



Hawaii Federation of Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Associations

● Honorary President-Chihoko Yosemori ● President-Carol Yamamoto ● Minister Adviser-Rev. Shigenori Makino
1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813 USA

5 Year Theme: Embraced by the Vow

2005 Slogan : In Peace

Federation of BWA's Purposes

to unify and cooperate with all United Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Associations in the State of Hawaii;
to perpetuate and expand Jodo Shinshu (Pure Land Sect) in the State of Hawaii;
to promote the development of Buddhist women's organizations ; and
to participate in the promotion of Buddhism throughout the world and to work for world peace.

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13TH WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN'S CONVENTION LATEST BULLETIN!

- **Date:** September 1 – 3, 2006
- **Place:** Hawaii Convention Center
- **Headquarters:** Ala Moana Hotel
- **Theme:** BUDDHA'S VOW, MY ASPIRATION "
- **Slogan:** "MAY THERE BE PEACE IN THE WORLD, MAY THE BUDDHA DHARMA SPREAD!"

Keynote speaker: The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka has consented to be our speaker on the theme and slogan. He is on the faculty of Musashino University, and has been in Honolulu for the two "Gathering" conferences. He is also the author of "OCEAN: An Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America."

Pre-convention booklet: All units should have gotten the materials for the advertisements that we would like to have. Please read the directions carefully. If there are any questions, don't hesitate to contact Lori Taniguchi, publicity chair.

Committees: Many have begun their planning and have been working on drafts.

Registration: Thank you for coming through in a timely manner. Remember additions are welcome. Numbers are needed for better planning.

You've all been patient and have expressed willingness to help. Please don't hesitate to send your suggestions to your convention co-chairs *Donna Higashi and Fusae Kiyokawa*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all the members of the Federation:

Life is a series of commitments: short-term, long-term, some even life-long. As individual women we have commitments to our families, friends, interest groups, even to ourselves to maintain well-being. As Buddhist women we have commitments to our temples, units, Uniteds and to the Federation.

It has been an awesome experience observing the women preparing and participating in the 10th State Conference, observing and participating with the women in preparation for the 13th World Convention. And at the same time you

are continuing to maintain involvement in on-going projects such as this Newsletter, the Student Exchange program, the 2006 calendar project and developing the website. The commitment and dedication is impressive. We still have a long way to go; certainly a long-term commitment. Thank you to everyone for your untiring efforts and dedication.

Please keep well! Work in harmony, help each other, and as we walk the Nembutsu Path together, let us share in the Compassion that surrounds us.

Gratefully.....in gassho,

/s/ Carol Yamamoto

HAWAII ISLAND HAWAII ISLAND UNITED

✿ **Erika Masaki** and **Lissa Onishi**, recent graduates of Waiakea High School are our two recipients of \$750 scholarships from the HI United BWA. This award is given each year to Jodo Shinshu Buddhists based on scholarship achievement, financial need and service to the temple, school and community.

Erika is the daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Dennis Masaki, and Lissa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Onishi. Both girls have attended Hilo Betsuin Dharma School and have served as assistant teachers for the past three years. They are active members of the Jr. YBA.

Erika plans to study Shin Buddhism in Japan with the goal of becoming a minister. Lissa will enroll at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, majoring in accounting.

✿ **“Embraced by the Vow: In Peace”** was the theme of the United’s Buddhist Education seminar in July. The day began with a service followed by three guest speakers. **Mitsuyo Saito** shared her experiences living positively knowing that she is embraced by the vow. She also taught the attendees two new gathas, “Into the Breeze” and “Many, But One.”

Julia Zee, a University Extension worker, talked about nutrition and healthy eating. Using the menu prepared for lunch, she explained how it fit into the food pyramid. The healthy lunch of chicken breast on whole grain bun, taro salad, chicken-vegetable soup with barley, and fruit kabobs more than satisfied everyone.



Preparing fruit kabobs, l to r: Aiko Nakamura, Etsuko Mori, Ellen Okano, Amy Ban, Akiko Miyashita, Etsuko Kurokawa
After lunch everyone made gift bags out of posters or calendars to take home.

To end a full day of activities, **Li**

Ching Kuo led the group in breathing exercises and tips on how to relieve aches and pains by applying pressure on critical points.

