

# Mantokuji Newsletter



MAN GAN  
満願

**October 2024**

## Dates to Remember

### October 6

Daruma-ki Service &  
Daruma-sama Picnic

### November 17

Family Service - Shichi-Go-San  
Ceremony

## REVEREND'S MESSAGE

Aloha everyone,

It's October already. It has been four months since our daughter was born. I am often asked my daughter's name. Her name is 瑠莉-Ruri. What does Ruri mean people ask. So today I would like to introduce the meaning of her Japanese name. Ruri is a Japanese word for Lapis lazuli which is a deep blue gemstone. I chose this name because the colors of Maui's beautiful sky and ocean are like the deep blue gemstone. However, the kanji for '瑠莉' is different from '瑠璃' which stands for the gemstones. The kanji '莉-Ri' also represents the jasmine flower, which also has the meaning of neatness due to the impression of the flower. She was born on Maui and is a treasure like a jewel to us, and we named her Ruri in the hope that she will grow up to be a beautiful and neat woman. Thus, although it is a bit complicated, in Japan, names can have many meanings and wishes of parents by choosing from a large number of kanji combinations.

I will use my name to explain how and why our names and kanji are chosen by our parents. My name is '智樹-Tomoki'. 智 means wisdom, and 樹 means tree. Therefore, combining these two kanji characters, my name means "tree of wisdom". My parents said that they wanted me to grow up to be wise and healthy and big like a tree. Also, my wife's name is '優紀-Yuki.' She got this name by using kanji characters from each of her father's and mother's names. In this way, our names reflect the wishes of our parents, and we are very flexible because we can combine kanji characters to give different meanings even if they read the same way. I am not familiar with the origins of American or Hawaiian names, so please let me know about your names when you have a chance.

On October 6, a Dharma-ki Service will be held at Mantokuji Temple in memory of Master Bodhidharma, one of the most important monks in Zen Buddhism. The service will be followed by a Daruma Picnic where participants will enjoy games and lunch. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Mahalo.

*Tomoki Hirasawa*

**Our Mission:** Paia Mantokuji is a Soto Zen Buddhist temple founded in 1906 by Reverend Sokyo Ueoka and a community of Japanese immigrants. Our mission is to be a place of compassion, respect and kindness for all who seek truth through the teachings of Buddha, the practice of Zen meditation and arts, and the fellowship of the temple sangha.

**Our Vision:** Paia Mantokuji's short term vision is to stay in place in Paia, as a vibrant and relevant Soto Zen Buddhist Mission.

### Our Values:

Honor Traditions  
Respect Ancestors  
Embrace Inclusivity  
Nurture Fellowship  
Practice Compassionate Kindness  
Gratitude  
Appreciation & Humility  
Live the Dharma  
Embody Buddhism

## Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Mantokuji/](https://www.facebook.com/Mantokuji/)

### Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle



Donations to Paia Mantokuji,  
#78996, are appreciated.  
Make your donation by  
September 30 at any  
Foodland, Sack-n-Save or  
Foodland Farms in Hawaii with your Maika'i card.

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## FUJINKAI NEWS

The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meetings and clean up as follow:

**October 20, 2024 at 8:30am (note the change from October 13)**

**November 10, 2024 at 8:30am**

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and gentlemen who came on September 8 to help clean the nokotsudo and the yard.

**Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Reverend Hirasawa, Yuki Hirasawa, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Cathy Murayama, Isabelle Scholl, Nora Takeuchi and Neil Watanabe.**



Kay Hanano, Ikebana Sensei, with her granddaughter Cassidy, and Nora Takeuchi during July Ikebana class.

## MANTOKUJI'S ONLINE AUCTION

A big MAHALO to Diane Orikasa for chairing Mantokuji's online auction. The proceeds from the auction will be used to help fund Mantokuji's ongoing temple projects. The online auction raised a total of \$2241.58. Many, many thanks to all who donated items for the auction, visited the auction site, shared the auction flyer with family and friends, participated in the bidding and purchased items as the winning bidder. The food items offered were especially hot items in the auction. Thank you for your support!

## KYODAN MEETING REPORT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Below are some of the topics that were discussed at the meeting.

