



Hawaii Buddhist Women's News

HAWAII FEDERATION OF HONPA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS

HONORARY PRESIDENT - MICHIKO OKANO • PRESIDENT - DONNA HIGASHI • MINISTER ADVISOR - REV. ERIC MATSUMOTO
1727 Pali Highway • Honolulu, HI 96813 USA • Phone (808) 522-9200 • www.hawaiiibwa.org

“Voice and Vote”

by Donna Higashi, Hawaii Federation of BWAs President

On October 21, 1973 at the 2nd Fujinkai State Convention, the three hundred and sixty-three members and ministers (140 English speaking) spent two days on Kaua'i and adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2nd Convention of the Hawaii Federation of Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association requests the assurance of equal voice and vote at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Legislative Assembly and at all state-wide policy and program-making levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is endorsed by the unanimous affirmation of the general assembly at Lihu'e, Kaua'i on the 21st day of October, 1973, with the direction of the delegates that copies of this resolution be sent forth to the Bishop and to the President of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii with specific recommendation that this resolution be sent to the Headquarters for presentation at the next Legislative Assembly.

As of May 2010, at the 11th BWA State Membership Conference (37 years later), the Hawaii Federation of BWAs State and District presidents continue to attend the Legislative Assembly as an affiliated organization **with voice but not VOTE. What happened? I'm not sure.** Yes, a few women have become Presidents or officers from their individual temple Kyodans and have participated directly at the Legislative Assembly but proportionally few in numbers. **So what can we do?** Well, we can submit an amendment to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Bylaws and ask for “Voice and Vote.”

BWA HOSTS EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM JAPAN

This year, the Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations hosted two students from Japan. They were **Tamae Otsuka**, an 18 year-old student of Honkoji Temple from the Tohoku area and **Aya Matsuzawa**, a 21 year-old student of Fuganji Temple from the Nagano area. They arrived on Monday, August 9th. That evening, **Bishop Thomas and Mrs. Michiko Okano** hosted a dinner for the girls.

Tamae and Aya left early the following morning for Kaua'i. and also visited the islands of Maui and Hawai'i. After eight full days of visiting temples, sightseeing, shopping, fellowship activities and learning the hula, the girls returned to Japan on Tuesday, August 17th. The girls said they had a wonderful time and wished they could stay longer.

BWA SELECTS EXCHANGE STUDENTS GOING TO JAPAN IN 2011

The Federation selected two students from Hawai'i to go to Japan as BWA Exchange Students next year. They are **Emi Hashi** and **Amanda Taniguchi**. Emi is the daughter of **Barbara Doi** of Ha'ikū, Maui. She is a senior at Baldwin High School on Maui. She is a member of Makawao Hongwanji and the current President of the Hawaii Federation of Jr. Y. B. A. Amanda is the daughter of **Barry and Sandra Taniguchi** of Hilo, Hawai'i. Amanda is a 2006 graduate of Waiākea High School on the island Hawai'i and attended the University of Puget Sound for four years. She is a member of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin.

HAWAII ISLAND

The annual HIUHBWA Education Program was hosted by the Honokaa Hongwanji BWA on April 17, 2010 at Honokaa Hongwanji. Approximately 100 BWA members from eight of the eleven units participated in the day-long program. Based on the theme “Buddhist Women in Hongwanji,” the day's program was divided into three main features. The first featured speaker was **Mrs. Motoe Tada** of Hilo Hongwanji. Mrs. Tada served as HIUHBWA first non-minister's

Five Year Theme
“Path of
Entrusting”
2011 Slogan:
Listen and Reflect

Inside this Issue:

Federation	1
Hawai'i Island	1
Honolulu	4
Kaua'i	6
Maui	6
O'ahu	8

wife president from 1989 - 1990. She also served as Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin's Fujinkai president for several years. Her talk focused on her life as a Buddhist woman.

The second feature was a five part skit presented by BWA members from the five ministerial districts. The skits were all dramatizations of episodes from the book *The Venerable Master Shinran*." The Puna unit began with "Becoming a Monk", followed by Kona doing "Revelation", then Hilo unit enacted "The Exile", and Honomū, Pāpa`aloa and Pāpa`ikou presented the part on "The Stone Pillow", and Honoka`a and Kamuela concluded with "Bennen". All the presentations were humorous as well as entertaining and educational.

The featured speaker for the afternoon was **Sensei Takashi Nonaka**, a master instructor of Ki-Aikido. He elaborated on how the martial art of aikido can help children grow up to be upright and responsible citizens. Submitted by **Harue Furumoto**, President HIUHBWA

Hilo On a recent Sunday, the Hilo Betsuin BWA, assisted by the Jr. YBA members, welcomed two exchange students from Japan at the morning service. They were Tamae Otsuka, a music major at Koriyama Women's University and Aya Matsuzawa, student at Shinshu University.

Upon arrival, they were met by Big Island temple representatives headed by **Judith Fujiyama** and **Motoe Tada** with leis made by **Ellen Curry** and gifts from the Big Island United BWA.

After the Hilo Betsuin morning service the students were introduced to the congregation along with **Robyn Taniguchi**, 2009 exchange student and **Amanda Taniguchi**, the 2011 delegate.

