, 2019

March 2020

1 yr.	Rodney Kenji Kamei	March 3, 2019
3 yrs.	Natsuko Uehara	March 20, 2018
7 yrs.	Dixon Oyadomari	March 21, 2014
	Albert Harumi Matsuda	March 28, 2014
13 yrs.	Tadateru Tsutsui	March 5, 2008
	Clifford Kiyoshi Miyashiro	March 7, 2008
17 yrs.	Hatsune Higashida	March 19, 2004
	James Seishi Kuwahara	March 22, 2004
	Shutoku "Richard" Arakawa	March 23, 2004
25 yrs.	Minoru "Dopey" Matsumoto	March 12, 1996
	Shigeo "Bugs" Tamashiro	March 16, 1996
	Lawrence Michael "Duffy" Duff	March 18, 1996
	Katsue Tsutsui	March 28, 1996
33 yrs.	Tatsu Murakami	March 19, 1988
50 yrs.	Ryoichi Kan	March 3, 1971
	Teruhisa Kudo	March 22, 1971



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.

Kiyoko Imada

March 2020

Puna Hongwanji Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Family Service 9 AM Dharma School	2 Pahoa Service 6 PM	3	4	5	6	7
8 Family Service 9 AM BWA Meeting	9 Pahala Service 3PM Naalehu Service 6 PM	10	11 Japanese Class 5 PM	12	13	14
15 Family Service 9 AM Dharma School Meeting	16	17	18 Japanese Class 5 PM	19	20	21 Everyday Buddhism Class 10 AM
22 Spring Ohigan	23	24	25 Japanese Class 5 PM	26	27	28 Puna Spring Festival
29 Family Service 9 AM	30	31				

**Mondays - Judo 5:30 PM
Karate 7 PM**

**Tuesdays - Taiko 3 PM
Judo 6:30 PM
Book Club 6 PM**

**Wednesdays - Judo 5:30 PM
Karate 7 PM**

**Thursdays - Meditation 6:30 AM
Taiko 3 PM
Judo 6:30 PM**

Fridays - Choir 3:30 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.

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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

Sam Horiuchi  
Tammy Molina  
Newsletter Committee  
Email: hilites@punahongwanji.org

## **Minister's Message**

At the Everyday Buddhism Class in February, we learned the basic yet essential teachings of Buddhism and the Shin Buddhism of Hongwanji.

By learning the teachings of Buddhism, we know ourselves. Buddhism exists and guide us to know myself.

The theme was: “Is your perception pure and beautiful?” Yes, this was the theme. What? It is misspelled? Or does not make sense? Well, even it is not in the correct spells, don't you think you can still manage to read? The correct spells are “Is your perception pure and beautiful?”. It is said, “It doesn't matter in what order the letters in a word are, the only important thing is that the first and last letter be at the right place. The rest can be a total mess and you can still read it without problem. This is because the human mind does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole.”

We somehow can read this sentence since the human mind read it as not by every letter but the word as a whole. Our mind and brain are so smart and it enables us to do a data process without using much energy and calculation. If we think about our daily life and things we do as a routine, don't you think we just do it automatically or as a habit. You wake up and go to the bathroom, wash your face, brush your teeth, greetings, breakfast, coffee, reading newspaper, watch TV, work, commute, lunch, school, driving a car, using a cell phone, dinner, watch TV, grumble, take a shower, watch TV, and go to a bed. When we do these things, we may not do this thinking “I am doing this with all my mind and energy, and never miss a single point and always focus on everything.” If we do this way, we will be getting tired and exhausted. Instead of it, we are just relaxed and just do it without thinking intensely. Again, this is to avoid using energy in the mind and brain so that they can handle things properly and smoothly. We are not aware of this data process we are doing in mind and brain, but they are helping our lives.

In other words, however, it means we may think, say, and do something subconsciously or



unconsciously without thinking intensely. And even if it causes disharmony to you and others, we will not be aware of it, because it is a natural data process which we don't realize.

