



Hawaii Federation of Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Associations

- Honorary President—Chihoko Yosemite • President—Carol Yamamoto • Minister Advisor—Rev. Shigenori Makino
1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813 USA

5 Year Theme: Embraced by the Vow...
2006 Slogan: ...In Harmony

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
- To participate in the promotion of Buddhism throughout the world and to work for world peace.

Individual Highlights

Federation	2
Hawaii	3
Honolulu	4
Kauai	6
Maui	6
Oahu	8

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www.hawaiiibwa.org

WORLD CONVENTION September 1-3, 2006 BE THERE!

13th World Buddhist Women's Convention Update

Housing: JTB Hawaii and Kintetsu Hawaii are handling the registration of all delegates. To date, the preliminary figures are: Buddhist Churches of America, 570; Buddhist Churches of Canada, 70; South America 100; Japan, 2,500; Hawaii, 585. There will be more definite figures after the registration deadline of March 1, although Japan and South America's count will be lagging by at least a month.

Registration Fee: Hawaii delegates, thank you for paying the \$250 fee promptly and for alerting us if you already have enough orange leis.

Hotel accommodations: Be sure to turn in your room reservations to Ala Moana hotel ASAP!

Workshops: There will be nine different workshops on Saturday afternoon. Some of them have limited enrollment, so please remain flexible about the choices you have submitted to your temple coordinators. Also, it will be appreciated if any Hawaii delegates offer to assist as helpers for any of these workshops.

Advertisements: These have been coming in slowly. The deadline for submission of ads is March 31. The United

coordinators are **Ruth Tokumi** (Honolulu), **June Asato** (Oahu), **Helen Tanaka** (Maui), **Lillie Tsuchiya** (Hawaii) and **Yoshiko Kano** (Kauai). We are also hoping for monetary donations from members and friends; for this arrangement, your name (not amount) will be included in the program booklet.

Items on sale at the convention: Koa pendants and key chains with the Dharmachakra design, Hawaiian print *montoshikisho* (neck band), and Hawaiian print aprons. Special thanks goes to Jean Sanehira of Mililani Hongwanji BWA for cutting all the apron pieces. Members from Oahu and Honolulu BWA units are sewing the 700 aprons.

Questions?: Please contact your United representative: **Fujiko Motobu** and **Ethel Shintaku** (Honolulu), **Janet Honda** and **Roseline Yano** (Oahu), **Aileen Cockett** (Maui), **Nora Koyanagi** and **Michiko Ikemoto** (Hawaii) and **Cynthia Masukawa** (Kauai), or your United BWA minister-adviser. Also check the Hawaii Federation of BWA's website at www.hawaiiibwa.org and click the "13th World update" link.

President's Message

Greetings, Fellow Members:

2006 is here, and it is already March. I hope your new year came in on a serene note. My resolution for the year is to try to remain "calm, cool and collected." September will be here in no time.

Are you enjoying our special calendar? We thank Mrs. Yosemite and her committee for the beautiful product. It was not an easy job to gather the photos and to present them in a meaningful manner for the theme of the month. Your contributions were appreciated.

President's Message—continued on page 2

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

Thank you to all the members who are putting in so much time and effort in preparation for the 13th World Convention. Boxes of leis have been coming in, the booklet committee is busy soliciting ads and donations, the colorful convention bag has been ordered, Hawaiian print aprons are being sewn for sale during free-time, workshops have been set, the video presentation is being outlined, the website is growing, the list goes on and on. It has been heart-warming to see the dedication of all the members.

"Okage sama de!"

We still have a long way to go. Even as we prepare for the convention, our regular responsibilities to units and temples continue. Please keep well! Let us support one another and work together "in harmony" knowing that Amida's compassion surrounds us all as we walk the Path together.

In gassho, Carol Yamamoto

Federation News MEET OUR LEADER, PRESIDENT CAROL N. YAMAMOTO

(The following are excerpts and highlights from a profile printed in the Hawaii Kyodan's Summer 2005 Paramita).

"Oh no, this is so embarrassing. I'm just a simple, simple person," said Carol N. Yamamoto when asked for information about her involvement over the past 40+ years in the Hawaii Betsuin BWA, it's district's United and eventually the entire HHMH Federation of BWA.

In her earlier years, Carol limited her participation to attend to her immediate responsibilities of a growing family and career. However, once her children were grown and she retired from teaching in 1989, she committed herself to an active involvement.

"It's not a matter of who is most qualified for leadership. I really believe I was at the right place at the right time. However, I carefully considered my first step toward... Federation leadership. And...I told myself, 'OK, I know what I'm in for,' and accepted the (position)." said Carol, who has not slowed down since. A deeper look at her life hints at the source of her focus, energy and commitment to service.