Lunch and program followed at the Sangha Hall. Jr. YBA members **Dustin Soriano** and **Megan Pascual** led the group in a fun ice-breaker. **Kumu Hula Lori Lei Shirakawa** assisted by **Megan Pascual**, **Aimee** and **Shawn Mori** gave impromptu hula lessons with participation by the delegates and Jr. Y members. BWA president **Lillie Tsuchiya** presented the omiyage (shortbread cookies from Big Island Candies and t-shirts from Big Island Built).

Imiloa was the last stop, with **Aiko Nakamura**, BWA member, who took the delegates' group on an excellent tour of the museum. It was off to the airport following the tour with Mrs Tada and Judi Fujiyama seeing them off.

There were countless members and volunteers working behind the scenes to make this program such a success. The Hawaii/Japan BWA Student Exchange

Program's mission "to nurture future leaders for Jodo Shinshu Women's activities through exposure to Buddhist culture and youth movement" was certainly in evidence.

On Saturday, August 14, Hilo Betsuin BWA's popular annual garage sale was held at the temple's social hall. Doors opened at 7 a.m. and closed at 1 p.m. BWA president, Lillie Tsuchiya chaired the event, assisted by **Lillian Watanabe** and **Amy Ban**.

Two weeks prior to the event, as the donated merchandise started to come in by the truckloads, hundreds of BWA volunteers sorted, priced and displayed clothing, good dishes, toys, small appliances, books, quilts, comforters and fabrics by the yards in preparation of the deluge of shoppers.

Plants, flowers, paintings and good athletic equipment were also available. In the craft division, kimonos, embroidered t-shirts, obis and other brand news craft items were on sale.

The food committee headed by member **Linda Nakano** prepared spam musubi, cone sushi and pie crust manju for sale.

This tremendous undertaking is the Hilo Betsuin BWA's greatest fundraising event, making it possible for the many temple programs to continue.

Honoka`a On Thursday, August 12, 2010, the Honoka`a and Kamuela BWA ladies and friends featured our annual Bon dance community service project for the patients at Hale Ho`ola Hamakua, a nursing home facility in Honoka`a. The music and the Bon dances were enjoyed by the residents. They expressed their appreciation with their smiling faces and by keeping the beat to the music. Hopefully, we livened up their spirits and brought them much happiness.

On Saturday afternoon, August 14, 2010, Tamae Otsuka and Aya Matsuzawa, were entertained by the Honoka`a BWA. They were taken on a tour of Honoka`a town and to the Waipi`o Valley Lookout. After dinner at Paniola Inn in Kamuela, the girls were hosted to an overnight homestay with **Mr. & Mrs. Fred Nonaka** and **Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Yoshikami**.

We hope that their stay in Hawai'i was an enjoyable, educational and memorable one and that they took back with them their experiences and memories of our multi-cultural life in Hawai'i.

Submitted by Janet Murakami of Honoka`a Hongwanji BWA

Honomū We had a Mini Craft Fair on Saturday, April 3, 2010. The Treasures of Hongwanji scheduled for last February, was cancelled due to the tsunami alert and evacuation. In addition to the many craft items that were prepared,

the ladies continued with their crafting. We had dish cloths, hand towels, t-shirt dresses, beanies, crocheted yarn leis in various high school colors and many more. We also had cookies, clothing, household items and a few special items such as beautiful vases and kimonos. The proceeds helped to defray costs of replacing the refrigerator, stove hood and the washer/dryer in the minister's residence.

Our 4-Temple BWA's; Honomū, Pāpa`ikou, Honohina and Pāpa`aloa, hosted, Tamae and Aya on Saturday, August 14th. After a short welcome service by **Rev. Kenn Koizumi**



at Honomu Hongwanji, the girls were driven up to our beautiful `Akaka Falls just a few miles from our temple. The weather was sunny and hot with the fragrance of yellow and white ginger blossoms filling the air along the trail. Lunch was at the Fifties Highway Fountain in Laupāhoehoe. We had a nice time showing them a glimpse of our temples along the Hāmākua coast of our Big Island.

We were all saddened by the reassignment of Rev. Kenn and **Mrs. Masayo (Machan) Koizumi** to Pearl City Hongwanji as of October 1, 2010. They have been with our 4-Temples for only two years, but in this short period, we have enjoyed their energetic and youthful views. We wish them the best at their new temple and look forward to welcoming our newly assigned minister, **Rev. Mariko Nishiyama** in mid October.

Kamuela is busy preparing for the BWA's 90th and Kyodan's 40th anniversary celebration to be held this October 30 and 31. Our altar has been refurbished and we look forward to greeting friends and visitors.

Kamuela

The annual General Assembly of the **Kona** Kona Hongwanji BWA was held on February 28, 2010 at the Royal Kona Resort with approximately 50 members in attendance. Two keiroshas, **Betty Shikada** and **Clara Uechi** were recognized.



BWA ladies were busy making manju for their annual Hanamatsuri fundraiser. We also had several of the husbands come to help out.



Fujie Ichishita, Flora Fukumitsu and Thelma Matsumoto

The much awaited second annual OBON Fest held on Saturday, May 29th, 2010 on

Nā`ālehu

the Naalehu Hongwanji grounds proved to be a very joyous and successful event as everyone, with one goal in mind, came together and devoted their efforts with hard work and cooperation toward this joint venture.

Thanks to Jim Anderson and his crew, who frantically worked to improve working conditions in the kitchen by installing the overhead and exhaust fans. The ladies were happier with the improved conditions. We must also extend extra kudos to Jim and his workers, Jeff Anderson and Tom Edwards, (Juanita Alderdice was also on the scene) for donating all the time and effort installing the wires and lanterns and standing by for trouble calls throughout the entire night and seeing to it that everything was returned in good shape. Much Aloha and Mahalo!