So, here is the thing. If this data process is pure and beautiful, what we perceive is also pure and beautiful. We will see things and people so nicely, and there is peace and harmony. But if the data process is distinctive, judgmental, not pure, and not beautiful, what we perceive is also in that way. We will make a judgment on people, put a label of like/dislike, right/wrong on things & people, and believe our perception is true without knowing the fact that actually the data process itself is not pure and beautiful. In other words, our perception is actually not always true and correct. But we can't know what kind of data process we have because it is subconscious or unconscious. It is like an iceberg. What we can know and recognize ourselves is only the surface, but there is more under the water. And that is totally beyond our recognition. Then, there is no way to know what is under the water?

Therefore, we learn the teachings of Buddhism. The character and nature of Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom is "To see things as it is fairly and selflessly." This is the insight to perceive things and people without distinction, without discrimination, and reveal the truth to us. Because of our data process which we use subconsciously or unconsciously, actually we are the very one who create the worries and concerns in our daily life. We may often tend to blame others and try to find a cause of suffering outside, but it is inside of us, and it is in the darkness, under the water, we can't see it. For such as me and because of me, Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom embraces me and guide me to realize the true nature of myself and vows to make me an enlightened one, a buddha. In that embrace, with that Great Light, I see myself, and I see a part of my darkness, under the water. I can't see the whole darkness and everything under the water, but I'm not concerned. Because now I have a great torch of Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom in my hand, in my life, it becomes my guidance. Inspired and guided by that Light, I try to be mindful of my thoughts, words and deeds because I may think, say and do something not pure and beautiful due to my subconscious and unconscious data process. Our founder, Master Shinran said, "The light of wisdom exceeds all measure, and every finite living being receives this illumination

that is like the dawn, so take refuge in Amida, the true and real light." -Hymns of the Pure Land #4, Collected works of Shinran, page 325.

Under the guidance of Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom, let us live together sharing the light of wisdom in our life. The Great Light of Wisdom guide us to be aware of our human nature and inspire us to be humble, grateful, self-reflective, harmonious, and peaceful.

Ohigan-Other Shore of Buddha's Enlightenment-service will be observed on March 22. This is the occasion to listen to Amida Buddha's Wish that promises to dispel the darkness and vows to bring utmost bliss and peace in our life. Let us come together to listen to the teaching and receive the Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom in our life. Namo Amida Butsu

### **Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Minister's Report March 2020**

March 2-Monday, Memorial Service @Puna, 11 a.m.

March 2-Monday, Meeting via skype, 1 p.m.

March 2-Monday, Monthly Paoa service.

March 3-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7

March 4-8, Minister's continuing education seminar/Ikenobo Flower arrangement gathering  
March 8-Sunday, Guest Speaker @Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) service

March 9-Monday, Hawaii District Ministers Association mtg. Via skype, 9 a.m. @Office

March 11-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.

March 12-Thursday, Meeting via skype, 8-10 a.m. @Office

March 14-Saturday, Memorial Service @Puna, 4 p.m.

March 17-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7:30 p.m.

March 18-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.

March 21-Saturday, Everyday Buddhism Class @Puna, 10-11:30 a.m. Guest Lecturer: Rev. Joshin Kamuro, Hilo Betsuin Associate Minister

March 22-Sunday, Spring Harmonious & Peaceful Sunday (Ohigan) Guest Speaker: Rev. Joshin Kamuro.

March 24-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7:30 p.m.



March 25-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.  
 March 31-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7:30 p.m.  
 April 1-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.  
 April 1-Wednesday, Sr YBA mtg. 7 p.m.  
 April 5-Sunday, Big Island Buddhist Federation (BIBF) Buddha Day/Hanamatsuri, @Higashi Honganji. NO service @Puna  
 April 6-Monday, Hawaii District Ministers Association mtg. Via skype, 9 a.m. @Office  
 April 6-Monday, Monthly Paho service 6 p.m.  
 April 7-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7:30 p.m.  
 April 8-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.  
 April 11-Saturday, Everyday Buddhism Class. 10-11:30 a.m.  
 April 12-Sunday, Puna Hongwanji Buddha Day/Hanamatsuri service.  
 April 13-Monday, Monthly service Pahala (3pm) & Naalehu (6 pm. Dharma discussion 5 pm) April 14-Tuesday, Book Club, 6-7:00 p.m.  
 April 14-Tuesday, Temple Sustainability Advisory Committee (TSAC) Mtg., 7 p.m.  
 April 15-Wednesday, Japanese Class @Puna, 5 p.m.  
 April 16-Thursday, Puna Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m.