✿ **In the spirit of Dana**, monetary donations were presented to the Lokahi Treatments Centers of Hilo and Kona. This year with the main focus on women, the Dana committee addressed the substance abuse and domestic violence problems in our county, which has seven centers, at which clients are provided with care, intervention programs and group sessions to help them on their way to rehabilitation and recovery.

HAWAII ISLAND – UNITS

HILO BETSUIN BWA

✿ **We will be hosting** the Hawaii Island United conference on October 23 at the Naniloa Hotel. Chaired by **Susan Mizuba** and **Etsuko Mori**, the gathering will feature as keynote speaker the **Rev. Itaru Nozaki** of the North Hawaii temples. The deadline for participant sign-ups is October 1, 2005.

✿ **Several members attended** the Buddhist Churches of Canada Centennial in August. Their trip included an Alaskan cruise and a city tour of Victoria and surrounding areas. **Suga Suzuki** spearheaded this trip, coordinated by Kobayashi Travel. **Rev. and Mrs. Tatsuo Muneto** accompanied the group.

✿ **A very successful** and profitable garage sale was held in July under the leadership of **Amy Ban**. Everyone worked very hard and many families and friends donated a great variety of goods, new and old. We had home-made items such as quilts, blankets and dustpans as well as cookies, jellies, *tsukemono* and Spam musubi. There

also was a variety of plants. To be sure, “somebody’s trash was someone’s treasure!”

A “red tag” sale will be held in November at greatly-reduced prices for the unsold items from this garage sale.



Helping to prepare for the garage sale. l to r: Kazue Kaide, Lea Kamimura, Ruth Yotsuji, Sayoko Murai and Ayako Okubo

HONOHIINA BWA

✿ **On July 30, three members** went to Hilo Betsuin to learn how to make yarn leis for the world convention.

✿ **We observed our annual O-Bon** season with graveside and temple services, followed by the dances from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. We have a small temple, small yard and small membership, but big hearts. We do without a *yagura* -- we have instead a street light in a strategic place to light up the grounds and each year **Calvin Sueda** places a *chochin* with a small flashlight inside, at the end of his bamboo fishing pole, around which we dance. We are fortunate to have members from other temples and the public join us for the dancing. We also serve everyone refreshments prepared by the members.

HONOKAA BWA

✿ **The book “Kokoro”** published by the Japanese Women’s Society of Honolulu is our 2005 fundraiser. All who have purchased this beautiful book have enjoyed its comprehensive information about Japanese culture and traditions.

Thus far, the books are selling well. We have plans to use them as gifts for birthdays, graduations and year-end holidays, especially for the younger generations, to encourage them to learn more about and appreciate their Japanese heritage.

✿ **A three-page BWA section** is

published each month in the Honokaa Hongwanji Newsletter and sent to all temple members. Collation of the newsletter is done by BWA members.



Collating the temple newsletter. l to r, Katherine Tanaka, Sonoko Kadooka, Sadae Hasegawa

HONOMU BWA

✿ **Our Eshinni Day service** was held in August, with guest speaker **Motoe Tada** of Hilo Betsuin. Lunch prepared by **Kazuko Mento** and her crew was served and enjoyed by all.

✿ **Co-sponsored by our BWA and Koyukai**, our annual Parents Day service was held in June. Guest speaker **Sadami Hamamoto** gave a very interesting presentation about her parents and especially about her experiences at a relocation camp during WWII. After the service everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch prepared by **Yoshie Iwashita** and her talented helpers.

✿ **Another joint project** carried out in June with our Kyodan was the *Imonbi*, visitation and gift certificate presentation to our Keirosha, members 80 years and older. We have 57 of these members, 25 men and 32 women. The ladies who assisted with this project were **Okinu Matsuoka, Setsuko Okido, Bernice Tomiyama** and **Hisae Yamada**.

KAMUELA BWA

✿ **We will again be participating** in the second Waimea Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" on October 29. Committee chairs are soliciting monetary contributions, walkers and food booth workers for this important community event. Last year, we had walkers from start to finish including the **Rev. and Mrs. Itaru Nozaki** who came at the wee hours of the morning – talk about commitment! With so many in the community, including temple members, afflicted we need to do our share to help in the fight against cancer.