She lost both of her parents at a young age. Adopted by a close family member along with her younger sister, she felt tremendous appreciation for her new family. Throughout her youth, she was very reluctant to ask her adoptive parents for privileges, even small ones normally expected by a young teenage girl. The gratitude she felt overcame many other emotions and most likely fanned her desire to help others.

Now in the position of advising other potential leaders, Carol says, "...you must learn to balance things in your life. Know which things are most important to you. Always be organized and prepared for every possibility..." Her background as a mother and classroom teacher certainly helped her acquire these skills.

In addition, she had the advantage of learning from a true "kitchen boss" on Lanai, where she grew up (and incidentally was elected Lanai High's first female student body president). Her adoptive mother was a very strong Fujinkai

leader there.

So what does our leader do on her own time? As a member of the Betsuin's Project Dana dance crew, she performs the hula, waltz and other dances at nursing homes and hospitals. She also takes an advanced dance class at the Moli'ili Community Center and teaches beginner Rhythm and Life classes at MCC and at Lanakila Senior Center.

Carol recently attended a local reception where her daughter Lynne and 14 other successful artists were feted at the opening of an art exhibition featuring former Hawaii residents who currently live/work in New York City. At the event, it was obvious that the sun in Carol's solar system is her family, which includes besides her famous daughter, her husband Thomas, two sons—Ryan and Reid, their wives and three grandchildren.

Says Lynne, "As an artist, I was fortunate that my family was always supportive of my calling," explaining the "starving artist" fear that induces most families to discourage aspiring artist. In Lynne's case, however, her family was involved with and actually helped create some of her extremely complex installations at major exhibitions.

"...You must learn to balance things in your life. Know which things are most important to you. Always be organized and prepared for every possibility."

~Carol Yamamoto

Lynne's current exhibition was a series of four photographs that depict the disintegrating interior of a condemned plantation-type house, entitled "From Malani Place." the photos reveal her awareness of and anguish over the inexorable passage of time and the degeneration of things beloved. This intimate expression was dedicated to her father. An earlier work honored her mother.

When congratulated, Lynne smiled and said, "My mother's really good at making things. I guess I got that from her."

REVISED MEMBERSHIP FIGURES REVEAL SLIGHTLY OPTIMISTIC TREND

Despite losing about 100 members overall, there are some bright spots in our 2005 membership statistics. Mililani BWA reported a gain of 8 members, Moili'ili BWA 4, and Aiea BWA 3. Units suffering big losses are Hilo Betsuin with 25, Honoka'a with 14 and Waialua with 13—almost 1/3 of their total membership.

It seems that Hawaii Betsuin's membership has finally stabilized after the merger of its Fujinkai and Upasika a few years ago because a loss of only three out of a membership of 291 was reported. One curious trend is that found on the Big Island, where every unit either stayed the same or posted a loss. None reported a gain.

These statistics seem to emphasize the rapid aging of our membership, and therefore the need for each unit to make a concerted effort to add more younger women to its roster. There are encouraging signs that some temples are attracting more new members to take the place of those who pass way each year, by initiating exciting new programs and activities, and using the personal touch to appeal to women of different age levels. The BWA is slowly shedding its image of being a bunch of older women toiling away unseen in the kitchen during temple activities.

There is hope that next year's statistics will show a real gain in membership.

HAWAII ISLAND HAWAII ISLAND UNITED

At the 51st annual convention held in October, 2005 at the Naniloa Crown room, keynote speaker the **Rev. Itaru Nozaki** of the Honokaa-Kamuela-Paauilo-Kohala temples, used the theme "Embraced by the Vow – In Peace" in a meaningful and entertaining talk. We learned that the shaka sign could signify more than the usual "hello" and "aok;" it could be the "Oya" (thumb) looking over the children/family.

Kiyoko Imada, president of HI United, conducted the business meeting and **Etsuko Kurokawa** led the

participants in some exercises before the buffet lunch.

This successful convention was hosted by the Hilo Betsuin BWA and chaired by **Susan Mizuba and Etsuko Mori**. Entertainment was provided by all the units. Combined units danced *Kealoha* and *Ahulili*.



L to R: Etsuko Mori, Rev. Nozaki, Susan Mizuba

Photo of Finger-dancers on page 10.

HAWAII ISLAND UNITS Hilo Betsuin BWA

We observed our annual *Shinnen Enkai* on February 12 in the Sangha Hall.

Motoe Tada, president, conducted the business meeting.

Karen Maedo, immediate past president of Hilo Betsuin Kyodan and the first female to take on this leadership position, was the special speaker. She taught at Waiakea Elementary school (and later served as vice principal there), deSilva school and retired as vice principal of the Hilo Community School for Adults. Among her community activities, she serves on the Hawaii county fire commission, and is a long-time member of the BWA and music coordinator for the Betsuin Dharma School.