### 1. Reactivation of Jr. YBA (continued)

Jr. YBA (Young Buddhist Association) will have its first Youth Fun Gathering on Saturday, February 29, noon to 1:30 p.m. No fee. Lunch provided. Fun games, make new friends, gain new perspective, and explore new ways to be grateful through embracing generosity and openness. Age range (13-19 years old). Please encourage young people to come this event.

### 2. Memorial Service for Rev. Hoashi (continued)

Rev. Shoin Hoashi's funeral will be held on Saturday, February 29 @Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Honolulu. Mr. Clifford Furukado will represent Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. We will plan to have a memorial service in memory of Rev. Hoashi @Puna.

### 3. Jodo Shinshu International Office (JSIO)

JSIO was established under the slogan "The World is Waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin". The JSIO strives to provide people with opportunities to encounter the teachings of Shinran Shonin and to nurture Nembutsu practitioners throughout the world. The office is located in San Francisco. Please see attachment. Rev. Tomioka will serve as an Advisory Board Member.

### 4. Bishop's Advisory Board

Rev. Tomioka was appointed to the Bishop's Advisory Committee for 2020. This will ask me to attend the meeting in Honolulu through the year. Thank you in advance for your understating and cooperation while I will be away from Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple



## Puna Hongwanji Kyodan Highlights

Synopsis of Kyodan Board of Directors' meeting held on Thursday, January 16, 2020. Minutes were recorded by Marilyn Sato, Secretary.

### Repair and Maintenance

- The 3-door freezer was fixed. The oven was serviced and repaired.
- A new dryer was purchased for the kitchen.
- A new plaque is needed to add names of fallen heroes – the latest is Kirk Takeshi Fuchigami Jr.

### Approved Activities/Announcements

- Reactivation of Jr. YBA: Sam Horiuchi will serve as advisor with help from others to reactivate Jr. YBA. There are some potential members.
- The Membership Form was revised. See Rev. Tomioka and/or Roy Toma.
- A memorial service for the late Reverend Shoin Hoashi, resident minister at PHM from 1962-1975, will be held here at a later date. Headquarters will share plans for his

funeral and after that service, we will set a date and time inviting the family of the late Rev. Hoashi.

- Winter Festival's net profit was over \$3,000.
- BWA will host Dana Day and the calabash donation has been designated for Puna Taiko.
- Investment Committee reported assets are allocated as follows: 30% in medium risk and 70% in higher risk.
- Temple Sustainability Committee is continuing to have lots of discussion and trying to look at the "bigger picture". They also are looking at resources outside of the temple.
- Donations were received from: Yoga and Karate. Yoga will resume classes on Mar. 1
- The Board approved purchasing a half page ad to support the YESS Camp Booklet.
- Feb. 23: Gathafestival will be hosted by the Four Temples and held in Honokaa (site in not confirmed); **NO** Family Service at Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.
- Mar. 28: Spring Festival
- May 23: Interfaith Memorial Day Service at Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

#### **In Appreciation – Thank You Very Much**

- Thank you to Earl Mukai for help in installing the new dryer.
- Again, thank you to all who make our Family Service run like a well-oiled machine. There are many people that make attending Sunday service a wonderful experience – Service Committee members, greeters, kansho ringers, MCs, digital recorders, digital technicians, organists, Choir, book collectors, flower arrangers, temple cleaners, refreshment tobans, etc. If you noticed the floral arrangements on the altar, thank you. Sometimes tobans have to purchase flowers to make the arrangements. If you would like to donate flowers, please bring them to temple and/or notify someone so they can be picked up. If you would like to be one of the "menehunes", see Rev. Tomioka and/or any member. Again, thank you volunteers. You are appreciated!

