

# Hawaii Buddhist Women's News

HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII FEDERATION OF BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS

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## Buddhist Women's Association Polo Shirts



Thanks to Tamayo Matsumoto and Cheryl Sora, a BWA Polo shirt has been designed and available for purchase for everyone. Already two orders were completed and many attendees at the State Membership Conference in Kona could be seen wearing them in May. The shirt is purple and comes in Women and Men's sizes. The logo is the same for all units, except the color of embroidery surrounding the sagarifuji and the hibiscus. Each unit color is different. The cost is \$20.



An order form can be found on the Hawaii Federation website [www.hawaiiibwa.org](http://www.hawaiiibwa.org). Print out your form and have your Unit BWA send in one form to BWA HQ at 1727 Pali Highway Honolulu, HI 96813. Attn: Tamayo Matsumoto. Check should be made out to Hawaii Federation of BWAs. The final deadline is December 31, 2014 and the shirts will be available by the Spring 2015 Hawaii Federation Rep Meeting.

This Polo Shirt along with a gold ilima colored yarn lei will be the "uniform" for the Hawaii delegates to the 15<sup>th</sup> World BWA Convention in Calgary, Canada in May 2015.



## Japan Student Exchange

Ms. Fukumi Tajima of Miyazaki, Japan was the lone BWA Student Exchange recipient from Japan this past summer. Her stay extended from August 29 to September 6 and she was graciously hosted by the Hawaii Federation, and Uniteds of Oahu, Honolulu and Kauai. Many thanks to the Student Exchange committee members and temple volunteers for making her stay so memorable - socially, educationally and culturally.

October 31, 2014 is the new extended deadline for two young women to be selected to go to Japan in the summer of 2015 as part of the Student Exchange Program. Please encourage participation from your unit. All applications can be found on the Hawaii Federation website [www.hawaiiibwa.org](http://www.hawaiiibwa.org) (under Programs) or with a committee member.

## HAWAII BETSUIN BWA HONORED BY PACIFIC BUDDHIST ACADEMY

The Hawaii Betsuin's BWA established in 1898, celebrated its 116th Anniversary in May 2014. Like all temples, their members are always busy supporting the temple especially with its numerous fundraising efforts. Located adjacent to the Pacific Buddhist Academy their women are also seen mentoring the youths by demonstrating cooking classes, fostering various cultural activities and encouraging the students at temple services and events. They also share their dana by contributing financially to PBA.



Betsuin members have been busy folding cranes to send to the Big Island for the project to send 199,000 cranes to Nagasaki next year.

The Hawaii Betsuin BWA will join Individual Honorees: Dr. Margaret Y. Oda, James Yagi and Loretta Yajima at the 9th Annual Awards Dinner "Lighting Our Way" on Friday, October 10, 2014 at the Waialae Country Club.

## HONOLULU UNITED BWA: SHARING PEACE THROUGH THE ARTS June Sutterfield and Lois Toyama

The Honolulu United Buddhist Women's Association's annual education workshop held on June 21 at Jikoen Hongwanji featured experiential art workshops with the theme, "Sharing Peace through the Arts." About 85 persons attended and thanks to Alan Kubota, a professional photographer and PBA instructor, who provided a short dharma message. Participants engaged in several ses-

sions from Collage Creations, Haiku, Kapa Printing, Bodhi Leaf Print, Lotus flower, Exploring Photography and Bento Art.

A display of BWA and Sangha members art expression ranging from paintings, calligraphy and crafts exemplified that indeed "BWA's Got Talent." The attendees generously donated \$1,390 to the HHMH Ministerial Training Fund and donated over \$600 to support two organizations which work with youth in our community to promote peace through art.

In a recent ceremony at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Myrna Nishihara, president of the Honolulu United Buddhist Women's As-

sociation, presented checks to Vince Hazen, Director of the Honolulu Museum of Art School and to Cari Lee, a co-founder of Ohana Arts.

