

Hawaii Buddhist Women's New



HAWAII FEDERATION OF HONPA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS

Honorary President: Tamayo Matsumoto President: Janet H. Honda Minister Advisor: Rev. Shindo Nishiyama
1727 Pali Highway Honolulu, HI 96813 USA Contact us at (808) 522-9200 or www.hawaiiibwa.org

Message from Janet H. Honda, Hawaii Federation President

Dear Fellow BWA Members:

Happy New Year!

It is a great honor to serve as your new president of the Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations for 2012 and 2013 and to be the first person from Oahu District. Thank you for this opportunity and I will certainly do my best.

To recap some of the events in 2011.....We said good-bye to Mrs. Michiko Okano, our Honorary Federation BWA President, as she and her husband, Bishop Thomas Okano, retired from Hawaii Kyo-dan.

March 2011 Bishop Eric Matsumoto became the 16th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and his wife, Tamayo Matsumoto, became the Honorary President of the Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations (BWA).

March 3, 2011, Earthquake and tsunami devastated the Sendai/Fukushima area and the fall out of the nuclear power plant. Many people

lost their lives and many were displaced because of the massive destruction. Let us continue to support the various relief funds and recovery efforts.

May 15, 2011 the 750th Shinran Shonin Memorial Service was held at Honzan. While forty Hawaii members were seated at the service, thirty Hawaii mem-

As 2012 begins, the Hawaii Federation BWA will be concentrating for the next two years on...redefining our BWA image as professional women instead of "kitchen" women.

bers marched in a processional wearing aloha attires and orange-colored leis.

May 16 and 17, 2011 the 14th World Buddhist Women's Convention was held at the Pulse Plaza Convention Center in Kyoto. There were 4,000 delegates from Buddhist Churches of America, Canada, South America, Hawaii as well as Japan. We may now

look forward to the 15th World Buddhist Women's Convention in Calgary, Canada on May 30-31, 2015.

December 2011 Donna Higashi ended her two year term as Hawaii Federation BWA president. Thank you, Donna, for a job well done.

As 2012 begins, the Hawaii Federation BWA will be concentrating for the next two years on increasing membership, getting more involved in the community, implementing new programs, and redefining our BWA image as professional women instead of "kitchen" women. Therefore, may I ask for your support as the Hawaii Federation BWA embarks on a new journey and to welcome new members who will add freshness and a sustainable source to the current membership in BWA. Let us all work toward a successful 2012 and 2013.

In Gratitude and Gassho,
Janet H. Honda, President
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
Hawaii Federation
Buddhist Women's Associations

Honolulu United

Hawaii Betsuin BWA Membership Chair, Sue Kaizawa, and Historian, Ruth Tokumi, have long felt a pressing need to document the knowledge and expertise of Betsuin BWA's elders who have given so much of themselves in service to the Fujinkai/BWA.

Past Hawaii Betsuin BWA President, the late Lois Yasui, and current BWA President, Sharyn Sekine, lent their support to this mission. The Hawaii Betsuin BWA Living Legacy Project was started in 2009 to accomplish three aims: 1) to maintain files for archival purposes to preserve the rich heritage of the Betsuin BWA; 2) to document and preserve the experiences of its most senior members; and 3) to honor the service of presidents of Fujinkai/BWA and Upasika Society. In the 2010 Revised By-Laws of Hawaii Betsuin BWA, a new standing committee, the Archives Committee, was created to perform these duties.

Kailua

The Kailua Hongwanji BWA general meeting was held on Saturday, December 3, 2011 and followed with lunch at Niu Valley Gyotaku restaurant. The members then went to Mary Lou Lomaka's new home in Queen's Gate, Hawaii Kai for dessert and fellowship. It was a wonderful way to end the year.

