



JIHO

February 2022



Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others

Dharma Family Services

Please join us for our online services and events in February. All services will begin at 10:00 am (unless otherwise noted). A link to join the service will be emailed to you a few days before. Please contact the office to be included in our email list to receive weekly temple updates and information. We look forward to seeing you online!

Nirvana Day (Nehan-E) Service

Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 10:00 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jiko Nakade

Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission

Shakyamuni awakened to Truth and became a Buddha at the age of 35. After sharing the Dharma for the next 45 years, he attained perfect enlightenment or *parinirvana* with his death at age eighty. Nirvana Day is one of the three observances commemorating the remarkable life of Shakyamuni Buddha, the other two being his birthday on April 8 and his awakening on December 8.

Annual General Membership Meeting

Sunday, February 20, 2022, 10:00 am to 11:30 am

On Zoom videoconferencing

Please register by Wednesday, February 16th

Please join us for virtual membership meeting. We will have a short service in remembrance of Sangha members who passed away last year and honor our Keirokai members who have reached the age of eighty. Business meeting will follow which will include the election of officers and directors. Members who attend will be entered into a lucky number drawing to receive special prizes.

Please register online at <https://forms.gle/oSpQT2x4RR5bBf2k6>

For Assistance

Office Clerk: Ramah DeMello (Phone: 808-323-2993 Email: konahongwanji@twc.com)

Resident Minister: Rev. Blayne Higa (Emergency only 808-383-9153)

Temple President: Joseph Gusman (Emergency only 808-896-4988 or 808-324-0708)

KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

P.O. Box 769

Kealahou, HI 96750

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President's Message

We will be having our annual General Membership Meeting & Keirokai on February 20, 2022. Unfortunately, it will once again be held virtually in order to keep everyone safe as the pandemic continues. Information will be going out to all the temple membership with how to participate in the annual meeting.

The annual meeting has additional significance for me this year as it will mark the end of my term as your Kyodan President. I deeply appreciate having the honor of serving the temple over the past 4 years. While the last 2 years were obviously more challenging than the previous 2, I am humbled to have had the opportunity to serve the Kona Hongwanji sangha. I sincerely appreciate all the support I have received from the temple members during my time as your President.

I could not have done the job of President were it not for all the support I've received from throughout the entire sangha, and I'll take this time to express my appreciation. In the name of domestic harmony, I will start with my wife Lynn, for all her support and for allowing me to "run away from home" as much as I needed to. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to Reverend Blayne for his guidance and support, especially with all the challenges brought about by the COVID pandemic. I am grateful to our office clerk, Ramah, for all her help with the administrative paperwork that comes with the President's job. Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors of the temple for all of their support during our terms. The job of President is infinitely easier with all the assistance they've provided.

In Gassho,

Joe Gusman
Kyodan President

Living in the Practice of the Dharma Rev. Blayne Higa

Shakyamuni Buddha lived an extraordinary yet mortal life and is said to have entered peacefully into perfect tranquility at the age of eighty. Teaching until his last moment, his living and his dying were lessons illuminating the eternal truths found in the Dharma. He encouraged his disciples to, "Make of yourself a light. Rely upon yourself, do not depend upon anyone else. Make my teachings your light. Rely upon them, do not depend upon any other teaching." These words continue to resonate and guide over 2,500 years later.



The Buddha taught about the truth of impermanence and how there are none who can escape the dissolution of the body. However, his death was only the end of the physical body because the true Buddha is Enlightenment itself and he would exist forever in the truth of the Dharma and in the practice of the Dharma. The Buddha is still teaching and lives on in the lives of all who practice the way of liberation he shared.

Following Shakyamuni's guidance, Venerable Thich Nhat Hanh, the revered teacher, author, peace activist, lived as a true disciple of the Buddha throughout his long life. Often referred to as Thay (teacher), he passed away on January 22, 2022, at the age of 95. Just like the Buddha, his living and dying were gentle yet firm lessons for how we should live mindfully and compassionately.