The Honolulu Museum of Art's "Art to Go" program offers art experiences to students in schools throughout Oahu. The program develops creativity, self-reflection, and cultural understanding.

Ohana Arts engages youth in musical and performing arts programs which promote the mission, "promoting peace and world friendship through the universal language of the arts." Composer Jenny Taira and lyricist Laurie Rubin, Ohana Arts co-founders, are currently working on an original musical, "Peace on Your Wings." This performance, inspired by the life of Sadako Sasaki, a victim of the after-effects of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, will premiere on November 20-22 at Leeward Community College Theater and will tour statewide in January and February.



# HAWAII ISLAND UNITED BWA

Nancy Nonaka, Kamuela Hongwanji BWA

The North Hawaii Hospice hosts, with the Fairmont Orchid at the Coconut Grove, a Floating Lantern Ceremony, to honor and remember loved ones. This community event was held on August 24, 2014. Lynn and Miles Okumura have spearheaded this project and Kamuela and Honokaa BWAs members have gotten involved. Previously Rev. Yagi and now Rev. Furu-sawa was asked to participate. We generally assist in preparing lanterns as an annual BWA project. Hopefully more of our temple members and other BWAs will attend in the future.

Admission is free to this event and you may purchase a lantern (\$10) for inscribing messages/decorations. A program of chanting, prayers, taiko drumming, music and hula is followed by the lantern release. Everyone sends their lighted lanterns and is an awe-inspiring moment as you see a "sea of light".



spouse of a minister (which was the practice from 1913-2004), for her first term in 2005-2006; Vice President from 1997-2004 and 2007-2008; Director from the Hawaii Island United BWA to the Federation of BWAs from 1997-2008;

WHEREAS, MOTOE TADA is part of the foundation for the Association as it exists today...a historian with a wealth of information on the life and times of the Hongwanji and a strong, excellent role model for Buddhist women.

Mrs. Tada also served as President of Hawaii Island United BWA, and Hilo Betsuin Kyodan Board. In May, we last saw her smiling at the 12th BWA State Membership Conference in Kona. We offer our deepest sympathies to her two sons, Norman and Lloyd and to her five grandchildren.

The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of MON-KO-IN which means "One who comprehends the Buddha's Light" was taken from Hymn of the Pure Land, was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented at the Funeral Service. Namu Amida Butsu.

## In Memoriam: Mrs. Motoe Tada July 31, 1920 - July 5, 2014



Mrs. Motoe Tada, a member of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, passed away on July 5, 2014 at the age of 93. At the 59<sup>th</sup> Hawaii Island United BWA Convention in October 2013, a Resolution of Appreciation was presented to her and this same resolution was forwarded to the 12<sup>th</sup> BWA State Membership Conference held in Kona on May 3-4, 2014 and adopted. While the entire resolution can be found in the State Conference program

booklets, here are some excerpts:

WHEREAS, it is a tradition within the Hawaii Island United Hongwanji BWA to recognize and honor members of the Association who have demonstrated extraordinary service to the Association, HHMH and to the community by the generosity of time and spirit of its members, and

WHEREAS, MOTOE TADA of Hilo, Hawaii, who was born into a Buddhist family, an active member of the Hilo Hongwanji, BWA, a steadfast participant in island wide, statewide, worldwide BWAs, 93 years of age, is one of those exceptional members who lives the life of Nembutsu, and

WHEREAS, MOTOE TADA served as the first President of the Hilo Betsuin's BWA, who was not the

## OAHU UNITED BWA REPORT June Asato,

This year the Board of Directors continued to streamline the demands on the leaders at the Unit and United levels by making changes to its Bylaws and Rules and Regulations documents. Beginning in 2014, the OUHHBWA passed on the observance of many World Convention initiatives to the Units. Each Unit now conducts its own Dana Day and CARE Day observances as well as observing Eshin-ni / Kakushin-ni Day.