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS**

Please welcome Janice Kujubu of Honolulu to our Sangha.

Recommended dues is \$240 Yr.

If you are head of household and in a care home facility, your dues are exempt. Please let the office or myself know of your status.

In Gassho,  
Roy Toma  
Membership Chrm  
935-7712



### **PUNA SPRING FESTIVAL 2020**

Come join us on Saturday, March 28, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at our 3rd Annual Puna Spring Festival held at Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Each year this event gets bigger and better. There will be something for everyone.

Our taiko Grandma Veronica "Ronnie" Kitayama is taking charge of the craft vendors. She has secured 44 local vendors and still getting inquiries. There will be an assortment of jewelry, edibles and non-edibles, sewn items, books, products, and much more. Thank you Ronnie for taking on this huge task. To highlight some of the 44 local vendors:

1. L.K.C. & Company - assorted butters, floral hair clips, pocketbook "Genies"
2. Usborne Books and More - children's books
3. Na Makana Designs by Malia - variety of edible and non-edible gift baskets
4. Essentially Yours - "Puna Taiko" tote bags, assorted earrings, bracelets & rings, key fobs, and zip pouches
5. A & J - Taro chips, sweet potato chips, create a Punch balloon
6. Koa O's Kreative Oils - infused massage oils and body products for reducing pain and inflammation

7. Aunty Mohala's Face Painting - face painting, temporary airbrush tattoos
8. Aloha Shimmer with Mel & Rodan & Fields  
Melanie Aki - Paparazzi jewelry & accessories, skin care plus sewn items by Mel.
9. Island Shell Shack - custom hand fabricated shell and mineral jewelry, ceremonial conch horns, bulk and specimen shells and minerals.
10. Puna Taiko Mom's - baked goodies & snacks: pie crust manju, pizzelle, cookies, chex mix, brittle, lollipops with li hing mui, habanero jelly
11. 808 Elite Party Rentals - cotton candy & shave ice

We will also have a variety of yummy food by our affiliate groups and Puna Hongwanji Kyodan. Come get a free vision screening by the Lion's Club. The Puna Hongwanji Boutique will be open. During the event there will be prize giveaways that you must be present to win. We will be having a Facebook/Instagram contest so stay tuned on what you need to do to win. If you have friends/family who never been to our temple and they are interested in seeing the inside of the temple bring them for the temple tours.

We have a great line up of entertainment for the day.

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Rick Jitchaku  
 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Waiakea Intermediate Ukulele Band  
 10:40 a.m. - 11:10 a.m. - Keonepoko Elementary Choir  
 11:20 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. - So-Shin Kai Koto Group  
 12:00 a.m. - 12:45 a.m. - Mark Yamanaka  
 1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. - Puna Taiko  
 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - New Dharma Band

We are giving back to the community by supporting our youth groups. Last year a portion of the proceeds was donated to the Keaau Elementary Robotics. This year the committee has decided to donate a portion of our proceeds to the Keonepoko Elementary Choir. The Keonepoko Elementary Choir is under the direction of Jenifer Tsuji. Jenifer has brought her choir students to participate in our Peace Day event and Puna Winter Festival. They will be back for our Puna Spring Festival.

If you are able to help with setting up the tents, tables, and chairs, please come on Friday, March 27, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

On the day of the event the Puna Hongwanji Boutique will be open. If you are able to be a security guard or help in the boutique area, please contact Linnette Quade.

On the day of the event if you are parking behind the kitchen, no one will be allowed to drive through the crowds to leave. If you need to leave early, please park in another area. We need to be mindful of the safety of all those attending the event.

Thank you in advance for supporting this event!



