

# Gyosho 曉鐘

“Morning Bell - Let us Awaken”



## WAIPAHU SOTO ZEN TEMPLE TAIYOJI

Reverend's Message  
President's Message  
Donations  
News & Announcements  
Memorial Services  
Calendar

### MAY TEMPLE HOURS

Office: Mon-Sun \* 8am - 2pm  
Nokotsudo (Columbarium):  
Mon - Fri \* 8am-2pm  
Sat & Sun \* 8am- 3pm

Call the Temple before you leave to be sure someone is here.

94-413 Waipahu Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
(808)671-3103  
Email:  
waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

Website:  
[waipahutaiyoji.com](http://waipahutaiyoji.com)

## MAY 2026

by Rev. Ryohei Ishii

I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits.

As we move through the season of renewal, I would like to take a moment to express our sincere appreciation to Mr. George Sakurai, who has faithfully served as Interim President for the past year and four months. His steady leadership, dedication, and thoughtful guidance have been a great support to our temple community. We are deeply grateful for his commitment and service.

We are also pleased to share that Ms. Susan Goya will be stepping into this role. We warmly welcome her and look forward to her leadership as we continue to grow together as a sangha.

May is also a meaningful month for us as we gather for special services. On **Sunday, May 3rd at 9:30 AM**, we will hold our **Mother's Day Service** together with Kannon-ko, a time to express gratitude for the compassion, care, and love that mothers and mother figures have given us. Kannon, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, reminds us to nurture kindness and empathy in our daily lives.

Later in the month, on **Sunday, May 24th at 9:30 AM**, we will observe our **Memorial Day Service**. This is a time to remember and honor those who have passed, especially those who gave their lives in service. In the spirit of gratitude, we reflect on impermanence and renew our appreciation for the lives we share today.

Through these observances, we are reminded of the importance of gratitude, connection, and mindfulness in our daily lives.

I look forward to seeing you at the temple and sharing these meaningful moments together.

In Gassho  
Rev. Ryohei Ishii





Keizan Zen Master



Taiyoji Buddha



Dogen Zen Master

“欲を離れて 安らかに 生きよう”  
YokuwoHanarete Yasurakani Ikiyo

*We should live peacefully by being free of greed.  
By The Teaching of Buddha*

*In Memoriam*

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the late:  
**Sandra Tokie Imai**, who passed away at the Age 76 on Thursday, December 25, 2025

**October 8, 1949 - December 25, 2025**

May the love and blessing of the Compassionate Buddha be with you.

In Gassho 合掌



*In Memoriam*

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the late:  
**Mae Midori Nakayama**, who passed away at the Age 89 on Wednesday, January 3, 2026.

**December 15, 1936 - January 3, 2026**

May the love and blessing of the Compassionate Buddha be with you.

In Gassho 合掌



*In Memoriam*

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the late:  
**Joyce Chizuko Sakai**, who passed away at the Age 82 on Sunday, March 29, 2026.

**August 26, 1943 - March 29, 2026**

May the love and blessing of the Compassionate Buddha be with you.

In Gassho 合掌



# President's Message -



As the interim President of the Kyodan, I would like to inform the membership what big shoes I will have to fill with the departure of George Sakurai.

When he took over as President in January 2025 the board of directors were told he was going to serve until the end of the year. However, he was gracious enough to preside over the first membership meeting at the New Year's party at which time he posted the 2025 financial statement for transparency and accountability and allowed the members to ask questions.

George's accomplishments were many which I would like to "toot his horn" and inform the membership.

He with the help of the board:

- Revised the By-laws for the Kyodan.
- Records Retention Policy and guidelines for a systematic review, retention and destruction of records.
- Initiated and oversaw the completion of a ramp from the upper parking lot to the Temple's community center, Ozawa Hall, with the help of his contractor friend of IC Construction.
- Conversion of lighting in the church and in Ozawa Hall with LED lighting.
- Revised the Facilities Rental Agreement to open access to non-members in the community to use for their special events.
- Advocated the establishment of a user friendly website – [waipahutaiyoji.com](http://waipahutaiyoji.com) to connect with potential members who are used to online interactions and to create community awareness of temple activities.
- Formed an ad hoc committee called Opening Doors to strategize ways to welcome new members by attracting a younger generation of worshippers and expanding our ethnic diversity of members.
- Proposed a master group insurance program to be administered by the main Soto Mission to cover interested temples for an affordable insurance coverage which would create a better financial framework for our temple and smaller Soto temples which is pending.