Thich Nhat Hanh believed, "We teach by our way of life. We teach with our hands while we are doing things, with our feet while we are walking, with our mouth when we are eating or speaking, and with our eyes when we are looking...This simply means teaching the Dharma by the way we live our daily life."

Isn't this what Shakyamuni taught us as he lay dying beneath the twin sala trees? That if we were to only see his physical body, we were not truly seeing him but only by accepting and living his teaching, we would truly see him. His life was his ultimate teaching which continues to offer wisdom for living today.

As Shin Buddhists we strive to live *jishin kyo ninshin*, to "secure our own entrusting heart to the Dharma, guiding others to the same path." This is the life of nembutsu that was taught to us by Shinran Shonin. Our ordinary daily life is our place of practice where we encounter our true self within the embrace of great wisdom and compassion. This is how Shinran continues to live on through us as we walk the path he shared.

In reflecting on Thay's life, his disciple Brother Phap Dung shared, "Breathing in, I breathe with my teacher within me; breathing out, I see him smiling with me. When we make a step with gentleness, we let him walk with us, and we allow him to continue within our steps. Letting go is also the practice of letting in, letting your teacher be alive in you, and to see that he is more than just a physical body..."

We always walk together with our spiritual and familial ancestors. They live within and through us in the dynamic flow of the Dharma. On Nirvana Day, we reflect on Shakyamuni Buddha's final teaching to see beyond the physical body by living the Dharma every day. Both Shinran Shonin and Thich Nhat Hanh put the Dharma at the center of their lives, and they too live on when we do the same. Namo Amida Butsu.

Compassionate Care

The Dharma offers guidance and support for our whole lives, especially during times of difficulty. I am here to be a compassionate presence and companion to you on life's journey. I am available for pastoral care and counseling via phone or video conference. I am also available for bedside end-of-life services and grief care. Please contact me at 808-323-2993 or for emergencies only at 808-383-9153.

*Aloha,
Rev. Blayne*

Support Kona Hongwanji by Shopping Online

Amazon Smile is a free and easy way to support your favorite charitable organization. When you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com> Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

We hope you will consider designating Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple as your favorite organization. Please encourage your family and friends to kokua as well. We sincerely appreciate your support during these uncertain times. Mahalo!

Weekly Sangha Talk Story

Rev. Blayne hosts a weekly virtual talk story session for Sangha members to connect and to share how life is going during the pandemic. The Sangha Talk Story happens every Thursday evening at 7:00pm over Zoom. If you would like to participate, please email Rev. Blayne at bhiga@honpahi.org to be sent the meeting link each week.

Preschool News

Xīnnián hǎo (新年好), Happy Chinese New Year! Our preschoolers are studying the People's Republic of China, which includes learning about the many historical sights and customs of their country and a lantern parade towards the middle of the month, marking the end of the Chinese New Years celebration. We will also be sampling Chinese cuisine; gon lo mein, manapua and fortune cookies.

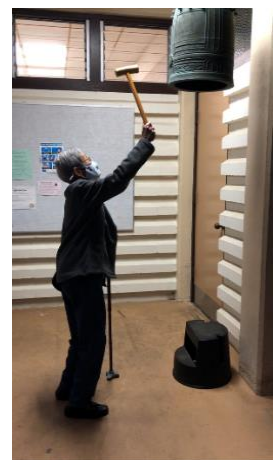
February is heart health month; keeping our hearts healthy by eating healthy foods, drinking lots of water, and exercising daily. This serves as the platform for gearing up towards our Kid's Heart Challenge event which takes place at the beginning of March. This one hour physical activity event includes rope jumping, hula hooping, soccer, basketball, running relays, obstacle courses, sack races and free dancing. Any monies collected is a donation to The American Heart Association.