Annie Aoki, Mitsie Maeda and Elaine Sumida chaired the event with the following committee chairs: **Takako Miura and Sue Okunami**, aloha and invitations; **Amy Ban and Kazue Kaide**, facilities set-up and cleanup; **Aileen Kaneshiro, Lillian Udo and Etsuko Yoshino**, gifts for members; **Etsuko Mori and Linda Nakano**, food; **Matsuko Shimizu and Nancy Yamamoto**, booklet; **Ellen Curry and Valerie Galacgac**, decorations; **Bea Isemoto and Jane Miyasaki**, entertainment; **Etsuko**

Kurokawa, service; **Ellen Okano**, finance; **Daisy Matsushita**, publicity; **Yaeko Koizumi**, tickets; **Shizuho Ota**, photography; **Jane Iida**, membership; **Rev. and Mrs. Tatsuo Muneto**, advisers.

Honohina Fujinkai

Our new officers this year are:

Pres.: **Kikue Sueda**

V.P.: **Ellen Fujimoto**

Sec.: **Hatsuno Fujimoto**

Corr. Sec.: **Jane Uyeno**

Treas.: **Tatsue Takasaki**

Asst. Treas.: **Mitsuko Takasaki**

Auditors: **Helen Maesato**

& Nobue Oba

Advisers: **Rev. Nobuharu Kato and Fujiko Takemoto**

Every week we have different groups of ladies cleaning the temple. Our big *omigaki* is done twice a year, in August before our O-Bon service and at the end of the year after our Bodhi Day service. Our membership stands at 14.

Honokaa BWA

✿ **A lei-making workshop** in October was arranged by program chair **Janet Saito**. **Asayo Carvalho** was invited to demonstrate lei-making with ti leaves, roses and other greenery found in our backyards.

✿ **A monetary donation** was made to the Hurricane Katrina relief fund as a community service and Make A Difference activity.

✿ **A special service and monetary donation** to the Dharma School honored the memory of Eshinni and Kakushinni, models of Jodo Shinshu womanhood.

✿ **For a quarter-page advertisement** in the 13th World BWA Convention booklet, the kyodan will assist us in the payment.

✿ **Two people from Oregon** have responded to an ad in the local Hamakua Times publicizing the book "Kokoro," which we are selling as a fundraiser.

✿ **Our Project Dana continues** its once-a-month visitation to Hale Ho'ola Hamakua with a service by the **Rev. Itaru Nozaki**.

Honomu BWA

✿ **Contributions received at our Eshinni Day service** given annually to a youth group, was donated to the Hawaii Island United Jr. YBA.

✿ **We lost two dedicated members** this past year: **Yasuko Tatsuono**, on July 16, 2005, and **Ayako Hamada** on October 4. Both ladies passed away unexpectedly and are missed by all. We truly appreciate all that they contributed to our Hononu BWA.

✿ **Our annual *Sokai*** (year-end get-together) was in December. It was a day of fun and fellowship with games, prizes and a delicious bento with cake as dessert. We thank **Yukiko Asato, Keiko Nakamura, Bernice Tomiyama and the Rev. Nobuharu Kato** for organizing this successful event.

✿ **The final project of the year** was the distribution of blankets, bibs and wheelchair bags and lap blankets, all made by our members, to the Extended Care, Hale Anuenue and Life Care Centers of Hilo, who were all very happy to receive these much-needed items.

Kamuela Hongwanji BWA

✿ **Our participation in the** Cancer Society's Relay for Life in October won us the Silver award; member **Pauline Shinshiro** won first place for her pumpkin curry soup; and the Dharma School and BWA members participated in the pumpkin-carving contest. We are committed to the 2006 Relay scheduled for October 28 with the help of our Kyodan and Dharma School.

✿ **A successful home-and-home** was held with Puna Hongwanji BWA, thanks to the cooking talents of our Kyodan men who prepared lunch to free our ladies for participation in the event.

✿ **Pink was the color** on Church Row and the sign that the community's annual Cherry Blossom Festival was underway when we participated by preparing 400 *nishime* bento for sale under the leadership of co-chairs **Michie Kimura and Elaine Honma**. Members also helped the Kyodan with mochi-making and temple open house. Many of our members also belong to other organizations which are part of this big affair.

Kona Hongwanji BWA

✿ **Our ladies assisted in cutting and sewing** 400+ bon dance towels for the 2nd annual Bon dance festival held in Kona in June.

✿ **We continue to sew bibs, blankets and wheelchair covers** for the long-term care patients at Kona Community hospital, the Kona Life Care center, and the Kona Adult Day Care center clients.

✿ **Eighteen members and spouses** traveled to Hilo for the 51st annual HIUHBWA conference at the Naniloa Crown room in October.

✿ **We assisted the Jr. YBA** with their annual New Year's mochi-making fundraiser.