# President's Message -

- Led the review of the performance of Cadinha & Cadinha, the investment company for WSZTT, and came up with objectives and goals to meet.

On behalf of the board of directors thank you very much George for the awesome job you did in the sixteen months you were here. Your knowledge and experiences at the ripe age of 90 years is a testament for the rest of the board members to strive for. Stay healthy, enjoy your golf games at the Waialae Country Club and have fun on your travels to Japan with Marion!



Your board of directors ~ Kneeling: Walter Ozawa (Advisor). First row: Avis Connolly (Board of Director), Koren Wakatsuki (Asst. Treasurer), Susan Sasaki Goya (Interim President), George Sakurai with lei (Outgoing Interim President), Reverend Ishii, Marjorie Muraki (Secretary). Back row: Ikuko Ishii, Derrick Iwata (BOD), Ivan Endo (BOD), Alvin Suzuki (BOD), Miho Katagiri (not present in photo).



Completed ramp from the upper parking lot to the Ozawa Hall and temple.

## Thank You For Your Donations

### General Donation

Eugene Fujioka, Family of Joyce Sakai, Ikuko Ishii: Nihongo Circle, Janet Kawaguchi, Linda Nakasone: Sewing Club, Misako Yomen: Yoga

Linda Unten: In Memory of the Late Kazumi Funakoshi

Avis Connolly: In Memory of the Late Mary Endo

### Hanamatsuri Service

Florence Abe, Charlotte Arakaki, Shelly Buckley, Avis Connolly, Ivan Endo, Robert & Celia Fujioka, Gail Funai, Susan & Larry Goya, Genevieve Imai, Toyoko Kaneshiro, Deanna Kato, Janet Kawaguchi, Erin & Gwen Kawamoto, Mildred Kihara, Margy Kodama, Kathryn Koshi, Ryuko Kokuzo, Colleen Nakatsu, Walter Ozawa, Dianne Pitman, Edward Seto, Helen Shiraishi, Koren Wakatsuki, Myrtle Takiguchi, Nancy Takiguchi, June & Wallace Tamashiro, Shizue Watanabe, Carolyn Yoshioka.

### Spring Higan Service

Ryuko Kokuzo

Shizue Watanabe

### Taiyoji Taiko

Norene Ajimine

Junko Jiang

Marj Muraki

Sharon Kawaramori

Jun Miyasaka

Zazen

Jun Miyasaka

### Kannon-ko Offerings

Given by Participants

### Food Donation for Hanamatsuri Service

Colleen Arakaki, Erin Kawamoto, Margy Kodama, Colleen Nakatsu, Carolyn Yoshioka, Susan Goya

Join Us, Get Involved, Meet New People, Reconnect



After the Hanamatsuri Service, Reverend Ishii presented certificates to Ms. Ikuko Ishii, Jizoku Rank Eihan 3 kyu and Ms. Carolyn Yoshioka, Baika student Rank Seikyodo. Congratulations to both ladies on their accomplishments.

### **ONLINE AUCTION**

**We are excited to announce our 2nd Online Auction-** Thank you for your participation in last year's event. Whether you donated items, placed bids, or simply shared your time viewing our offerings, your generosity directly supports our temple. These fundraising efforts help us replenish funds used for the Temple roof repairs and most recently, the construction of the new handicap accessible ramp.

We are getting an early start this year and hope that, with your help (Members, Friends and Businesses) we can exceed our goals to further sustain our church.

We are now graciously accepting donations of gift cards. New or

slightly used items will be accepted after our Annual Bon Dance in August.

We welcome a variety of contributions. Here's a list of suggested items.

- Artwork
- Collectibles (Antique, Vintage, \*Current: figurines, vases, ceramics, ornaments, etc.)
- Games/Toys/Dolls
- Gift Cards (restaurants, grocery, hotel staycation, personal services, etc.)
- Handbags/Wallets
- Handmade Crafts (quilts, bags, ornaments, etc.)
- Jewelry
- Kitchen wares
- Koa Items
- Tools
- Plants (orchids, palms, airplants, desert rose, succulents etc.)