Much has been said of the dilemma the Buddhist women's organization and other Buddhist organizations are facing today of the rapid decline of membership; and we have been advised from a few years back that we should start opening our doors to new membership.

Naalehu Hongwanji has been trying to implement such a program and we are proud to announce that through the generosity of certain members, we have started activities as: Dharma study, Floral Arrangement, Sumi-e Painting, Yoga and reviving the Obon Fest. Forming these activities has given "outsiders" a chance to acquaint themselves with the Japanese culture and also, Buddhism.

At the most recent Obon Fest sponsored jointly by the Kau Main Street and Naalehu Hongwanji, visitors were given the opportunity to tour the temple, read up on Buddhism, (Jodo Shinshu as well) appreciate the floral arrangements, sumi-e and kimono displays and most of all enjoy the revival of the Obon dance, taiko drums and the celebration of the departed loved ones. It may be a slow start but certainly these activities are a first step exposure to our Hongwanji. The Dharma class held once a month at the temple, is steadily gaining interested participants.

Rev. Earl Ikeda, who is our resident minister, always emphasizes the spirit of Aloha as an important ingredient to create Peace and Harmony in our Sangha, community and the world and certainly it is a key factor in welcoming new members.

Pāpa`ikou The Pāpaikou Hongwanji BWA celebrated its Centennial (1910 – 2010) on March 14, 2010 with **Bishop Thomas Okano** officiating at the commemorative service.

It was an honor to have Hawaii Federation of BWA's Honorary President, **Mrs. Michiko Okano**

and President, **Donna Higashi** participating in this event. After the service, a Keirokai ceremony was held honoring members who were 80 years old and above. A festive atmosphere prevailed during lunch and the entertainment hour that followed.

It was a nostalgic day for all, especially to see past Papaikou Hongwanji ministers who came from Japan and O`ahu enjoy renewing friendships and making new ones.

Submitted by Sally Tayama



Puna BWA members at Puna Hongwanji Mission have been studying shojin ryori to prepare the Hoonko meal in January. Here several members prepared a dinner for **Dr. Terry Shintani** in May and listened to him talk about the importance of diet and health.



Raymond and Stella Miyashiro serving soup.



Carol Tsunozumi

Hawaii Betsuin

HONOLULU

2010 has been a busy year for members of the Hawaii Betsuin BWA, from participating in the annual Taste of Hongwanji in March, celebrating Eshinni and Kakushinni Day with a beautiful service enhanced with flowers and music, helping with the planning and taking charge of various events of the 11th State BWA Membership Conference in May, running a "Bontique" during our annual Bon Dance, and fund raising with our successful Mini Markets.

Today we feature one of our BWA members, **Tsurue Morimoto**, who was awarded a Certificate of Valor at our general membership meeting on August 22nd where she shared her story of bravery and quick thinking in the face of a life or death situation. In sharing this story, we hope others will learn from her experience and find that with our deep faith and guidance from Amida Buddha, we too may be able to overcome adversity in our lives. The following article was written by



Sharyn Sekine and Tsurue Morimoto

June Iwahashi who brought this story to our attention.

Mrs. Tsurue Morimoto

About three years ago, I became in closer contact with Mrs. Tsurue Morimoto and feel so lucky to have her as a friend and mentor. In my opinion Tsurue-san is an amazing person. For one thing, she is 92 years old, her mind is very clear and sharp, her body is strong and she digs her garden and grows a variety of flowers, fruits and trees in her big yard. She lives alone, cooks and keeps her house immaculately clean. She catches the bus and goes to her doctor and dentist appointments and does her weekly marketing. Tsurue-san is an avid reader of newspaper, magazines and books- mostly non-fiction. If she thinks I would enjoy and benefit from any books that she's read, she loans them to me. I love her beautiful face and smiles and her positive thinking and attitude.

Recently, Tsurue-san overcame another challenge in life – a frightening experience that I hope will never happen to any of us. A burglar broke into her house at 7:00 a.m. from downstairs and broke down the door to her second floor living quarter. She was in her kitchen so when she walked to her dining and living room area, she saw a big young man going into one of her bedrooms. In a strong voice she asked him "What are you doing here?" and he told her "Be quiet, be quiet." She then quickly turned around to get out from her house through her kitchen door and kept yelling loudly "aah" continuously at the same time. He overtook her just before she was able to reach her door and started to choke her neck very hard. She quickly thought that if she dropped forward to the floor the burglar couldn't choke her so she did that and continued her yelling. She said that her yelling must have scared the burglar because he ran out of the door. She immediately called 911 and her son. She was fortunate to have sustained only a gash on her left arm when she banged it on the sink counter as she fell forward. Her quick thinking saved her life. Tsurue-san knows by heart the Homages- Kikyomon, Shinshu Pledge - Seikatsu Shinjo, The Creed - Ryogemon which we recite at our 7:30 a.m. Japanese service and many of the gathas.



Tsurue-san is truly a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist who has shinjin (faith) and is a rare and inspiring example of our BWA member who has lived her life courageously as a daughter, wife, mother of her two beautiful children and grandmother.