✿ **A number of our members visited** with our sister-Kelowna BWA after the Buddhist Churches of Canada's centennial celebration. We went by motor coach from Vancouver to Kelowna via the Fraser Canyon, over the Cascade Mountains. Arriving in Kelowna for three nights, a whirlwind of activities was planned by our hosts as we eagerly renewed old friendships. We returned by motor coach again via Coqueballa Highway with a stop at "Hell's Gate" and a few days in Las Vegas before coming home. Everyone had a grand time.

KONA BWA

✿ **In 2004 we added four new members**, and in 2005, five more have joined. We are grateful to these newcomers and to all the ladies who are part of our wonderful organization. Together we can make a difference!

✿ **Five graduating high school seniors** were honored at a baccalaureate service in May. Also recognized was **Morri-Ann Nagata**, who received a BWA scholarship. Morri-Ann is the daughter of **Morris Nagata**, Kyodan president and **Henri-Ann Nagata**, assistant treasurer of our BWA.



BWA scholarship awarded. l to r, Susan Takiue, Chizu Nakashima, June Fujikawa, Morris Nagata, Morri-Ann Nagata, Henri-Ann Nagata, Rev. Hosho Shindo

✿ **Our ladies prepared lunch for the 140+ attendees** of the 44th annual Hawaii Island lay association convention in July. Our own **Betty Shikada** was presented with an appreciation award by the group. Our VP **Linda Nagai** was the keynote speaker.

✿ **The Rev. David Nakamoto** of the Kapolei Sangha on Oahu was our Hanamatsuri guest speaker. We made hundreds of *manju* to sell as a fundraiser, and also donated 12 bags of *manju* for the Kona Adult Day Care Center's fundraiser as well.

✿ **Nine delegates attended the 10th** BWA state conference in Honolulu in April-May. We enjoyed the workshops, food and fellowship.

NAALEHU BWA

✿ **Our small but energetic membership** has been busy helping with the monthly collation of the community newspaper KAU CALENDAR, which is a 16+ page update of issues and happenings. There are about 16 of us who, despite our aches and pains, enthusiastically take part in this Dana activity, enjoying also the snacks provided by **Alice Yonemitsu** and others.

✿ **We have also been meeting** for the special yarn lei-making activity in preparation for the world convention in 2006. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow members from Pahala and Puna as we learn, practice and perfect this skill.

PAPAALOA BWA

✿ **Together with the Kyodan**, we annually celebrate the O-Bon tradition with a temple service and dancing. Every year, **Sakae Kaya** of Hilo Betsuin BWA graciously accepts our request for her services as a dance instructor. The Hamakua-Kohala bon dance *taiko* group adds extra sounds to the music. Although we have a small membership, with these people's help we are able to hold this joyous celebration year after year.

PAPAIKOU BWA

✿ **We are part of the 4-Temple Council** together with Honohina, Honomu, Papaalooa and Papaikou Hongwanji temples on the Hamakua coast. Every year we have a "4-Temple Walk," with each temple taking turns as host in guiding groups of people through interesting places in its vicinity, or for community service walks. The day begins with a brief temple service. After an hour and a half of walking, everyone returns to the temple for lunch, followed by door prizes. Papaikou sponsored the August walk.

✿ **Preparations for the annual bazaar** in October began in August. Coconuts need to be husked, skinned and

chopped for pies. Cookies need to be baked, pickles and preserves to be made and craftwork to be fashioned. Despite our small membership we have hard-working individuals doing their best for a successful fundraiser.

PUNA BWA

✿ **Congratulations to members Nancy and Helen Yamada** and their sisters **Etsuko** (and spouse **Raymond Yoshino**), **Jane Onuma** and **Joanne Yoshida**, for being honored as the Education Family-of-the-Year by the Hawaii Island Retired Teachers Association at its state convention in Honolulu in March.

The teaching experiences of Etsuko, Jane, Nancy and Joanne centered in the elementary grades. Helen taught physics and math at the university level. Mr. Yoshino was a high school math teacher. Altogether the Yamada family served as educators for a combined 180 years! All are retired except for Joanne who is still at Ernest B. deSilva school in Hilo.

All are actively involved in numerous community activities. Helen and Nancy spent several months editing Hiroo Sato's manuscripts which were finally published as "Pahoa Yesterday." Helen was also very active in the political campaigns of the late US representative Patsy T. Mink. Helen and Nancy were also honored at Puna Hongwanji Mission's March 13 Sunday Family Service.