The election for the 2012 officers and directors was held during the

Hawaii Betsuin

What materials are found in the archives? Historian's scrapbooks in the past have included photos and Goji articles. There are programs of past educational seminars and workshops, conferences, conventions, and special temple celebrations. There is also a Fujinkai and BWA-related book collection. Ruth Tokumi has expanded the archives with slide show videos of various BWA and temple activities. In addition, Roy Yumori has videotaped BWA presentations and events to produce DVDs. The scrapbooks are exhibited and videos are shown during BWA general membership gatherings and on special



HHHB BWA "Wall of Honor"

general meeting. The 2012 Officers are President: Prudence Kusano, Vice-President: Mary Lou Lomaka, Secretary: Miyuki Masuda, Treasurer: Janet Kukino, Auditor: Geraldine Ochikubo, Directors: Chisae Sumikawa, Julie Kusumoto and Lillian Nishimura. The KBWA successfully hosted the 2011 HUHHBWA General Meeting on September 24, 2011. We are proud to have two of our members elected to HUHHBWA positions. Jean Fukumoto will serve as the 2012 HUHHBWA President and Joy Nishida will be the HUHHBWA Rep-

occasions.

The Hawaii Betsuin BWA newsletters have included biographies of Executive Board members. It is hoped that someday oral histories of BWA members will be taped and added to the Betsuin news/video file collection.

The Wall of Honor of Hawaii Betsuin Fujinkai/BWA Presidents was updated in 2010 and is located in a hallway downstairs from the hondo. The Upasika Society Wall is currently in progress.

Most recently, Hawaii Betsuin BWA's photo collages and photo slide shows have been posted on www.hawaiiibwa.com, the federation website. Betsuin BWA women today are involved in leadership roles not only in the BWA, but at the temple and kyodan level. They are truly the "Pillars of the Hongwanji."

representative to the Federation. The KBWA will support them in their new positions.

BWA member Betty Okamoto continues to lead the Kailua Hongwanji Project Dana. She has done an excellent job in recruiting not only Kailua Temple members but non-Kailua Temple members. BWA member Shirley Yanagisawa serves as the lead for Kailua Hongwanji in the Family Promise Project. **cont on page 5**

Moiliili



Everyone also enjoyed Reverend Earl's delicious baked manju!



children warmly presented leis to all the elders. We sang Japanese folk songs and danced Tanko Bushi from our seats ^.^ It was a very successful and fulfilling day for all.

Moiliili's BWA is excitedly looking forward to learning all we can from Rev. Earl, too!

"A picture expresses a thousand words"...such a true quote...

The BWA is involved in many wonderful activities that extend beyond the kitchen. One of these is C.A.R.E. Day (Compassion and Respect for Elders). At Moiliili, we have joined elders with our pre-schoolers at their Wednesday temple service. This past October, we had 46 people turn out—our biggest attendance ever! It was so nice to host our long time supportive members who we don't usually see at temple services. The



Wailuku



Wailuku Hongwanji BWA hosted the Maui United Fall General Assembly on Nov. 12. President Sylvia Ishikawa presided over the meeting, and Rev. Murakami installed the officers for 2012, includ-

ing new President Sharon Nohara of Lahaina Hongwani. Guest speaker was Emi Hashi, Hawaii BWA 2011 exchange student to Japan, who is currently a student at UH Manoa. (photo)

The ladies of Wailuku Hongwanji BWA provide delectable refreshments for seven services during the year, Ho'onko, spring and autumn Ohigan, Etaikyo, Eshin-ni Day, Dharma School Awards Sunday and BWA Memorial Service. Whether preparing on old favorite or a new recipe, BWA ladies are delighted to share their tasty offerings with their Sangha friends. Here is a simple, delicious, and healthy recipe from Toshiko Hirose

Desert idea from Wailuku Hongwanji

GRAPE SALAD

1 black 8 oz. cream cheese
Grapes, about 4 pounds
1 tub 8 oz. sour cream
Nuts, chopped
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla or almond extract

Combine cream cheese, sour cream, sugar, and vanilla. Mix in grapes, spread in pan. Sprinkle brown sugar and nuts on top.