Jiko**2011 Trip to Japan**

Some members and their families are planning ahead to this trip which will include attending Shinran Shonin's 750th Memorial Service as well as the World BWA convention in Kyoto. Later, the tour will take them to Nagasaki, **Rev. Nishiyama's** family temple in Omuta, Kumamoto and Fukuoka. After May 23, some members will have the option of traveling on to Okinawa on their own. The tour director will be Sensei who knows the best places to eat and how to get to places in the easiest and cheapest ways.

State BWA Conference

JBWA members who played a big part in the success of this event were **Lily Horio, Judy Muramoto, Shiz Miyasato, June Nakamasu, Dorene Niibu, Myrna Nishihara, Suzy Nishiyama** and **Doris Oshiro**. And of course, one of the hardest workers was our **Rev. Shindo Nishiyama** who coordinated the buses for our neighbor-islanders, and also was in charge of the set-up for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Honolulu United 2010 Education Workshop

We were in charge of this successful event which was held on June 12 and attended by 105 members and guests. Speaking on the theme "Aging Gratefully and Beautifully," **Anne Holton**, Jiko member and the state's Long-Term Care ombudsman specialist, made an excellent presentation on common aging medical and emotional issues, care options for the elderly and tips for care givers. After a delicious healthy lunch planned by **Helen Asato and Haru Okita**, everyone was invited to practice Shiatsu massage on one another under the supervision of licensed therapist **Jay Toyofuku**.

Eshinni/Kakushinni Service

Tamayo Matsumoto of Moiliili Hongwanji gave an interesting and very personal account of her experiences encountered while growing up in a temple in Japan, never imagining she would end up marrying a Jodo Shinshu minister, much less moving to Hawai'i! She left a surprise gift for us: a wisteria plant.

Dana Day Service

Rose Nakamura and Shim Kanazawa were our guest speakers for this special day honoring our 23 volunteers, many of whom are JBWA members. Our coordinator, **Masu Kino** read a brief summary of each person's service, and expressed appreciation for everyone's contribution. Among the women recognized were **Helen Asato, Gladys Higa, Elaine Hirashiki, Sally Kiyuna, Judith Matsumoto, Helene Minehira, Shiz Miyasato, June Nakamasu,**

Masako Oda, Ai Ogata, Haru Okita, Sadako Oshiro, Betty Suenishi, Karen Tamanaha, Harue Uechi, Doris Yamashiro and Chihoko Yosemite. All were given certificates and a special lei.

The day's offertory of \$150 was donated to Honolulu United's Dana committee.

Bon Dance 2010

We helped with a new fundraising activity this year-attaching memorial ribbons onto special pink and white plastic *chochin*, borrowed from Wahiawa Hongwanji. This project proved so successful in raising additional funds that the kyodan will buy our own lanterns beginning next year. **Dorene Niibu** had invaluable help from her son-in-law and daughter to make this activity the success it was.

Our food booth achieved its usual goal with lots of donations and additional manpower help from the community, especially the Young Okinawans of Hawaii and other affiliates.

From February to April 11, 2010, the **Kailua** Kailua BWA collected non-perishable food items from our generous Kailua Honganji Ohana to donate to the Hawaii Foodbank on April 17th.

In April, the Kailua Honganji Ohana again was very generous and donated flowers for the decorating of the Hanamido by our BWA members for our Hanamatsuri Service which was held on April 11th.

Thirteen members, family and friends enjoyed a very interesting, informational and educational tour of the Manoa Heritage Center on April 29th. Those of us on this tour enjoyed the education provided by **Mrs. Sigrid Southworth**. **Rev. David Nakamoto**, his wife **Irene**, her mother, **Elaine Fukuda, Julie Kusumoto, Betty Okamoto, Doreen Judd** and her friend, **Mary Lou Lomaka, Jean Fukumoto, Janet and Keiji Kukino** and **Shirley and Ronald Yanagisawa** enjoyed the education on the history of Manoa Valley, the Center and the flora and fauna in the Garden of native and endemic plants, other sites on O'ahu and their Hawaiian names given in excellent detail by docent Sigrid Southworth. Every one enjoyed a relaxing buffet lunch at the Tree Tops Restaurant to end the day.

In May, **Mary Lou Lomaka, Geraldine Ochikubo, Prudence Kusano, Elaine Fukada, Miyuki Matsuda, Julie Kusumoto, Janet Kukino, Rev. David Nakamoto, and Shirley Yanagisawa** attended the 11th BWA State Conference "May Peace and Tranquility Prevail Throughout the World." It was hosted by our Honolulu United BWA and held at the Waikiki Sheraton Hotel on May 15th - 16th. Our BWA members worked very hard on the registration, invitations and banners for the conference.

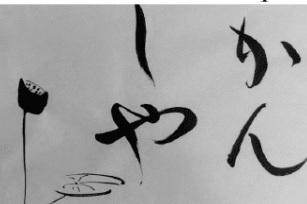
In June, **Betty Okamoto, Elaine Fukada, Marjorie Ikeda** and **Jean Fukumoto** attended the very interesting and educational Honolulu United Educational Workshop hosted by the Jikoen BWA.

July was busy with OBon preparations. BWA members helped with the making of takuan to be sold as a moneymaking project for the Temple. **Betty and Mats Okamoto** made Kim chee to be sold at the Bon Dance and the proceeds went to our BWA. BWA member **Elaine Fukada** also made some hapi coats to sell at the Bon Dance. Members also helped with the preparation of the food served to the dancers after the Bon Dance was over.