As this article goes to press, we are in the midst of our Great Kindness Challenge Week (January 24-28). This is a Kids for Peace movement in which students from all over the world help create a culture of kindness through acts of kindness. Last year, over 17 million students from over 110 countries participated in over 843 million acts of kindness. This year we begin with Kindness to Self; teaching the importance of self love and self care. Our photo Booth day will capture smiles that are shared with friends and family. We help our planet by recycling; using used items to make pieces of art. In a show of appreciation, we deliver floral arrangements to business and medical offices in our nearby community. Lastly, we spread kindness by sign waving along the Highway. I hope to share some photos of our week in the next edition of the Jiho.

Until then, take care and be safe.

Leanne

New Year's Events



We held a drop-in New Year's Eve Bell Ringing on December 31st and we welcomed 2022 at our online New Year's Day Service on January 1st.

Free COVID Test Kits

Order your free home test kits by going online at:

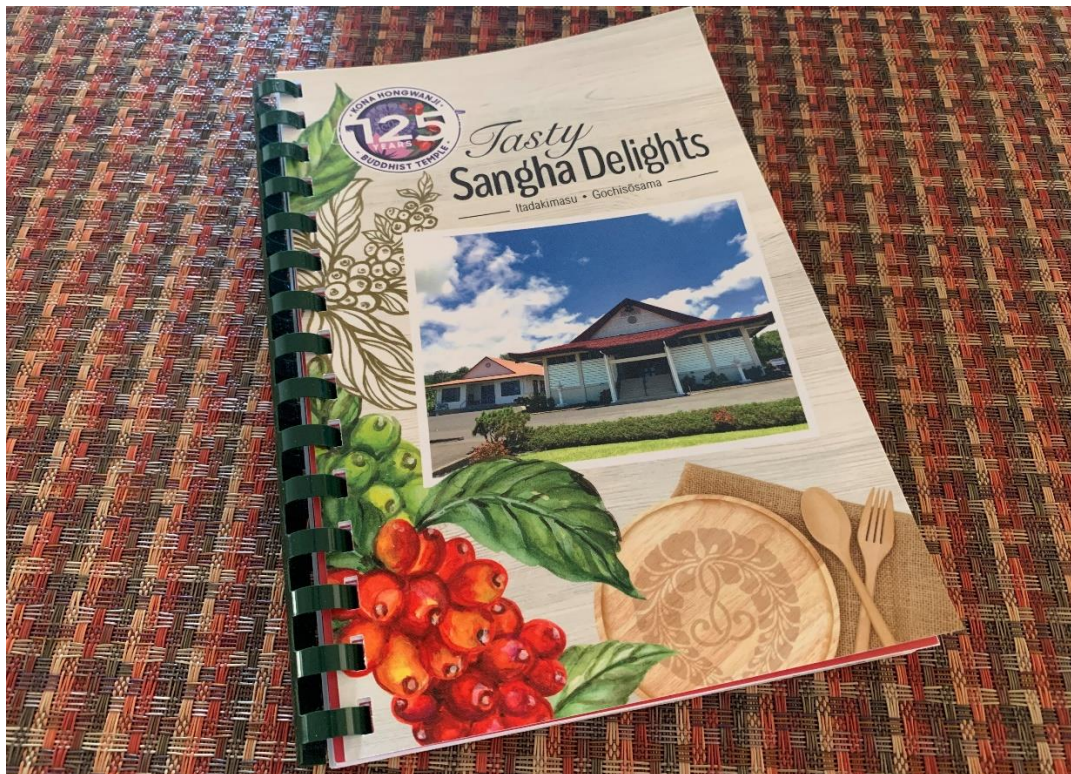
[COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) - Free at-home COVID-19 tests

Or call: **1-800-232-0233**

If you need assistance with ordering, please contact the temple office and one of our sangha volunteers can help.

125th Anniversary Cookbook On Sale Now!

Call to reserve or drop by the temple to pick up copies of our cookbook with delicious recipes from sangha members. They make great gifts for any occasion!