On January 30th, sixteen Puna seniors attended the Hakalau Jodo Mission lunch. Drivers Marilyn Toma, Eileen Usagawa, Warren Tanigawa, and Stella Miyashiro took Sayoko Higa, Mariko Ogawara, Andy Nagao, Mieko Nagao, Kazu Okamoto, Lei Kakugawa, Mieko Kanetani, Kay Aoki, Mitsuye Toma, and Iris Asato. Seniors from Kamuela were also invited. Before lunch, Akiko Masuda led the group in chair exercises and singing, and showed two inspirational videos.







The nutritious meal was enjoyed amid friendly conversation. Among the shared desserts was a Happy New cake to celebrate 2020. Before leaving, everyone got bananas and a cutting from a thorn less red rose bush to plant.

On February 6th, Stella, Mitsuye Toma, and Kiyo Sumi made private home visitations in Paradise Park. The resident was very happy to have visitors. She enjoyed the chocolate covered marshmallow Valentine candy. When asked what the volunteers could bring next time, she requested crossword puzzles and word find books. At the second home, the three residents were waiting. When the volunteers gave them the Valentine candies, they quickly unwrapped them and happily ate them all. Before leaving, the volunteers led a sing along of patriotic and Japanese children's songs.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Project Dana training for the volunteers at the Puna

Hongwanji Mission lunchroom. Janie Karimoto will again conduct the training session. Following the training, volunteers are invited to an appreciation luncheon at Imiloa Sky Garden.

Puna Project Dana is able to maintain its services to the elders with the financial support of generous donors. Mahalo for the monetary donations throughout the year.

Please inform the coordinators when family members have transitioned into care facilities. Permission must be given for volunteers to visit them.

In gassho,  
Eileen Usagawa and Stella Miyashiro.



### Friends of Lili`uokalani Gardens

Saturday, March 28: Hawaii Heart Walk 22nd annual Hilo Bayfront 7 a.m. registration 8 a.m. walk  
Tuesday, March 31: Forest Bathing green walk with Phyllis Look in Lili`uokalani Gardens. Advance registration necessary. Limited to 30 persons. Free.

April: Tsunami Awareness Month

April 4: botanical art exhibit at UH-Hilo library closes.

Sunday, April 12: Easter, beginning of Merrie Monarch Festival Week

April 19 – 25 Volunteer Week Hawai'i  
volunteer@KanuHawaii.org

End of April – May 5 (? Dates TBD) fly koinobori for Children's Day

Sunday, May 3: Hilo Huli on Moku`olu by Rotary Club of South Hilo

## BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, Ann Toma drove Nancy Yamada, Mieko Nagao and Dora Hashimoto to Life Care Center, Legacy Hilo Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, Hale Anuenue and Yukio Okutsu Veterans State Home. They visited Puna Hongwanji members and friends.

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On February 20, Ann Toma drove Lei Kakugawa, Mieko Nagao, Kay Kawazoe, and Florence Nishimura to bring lap blankets sewn by the BWA members to Life Care Center, Legacy Hilo Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, Hale Anuenue and Yukio Okutsu Veterans State Home. At Hale Anuenue, they learned that a resident was moved to Hilo Medical Center.





Joshua Cordero, Shelley Yasuhara and Manny Pascua, Kamuela Kahalehili, and Lani Goodman, staff members at the facilities, were grateful to receive the beautiful lap blankets for their clients.

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### SHINNEN ENKAI /KEIROKAI 2020

We recognized our Keirosha's who in 2020 will be 80 years old. Three of the four honorees were in attendance to receive their lei and gift from Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Marilyn Sato introduced and presented the leis to the honorees. President Jason Hashimoto and Rev. Satoshi "Ka'imipono" Tomioka presented the gift and congratulations to each of them.



Keirosha's mashing the rice- Lloyd, Earl, and Roy



This year's honorees included Earl Mukai, Lloyd Oyama, Roy Yoshimoto, and James Arakaki (missing). Congratulations and don't let their age fool you as the three men still help with our temple activities. Age is just a number!





# Puna Hongwanji Mission

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Keaau, HI 96749

966-9981

Family Service every Sunday at 9am