In August, several BWA members enjoyed the tour at the Foster Botanical Garden and heard the docent give educational and interesting descriptions of the various plants in the garden.



Mō`ili`ili ...and how does your BWA grow? Very slowly, but we have had 8 hard working new members join us in the last two years. Like other BWA's, our average membership age is in the mid to high 70's. But, being part of a sangha that has a dedicated sense of purpose that is guided by the Dharma keeps everyone "young" and fulfilled. The wonderful ladies of Mō`ili`ili BWA continue to support the temple and **Rev. Eric Matsumoto** with deep gratitude.



In March, the Mō`ili`ili ladies enjoyed giving to and buying from a "Trading Post" headed by **Big Chief Satsuye Tanaka**. Donate some white elephant, buy somebody else's! 5 trading post Sundays brought in money to help subsidize the 11th BWA State Membership Conference registration fee. Everyone benefited thanks to the enthusiasm of Chiefess Satsuye. 29 ladies attended the conference at the Sheraton Waikīkī.



Mō`ili`ili ladies love going out together! After our Eshinni/Kakushinni Service, we all went to enjoy a delicious teppanyaki lunch at Restaurant Suntory in the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center.

In early August, our ladies gathered in fellowship in our temple annex and learned how to make origami

tsuru for the Honolulu United's peace project. The tsuru made by each unit will be strung and carried to Nagasaki in May 2011 by Jikoen's group. Making a "perfect" tsuru was not so important as doing it with a warm heart.

KAUAI Kaua'i United had a good showing at the BWA State Membership Conference. Everyone enjoyed the meetings,



workshops, and the kimono fashion show. It was exciting to watch several of our members model. Listening to the conversation on the flight home it was evident that the attendees were inspired and brought back many new ideas to reenergize our units.

West Kauai BWA held a "Fun Day" in May. **Fay Tateishi** presented a chawanmushi cooking workshop. The chawanmushi turned out perfect and brought back happy memories to those enjoying the special treat. While lunch was steaming Fay did a "bonus" furoshiki demonstration inspired by the workshop presented at the BWA convention

Also in May, Lihue Hongwanji BWA sponsored a temple picnic. A Bingo game was a hit with both the young and young at heart. Smiles accompanied each shout of "Bingo!" and prize bags full of goodies were opened and enjoyed on the spot.

West Kauai BWA members were honored to host a father's day brunch in June. Fragrant pua kini kini leis were presented to each dad and they enjoyed a spectacular feast.



MAUI Fun and laughter are joyously mixed into the **Kahului** work, work, work that the members of the Kahului



Hongwanji BWA have been involved with this past year! Participation in Maui Matsuri, Obon, Yard Sale, Maui County Fair as well as Hosha and Hojukai have been rewarding to all. The ladies have really put

that extra "oomph" in this year to also help raise

funds to defray expenses of the much-anticipated World Convention in 2011.

Yummy sweets, new-to-you goodies, plants and happi coats were among the myriad of items for sale that kept the ladies on target. Enjoying Maui's famous guri-guri treat together with BWA Exchange Students, **Tamae Otsuka** and **Aya Matsuzawa** from Japan reminded us of our international organizational ties and the potential for these young women to continue to carry on the legacy of the BWA. How lucky we are to be infused with fresh ideas! Leading the charge for our Maui United BWA Assembly in October has also kept our members on the go. It's been a busy year and time really flies when you're having all these wonderful opportunities! Feel free to join us!



Lahaina This year's Lahaina BWA's theme is *"How do we keep Jodo Shinshu and the Buddhist Women's Association strong and viable?"* We identified three focus areas: Support, Aloha and Outreach. Under SUPPORT, we have the following goals:

- Be an extended family to BWA members and Lahaina Hongwanji members.
- Assist other temple-affiliated groups. We participated in the Valley Isle Dharma School Picnic.
- Support other Maui County temples at bazaars, Obon, etc. **Dawn F. & Kazue Z.** at Makawao Obon. Lahaina BWA members represented our temple at all of the Maui County Hongwanji temples' obons this season.

For our ALOHA area, we have the following goal:

- Be a source for welcoming new members to Jodo Shinshu and the BWA.

Celebrating the 'homecoming' of temple members, the **Fleetham family**. The Fleethams returned from China with their new daughter in July. The BWA presented the family with happi coats for Sean and Kiara. The happi were sewn by BWA member **Emiko Fujikawa**.

Our last focus area is OUTREACH:

- We strive to be a recognizable 'face' within the larger community. Let our wisdom, compassion, and joy be a beacon to the Shin Buddhist way. BWA has a kaukau & shave ice booth at the annual Kamehameha Day festivities. Lahaina BWA also participated in the American Cancer Society's 2010 Relay for Life, West Maui.

Lāna`i Our Lāna`i ladies were very busy throughout July preparing for the OObon celebration. We had much help from visiting children of present and former BWA members. We made chow fun, chili and saimin for the Dance

night. Sales were great. The Lahaina ladies came as usual to join our dancers for an enjoyable and inspiring evening.

In October, it was another busy time with our Annual Bazaar. Also, in October the ladies traveled to Maui for the Fall Assembly in Kahului.

With so many weekends in July, **Makawao** Makawao Hongwanji BWA were busy. Summer church clean-up, our annual bazaar on the 4th weekend, and then Obon on the last weekend.