Gift cards donations are being accepted during Temple Office Hours.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

In Gassho.

Auction will become live on **Sept. 27 - Oct. 9 at 9pm.**

**Thank you to Genevieve Imai, Walter Ozawa, Avis Connolly** for the donation of flowers and greens for the **Hanamatsuri Service.**

## Upcoming Events

TEMPLE CLEAN UP  
Sunday, May 31 -  
8:30am

Mother's Day Service  
May 3, @ 9:30 am

Memorial Day Service  
May 24, @ 9:30am

**Memorial Day Service & Lantern Ceremony - June 6 @ Plantation Village**

Zippy's Fundraiser  
Make sure to use your tickets by June 14.

If you are able to donate your time or resources, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued support!

For more information contact the temple.

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# Announcements & News

May 2026

Join Us, Get Involved, Meet New People, Reconnect



## UHSSWA Conference (Kona)

Aloha and mahalo for attending the 59th UHSSWA Conference in Kona.

It was a meaningful experience to travel with our group of eight Fujinkai members, along with Rev. Ishii, Tesshu, and myself. For those who visited the Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission for the first time, I hope you enjoyed both the temple and the conference.

This year's theme, "Buddha's Golden Chain of Love," reminded us how every act of kindness and connection strengthens our community. Your participation and spirit truly made this trip special.

As Waipahu prepares to host the next UHSSWA Conference, I look forward to continuing this "Golden Chain of Love" together. Let us carry forward the memories and lessons from Kona to create a warm and welcoming experience for everyone at the next event.

By: Ikuko Ishii

## Lei Making - Ti leaf lei with Kukui Nut

May 23, 12pm  
Donation: \$10

Please bring the following:  
30 Kukui nuts  
20 ti leaves (cut off stems and wash and dry leaves.  
Scissors

For questions or to RSVP, call 808-671-3103 or taiyojifujinkai@gmail.com.

## Craft Workday Saturday, May 23

**12:00p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
Join us and help make crafts for the Fujinkai event in October. Please contact the temple if you are interested in dropping by to help with sewing rice bags, patchwork throw rugs or crocheting the wash cloth (bring crochet hook and scissors).

Thank you for your continued support!

## Upcoming Events

### Kannon - Ko Service June 7 - 9:30am



**Omamori for Purchase**  
Omamori are traditional lucky charms, designed to offer protection.

Omamori for the family: Grandpa, Grandma, Father, Mother, Boy  
Also available for the car, your pets (Cat & Dog), House Ofuda, Laminate Wallet, Victory (Red & Blue), Car Sticker, Horse Omukuji.  
Stop by during temple hours to purchase them.

**Year of the HORSE  
T-shirts - \$25.**  
Sizes S & M



We're looking for someone to teach us how to make these bunnies.

Please contact us at taiyojifujinkai@gmail.com or call the temple at (808)671-3103.



## 2026 Waipahu Taiyoji May Memorial Services

Phone: (808) 671-3103 / Email: waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

### 1st Year (2025)

### 3rd Year (2024)

Tajiro Uranaka 5/18/2024  
Alice Noriko Suzuki 5/22/2024  
Ritsuko Takiguchi 5/26/2024

### 7th Year (2020)

Tadashi Enomoto 5/23/2020

### 13th Year (2014)

Mitsuru Sakamoto 5/9/2014  
Masahiro Ando 5/31/2014

### 17th Year (2010)

Marilyn Masako Kaneshiro 5/23/2010  
Nancy Tomiko Terashima 5/29/2010

### 23rd Year (2004)

### 27th Year (2000)

Mitsugi Komatsubara 5/3/2000

### 33rd Year (1994)

Shinobu Okumura 5/27/1994

### 37th Year (1990)

Shiori Tanaka 5/29/1990

### 50th Year (1977)

Kamado Tawata 5/7/1977

### 100th Year (1926)

***Please contact Rev. Ishii to make a Memorial service appointment.***

***Please bring Ihai (Memorial tablet), picture, offering of flowers and food.***

***If you have any question, please let Sensei know.***

***In Gassho***



# 2026 Memorial Day Service and Lantern Floating Ceremony

Presented by Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji in partnership with Hawaii's Plantation Village