✿ **Preparations for the September bazaar** included bagging cinders, making laulau, sorting rummage items, baking cookies, sushi and other food items. Members also helped with the packing, selling and clean-up. It was hard work but toiling hand-in-hand with the membership and friends is very precious.

HONOLULU

HONOLULU UNITED

✿ 31st General Membership Meeting

This annual meeting of Honolulu United was held on September 24 at the Hawaii Betsuin. It opened with a

service, followed by a short business meeting.

A panel of young women addressed the theme: "Embraced by the Vow, In Peace: My Perspective as a Buddhist Woman." Panelists were **Yumi Suzuki** (Betsuin), **Joy Wasai** (Kailua), **Mernie Miyasato-Crawford** (Jikoen) and **Phyllis Wilhoite-Nakasone** (Moiliili).

Following lunch, entertainment was presented by each unit.

This year's meeting was hosted by Moiliili BWA.

✿ **Jikoen Women's Society** was the host for the United's 2005 Education Workshop. The entire day's program was built around the theme: "Healthy Living: Focus on Diabetes," with two speakers from the Queen's Health Center. Featured also were healthy snacks of fruits, pretzels, popcorn and crackers, and a lunch of somen salad garnished with roast chicken, with lots of vegetable sticks, fresh watermelon and other fruits. Everyone enjoyed the short exercise/dance "Gombe-san no Akachan" which was first introduced by the Kauai BWA at the recent state membership conference.

An update on the World Convention was given by **Fusae Kiyokawa**, and more orange yarn was distributed to be made into leis.

A total of \$848 was collected for the Ministerial Training Fund.

HONOLULU UNITS

Hawaii Betsuin BWA

Under the direction of our tireless and fearless leader, Fujiko Motobu, who wears two hats as president of the Betsuin BWA as well as the Honolulu United BWA, keeps our unit moving and rolling along with the following activities:

✿ **Eshinni/Kakushinni and World Peace Day** was observed jointly on Sunday, April 24. **Alan Goto**, Betsuin president, was the guest speaker and **Shigeko Miyashiro** gave a heart-warming speech on peace. The BWA hosted the three morning services with Spam musubi, sandwiches, manju and

vegetable platter.

✿ **Seventy-eight members** attended the state convention this year. We joined the other BWA members from Honolulu United to sing the fast-paced song *Sekai ni Hitotsudake no Hana* under the direction of **Mitsuyo Saito**. A samba dance was also performed superbly by a select group of dancers under the direction of **Sumie Sueishi**.

✿ **For our Bon dance nights**, trays of musubi were made for the food booths and the dancers. **Hatsue Goda**, **Shigeko Miyashiro** and **Sonoe Motoyoshi** dressed the dancers. For Bon *mairi*, two lunches and three dinners were prepared. Each group, coordinated by **Yolanda Hirohata** and **Michie Shibata**, planned, prepared and served the meals to the Board members, volunteers and ministers. In addition, *mugi-cha*, hot tea, fruit punch and *senbei* were served to the sangha members and families attending the services.

✿ **At the heels of the Spring Bazaar**, we were called to assist the Temari group with selling Spam and vegetarian musubi to their customers in April. The project was chaired by **Nancy Toyama** and **Sets Takashige**. Twenty-two members volunteered and arrived at the crack of dawn to cook the rice and other ingredients for 278 musubi.

President Fujiko reminded us in the spring edition of the BWA newsletter that "great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people." Let us all enjoy life, for "anger" is only one letter short of "danger."

Jikoen Women's Society

✿ **An overnight trip to Lanai** for fellowship with our sisters there is being planned for October. For most of us, this will be the first time to visit what used to be called "The Pineapple Island," but which is now a playground for the rich and famous, with two fabulous resort hotels.

Lily Horio laid most of the groundwork by first making the trip herself, working out the details with Lanai BWA members **Matsuko Matsumoto** and **Hideko Saruwatari**.

We will be staying at the old, small and quaint Lanai Hotel and at the usually empty minister's residence. Besides

sightseeing, a ferry trip to Lahaina for shopping is in the works for those who are sea-hardy. The evening get-together will feature karaoke singing by both groups. On Sunday morning before we leave, there will be a short service at the Lanai Hongwanji temple.

This will be a trip to long remember for the 20+ JWS adventurers who have signed up.