Let set overnight in refrigerator.

Oahu United

The 53rd Annual Oahu United Honpa Hongwanji BWA Convention was held on Saturday, October 22, 2011 at the Pearl Country Club. This was our annual meeting at which we adopted a revision of our by-laws and elected officers for 2012. Over 130 members and guests enjoyed the fellowship, buffet and program. The program consisted of the Memorial Service for the 19 BWA sisters that passed away in the last year, the annual meeting and keynote speaker Kahu Sherman Thompson who presented a slide

show and his impressions of the BWA in his youth. He credited his grandmother as the shining example of a modern Buddhist woman who knew the power of networking and community participation long before the modern age. We also welcomed 13 new BWA members during the past year. On a sad note, Ewa Hongwanji BWA has withdrawn membership in the Oahu United and the Hawaii Federation effective at the close of 2011. Oahu now has 6 BWA units—Aiea, Mililani, Pearl City, Wahiawa, Waianae, and Waipahu.



Special Guests who presented messages were Honorary President of the Hawaii Federation of BWA, Tamayo Matsumoto, President of the Hawaii Federation of BWA Donna Higashi, and President of the Honolulu United BWA Irene Nakamoto.

Pieper Toyama of the Pacific Buddhist Academy shared their progress and program and made a plea for support of their capital campaign essential for their program. The PBA Taiko group presented an outstanding performance under the direction of sensei Jay Toyofuku. The buffet luncheon was followed by the installation of the 2012 officers and directors and the closing ceremony.



Officers for the Oahu United for 2012 are: President—Joan Masaki, Vice President—June Asato, Recording Secretary—Dale Shimaura, Corresponding Secretary—Helen Takenouchi, Treasurer—Helen Sasaki, Assisant Treasurer—Emiko Serikaku, and Auditors—Susan Ushijima and Takako Desaki. Advisor Rev. Jay Okamoto in back



Picture: Oahu United President Joan Masaki (l) and Federation President for 2012-14, Janet Honda (r).

Kailua continued

For many years KHBWA held garage sales to build a fund to one day contribute to a new temple. At the Annual Kailua Hongwanji Membership meeting, KHBWA was pleased to present the President with a generous check toward the building fund. The members will be highly involved in the design of the kitchen and selection of the kitchen equipment.

The anticipated 2011 construction of the new temple did not occur. The plan has been revised to begin in late summer of 2012. We are looking forward to invite other BWAs to visit our new temple and to host HUHHBWA activities in Kailua.

Oahu United continued Mililani



The Mililani unit joined the Hanafuda Renaissance by joining founder of Hanafuda Hawaii, Helen Nakano in sponsoring a highly successful and enjoyable Hanafuda Tournament as a benefit for Mililani High School Project Grad 2012. Over 200 people entered the highly exciting tournaments and the BWA ladies offered free lessons throughout the day. Many community people stopped by to see what was going

on and the Judo club had brisk business at their concession. The Mililani BWA has been highly successful in the Hanafuda Hawaii Style fundraising program offered by Hanafuda Hawaii, and the ladies continue to offer community programs to promote this cherished Island tradition.

It's fun and we raise a lot of funds for our projects. See pictures of this event at

<http://www.photoshow.com/watch/xQ3xX9dh>

The Mililani Unit held its Membership dinner in December and welcomed new member Aryn Ishikawa. The ladies enjoyed a deli-

The photo below celebrates the five members who attended every meeting in 2011—even better than the president! L to R: Diane Yoza, Janet Abe, Karen Oda, Haruko Toma, President June Asato (did not have perfect attendance!) and Joyce Ogawa.