Naalehu Hongwanji BWA

✿ **We are proud to announce that** the ladies have been graciously giving of their time and effort to the KAU CAL-NDAR, a topnotch community newsletter which consists of current news, events and issues of our communities and neighboring districts. The women respond once a month to help collate and compile these newsletters which have a circulation of nearly 6,000 copies. There are two teams numbering about a dozen members in all that take turns helping in this activity. Kyodan members also come out to help when there is a shortage of participants. It is with much admiration that our members are so willing to offer their DANA to a community effort.

✿ **We have also started a Dharma class** that meets once a month with the **Rev. Earl Ikeda** of Puna Hongwanji, who leads the sessions and conducts very interesting and meaningful Dharma lessons, clarifying and expanding on passages, ideas and concepts encountered in the book, "The Teaching of Buddha." It has been over a year since we started this activity, and it has grown from six members initially to the present 14 at its peak. We are so pleased to find that we are slowly including more new members into the world of Buddhism.

Papa'aloa Hongwanji BWA

✿ **Our hula halau** has been very active since its inception in 1998. Our kumu hula, **Mailelalani Canario**, has a very deep understanding of Buddhism (she attends a temple in mauka Pahala), so much so that her interpretation of our gathas always results in a very Buddhistic, ladylike hula. Thus far, our class has performed at all our Big Island conventions since 2000.

This class is open to all, not necessarily Buddhists, who are interested in hula. We do not charge any fees but we ask that all students help in our temple fundraisers.

Puna BWA

✿ **Happy New Year!** Thirty-eight members had an enjoyable home-and-home visit with the Kamuela Fujinkai in October, 2005. After the **Rev. Itaru Nozaki's** Dharma message, fellowship started with a delicious lunch prepared by their talented chefs – the menfolk. We will be planning a return visit with Kamuela coming to Puna.

✿ **The annual Christmas gift-wrapping project** at Sure Save Supermarket was very successful because the ladies were able to capitalize on the shortage of Christmas wrap in many of the stores in Hilo.

✿ **Our annual "thank you" luncheon** was held at Nihon Restaurant on January 21, 2006, in appreciation for all the help given by our members in all of the temple's projects throughout the year. Everyone enjoyed the delicious buffet, Dharma games and fellowship. The dessert was two cakes with beautiful decorations of our temple, wisteria crest and lotus flower, all done in intricate detail by **Gale Wallace**.

HONOLULU UNITED NEWS

✿ **New officers for 2006** were elected and installed at our last quarterly meeting for 2005:
Pres.: **Esther Fujioka** (Kailua)
V.P.: **Alice Tokuda** (Jikoen)
Rec. Sec.: **Jean Fukumoto** (Kailua)
Corr. Sec.: **Kimiyo Miyose** (Betsuin)
Treas.: **Alice Shiroma** (Moiliili)
Auditors: **Shiz Miyasato** (Jikoen), **Peggy Shintaku** (Betsuin)
Reps to Fed.: **Helen Hamasu** (Moiliili), **Fujiko Motobu** (Betsuin)
Minister Adviser: **Rev. Shindo Nishiyama** (Kailua and Jikoen)

✿ **Because of the World Convention**, we will not have an education workshop this year.

✿ **A sum of \$1,317 was collected** for the Ministerial Training Fund at the 31st annual membership meeting in September 2005.

HONOLULU UNITS

Hawaii Betsuin BWA

✿ **The year 2005 ended with a multi-activity** on December 18 at our main temple.

1) We observed a moment of remembrance for the 15 members who passed away from August 2004 through November 2005. **Grace Zukeran**, chair of the welfare committee, read the names while President **Fujiko Motobu** offered incense.

2) **New officers** were installed:

Pres.: **Fujiko Motobu**

1st V.P.: **Rev. Irene Nakamoto**

2nd V.P.: **Lois Yasui**

Treas.: **Blanche Sawamura**

Asst. Treas.: **Florence Wasai**

Rec. Sec.: **Lori Taniguchi**

Corr. Sec.: **Grace Zukeran**

Auditors: **Terry Fujioka, Amy Hirohata-Goto**

Directors: **Florence Goh, Linda Toshima**

Honorary Adviser: **Sumie Makino**

3) Three new members were initiated: **Juliet Lee, May Imamura-Uruu, Carol Ho** (pictured below L to R)



✿ **Starting off the "Dog Year" with renewed vigor and energy**, we held our 1st general membership meeting and *Shinnen-enkai* lunch on January 29 in the main social hall. After a bento lunch, leis for the world convention were finished. **Mitsuyo Saito** planned an enjoyable program, the highlight of which was the **Rev. Irene Nakamoto** playing her accordion.

✿ **In February, we sponsored a Benefit Breakfast** chaired by **Setsu Takashige, Lori Taniguchi** and **Florence Wasai**.