✿ **Mitsuyo Saito**, Betsuin member and choir director, and wife of retired minister **Rev. Yoshikazu Saito**, was our Eshinni/Kakushinni Day speaker.

Kailua BWA

✿ **Our annual temple visitation tour** was to Mililani Hongwanji in August. Twenty-four members participated this year.

✿ **Betty Okamoto** and **Elaine Fukada** co-chaired the after-Bon dance meal. Thanks to members' generous donations, we had sufficient food to feed a large crowd after the dance.

✿ **Non-perishable food items** donated by members were sorted and delivered to the OutReach program at St. Anthony's Center in Kailua by **Elaine Fukada** and her granddaughter **Nikka**.

Moilili BWA

✿ **A special service was held** in September to observe a combined Grandparents' Day and C.A.R.E. (Compassion and Respect for Elders) Day.

Our homebound members were called to attend this service and many did come. We were very pleased to have **Dr. Richard Ridao**, a member of our Sangha, speak about senior wellness and care.

Since it was also a day to honor our grandparents, the little ones entertained us with songs and the juniors passed out apples and special cards made by members of the Bombu Club.

The BWA members prepared the lunch with emphases on variety, taste and health-wise quality.

KAUAI

KAUAI UNITED

✿ **Before the 2005 State Membership Conference**, Kauai United members visited Iolani Palace and Waipahu Cultural Center and had lunch in Chinatown.

✿ **Four scholarships** of \$500 each were awarded to graduating high school seniors this June: **Tammy Koerte** (Kapaa), **Chad Naganuma** (Lihue), **Ashley Nonaka** (Lihue) and **Reiko Ayabe** (West Kauai). The students were interviewed and awards were based on their knowledge of Buddhism, service to their temples and participation in Dharma School and Jr. YBA. Two of the scholarships were from anonymous United members.

✿ **Marigold plants** are being readied for the Uniteds' annual "Lonesome Grave" project in November, which was started over 10 years ago when then United president **Barbara Funamura** noticed that during the Veterans' Day services there were a lot of grave sites without flowers, unlike Memorial Day when the cemetery was crowded with flowers from school children.

Marigolds were chosen to honor the Gold Star Mothers. This project attempts to place flowers on every grave because many families of those buried there are no longer living on Kauai. The United women grow the plants and the Dharma School students and Jr. YBA assist in decorating the graves.

KAUAI UNITS

Lihue BWA

✿ **For our Homebound project**, members crocheted over 20 lap blankets to keep our homebound and care home members warm during the cold winter months. We also made *manju* and *barazushi* to share with the more active homebound elders. Also, several members visited **Toku Umehara** at her Mililani home on Oahu to present her with souvenirs from their centennial celebration held in November 2004. Rev. and Mrs. Umehara served at Lihue Hongwanji during the late 50's and early 60's.



With Mrs. Umehara at her home, l to r, Cynthia Masukawa, Sumako Ichimasa, Mrs. Umehara, Gladys Fujiuchi, Marian Ogata, Edith Ushio, Rev. Kondo, Barbara Miyoshi

Kapaa BWA: Soon we will be saying farewell to the **Rev. Koho Takata** and his family who will relocate to Honolulu where Rev. Takata will take over the responsibilities of executive secretary to the Bishop. The **Rev. Mary David** and her family will be arriving to join our ohana. Her previous assignment was with Hilo Betsuin.

West Kauai BWA

We welcomed **Rev. Akimasa Iwasa** in February, and have been busy with our Bon dances, temple clean-ups and social concerns projects.

MAUI UNITS

Kahului BWA

✿ **We hosted the San Jose choir and Sangha** who joined our O-Bon festivities in August.

✿ **Various money-making projects** to help us defray expenses for the world convention in 2006 include making happi coats and having food sales. We are also busy making yarn leis not only for the convention but for our Sunday service guests.

✿ **Kumika Soga** was our speaker at our annual Eshinni/Kakushinni Day service in April. She shared the significance of the mother-daughter relationship in Shinran Shonin's family and her personal experiences with her own mother. Such warm relationships have fostered positive personal Buddhist insight and propagation of Shin Buddhism.

Members prepared refreshments for the congregation. The Dana collection was presented to our Jr. YBA. The auspicious day ended with a luncheon meeting at Kaanapali Hotel, at which

time a revision of the By-Laws was passed by the membership.