Wahiawa



Wahiawa Hongwanji BWA member and 2012 Living Treasure of Hawaii, Barbara Kawakami, with BWA sisters Doris Matsuoka (l) and Dale Shimaura (r). Mrs Kawakami was recognized for her accomplishments in pursuing her education after raising a family ultimately earning her master's degree in Asian Studies from the University of Hawaii. She went on to tell the story of the picture brides and is a highly respected historian and researcher on Japanese immigrant clothing. She has published widely and continues to share her expertise on all continents as a consultant and historian and is working on a book on the picture brides.

Hawaii Island United



Rev. Ronald Kobata was greeted with a lei from the Hawaii Island ministers and BWA members.

On Sunday October 16th, 2011, Kona Hongwanji hosted the 57th Hawaii Island United Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association

Convention; guest speaker was Rev. Ron Kobata of the Buddhist Churches of San Francisco. Kona Hongwanji BWA, did a wonderful job of planning and organizing a most successful day. As part of the business meeting nineteen new HIUHBWA members were honored with beautiful koa/cherry wood plaques created by RKF of Honolulu.



Our new members are: **Hilo:** Jeanine Atebara, Debra Fried, Nanette Hiraoka, Jean Maeda, Pat Hakoda; **Honokaa:** Jennifer Kilgour, Bernadette Ruis, Tamara Trost, Mary Mich; **Kamuela:** Susan Nakahara; **Kona:** Janet Kunitake, Esther Jenkins, Shawn Sato; **Naalehu:** Jean Shibuya; Papaaloa: Otoe Ebisu; **Papa-ikou:** Judy Mento; **Puna:** Cheryl Waite, Chrisina Cornette, Rev. Remy Snow.

Kona

2011 marked the 25th anniversary of the Challenger tragedy in which our "Kona boy" Ellison Onizuka lost his life. We honored him by showing a DVD, "The Boy, The Man, the Dream". Also present that day was Ellison's sister, Shirley Matsuoka, who is a member of the Kona Hongwanji BWA. Convention goers also had a chance to see the actual Kona Hongwanji BWA flag which Ellison took into space with him and gave to the Kona Hongwanji BWA upon his return.

At our HIUHBWA general membership meeting, it was learned that although we lost 54 members due to death or other reasons, we did welcome 19 new members, resulting in a total HIUHBWA membership of 797 as of July 2011.

Two high school graduates were each awarded \$750 scholarships by the HIUHBWA. They were Aimee Mori of Hilo and Carli Yamamoto of Kona.

This year the HIUHBWA Dana Committee designated North Hawaii Hospice to be the recipient of the \$1000 dana donation.

Honolulu

For our Imon Bi Project several members from our Kyodan and BWA and Rev. Mariko Nishiyama visited a number of our keirokai members, 80 years or older at their home. At each visit it was nice to talk with them especially since many of them are unable

to attend church services or functions anymore. We wanted to show our appreciation for their contributions to the temple and to reassure them that they were not forgotten. Each one was presented with a \$25 gift certificate

In July our Eshinni Day service was held and donations received were sent to the

Hilo

Focusing on the theme, "Path of Entrusting: Recite the Nembutsu", the new year was welcomed with a celebration hosted by the Hilo Betsuin BWA on Sunday, February 12 at the Sangha Hall. Featured speaker, Mrs. Motoe Okano Tada, a long-time member of the church, recalled her affiliation with the BWA since 1968. Following a catered lunch, everyone enjoyed a surprise program with local talents participating. All members attending received as mementos for the occasion, beautiful note cards designed by Itsuko Murakami. Lillie Tsuchiya and Ellen Curry co-chaired this event.

Pacific Buddhist Academy to support their building fund. In October our members visited four elder care centers where we spent time visiting with several of our members and friends. A case of Kleenex tissue, lap blankets and a crocheted yarn blanket were donated to each center.