✿ **We are busy preparing for the Betsuin's annual Taste of Hongwanji Spring Bazaar** scheduled for March 26. **Lois Yasui** will again chair the thrift shop and treasures; **Fujiko Motobu** is in charge of the food preparation and

sales.

✿ **Other big upcoming activities** are making tray favors for nearby nursing homes and the Eshinni Day luncheon (April), preparing "tons" of musubi for the Betsuin Bon Dance (June), and cooking meals for the on-duty ministers, Board of Directors, *omairi* guests and volunteers during Bon Mairi (July).

✿ **We will have important duties for the World Convention:** During the summer, we will put together 3,000+ souvenir bags for the delegates. We are also making plans to welcome convention attendees who will visit the Betsuin. SEE YOU AT THE CONVENTION!

Jikoen Women's Society

✿ **Barbara Yamada** will continue serving as our president in 2006, having been elected along with the other officers, for a two-year term last year.

✿ **Doris Oshiro**, our world convention coordinator, reports that we will have 46 members participating. All of our lei have been completed. **Fumiko Yoshimoto**, our contact person for advertisements in the convention booklets, has lined up almost a dozen businesses. We also have many members who are interested in making individual donations. Then, we have been told that a group of about 30 women will be coming from Okinawa. We are excited about that and will soon be making definite plans to welcome them as soon as official word arrives. We are all looking forward to a wonderful, fruitful convention.

✿ **Four work groups have been organized** to clean the *hondo* and put up new floral arrangements on alternate weekends. The leaders are **Sally Kiyuna** (group 1), **Emi Oshiro** (group 2), **Dorene T. Niibu** (group 3) and **Mitsue Aka** (group 4).

✿ Our New Year party was held at Honolulu Country Club on February 11 with **Pat Shiroma** as chair. Highlights of the day were the initiation of four new members, **Tatsuko Miyasato, June Nakamasu, Suzue Nishiyama** and **Lois Toyama**, a delicious sit-down luncheon, games and door prizes.

Kailua Honganji BWA

✿ **Three important events took place on January 15.** First, we observed our Ho-onko service with

speaker **Rev. Shindo Nishiyama**, who now lives on our temple grounds with his family. Second, we held our first meeting of 2006 following the service. The third event, Kailua Honganji's New Year and general membership meeting took place at the Koolau Golf Club beginning at 11:30 a.m. After lunch, the installation of new officers and directors was officiated by the Rev. Nishiyama.

✿ **Kailua Honganji's annual Thanksgiving** breakfast and service was held on November 20, 2005. We welcomed guest speaker the **Rev. Arthur Marutani and Mrs. Marutani** on this special observance. KHBWA members helped with preparations and cleanup.

✿ **A very successful annual fundraising garage sale** was held on November 5.

✿ **Our Bonenkai** took place at New Mui Kwai Chop Suey in Kailua on December 4. In place of grabbag exchanges, participants donated canned goods to be given to the Outreach facility at St. Anthony's Church.

Moiliili BWA

✿ **A surprise baby shower for honorary president Tamayo Matsumoto** was held on November 5 at Tree Tops. The baby arrived on November 15 – a boy and second child for the **Rev. Eric** and Mrs. Matsumoto—and was named **Caden Kei**. His proud big sister is **Chika Archisha**.



Chika holding baby brother Caden Kei

✿ **Lily Horio** of Jikoen Hongwanji was the guest speaker at the BWA-sponsored Ho-Onko family service. A general meeting followed with election and installation of officers for 2006.



✿ **An unveiling and presentation** of five pieces of Hawaiian quilted altar cloths took place at the temple's Ho-Onko service by BWA leaders **Helen Hamasu & Rose Nakamura**. Nineteen quilters were recognized for their year's effort of time and "precious needle work," contributing over 1,000 hours. These quilted *uchishiki* will adorn the altar at the centennial service on March 26. (See photo on back)

KAUAI

KAUAI UNITED

✿ **Growing marigolds** for our "Lonesome Grave" program to decorate the graves at the Kauai Veterans' cemetery took members from August to November. Members from West Kauai Hongwanji placed the pots of flowers on Veterans' Day. Because of our combined efforts, every otherwise undecorated grave site held beautiful golden marigolds on that special day.

✿ In October 2005 the United held its annual general membership meeting at West Kauai Hongwanji's Hanapepe temple. The **Rev. Midori Kondo** was the guest speaker. Members learned to fold *origami* candy dish boxes to take home. Officers for 2006-2007 were installed:

Pres.: **Cynthia Masukawa** (Lihue)

V.P.: **Fay Tateishi** (West Kauai)

Sec.: **Yoshiko "Dimples" Kano** (Kapaa)

Treas.: **Gail Shibuya** (Lihue)

Auditor: **Irene Muraoka** (West Kauai)

Minister-adviser: **Rev. Midori Kondo** (Lihue)

UNITS

✿ **Kapaa BWA welcomed the Rev. Mary David** and family on November 1 as resident minister. **Thelma Oda** was installed as Kapaa BWA president for 2006.