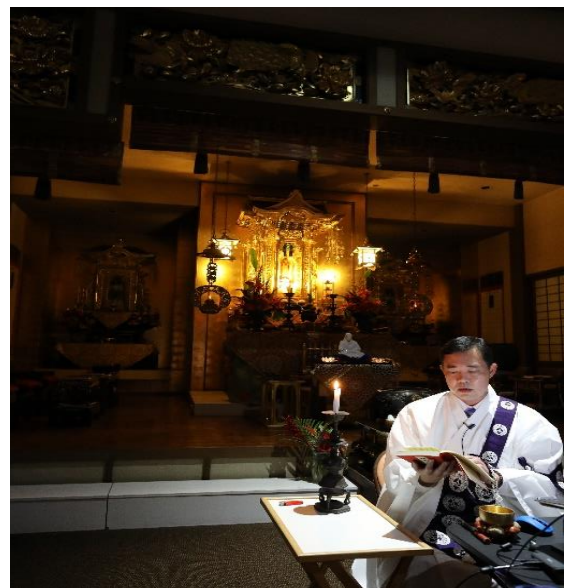
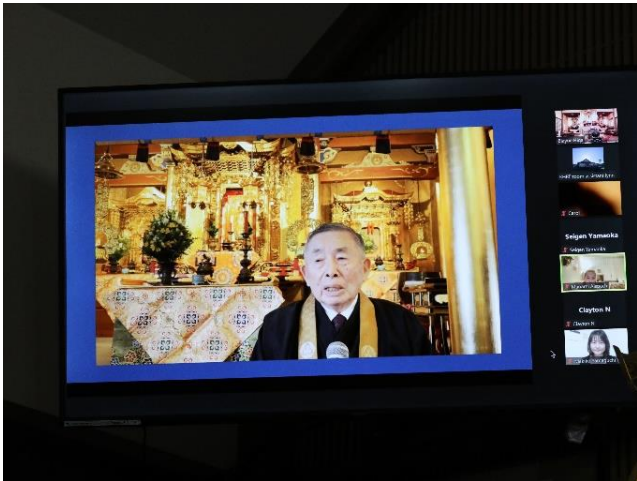
2021 In Memoriam

The Kona Hongwanji Sangha extends its deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the following members who realized birth in the Pure Land. May you find comfort and peace in the Nembutsu. Namo Amida Butsu

Amy Nishimoto (January 10, 2021)
Ethel Saito (January 5, 2021)
Kenneth Kaku (February 5, 2021)
Setsuko Deguchi (February 9, 2021)
Yasuo Fukumitsu (March 7, 2021)
Tsuino Yoshiki (March 8, 2021)
Masashi "Boston" Kitaoka (March 14, 2021)
Hisako Hatta (April 11, 2021)
Fujie Sato (April 13, 2021)
Harumi Oda (April 14, 2021)
Hisako Taniyama (April 29, 2021)
Mae Harano (May 10, 2021)
Mutsumi Komo (July 10, 2021)
Patsy Hamada (July 31, 2021)
Richard Sasaki (August 8, 2021)
Asano Matsumoto (September 20, 2021)
Flora Fukumitsu (November 2, 2021)
Aiko Ichishita (December 4, 2021)
Francis Abe (December 10, 2021)
Doris Higashi (December 16, 2021)



Hoonko



On the evening of January 15th, we held our Hoonko Candlelight Service celebrating the life Shinran Shonin, founder of Shin Buddhism. Rev. Dr. Seigen Yamaoka, Retired Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America shared a wonderful Dharma message reflecting on how Shinran's teaching guides his life.

NEW MEMBERS

Mahalo to Diane Aoki and Wayne Fukunaga for becoming sustaining members. Welcome to our Sangha! Please encourage family and friends to join our temple Ohana. New members are always welcome!