✿ **Five members and the Rev. Daien Soga** attended the State Membership conference this year. Our unit was charged with coordinating the United's presentation of a line dance, "Beautiful Sunday," and group singing of "It's a Small World" in English and Japanese, ending with a sharing of thank you in different languages. We appreciated the enthusiastic participation of Governor Lingle and former Maui ministers, including Bishop Yosemite, in the dance.

Lahaina BWA

✿ **We have been making pickled and shredded mango** since March to raise funds for the world convention.

✿ **In February we said farewell to the Rev. and Mrs. Ron Kobata** and their daughter **Trini**. It was a sad aloha after Rev. Ron's 21 years on Maui. He was presented with \$50 *sembetsu* and lots of leis.

✿ **Eshinni Day** was observed with guest speaker **Yoshiko Umitani** of Makawao Hongwanji, followed by brunch at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel. A special donation was also made to the Dharma School.

✿ **We put on a Spam musubi and sushi** demonstration for the children of West Maui Carden Academy.

Lanai BWA

✿ **On July 31 our temple was host** to a Buddhist Study Center seminar. The **Rev. Marvin Harada** of Oakland, CA was the guest speaker. Our members were joined by **Bishop Chikai Yosemite, the Revs. Daien Soga, Kosho Yagi and Shinkai Murakami** and about 20 visitors from Wailuku and Makawao temples.

✿ **A Mothers' Day luncheon** was held at the Lodge at Koele in May, with 25 attendees. A light lunch and many door prizes were enjoyed by all.

✿ **President Dixie Buckley and Karen Mendes** joined the Wailuku Fujinkai to celebrate their centennial on May 22.



l to r, Helen Tanaka, Karen and Dixie, Carol Yamamoto

✿ **Some of our visiting ministers** have been the **Rev. Kosho Yagi** for the Gotan-E/Memorial service, **Rev. Earl Ikeda** of Puna Hongwanji on June 11, and **Daien Soga** for O-Bon. The dance was on July 9, when the Fujinkai and Gojikai members held a successful food sale and members from Maui joined in the dancing and provided drummers.

Makawao BWA

✿ **Masuyo Doi** received the Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Award in recognition of her years of compassionate and selfless service to Makawao Hongwanji. She is known as the "*manju* lady" because when she sets a date, everybody comes to help make manju. At the annual bazaar many wait to buy the jams and jellies she donates, and she has cooked for the O-Bon hospitality room and many other events. She has also been president of Makawao Fujinkai and Maui United, and served on many communities. Thank you, Mrs. Doi.



Masuyo Doi, 2005 awardee.

✿ **Diane Kosaka** was installed as president of Maui United BWA. Did you know that she and past president **Aileen Cockett** were classmates at Lahainaluna High?



Present and past Maui United presidents.

✿ **Makawao Hongwanji bade farewell** to the **Rev. Ronald Kobata** and his family who moved to San

Francisco, CA. Then we welcomed the **Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani** and family to begin their residency at Makawao. On March 6 we had a welcome luncheon for the Umitani family.



Last gathering with Rev. R. Kobata.



Rev. Umitani, Yoshiko and baby Naho Iris

✿ **On March 20** we held our New Year's luncheon, which this year was called a Spring Luncheon. The food and fellowship, as well as a "white elephant" gift exchange, were enjoyed by all.

Wailuku BWA

Centennial: 1905 – 2005!

Since May 2003 the Centennial Committee began planning for our 100th anniversary, hustling for ads from various community businesses for our commemorative booklet, which turned out to be a beautiful souvenir about our history with many pictures of past and present events.

We honored each of our Keirokai members with her portrait, a Japanese commemorative towel and the booklet.

It was an honor to have the **Rev. Thomas Okano** (on behalf of the Bishop) give the sermon and delightful to have present among the guests **Carol Yamamoto**, Federation president, and **Chizuko Kawaji** and **Junko Hagio**, past presidents of WHBWA.

The decorating committee transformed the social hall into a beautiful formal dining room with table linens, plants and flowers. A buffet luncheon, presentation of the Keirokai group and entertainment were enjoyed by all.

A centennial group photo was taken of this memorable occasion.

✿ **The San Jose Dharma School choir** visited and performed at our 8:00 a.m. service on August 14. BWA members helped with the refreshments.