✿ **Lihue BWA** continued their annual Homebound program by sewing warm vests for those members of the temple in long-term care facilities and serving *barazushi* and *manju* for those homebound due to various illnesses or are over 90 years of age. **Marian Ogata** will still serve as president for 2006.

✿ **West Kauai BWA welcomed the Rev. Kojun Hashimoto** and family on December 1 to serve the 3 member temples at Koloa, Hanapepe and Waimea. **Irene Muraoka** continues to serve as president for 2006.

MAUI

MAUI UNITED

✿ 51st General Assembly

Ninety members from across Maui and Lanai gathered for the 51st general assembly at Makawao Hongwanji in November, 2005. Maui United president **Diane Kosaka** and 37 Makawao BWA members hosted this event.

Crunchy, sweet *kaki* and juicy mango were enjoyed by all, but the hit of the day was the *poha* fruit from **Natsue Kametani's** Kula backyard. Overheard were "oohs and aahs" by many who had not had poha in years.

✿ **Rev. Kumika Soga** of Kahului Hongwanji shared the Dharma message of the day. She asked, "Are you living your daily life with joy and no regret?" for oftentimes we feel envy and jealousy, but Amida Buddha is always supporting us, so we must treasure our life of Nembutsu. She also encouraged us to take the Onembutsu teachings and plant the seeds in the next generation. We appreciated her message and felt privileged to hear stories from her personal experiences. Our standing Rules and Procedures was also updated at this meeting.

✿ World Convention activities

Members have been actively preparing lei, soliciting ads and fundraising for this all-important convention. Maui United is sponsoring a full-page ad for the convention booklet.

New Officers are

Pres.: **Joan Yokoyama** (Kahului)

Imm. P.P.: **Diane Kosaka** (Makawao)

1st V.P.: **Sylvia Ishikawa** (Wailuku)

2nd V.P.: **Aileen Cockett** (Lahaina)

3rd V.P.: **Setsuko Mendes** (Lanai)

Sec.: **Earlyn Ginoza** (Kahului)

Treas.: **Diane Lee** (Kahului)

Asst. Treas.: **Betty Hirose** (Makawao)

Auditors: **Margaret Honda** (Wailuku)

Shirley Tobita (Lahaina)

Directors: **Stella Kuwae** (Wailuku), **Catherine Nohara** (Lanai), **Hedy Sentani** (Makawao), **Karen Zaan** (Lahaina)

Shuji: **Rev. Daien Soga** (Kahului)

Advisers: **Rev. and Mrs. Shinkai Murakami** (Wailuku),

Rev. Kumika Soga (Kahului), **Rev. and Mrs. Toshiyuki**

Umitani (Makawao), **Rev. and Mrs. Kosho Yagi** (Lahaina)



L to R: Rev. T. Umitani, Diane Kosaka, Rev. K. Soga

UNITS

- ✿ **Kahului Hongwanji BWA** Charlotte Wilkinson, newly-elected president of Kahului BWA



- ✿ **We had a fruitful 2005 preparing** for the World Convention. We have held fundraisers such as sales of home-made *happi* coats and *uchiwa* (fans), and a yard sale. Our members have taken more leadership roles within the temple's board of directors, committees, Dharma School, Project Dana and *Hojukai*. We have also contributed leaders to the Honpa Hongwanji board of directors and statewide committees and the Maui Hongwanji council. We are active as well in the community as volunteers for such programs as RSVP and other non-profit organizations.

- ✿ **In 2005 our membership goal was** five new members and we achieved it. A few members sponsored young women from within their family circles and plan to continue their sponsorship until the new members are comfortable.

- ✿ **In 2006, we will continue** to do our share in United activities such as the Spring Assembly luncheon, long-term care facility visitations, the world convention, student exchange and the Fall assembly.

- ✿ **Lahaina BWA is busy coordinating plans** for our centennial on October 8, 2006 with chairperson **Phyllis Nakamura-Nishihara**. Included in the celebration will be a memorial service, *keirokei* and a luncheon at the West Maui senior center where many of our Fujinkai members participate in its activities throughout the year.

Lanai BWA

- ✿ **Our November speaker was the Rev. Akimasa Iwasa** of West Kauai Hongwanji, who conducted the combined *Eitaikyo* and memorial service. In December, we celebrated Bodhi Day with the **Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani** from Makawao.

- ✿ **Nine members attended** the general assembly at Makawao in November, where it was announced that the Lanai Women's Health Group had received the 2005 Dana award.