Please stop by the office to pick up your 2022 Honpa Hongwanji calendar! Also available is the 2022 BDK A Wise Teaching A Day calendar.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—FEBRUARY 2022

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Geri Ann Aoki-Davidson	Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Poentis	Pauline Ege
Leinette Schaetzl	Jenny Uemura-Sano	Karen Tashima
	Total - \$395.50	

JHO

Lisa Fry	Jenny Uemura-Sano	Leinette Schaetzl
	Total - \$135.00	

HI KYODAN DUES

Wayne Fukunaga	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tanaka	Anonymous
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CAPITAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Uyeda	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tanaka	Wayne Fukunaga
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MEMORIAL SERVICES

Fukumitsu Ohana, Funeral and Related Expenses for Flora Fukumitsu
Wally Ichishita, Funeral and Related Expenses for Aiko Ichishita
Emiko Kaneko, 1st Year Memorial for Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Alan Matsumoto, 3rd Year Memorial for Glenn Matsumoto
Shirley Matsuoka, 3rd Year Memorial for George Matsuoka
Total - \$1,750.00

IN MEMORY OF

Anonymous, IMO Kyle Kirihara
Asako Kajioaka, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Herbert Kaneko, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Kimura, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Masae Okamoto, IMO Frank & Wayne Okamoto's Birthdays
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Tagawa, IMO Takie Tashima
Cheryl Marshall & Family, IMO George Matsuoka's 3rd Year
Deron Matsuoka & Family, IMO George Matsuoka's 3rd Year
Kay Matsuyama & Family, IMO Hiroshi Matsuyama's 17th Year
Dennis, Alice, Kelly & Family, IMO Hiroshi Matsuyama's 17th Year
Mr. & Mrs. Burke Matsuyama & Family, IMO Hiroshi Matsuyama's 17th Year
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Tatsutani & Family, IMO Hiroshi Matsuyama's 17th Year
Mr. & Mrs. Fumio Murasaki, IMO Takeo Murasaki's 17th Year
Jimmy Nakagawa, IMO Lillian Yamamoto, Yasuo Fukumitsu, and Flora Fukumitsu
Masae Okamoto & Family, IMO Wayne Okamoto
Claude Onizuka, IMO George Matsuoka's 3rd Year
Karen Tashima, IMO Bernice Tashima and Sadaharu Tashima
Shigeko Yonemori, IMO Kimiko Yonemori
Total - \$4,530.00

Acknowledgements continued:

BODHI DAY

Fujie Ichishita	Yoshiko Kadooka	Mr. & Mrs. Burt Kamigaki
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Love	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda	Elaine Nakagawa
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Oshiro	Ellen Nishikawa	Doris Yamamoto
Rinko Matsuoka		
	Total - \$235.00	

PET APPRECIATION

Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Uyeda	Miyuki Inouye
Tracy Kitaoka	Norma Matsumoto	
	Total - \$225.00	

NEW YEAR SERVICE/BELL RINGING

Anonymous	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hiraishi	Norma Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Mr. & Mrs. Larry Tanaka	Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina	Janet Lindner
Alan Matsumoto	Jimmy Nakagawa	
	Total - \$531.00	

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Fujino	Yasu Aoki & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Kameda
Janet Lindner	Patsy Nishina & Juergen Naggert	Yoga Class
Albert Watanabe	Suisan Co, LTD.	
Satsuko Matsuoka, Wheelchair		
Mr. & Mrs. George Nakamoto, Social Concerns		
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tanaka, Preschool, Boy Scouts		
	Total - \$1,798.00	

Mahalo for your generous donations!
Please let us know if there are any corrections.

List of Memorial Service for 2022(corrected)

Dear Members: It is the Buddhist Custom that Family members observe memorial services to pay their respects to those who passed away. Through the services, the families are reminded of the importance of religious life. The role of the rites is helpful in strengthening and aiding the families to lead a meaningful life in the guiding light of Amida Buddha's Compassion. Please note the list below and make an appointment at least **Three Months** prior to the service date.