The major BWA events were our Annual Seminar hosted by Aiea and this convention hosted by Pearl City. One of the highlights of the year was the opportunity to meet our Dharma friends in Kona for the 12th BWA State Membership Conference. Nearly forty members and guests enjoyed the wonderful opportunity to visit

Kona as many from Hawaii are preparing for the 15th World Convention in Calgary next year. This was the year that a polo shirt was unveiled as the "uniform" for the World Convention. All BWA members and supporters are urged to wear the shirts proudly as Jodo Shinshu women. Order through your units.

We have accomplished much this year, but the challenges continue. As you are aware, with the closing of Kahuku Hongwanji and with Waialua and Ewa BWA not having any active BWA members since 2010, we see that most of our units are facing the similar problems on demands on the volunteers at the temples. Our diminishing membership, lack of new leadership in these changing times, aging membership affect all Hongwanjis, not only the BWA. This is our major

task for the next year. Please continue to support the work of the BWA at your units and when you are ready, we encourage you to keep in touch and nurture others so that we can all contribute at the United and Federation and World Buddhist Women's Associations. The OUHHBWA and BWA in Hawaii have a long and illustrious past that we inherited. Let us work to improve the BWA at all levels so that the special contributions to better the lives of humankind thru the Nembutsu that women bring can continue.

Note: Ms. Asato's entire report, which was made for the members of the OUHHBWA for its October convention, can be found on the Hawaii Federation of BWAs website. (United, Oahu)

## 15th WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN'S CONVENTION

May 30 & 31, 2015 Telus Convention Center Calgary, Alberta, Canada

The 14th World Buddhist Women's Convention (along with Shinran Shonin's 750th Memorial observance) was held in Kyoto Japan in May 2011. Unfortunately many Hawaii BWA delegates were unable to attend this event due to the Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami in March. Now three years later, the Jodo Shinshu Temples of Canada Women's Federation (JSTCWF) extends a heartfelt invitation to

all to join the 15th World Buddhist Women's Convention in Calgary, Alberta, Canada next year on May 30-31, 2015. Close to 150-200 Hawaii BWA members and their families are getting ready. Don't forget your passport, montoshikisho, onenju and six omiyage gifts (exchanged during dinner banquet). Post convention tours are being offered. More information can be found at [www.hawaiibwa.org](http://www.hawaiibwa.org)

We wish to thank the United BWA coordinators: Kauai – Fay Tateishi; Oahu – Joyce Ogawa; Maui – Diane Kosaka; Big Island – K.T. Cannon-Eger, Honolulu – Myrna Nishihara, Hawaii Federation – Janet Honda. They will work closely with Naomi Ozawa of JTB International who is the Housing Bureau for Hawaii. The next deadline is November 29, 2014 (including registration and participant's fee). All delegates are encouraged to purchase a purple BWA Polo Shirt and gold-ilima colored yarn lei as part of Hawaii's "uniform."

### Schedule of Activities

#### May 30 (Sat)

Breakfast at the hotel

- 8:00AM Convention doors open
- 9:30AM Welcome & Opening Service
- 10:30AM Rev. Nana Yanase – Keynote Message
- 12:00Noon Lunch
- 1:00PM Workshops
- 2:15PM Refreshments
- 2:45PM Workshops
- 4:00PM Free time for fellowship, socialize, enjoy, displays and shop at the WBWC Marketplace
- 5:30PM Dinner Banquet
- 7:00PM Rev. Nana Yanase Performance
- 8:00PM District Entertainment
- 9:00PM End of Convention Day 1

#### May 31 (Sun)

Breakfast at the hotel

- 8:00AM Convention doors open
- 9:30AM Calgary White Hat Ceremony & BWA General Meeting
- 10:30AM Rev. Patricia Kanaya Usuki English Keynote Speech
- 11:30AM Closing Service
- 12:00Noon Lunch
- 1:00PM District Panel Presentations (Hawaii Representative – Lois Toyama)
- 2:00PM Closing Ceremony
- 3:00PM Convention ends / Refreshments will be served
- Evening Free at leisure