- ✿ **We held our annual New Year's** service on December 31. We rang the temple bell, enjoyed the refreshments and toasted the New Year with soba and sake.

Makawao BWA

Members have participated in the Maui county senior fair, our temple's garage sale, *mochi-tsuki* and New Year's party chaired by **Hedy Sentani**. The BWA luncheon on February 26 was chaired by **Karen Ishizu and Glynis Okamura**.

Makawao Hongwanji's 100th anniversary cookbook will be available in March. With over 500 recipes, this is a cookbook for all generations filled with recipes for every occasion. Better yet, get some extras for gifts for your family and friends.



Wailuku Hongwanji BWA

- ✿ **One of our recent highlights was** the annual *Sokai* held on February 12. Featured was **Peggy Kono**, a Makawao Hongwanji aerobic instructor, who led the ladies in "chair" activities.

- ✿ **On February 26 we and the Dharma School students** went to the Maui Golf and Sports Park in Maalaea to enjoy miniature golf. It was a wonderful outing for the students, mothers and grandmas.

- ✿ **A new year begins with new officers**, however because of the reluctance of many members to serve for the whole year, our leaders will serve for only three months at a time:

January-February-March: **Sylvia Ishikawa**

April-May-June: **Marian Muraoka**

July-August-September: **Margaret Honda**

A telephone tree was activated to update information among our members. Because most of our ladies are older women, we are always seeking help among the younger ones to take over in our sushi, hoshu and craft fair activities.



Wailuku BWA members greet a happy Lily Tam at Hale Makua on Bodhi Day.

OAHU

OAHU UNITED

Sunday, October 16, 2005 turned out to be a perfect day in Wahiawa for our 47th annual convention.

✿ A memorial service was held for 18 members who passed away during the past year. **Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki** in his sermon, encouraged everyone to continue to "look into the future" and to be open to changes. As an example, he suggested a shifting from "Fujinkai" to "Buddhist Women's Association" for our name. This would perhaps be more inclusive, to attract younger people as well as non-Japanese as members.

✿ Special guests were **Carol Yamamoto and Chihoko Yosemori**, president and honorary president, respectively, of HFHHBWA and **Fujiko Motobu**, Honolulu United president. Also recognized was the **Rev. Mari Sengoku**, resident minister of Mililani.

✿ Pres. Yamamoto encouraged everyone to continue active participation especially at this time of world unrest, and also since the World Buddhist Women's Convention is in Honolulu this year. It is hoped that we can thus contribute our efforts in promoting world peace.

An installation ceremony was held for new officers for 2006:

Pres.: **Roseline Yano**

Imm. P.P.: **Mae Matsushige**

V.P.: **Thelma Kawaguchi**

Rec. Sec.: **June Asato**

Corr. Sec.: **Lyn Watanabe**

Treas.: **Yukie Ouchi**

Asst. Treas.: **Myra Matsumoto**

Auditors: **Mitsue Hanabusa, Emiko Serikaku**

Minister-adviser: **Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki**

✿ Lunch time with a delicious bento and a brief but relaxing group activity provided a pleasant time for fellowship.

Judy Kakazu, the closing ceremony MC, led everyone in an additional time for reflection, expressing the hope that the day's events had strengthened our faith in the Teachings and our commitment to serve the temple, sangha, and thus the world. Finally everyone stood, arms linked, and recited the Golden Chain of Love. It was a meaningful finale.

✿ Mililani will host the next convention in 2006.

OAHU UNITS

Mililani Hongwanji BWA

✿ **New officers for 2006 were installed** on January 8 (See photo on page 10):

Pres.: **Janet Honda**

Imm. P.P.: **June Asato**

V.P.: **Joyce Ogawa**

Sec.: **Lyn Watanabe**

Treas.: **Nancy Tanaka**

Asst. Treas.: **Joan Kitagawa**

Directors: **Martha Ishii, Frances Saito**

Minister-adviser: **Rev. Mari Sengoku**

Mililani BWA 2006 officers

✿ **Mini craft fairs, recycling** of cans and plastic bottles, and an inari sushi sale will be our fundraising goals this year.

✿ **On January 15**, the BWA made a light lunch for the people who attended the Ho-onko service followed by a Peace Concert.

✿ **We are looking forward to** the 13th BWA World Convention on September 1-3 at the Hawaii Convention Center.

✿ **As a community service project**, we will again clean the Ehime Maru memorial monument at Kakaako Waterfront Park this year.

Pearl City Hongwanji Fujinkai

Temple's Centennial Celebration Cookbook

✿ As part of this momentous occasion in October, 2005, the members of our temple, their friends and family shared many of their heirloom recipes which were compiled into an attractive keepsake cookbook entitled *Wisteria Delights*.