The ladies always take time to exercise after church service on Sunday. Here are some hints for your good exercising



1. Warm-up (gentle) movement to raise your core body temperature) for 5-10 minutes before exercising to avoid injury.

2. If sitting in a chair, you can still exercise by gently rotating ankles, bending knees, carefully lifting legs or arms, or flexing (tightening and relaxing) abdominal muscles.



Punching movement is for warm up and flexibility.

3. Work on your flexibility by stretching after your exercise while your muscles are warm. Hold your stretches 30-60 seconds to increase flexibility.

For the Vegetable Pizza from the last newsletter, mix the seasonings with 1-8 ounce cream cheese. Cut down on the amount of seasoning and mayonaise to your taste if necessary. Here's to your good health!

Wailuku Wailuku Hongwanji is well known for its chow fun. This annual fundraiser sells chow fun at the Maui Matsuri in May, and the Maui County Fair in October. The Judo club is the original chow fun group and they sell the delicious noodles at Obon and the BWA's Autumn Craft and Food Fair.

We, the BWA ladies, are the "green onion preparation" workers. We clean and wash the Kula green onion, dry the onion on newspaper laid tables in the social hall. Then the ladies cut the onion, weigh and pack the onions. As we have many older ladies (75 years - 85 years old), we try to schedule our prepping from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Green onion



prep days are 2 days before the Matsuri and 3 days before the fair. Our ladies work hard, enjoy fellowship and SMILE at the end of the workday.

Our biggest "food preparation" days are just prior to the annual Autumn Food and Craft Fair scheduled on October 30, Saturday. Again, we ask our ladies for kokua and they willing come with enthusiasm, work hard attitude and SMILES on craft fair day.

After 23 years, Margaret and Stella are still spearheading our craft fair. We are most grateful to



them. And we are ARIGATAI for our ladies who share their DANA!

Aya Matsukawa and Tamae Otsuka, two students from Japan participating in the BWA Student Exchange program visited WHM on Aug 11. The girls and BWA ladies from Wailuku and Lahaina shared fellowship and lunch at Kepaniwai Park, 'Iao Valley following a short temple service conducted by Rev. Shinkai Murakami.



O'AHU **37th ANNUAL O'AHU UNITED BWA SEMINAR**
"Rev. Hojo's lecture was so interesting and entertaining." "I've been reciting the Golden Chain since I was a child and I'm developing a deeper appreciation for the teachings contained in those words." "The presentation about diabetes was so interesting and informative." These were some of the comments heard following the 37th annual seminar hosted by 'Ewa, Wai'anae and Waipahu BWA on April 17, 2010, at Waipahu Hongwanji. More than a hundred members joined with guests and O'ahu's ministers for fellowship as the morning began. **Janet Yoshida**, president of O'ahu



United BWA, welcomed the members and guests during the opening service. The sermon for the service was delivered by **Rev. Jay Okamoto**, advisor of the O'ahu United BWA and resident minister of Waipahu Hongwanji.



Following the opening service the Japanese lecture was presented by **Rev. Tomo Hojo** from Honolulu Betsuin. He quoted one of the most popular Japanese tales, "Urashima Taro". He related the theme of the story to the impermanence of our lives and told us the significance of



listening to the dharma. The English lecture was presented by **Rev. Alan Urasaki**, a former Kyodan minister, and presently a chaplain with the Federal Bureau of Prisons at the Federal Detention Center. He selected particular words and phrases from the Golden Chain and expanded on their

interpretation and significance.

The keynote speaker was **Dr. Jane K. Kadohiro**, who spoke on the topic: "Diabetes Prevention and Control." Dr. Kadohiro is a Diabetes and Wellness Educator and Advanced Practice Nurse at the Queen's Medical Center. Having lived with diabetes herself for nearly 55 years, she has devoted much of her personal and professional life to making a diabetes difference for others. She founded the Hawai'i State Diabetes Control Program of the Centers for Disease Control.



Diabetes is a major health concern. It has no cure and the number of cases continues to increase rapidly among children and adults each year. Dr. Kadohiro emphasized the significance of two components, diet and exercise, in the control of the disease. There was time for more fellowship as everyone enjoyed their delicious bento lunch. As the day came to a close, the faces of the participants reflected the mood of the entire seminar: it was inspiring, informative and fun, and we look forward to future seminars.

ELDER CARE VISITATION
A Visit to the Lotus Adult Day Care Center

The 2010 O'ahu United Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association (OUHBBWA) Elder Care Visitation was coordinated by the Aiea BWA. We visited the Lotus Adult Day Care Center (LADCC) on July 22, 2010. **Helen Takenouchi**, Aiea's BWA President presented a \$100 check from

OUHHBWA to **Shareen Zakahi**, their director. Aiea BWA also presented a case of facial tissue to the program. This being the OBon season, dancers **Sumiko Nakahara**, **Thelma Kawaguchi** and **Charlotte Tomoyasu** encouraged the program's participants to join them in two dances; "Tanko Bushi" and "Zumpa Odori". The familiar "Tanko Bushi" brought many smiles, hand clapping, and several participants enthusiastically got up to dance. The ladies and gentlemen enjoyed picking a stuffed animal from a tableful of all kinds of monkeys when their "lucky" number was called. Everyone also received a fabric coaster which was tied with a colorful ribbon.

The dancing was coordinated by Sumiko Nakahara, the "lucky" monkeys were donated by **Harriet Watanabe**, and the fabric coasters were sewn by Sumi Nakahara, assisted by Helen Takenouchi and **Harriet Zakahi**.