Hawaii Island United continued Naalehu

At the Shinnen Enkai we honored Hongwanji member, Mrs. Shigeyo Sakamoto, who turned 100 years old on Jan. 15, 2012. She was presented with a lei, an onenju and a congratulatory certificate from Bishop Eric Matsumoto. Mrs. Sakamoto has been a devoted member and supported the Hongwanji throughout her life.

Mrs. Gladys Yonemitsu, a devout member of the Hongwanji passed away on January 17, 2012. She was an active and prominent member of the Naalehu Hongwanji and for 55 years she led the Fujinkai ladies in all activities.

One way to bring in new members is to provide fun and interesting activities. Marla McCasland believes that in working together and doing things together, people are naturally drawn together, barriers are removed and interest in Buddhism may take root. In December we held a Bota Mochi or sometimes called Ohagi making activity. Irene Takahara of Pahala Hongwanji provided the recipe for it. Eleven of us in our "mixed" group gathered to try the new activity; learning how to knead, form balls and spread the azuki paste over the balls. Everyone experimented, tasted and happily took home to share. It was a pleasant surprise to see a platter of Ohagi served by Marge Elwell for osettai at the next service.

Kamuela



Kamuela BWA has been active in the "Holiday Trees" at Mauna Lani Resort for several years. It is a community project that is good exposure to the greater community, a fund raiser for the BWA and a message of Buddhism for all. We've had positive feedback and enjoy the endeavor, too. The pictures were taken for us by a photographer from West Hawaii Today newspaper and we thank Anna Pacheco for that.

A Buddhist Holiday Tree adorned by Kamuela BWA graced the halls of Mauna Lani Resort.

Honoka'a

The BWA has been very busy with several fund raisers. To support the Kyodan's laulau sale, they sold lomi lomi salmon, barazushi, and takuan. Then later they held a maki zushi sale with all proceeds given to the Kyodan. They also have an on-going rummage sale on the second Saturday of each month at the North Hawaii Educational Resource Center. More recently they held their annual food and garage sale together with the Kyodan.

The BWA also continually engages in community service activities. The members make monthly visits to Hale Ho'ola Nursing Home and during the holiday season shared the holiday spirit with gifts for each patient. A memorial service was held for Katsu Goto. The BWA members decorated the memorial with flowers and were in charge of the service.



Gladys Nakamura in her 24th year of their holiday gift-wrapping project.

Puna

Puna Hongwanji Mission BWA participated in the HIUHBWA convention in Kona.

Our new resident minister Rev. David Fujimoto and his mother Joyce joined our group for the trip to Kona. We brought along our new bodhi tree apron and photo cards, especially images of lotus in bloom in front of our temple. We very much enjoyed the speakers and program of the convention, the fellowship with other members and viewing the gardens around Kona Hongwanji.

The day before Thanksgiving, we completed our annual pumpkin pie fundraising project. More than 150 pies were baked, most for sale and some for expressions of gratitude to our local police and fire departments and other community benefactors.

In February we are looking forward to a hand made soba workshop with Mr. Yoshio Yamaguchi of Fukui, Japan when he will teach us how to make Echizen Oroshi Soba.

Oahu United Pearl City

Memorial Service, Initiation Ceremony & Rededication Luncheon
On Sunday, November 27, 2011, Pearl City Hongwanji BWA observed its annual Memorial Service, Initiation Ceremony and Rededication Luncheon. The memorial service honored two BWA members who passed away this year, Betty Hiramatsu and Toshie Tsutsui. Families of the deceased were invited to join BWA members for this service.

In the initiation ceremony, new member Matsuko Tamura was welcomed by BWA members and presented with welcome gifts from



the Pearl City BWA by Rev. Hiromi Kawaji and Joan Masaki, Oahu United BWA President.