These recipes embody many of the cultural experiences of the people who make up our unique island heritage. The cosmopolitan character of our people is reflected in the foods we enjoy and share within our diverse culture. Therefore, our cookbook, reflecting recipes from the different cultures in Hawaii, is our gift to the community.

The books are elegantly wrapped in a *furoshiki*-style gift bag, ready for gift-giving. These bags were specially handcrafted by our skilled seamstresses.

We are now in our fourth printing with a total production of 7,000 books, with orders still coming in. Needless to say, this project has been a great success.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to everyone who supported us in this endeavor. All proceeds will go to support our temple's activities.

Memorial Service, Initiation, Rededication Luncheon

✿ On November 27, 2005, everyone enjoyed a wonderful day of fellowship and participation in this annual gathering with club members.

The memorial service honored and remembered the members who passed away during the past year. Family members were invited to participate in the services for **Mickey Donahoe, Tomie Goya, Jean Gytoku, Kazue Hirata, Vicky Kagihara and Katsumi Komatsu**. M.C. for the service was **Grace Oyama**.

Following was the initiation ceremony to welcome new members emceed by **Myra Matsumoto**. The newcomers are **Loretta Mukai, Yoko Murakami, Karen Shimabukuro, Betty Shimizu and Chizuko Kawaji**. Gifts were presented to them by the **Rev. Toshio Murakami and President Yukie Ouchi**. President Ouchi thanked these new members for joining our organization and encouraged them to participate in all the activities of the Fujinkai.

The Rededication Luncheon which was held at Makino-Chaya in Mililani was chaired by **Takako Desaki**. After the *shokuzen no kotoba* by Rev. Murakami, we filled ourselves with delicious food from five bars: sushi, salad, entrees (ethnic dishes), freshly-prepared hot dishes as tempura, grilled beef, udon, soba and desserts.

After lunch Rev. Murakami gave the rededication message and Yukie reported on the Fujinkai's past year's activities and accomplishments. A game of "Da Manapua Test" was played and the lucky ones received door prizes.

Wahiawa Hongwanji BWA

Once again in November, we were fortunate to have Puna Hongwanji's **Rev. Earl Ikeda** as demonstrator in Japanese cooking. Besides *shojin ryori* and *wagashi* cooking, Rev.

Ikeda is versatile in calligraphy, taiko and Okinawan dancing.

The morning session was on manju-making with a number of differences from last year's demo. The ingredients were basically the same: mochiko, sugar and water. Packaged *an* was used rather than canned. In 2004 the mixing was done by hand, so it was more time-consuming and harder work. This time it was done on the stove, an easier and faster task. The final result again was delicious.

The afternoon session on shojin ryori included cold soba/udon/somen with various sauces and ways of serving them. *Nasubi* (eggplant) *no Amakara Ni* was simple and delicious. With *Aburage no Dengaku* we learned that the sauce which is high in salt and sugar can be kept refrigerated for a long time. Finally, at the request of a BWA member, *shira ae* was demonstrated. True to its literal meaning, the recipe has tofu as its main ingredient. *Ae mono* are usually vegetables flavored with or marinated in a tofu dressing.

Later in the afternoon Rev. Ikeda generously gave of his time and effort to our Dharma School teachers. The delicacy he helped make was a variation of *chi-chi mochi*. The teachers happily served them to the people who attended our November 6 *Eitaikyo* service when Rev. Ikeda was guest speaker.

One cannot help but truly appreciate the generosity of Rev. Ikeda in so enriching our lives.

Waianae Hongwanji Fujinkai

Group's visit to LIHS in December 2005

On December 1, 2005 we made our monthly visitation to the Leeward Integrated Health Services, Inc., in Makaha. The Fujinkai members presented a large gift-wrapped box of bibs, lap aprons and lap blankets for the patients. **The Rev. David Nakamoto** conducted the service on that special day.

PHOTO BELOW:

L to R: Sue Ushijima, Masanori Matsuda, Saddle Hanafusa, Toshi Yamasato, Rev. David Nakamoto, Bert Nishimura (one name missing)



Musubis made by Makawao ladies.

Reminder

**See you at the
13th World Buddhist
Women's Convention**

September 1-3, 2006
Hawaii Convention Center

Theme: Buddha's Vow, My Aspiration
Slogan: "May there be peace in the world, may the
Buddha Dharma spread!"





Left Photo:
Big Island's
Finger-dancers L to R:
Yuri Yahiro, Jane Mi-
yasaki, Edna Muneto
(leader), Beatice Ise-
moto, Sachi Imaizumi



Above Photo:
Mililani's Clean up crew poses at Ehime Maru
Memorial in July 2005



Left Photo:
Centennial Hawaiian quilt *uchishiki* sewn by
Moiliili ladies.

Photo at Right:
Mililani BWA 2006 Officers



***NOTE:** We apologize for any missing photos.