Twenty-nine LADCC participants, their staff, and six Aiea BWA members ended the visitation with mutual feelings of gratitude saying, "Let's do this again! It was fun!!"

AIEA HONGWANJI BWA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



The Centennial Celebration day finally arrived on April 11, 2010! The light morning showers were a slight concern. Our guests received our color printed centennial booklet. The booklet highlighted our past and current members.

The Shinran Shonin statue adorned with leis and vases of flowers at his foot greeted everyone and our partially restored altar was adorned with special floral arrangements and the altar cloths.



Also very visible was the incense bowl stand which was the BWA's Centennial gift to the temple.

The Keirokai Program recognized Aiea BWA members who were 80+ years old. Eighteen of the 47 keiroshas were present and honored with Certificates of Appreciation, gifts and leis. Rev. Kaufmann presented the certificate and President, **Helen Takenouchi** presented the gift and lei. **Ethel Sekine** spoke representing the Keiroshas and **Matsue Shimabukuro** did the ceremonial cake cutting.

The entire celebration was to honor the hundreds of women who were Fujinkai/BWA members, the ministers and their wives, all of whom carried on



with dedication, hard work and generosity during the past 100 years. The celebration was also dedicated to current BWA members who continue to enrich the legacy they had inherited.

Eshinni and Kakushinni Service

The Aiea Hongwanji BWA held its annual memorial service on Sunday, April 25, 2010 to honor Eshinni-sama and Kakushinni-sama.

MC Gwen Zakahi opened the service with the following words:

"Exactly two weeks ago our Mayor Mufi Hannemann proclaimed it to be Aiea Hongwanji BWA Day, in honor of those, especially the women who dedicated their lives to the Aiea Hongwanji Mission. They were your mothers, grandmothers, aunts and friends. It is also the women we see here today. We have all benefited from their dedication to Aiea Hongwanji. We gather again today to honor two women who lived in a far away place, in a time long ago, yet their efforts led to the betterment of our faith and their influences resonates in our lives today... Eshinni-sama and Kakushinni-sama, two women who are the pillars of our Jodo Shinshu faith."

Our Resident Minister **Rev. Arthur Kaufmann** gave the dharma message. He described Eshinni as a hard working woman with a warm and compassionate spirit. He relayed the interconnectedness of Eshinni to each of us today. Rev. Kaufmann shared about significant women in his life and how they played important roles in his life. He stated that Eshinni and Kakushinni could be considered the original BWA members.

We thank Rev. Kaufmann, MC Gwen Zakahi and our dedicated organist **Claire Tamamoto** for the very lovely and meaningful service.

Everyone went to the hall for socialization and refreshments after the service. There was food catered from Akyth as well as food from **Sumi Asato**, **Charlene Asato**, **Arlene Sunada** and **Warren Tamamoto**. Many commented on how much they enjoyed the food and with questions such as "how do you make that pineapple jello, would you share the cake recipes?", etc. This is the only service that is sponsored by the BWA every year. Any income derived from the service is used towards Dharma School and other youth activities and to support the BWA activities.

Mililani The Mililani BWA has been busy getting ready for the big trip to Japan in 2011 for the 14th World Convention and the 750th Memorial for Shinran Shonin. The BWA ladies are organizing a tour for Kyodan and BWA members which will culminate with a visit with our sister temple, Senkouji, in Hiroshima. The sister relationship was formalized when members of Senkouji were hosted at a luau at Mililani when they came to Hawai'i for the Double Commemoration Celebration in September 2009. The guests were overwhelmed with the aloha spirit, entertainment and food. Here is a link to the photo show commemorating that special day. <http://www.photoshow.com/watch/ke2ef6pj>

Mililani president, **Joyce Ogawa**, joins in friendship with Senkouji representatives, **Mrs. Yamaguchi** and **Rev. Eriko Fujisawa** after signing the documents establishing the sister relationship. Rev. Fujisawa is the sister of former Mililani resident minister, **Rev. Kojun Suehira**, of Hiroshima.



In March, the BWA resurrected the Mililani Hongwanji Bazaar after a break of about 15 years combining it with an Aloha Aina Community Recycling drive. The country store and rummage sale attracted lots of customers who were pleased to find that the Mililani Hongwanji Bazaar measured up to the Hongwanji Bazaar tradition built by Hongwanji temples throughout the state. The recycling drive was appreciated by the community who brought in a steady stream of scrap metal, computers, magazines, cell phones, and HI5 items which were diverted from the landfill and brought in income for the kyodan and the Jr. Y.B.A. The judo club and aikido club ran successful concessions for their programs on the bright sunny day. The Mililani Hongwanji Ohana worked side by side and was happy with the BWA leadership.

Proceeds from the rummage sale went to the cost of a new commercial refrigerator for our temple. The Mililani BWA hosted a gourmet mahalo breakfast for the entire Mililani Hongwanji Ohana in appreciation for their great support of our annual sushi sale as well as their enthusiastic participation in the Bazaar coordinated by the BWA. Menu items included assorted home baked coffee cakes, exotic fruit salad and a magnificent breakfast casserole featuring Waiialua asparagus.

The BWA continues its regular monthly visitation to the Wahiawā long term care facility and its

Ehimemaru Memorial cleanup and service two times a year. The group overseeing this memorial is looking for other groups to schedule cleanups as visitors from Japan and elsewhere, including families and schoolmates of the victims of this tragic incident, visit regularly. The Mililani Jr. YBA will join the BWA for our October cleanup.