Members then proceeded to the newly renovated Lotus Room at the Pearl City Hongwanji Mission for their rededication luncheon. Everyone enjoyed games, lucky number prizes, and a deluxe bento lunch while rededicating

themselves to continuing another successful year of working for the benefit of the temple while embracing the teachings of Amida Buddha and living by the BWA Pledge. Everyone especially enjoyed having an event in the relaxed atmosphere of the Lotus Room, which the BWA helped plan and furnish during the recent renovations of the temple buildings. During the luncheon, President Myra Matsumoto thanked members for their support and asked for the same during her second term in 2012. Also recognized were Michiko Kato and her committee who planned this entire day's events.



Happy New Year 2012!
I hope that everyone had a very peaceful and memorable Holiday

Season and New Year's Day celebration with your family and friends in the presence of Buddha Dharma. I would like to extend my sincere New Year's Greetings to you and your family with my deepest appreciation for your dedication to our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii BWA.

It has been a year since I took over the minister advisor's responsibilities. I know that I have to learn many things to be a more

New Year's message:

Rev. Shindo Nishiyama, Minister Advisor

Akemashite Onedetou Gozaimasu!

knowledgeable, responsible, and understanding advisor. With the support and guidance of President, Ms. Janet Honda, and the HHMBWA officers, I am able to fulfil my responsibilities while experiencing many seen and unseen blessings from the BWA members. I am deeply moved by everyone's support and appreciate each and every one of you.

I wish to thank Ms. Janet Honda, and former president, Ms. Donna Higashi for their continued dedication and commitment to our Hongwanji Ohana; I am greatly encouraged by their efforts. I also want to express my gratitude for each BWA member for your loyal

support and unrelenting faith in our Buddhist Women's Communities. I assure you that we are constantly working to strengthen our BWA community in accordance with our Buddhist faith. Finally, I would like to say, "Mahalo" to our Bishop, Rev. Eric Matsumoto and his wife, Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto for their sacrifices, support and devotion to our Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Ohana.

Have a Happy New Year in 2012 and Namo Amida Butsu in Gassho.

Aloha,
Reverend Shindo Nishiyama,
Minister Advisor

Maui United

Lahaina



How did the ladies spend the latter months of 2011? What kept the BWA alive and busy?

NURTURE: This should come naturally to Buddhist women, who are the 'champions' of *dana*. And so, these days the ladies are often fully engaged in attending to and nurturing the

four children of Rev. Ai and Megumi Hironaka. They take the time to respond to inquisitive questions from 8-year-old Kokoro and 5-year-old Hoken. 3-year-old Ayumu gives them the challenge of distracting a child with a quieter, safer activity. And 8-month-old Minori just brings out the mothering instinct in everyone.



Eight-month-old Minori



Speaker Rev. Tetsuo Unno

DHARMA: When it comes to listening to the dharma, Buddhist women are again at the forefront. Core BWA members were involved in planning for and presentation of the 2011 Nembutsu Seminar, sponsored by Maui Hongwanji Council and hosted by Lahaina Hongwanji. Our speaker was Rev. Tetsuo Unno. We are listening and learning

PERPETUATING THE LEGACY: October 2011 marked the 105th Anniversary of Lahaina Hongwanji's Fujinkai. The celebration event was paired with the annual New Year Party in January, 2012. The anniversary theme selected was "Living in the Nembutsu", in keeping with Honpa Hongwanji's 2012 theme of "Path of Entrusting: Recite the Nembutsu". Although not all were able to attend – forty-four Keirokai members were honored at the luncheon segment of the celebration. We are so grateful for these treasured members who gave selflessly to Lahaina Hongwanji for decades. Some of them continue as part of the core group of BWA – and are role models of living in the Nembutsu.



Serving catered food at the event.



Entertaining with aloha.



Decorating for the BWA 105th Anniversary



The legacy of 'Living in the Nembutsu' continues.

Maui United



Kahului

The BWA ladies joined the children from Kahului Hongwanji Preschool in celebration of Peace Day on Sept. 22. The children had colored the pinwheel templates and the BWA members assembled the pinwheels. After Rev. Soga's discussion about peace, everyone sang songs together with music accompaniment by Irene Imada. With the spinning of the pinwheels, thoughts and feelings about peace spread throughout our community, state, country, and world.