✿ **In September** we helped the Judo Club during the state tournament with the food concessions and with food preparation for their banquet.

✿ **Appreciation checks were presented** to all our Dharma School teachers in June. We also made a \$200 donation to the Jr. YBA and presented an award to a *rakuen* graduate.

OAHU

OAHU UNITED

✿ 10th State Membership Conference

After many steering committee meetings that began in March 2003, the HHMHFBWA 10th State Membership Conference became a reality when 333 BWA members converged at the Ala Moana Hotel on April 29, 30 and May 1 to enjoy the various activities that had been carefully planned for them.

Host Oahu United selected "Buddha's Vow, My Aspiration" as its theme and for the slogan "May There Be Peace in the World and May the Buddha's Teaching Spread."

Each attendee received a beautifully created tote bag filled with many goodies.

The conference began with an impressive opening service which included a welcome message from Oahu United president **Mae Matsushige**. **Bishop Chikai Yosemite** as keynote speaker set the tone for the gathering.

The General Assembly began with messages from Federation president **Carol Yamamoto**, honorary president **Chihoko Yosemite** and adviser the **Rev. Shigenori Makino**.

All participants attended two workshops: the first one, "Preparation for the 2006 World Convention," was mandatory and the second, one of five from "Identity Theft and Senior Fraud," "Conducting Better Meetings," "Foods in Buddhism," "Ancient Chinese Exercise – Qi Gong," and "Peace Education at the Pacific Buddhist Academy." These workshops earned high marks on the evaluation sheets.

At the banquet, dignitaries Governor Linda Lingle and Mayor Mufi Hannemann extended congratulations. Keynote speaker **Cecilia Lindo**, educator, researcher and writer, delivered a thought-provoking message. The entertainment portion included a variety of offerings and a wide range of talent from the five Uniteds – hula, Japanese dances, skit, and a song/dance with audience participation that grew with every additional verse. An evaluator suggested that the entire membership at the world convention participate in this number as a finale.

The impressive presentations by the panel of former student exchange representatives were very well received. **Maya Fujitani Togashi**, **Yumi Kawaji Suzuki**, **Caroline S. Otani**, **Celeste Nagata Endo** and **Katherine Taira** were articulate, inspiring and "very candid and appreciative of their Buddhist beliefs and practices, making it worthwhile to continue the Exchange Program," as was expressed by another evaluator.

If attendees were provided a better understanding of what would be in store for them at the 13th World Convention, if old friendships were renewed and new friendships created, if individuals felt energized and inspired, then this conference will have served us well.

OAHU – UNITS

Aiea Fujinkai

Representing Oahu United, some of our members recently visited the Lotus Adult Day Care Center in Aiea. The theme, "Multi-Generation," brought together the children from the Aiea Hongwanji Preschool, the participants of the Adult Day Care Center, and the BWA members.

The event started with everyone clapping to the tunes of the preschoolers. Then **Thelma Kawaguchi**, **Sumiko Nakahara**, **Mildred Nomura**, **Ethel Sekine**, **Charlotte Tomoyasu**, **Hisako Ushijima** and **Elaine Yamanoha** entertained everyone with Bon dance numbers. **Clara Kanno** delighted everyone with karaoke songs. The

finale showcased the preschoolers joining in on some of the Bon dance numbers.

A presentation of a \$100 check from the United was made to **Shareen Zakahi**, director of the Lotus Center, along with a case of facial tissues donated by Aiea BWA.

The festive day ended with fellowship and refreshments organized by the Fujinkai members.

Mililani BWA

✿ *Ehime Maru* Memorial Cleaning Project

The United Japanese Society of Hawaii oversees the community service aspect of paying our respects to the members of the Japanese ship who perished in a tragic accident off Diamond Head, by maintaining a schedule for weekly cleaning of the memorial located in Kakaako Park. The members of the MBWA showed up on July 2 with buckets and wash towels to clean the memorial. Then our own **Rev. Mari Sengoku** held a meaningful service. We also met visitors from Japan who were there to honor their loved ones.

✿ Annual Sushi Sale

Making and selling *inarizushi* is our annual fundraiser which was held in August this year. Our secret recipe makes the flavorful and popular cone sushi that the community loyally buys year after year.