Our association with Hanafuda Hawaii Style continues, and we have been hosting workshops, lessons and practice sessions and are available to present to groups of 4-20.

Last year the Pearl City Hongwanji BWA hosted a grand opening celebration for one of their major projects, the Wisteria **Pearl City** Room, a newly renovated multi-purpose activity room for the use of all temple members. Under the leadership of co-chairpersons **Myra Matsumoto** and **Shigeko Mukai**, the former classroom was renovated, fully furnished, and beautifully decorated by the BWA.

Activities for the Wisteria Room were planned as a joint effort of the Kyodan and BWA, and were to include both educational and recreational programs that would help temple members explore new and interesting topics and connect with others on a fun and social level. Successful activities have included hands-on craft lessons, movie nights, UH Football viewing, mahjong, ukulele lessons, and cooking and sewing demonstrations. These ongoing activities have been well-received, and are open to all temple members and their guests at no cost.

Last summer, a handicap lift (or elevator) was installed for easier access to the Wisteria Room's 2nd floor location, thus opening the way to offering more activities to members who may have difficulty with stairs.

Throughout the years, temple members have been supporting BWA activities and fundraising projects, and the Wisteria Room is a way to give back to the membership for their many years of generosity.

Wahiawā

Response of Gratefulness for the 11th BWA State Membership Conference: May Peace and Tranquility Prevail Throughout the World; Fashion Show Theme: **Passing on the Legacy of the Kimono to the Next Generation.**

It was before we became fully aware of the above inspirational themes that four of us from O'ahu United BWA agreed to be fashion show models. We were **Janet Yoshida** of Waipahu BWA; **Doris Matsuoka**, **Dale Shimaura** and **Jean Shimaura** of

Wahiawā BWA. Our thoughts were: can we really do this? In front of all the people? Go onstage? Without tumbling? Using a cane?

There was no need for worries. The State BWA leaders had it all planned. There were practice sessions. Stage setting was made for safety. A wide center walk-way was there for the audience. Narration about the garments added to our comfort. The whole atmosphere was of ease and pleasure!



absolutely no need for State BWA leaders. There were practice sessions. Stage setting was made for safety. A wide center walk-way was there for the audience. Narration about the garments added to our comfort. The whole atmosphere was of ease and pleasure!

At the end, we gave a sigh of relief, which was tinged with excitement. Our final thoughts, however, were of gratefulness to have been a part of this, the 11th BWA State Conference.

Waialua

On the bright summer morning of June 19, 2010, a group of devout Nembutsu practitioners gathered at Waialua Hongwanji on the north shore of O`ahu to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Buddhist Women's Association at that temple.



The quaint and rustic temple building with carefully manicured grounds, fresh paint and many volunteers bustling about was bathed in sunlight under clear blue skies with wisps of clouds in the distance. It was picture perfect nestled amid new crops of asparagus and various fruits and vegetables—stark contrast to the fields of sugar cane that dominated the area in the 100 years that this vibrant organization brought Shinran's teachings to the Waialua community.

On a sad note, the occasion also marked the dissolution of the **Waialua Hongwanji BWA**. In true Fujinkai style, the few remaining ladies, led by **Mieko Tanaka** (over 90 years young), used carefully accumulated savings to refurbish the altar for the Waialua Hongwanji. The Nembutsu continues to flourish at this temple within sight of the old sugar mill.

Mrs. Tanaka relayed, *"Today, we honor and memorialize several generations of BWA*

(formerly Fujinkai) women. We also honor and remember the many ministers and their "Okusans" who were the pillars of our temple. Through their hard work, they left us a precious legacy which enabled us to have a major restoration and refurbishing done on the adornments and articles of the Onaijin."

The small temple was filled with the members of the Waialua Sangha and invited guests. **Bishop Thomas R. Okano** officiated in the rededication of the beautiful altar and past ministers of this temple and their wives returned to the site of their past ministerial assignments. It was truly inspiring and touching to see the past ministers reconnect with the Waialua members, many of them in their 90's. The program was well orchestrated by the Waialua Sangha with assistance from the O`ahu district ministers and friends, and everyone enjoyed the day's program. The traditional aspects of old plantation style celebrations permeated with beautiful tropical flowers everywhere, hula, harmonica, group singing and a marvelous luncheon with a gorgeous cake.

The sisters of the Waialua and Kahuku BWAs will continue to participate with their fellow O`ahu district and State BWA affiliates.

For a photoshow of this historic event, see <http://www.photoshow.com/watch/wa8xF2AN>.

Wai`anae

The Wai`anae BWA's pickled mango sale was a great success. This fundraising project is usually targeted to sell at the Waianae Hongwanji Bon dance. However, the mangoes were ready early this year, and by June 2010, the pickled mangoes were ready for sale, and in no time at all, we were sold out. The substitute second fundraising project for the Wai`anae BWA Bon Sale was pickled radish and sanbaizuke which we were able to sell at the Bon Dance on July 1, 2010.



Wai`anae visited the Aiea BWA craft workshop on August 12, 2010. We were welcomed by the Aiea ladies who were all enthusiastic and happy to teach us their crafts. We most sincerely appreciated their hospitality.

2010 . . . Celebrations of 100 years . . . from Fujinkai to BWA . . . always supporting our Kyodan