Kahului Hongwanji Centennial Celebration activities were en-

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joyed by everyone. Oct. 30 was the kick-off Youth Service and Fun Day. Nov. 5 was a morning Etaikyo Shanga Memorial Service to reflect on the past and honor the pioneer members of Puunene and Kahului Hongwanji. Then an afternoon Affirmation Rites Service was held with Bishop Eric Matsumoto. Nov. 6 was the Chigo Parade, Centennial Service, and Celebration Luncheon. Rev. Soga conducted all the services with assistance from Bishop Matsumoto, former minister Ronald Kobata, and all the Maui ministers.

Makawao



On Sept. 9-11, the State Lay Convention was held at Makawao Hongwanji with Peggy Kono and Carol Yamamura as co-chairs.

Oct. 23 was the BWA 100th Anniversary celebration, chaired by Alison Nakagawa; with the theme, "A Century of Service: Rooted in the Past, Growing Toward the Future." Everyone enjoyed the service conducted by returning minister for a day, Rev. Umitani, fel-

lowship with Sangha friends across many decades, and an only at Makawao Hongwanji-style luncheon prepared and served by the men of the temple. Forty-four Keirokai members over 80 years old were honored with gift bags, Hawaii Federation BWA President Donna Higashi was the guest speaker.



Makawao BWA contributed \$25,000 toward the cost of temple renovations of the front entrance with a new handi-cap ramp, office space, and bathroom. BWA members continue to make sanbaizuke and daikon pickles to raise funds to help the temple.

Lanai

Lanai Hongwanji BWA ladies continue to assist the Lanai Hospital long term care unit by making crescent head pillows, lap blankets, and bibs. The annual Mother's Day Luncheon at Manele Four Seasons Clubhouse was enjoyed by all. In August, the Lanai Hongwanji Gokikai provided a luncheon in honor of the BWA ladies.

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KAUAI UNITED

Kauai United BWA held its 2011 Fall Conference on Sunday October 16th. Mr. Pieper Toyama, Head of School at the Pacific Buddhist Academy, was the guest speaker. He spoke about how Buddhist values are incorporated into the PBA curriculum. His talk was followed by a question and answer session. After a delicious luncheon everyone worked off a few calories doing "Chair Zumba" with Mrs. Glenda Tamashiro.

On November 10th the Kauai United ladies gathered at Kauai Veterans Cemetery for our annual "Lonesome Grave Project" which ensures that every grave is decorated with a flower arrangement during the Veterans Day service on November 11th. Our

volunteers donated the flowers used and in many cases grew them in their own gardens. As always, everyone enjoyed the fresh air and comradery as we accomplished this meaningful task.

Our units were also busy with individual projects. Kapaa Women's Association are preparing for its Centennial Celebration on October 27-28, 2012. This commemorative event will be a fitting tribute to those women who started the organization, taught the lessons of Buddhism to their young, and passed them on to those who came later. Lihue Women's Association recently made bara and inari sushi to sell as a fundraiser. The sale was a big success. Lots of talk story and good socializing took place during the

making of the sushi. The "Home-bound Project" also made and delivered bara sushi and manju to BWA members who are 90+ years old. Lap blankets were made and delivered to members in care homes and assisted living. West Kauai Women's Association held a "Fun Day" on September 16th and about 20 members gathered at Hanapepe Hongwanji to play Hanafuda. Lori Tateishi was on hand to instruct the participants. A spaghetti lunch and sherbet desert was served as the BWA ladies shared their time and laughter. It was truly a fun day!



NOTE: *Kauai United's submission to the Spring 2012 Federation newsletter was inadvertently left out of the final newsletter layout. We apologize to our BWA Sisters on Kauai and are issuing this special*