Pearl City BWA

✿ Back in 2004, Myra

Matsumoto held a workshop on how to make *makizushi* and *inarizushi*. Then with the help of many volunteers, Myra spearheaded our first fundraiser on Valentine's Day, which was very successful.

This year, we held a Mothers' Day fundraiser, which was equally successful. Therefore in order to continue this profitable project, Myra plans to hold more sushi workshops for other women who have shown an interest in learning the art.



L tor, G.Okamoto, E. Ikeda, M.Matsumoto, C. Kawaji, K. Fukushima, Y. Murakami, C. Shimisu



2005 年秋号



ハワイ本派本願寺
仏教婦人会連盟
Hawaii Federation of
Buddhist Women's
Association

Five Year Theme:
Embraced by the Vow
2005 Slogan: In
Peace



ふじかいこうかんでせいのほん

二〇〇五年 婦人会交換学生 日本へ

交流親善を図り、将来の仏教婦人の育成を目的とした、婦人会交換学生プログラムが今年も行われました。今年、ハワイ開教区より、ミリラニ本願寺の石川レイミさんとヒロ別院の正木エリカさんが選ばれ、七月二十五日にホノルルを出発しました。ホノルル空港では、ホノルル・オアフの婦人会会員が、お見送りをし、たくさんのレイと共に、二人は日本へ出発しました。二週間の研修期間中の主な日程は、本山参拝、総裁様(お裏方さま)とのご面談、広島での平和学習、山口教区婦人会会員宅でのホームステイ、全国仏青大会への参加などで、二人の明るい人柄と真摯さは、行く先々で歓迎されました。

婦人会交換学生プログラムは、他の文化がどのようにして、浄土真宗のみ教を慶ばれているかを知るすばらしい機会でした。私は、この二週間で、人生がひっくり返るような経験をjして、いろいろなみ教への理解を深めさせていただきました。このプログラムは、これからの若い人に最も推薦したいものです。またこの研修で、私は、ニューハンプシャー州の新しい家のお仏壇用にいろいろな仏具を買いました。私の婚約者と一緒に毎週おつとめをし、読経の練習をするつもりです。西蓮寺のご住職から頂いた法話の本は、毎週のお参りに使わせて頂こうと思っています。また、海野大徹先生宅で、特別法要がある時には、2時間余りの道のりですが、お参りさせて頂きたいと思っています。ハワイから遠く離れて暮らす生活が始りますが、お念仏のみ教えが、私を支えてくださることと思います。 石川レイミ



(左)人力車に乗って、「ハイ、ポーズ」(落ちそう!?)
(右)浴衣にお化粧バッチリ決まりました。



出発前の正木エリカさん
(左)と、石川レイミさん(右)



せかいぶつぷ わ 世界仏婦へ向けて◎

大会の基調講演ご講師が武蔵野大学(東京)、田中ケネス教授と決まりました。田中先生は、カリフォルニア州出身で、BCAでの開教使、IBSでの教鞭もとられました。その間ハワイにも、BSCサマーセッション、念仏リトリート、YBA大会ご講師等で、何度も来られていますので、ご存知の方が多いと思います。「Ocean」等の著作があり、仏教を専門的な面だけでなく、日常生活において分かりやすく教えてくださっています。

また、先生は、日英バイリンガルで、大会当日は、英語での基調講演(日本語、ポルトガル語通訳つき)と、日本語でのワークショップへも担当して下さる予定です。

大会に向けて、あと1年弱となりました。大会参加予定者の数もまとまりつつあります。各委員会では着々と準備が整いつつあります。皆様のご協力をお願いします。

第二十一会開教使夫人研修会終了

毎年、ハワイ開教区の開教使夫人研修会が行われますが、今年、曾我久弥香夫人・実行委員長を中心として、マウイ島担当で、六月十日—十一日の二日間にわたって行われました。参加者は、現役・引退開教使夫人の二十三人で、二日間で、カフルイ・マカワオ本願寺参拝の後、研修、観光等の機会を頂きながら、お互いの交流親睦を深めることができました。この研修をサポートして下さっている、ハワイ教団、各寺院、ハワイ婦人会会員の皆様に、この場をお借りして、お礼を申し上げると共に、私共も益々、お念仏の教を弘めるお手伝いをさせて頂きたいと思った次第であります。これからも皆様のご援助よろしくお願ひいたします。 合掌