- Shoreline Erosion Project is in the process of being repaired. Job is being done on a time and material basis.
- O-Bon Festival on July 13th was very successful.
- Bishop Shugen Komagata's funeral will be on Sunday, October 13, 2024. Eric Moto and Bobbie Arita will be representing Mantokuji with Rev. & Mrs. Hirasawa.
- Rev. Shuji Komagata (Aiea Taishoji's resident minister) has been approved by the Headquarters in Japan (Shumuchō) to be the succeeding Bishop for Hawaii. He will be installed as Hawaii's new bishop on Saturday, October 12th followed by an installation dinner.
- Mr. & Mrs. Ryuhei Ogawa will be visiting Mantokuji in November. Date has not been confirmed. Mr. Ogawa authored a guidebook of Buddhist temples on the island of Hawaii. He will be on Maui to gather information to write a guidebook on Maui's Buddhist temples. The guidebooks are for Japanese coming to Hawaii.
- Rev. Hirasawa has been concerned about the safety of people ringing the temple bell during the night and in the early morning. Signs will be put up at the foot of the Bell Tower and its surroundings indicating that "Bell ringing is reserved for religious events. Please stay off the stairs and Bell Tower landing".
- Signs will also be put on the fence lining Hana Highway informing people that the church grounds are private property and their need to be respectful. Another sign will also be posted on the trash bin indicating that it is for temple use only, NOT for public use.
- Mantokuji will be hosting a Tea Ceremony workshop given by Sachi Lane of the Tankokai Tea Ceremony group in November. See article.
- Norman Nagata donated an infant Bodhi Tree to Mantokuji.
- Save the Date for the 10th U.S. Soto Conference was announced, October 23-26, 2025. More information and details will be forthcoming.

**Next Kydan meeting** will be held on **Sunday, November 10, 2024.**

Please join us for future meetings and be involved in these important decisions.

## MANTOKUJI HOSTED A SOBA WORKSHOP ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

Five soba masters of the Tokyo/Yokohama Sobaraku organization came to demonstrate how soba is made. Eight of us watched as they skillfully mixed the buckwheat flour with a little regular flour and water until it was mealy. They kneaded the mixture until the texture was just right. Then the kneaded mixture was further kneaded on the large board. It was rolled and rolled until a square was formed. Then folded and hand cut into strips. Sue Hlrage, Cynthia Ikeda and Yuki Hirasawa tried their hand at each making a batch of soba noodles under the careful watch and assistance of the soba masters. The noodles were then cooked and we all enjoyed the special taste of freshly made soba noodles. Can't beat the fresh taste! Thank you, Koji Kato, Koichi Tanaka, Toshino Yoneyama, Yukiko Hanihara and Yoshihisa Uchida for an enjoyable morning!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DARUMA-KI SERVICE AND THANK YOU PICNIC

*Sunday, October 6, 2024 10:00am Service – 11:00am Daruma-sama Thank You Picnic*



The Daruma-ki Service and Picnic will be held on Sunday, October 6. This event gives the members of Mantokuji a chance to thank our friends who come to help Mantokuji throughout the year whenever help is needed . . . on clean up days, our annual bazaar, our O-Bon Festival and Mantokuji's various services and events. Their generosity and kindness are invaluable.

We will start with a service at 10:00am in honor of Daruma-sama, or Bodhidharma, the patriarch of Zen Buddhism. Followed by the Thank You picnic beginning at 11:00am. There will be games and activities for children and adults. Lunch will be served at noon.

**Please come and enjoy the fellowship, food and fun!**

Please **RSVP** to Cathy Murayama by text or call (808) 283-6125 or email [info@paiamantokuji.org](mailto:info@paiamantokuji.org) by **September 29** to let the committee know if you will attend so we can plan accordingly.

### SHICHI-GO-SAN CEREMONY AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

*Sunday, November 17 at 9:00am*

We will have a family service together with the Shichi-Go-San Ceremony on

**Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 9:00am**

If you have children, grandchildren or great grandchildren who have become or will be ages 3, 5, and 7 this year, please bring them for the Shichi-Go-San Ceremony to pray for their well-being. Please call Reverend Hirasawa at (808) 579-8051 by November 10 to sign up for this ceremony.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TEA CEREMONY WORKSHOP AT MANTOKUJI

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024 AT 1:00PM

Join us for an enriching tea ceremony workshop hosted by Paia Mantokuji on **November 17, 2024, at 1:00 PM**. The esteemed members of the *Uransenke Tankokai* will teach you the elegant art form of the Japanese tea ceremony.