**Service will be on Saturday, June 6 before sunset at Hawaiian Plantation Village**

## Lantern Request Form

Lantern Sponsor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (if different from Sponsor name): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate by checking below which lantern dedication option you would like to request. One dedication per lantern. Max one name per lantern with Sponsor name. Two lanterns max per request form. Donation per lantern is \$20.00. **(Walk in order June 6 will be \$25 each Lantern.)**

**Please PRINT Clearly!**

### Lantern 1

\_\_\_\_\_ Option #1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Senzo Daidai (Ancestors) Family name (This is for all departed members of your family.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Option #2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Name of Deceased Person (This is for one departed individual)**

### Lantern 2

\_\_\_\_\_ Option #1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Senzo Daidai (Ancestors) Your Family name (This is for all departed members of your family.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Option #2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Name of Deceased Person (This is for one departed individual.)**

**Service will be on Saturday, June 6 before sunset at Hawaiian Plantation Village**

**Your order:** Number of lanterns ordered \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 20.00 per lantern \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Day Service Donation (Optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Minister Appreciations should be written to Rev. Ishii (Optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to : Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji**

**Orders must be received by Sunday, May 31, 2026**

May 2026

**Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji**  
94-413 Waipahu Street Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: (808) 671-3103  
waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30am Nokotsudo CU	2
3 <b>9:30am Mother's Day &amp; Kannon Ko Service</b>	4 9:00am-12:00pm Crafts & Coffee	5  6:00pm-9:00pm Sewing Club	6 9:00am-10:30am Baika Practice  6:30pm-8:00pm Nihongo Circle	7  6:00pm-8:30pm Sanshin Practice	8 8:30am Nokotsudo CU  9:30am-11:30am Yoga	9   7:00pm-8:00pm Zazen
10 9:30am -11:30am Taiko Practice  2:00pm-4:00pm Bon Dance Practice	11 9:00am-12:00pm Crafts & Coffee	12	13 9:00am-10:30am Baika Practice  6:30pm-8:00pm Nihongo Circle	14  6:00pm-8:30pm Sanshin Practice	15 8:30am Nokotsudo CU  9:30am-11:30am Yoga	16
17 9:30am-11:30am Taiko Practice	18 9:00am-12:00pm Crafts & Coffee	19  6:00pm-9:00pm Sewing Club	20 9:00am-10:30am Baika Practice  6:30pm-8:00pm Nihongo Circle	21  6:00pm-8:30pm Sanshin Practice	22 8:30am Nokotsudo CU  9:30am-11:30am Yoga	23  12:00pm-7:00pm Craft Workday  7:00pm-8:00pm Zazen
24 <b>9:30am- 12:00pm Memorial Day Service</b>	25 9:00am-12:00pm Crafts & Coffee	26	27 9:00am-10:30am Baika Practice  6:30pm-8:00pm Nihongo Circle	28  6:00pm-8:30pm Sanshin Practice	29 8:30am Nokotsudo CU	30

31  
**8:30am  
Temple Clean Up**

2026 June Schedule (Subject to Change)		
June 6	Service at 6:30pm	Memorial & Lantern Service @ Plantation Village
June 1,8,22,29	9:30am-12:00pm	Crafts & Coffee
June 12,19,26	9:30am-11:00am	Yoga Class
June 9 & 23	6:00pm-9:00pm	Sewing Club
June 3,10,17,24	6:30pm-8:00pm	Nihongo Circle
June 13 & 27	7:00pm-9:00pm	Zazen
TBD	12:00pm-7:00pm	Craft Workday
Thursdays	6:00pm-9:30pm	Okinawan Sanshin Practice
Fridays	8:30am-until done	Nokotsudo Clean Up
Saturdays	9:00am-12:00pm	Okinawan Dance Practice
<b>June 28</b>	<b>8:30am-12:00pm</b>	<b>Temple Clean-up</b>
Sunday	TBD	Taiko Practice

**MAY TEMPLE HOURS**

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