The Japanese tea ceremony, which originated in China, involves a series of precise and deliberate movements to prepare a drink with grace and respect. This ritual fosters a serene atmosphere and offers intellectual, aesthetic, and physical enjoyment for both the host and guests.



Setup for a Tea Ceremony Workshop held at Wailuku Jodo mission in 2022.

### Workshop Details

- ✧ Capacity: 30 participants
- ✧ Fee: Free (Donations are welcomed and appreciated)

### Optional Matcha Tea Whisk Set

- ✧ Purchase Price: \$15

You can purchase a tea whisk set to use during the workshop and take home as a keepsake. Let us know by **October 20** if you'd like to order one.

To reserve your spot and/or purchase a tea whisk set, please email at [info@paiamantokuji.org](mailto:info@paiamantokuji.org) or call (808) 579-8051.

Don't miss this opportunity to explore and experience the tranquil art of tea ceremony. We look forward to welcoming you!

## NOKOTSUDO HOURS IN OCTOBER

The nokotsudo hours in October will be as follow:

### Close Days

Thursday, October 10 – Friday, October 18

Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25

Monday, October 28 – Wednesday, October 30

### Open Days

Tuesday, October 1 – Wednesday, October 9

Saturdays, October 19 & 26 and Sundays, October 20 & 27

Thursday, October 31 and thereafter

Thank you for your understanding.




The  
**10<sup>th</sup>**

U.S. Soto  
Conference

*Hawaii*

October 23-26, 2025

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha everyone,

You may have noticed Cmac's heavy equipment and work crews are back on the shoreline to replace, add, and reposition sandbags that were displaced by last winter's waves. Cmac Excavation will reinforce the sandbag structure and also try to locate the crematorium fuel tank so that it can be appropriately removed or secured. Consultant Mike Foley is helping to oversee the project. Work may even have already been completed by publication time!

Little Ruri Hirasawa will be traveling to Japan for the first time this October so that Sensei and Okusan (mom & dad) can introduce her to family and friends while she is still an infant and to obtain her Japanese passport. The Kyodan will be here to respond to your questions and concerns in their absence. Before he leaves, Reverend Hirasawa will conduct the Daruma-ki Service on Sunday, October 6 at 10:00 am. The Daruma-sama Picnic will follow the service with good food and good fun. Please come and join us in fellowship and gratitude. Take care.

Mahalo,

Eric Moto

President, Mantokuji Kyodan



Cmac team working on the site.

After the sandbag structure being repositioned and new bags added.



## DONATIONS MADE IN AUGUST

We would like to sincerely thank you for your very generous donations.

### General Donations

Kevin & Jayne Kimizuka.

Joyce Y Miyamoto	Funeral Service for Tamayo Yamada on 8.23.24
Myles Murakami	In Memory of Patsy Murakami
Celia Suzuki	In Memory of Meyer M Ueoka (8/26)
Wayne Takehara	In Memory of Yoshimi & Masayuki Takehara
Yukie Ueoka	In Memory of Meyer M Ueoka (8/26)

### Obon Donations made in August 2024

Cynthia Alm (In Memory of Buzzy Okazaki), Todd & Heidi Hlraoka (In Memory of Clara Sodetani), Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Tom & Krystene Lam (In Memory of Clara Sodetani), Carol Lau (Donation for food sales), James Miyasato (In Memory of Ume & Niwa Miyasato), Celia Suzuki & Yukie Ueoka (Donation for shiso rice ingredients), Steven Tanabe & Ileene Kawahara (In Memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani), Karl & Linda Yoshioka & Colleen Sakuma.

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## October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 7:30am-8:30am Zazen 10:00am Daruma-ki Service 11:00am Daruma-sama Picnic	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 9:30-11:30am Ikebana
20 8:30am Clean up 10:30am Fujinkai Meeting	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

*Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations are scheduled during the month.*

### Coming up in November (Tentative Schedule)

Sunday 10: Clean up, Fujinkai & Kyodan Meetings

Sunday 17: Family Service - Shichi-Go-San Ceremony (7-5-3- Ceremony)