FIRST YEAR (2021)

01/10 Amy Nishimoto	02/05 Kenneth Kaku
02/09 Setsuko "Sally" Deguchi	03/07 Yasuo Fukumitsu
03/08 Tsuino Yoshiki	03/14 Masashi "Boston" Kitaoka
03/29 Hisako "Sue" Taniyama	04/11 Hisako Hatta
04/13 Fujie Sato	04/14 Harumi Mildred Oda
05/10 Midori "Mae" Harano	07/10 Mutsumi Komo
07/31 Patsy Sueko Hamada	08/08 Richard Sasaki
09/20 Asano Matsumoto	11/02 Flora Fukumitsu

THIRD YEAR (2020)

02/25 Elsie K. Watanabe	02/29 Tomie Honda
04/27 Miles Nakahara	05/10 Takao Katoku
05/23 Robert Manabu Fujino	06/10 Yaeko Yoshioka
06/19 Nobuyuki Fukuda	07/01 Jay Manago
07/28 Mary Mitsue Nakagawa	08/24 Bernice Tashima
08/25 Sally Murakami	10/08 Charles Tsuneo Okino
11/12 Ukie Saito	12/01 Stanley K. Zakahi
12/17 Yoshiyuki Kaneko	12/24 Carl Taniyama
12/30 Yoshie Tanaka	

SEVENTH YEAR (2016)

01/01 Yaeko Ohata	02/18 Burton Ito
02/21 Gladys Asako Clark	02/24 Toshio Shirai
04/03 Dorsey T. Ito	04/10 Marion Yaeko Harada
06/08 Yaeko Shiotsuka	06/18 Sadame Venegas
07/10 Melvyn T. Hayashida	07/15 Masatoshi Imai
07/31 Chikahara Saito	08/28 Fumie Kobayakawa
09/05 Kiyoshi Nakamura	09/19 Zane Fujimoto
10/01 Misae Clara Tokunaga	10/07 Kikuye Kadohiro
10/17 Chiyoko Kawasaki	11/15 Bernice Etsuko Yoshida
12/03 Elaine Sumie Piltz	12/11 Toshie Izuno
12/29 Toshie Shirota	

THIRTEENTH YEAR (2010)

01/20 Nancy Fumiko Manago	02/10 Sadame Nozaki
02/19 Natsuko Takemoto	02/20 Hatsuko Matsuoka
03/04 Helen Hisae Ikeno	03/06 Henry Yoshito Morimoto
03/30 Doris Yasuko Murata	05/07 Satomi Takashiba
05/24 Frank T. Okamoto	06/12 Anthony Takeshi Miyose
07/30 Chayson Kiyoshi Ehukai Matsuoka	08/24 Masami Iwashita
09/13 Kumiko Omori	10/25 Tokio Takamoto
11/22 Richard Kitae Tanaka	11/26 Earl Teshima
11/29 George Matsumoto	

SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2006)

01/06 Hiroshi Matsuyama	03/03 Wally Kusano
04/12 Masao Sunada	05/23 Gertrude Tsuruyo Hayashida
06/13 Walter Takeshi Nishina	07/02 Janice Fukie Sasaki
07/16 Mildred Umeyo Imai	09/15 Kazuji Kirihara
09/20 Emiko Ezuka	09/23 Masao Teshima
09/26 Yoshio Fukumitsu	10/04 Taeko Uchimura
10/25 Eisho Matsumoto	10/28 Yoshio Harano
11/10 Stanley Noboru Nagata	11/16 Moto Nakasone
11/19 Sayoko Murai Sakata	12/12 Richard Hideo Sakamoto
12/26 Toshiko Nakamura	

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1998)

01/14 Mark Perlmutter	01/16 Hatsue Tabata
01/20 Gladys Fumiko Kukita	01/22 Hatsuko Matsuo
02/09 Kinuyo Oshita	02/14 Shuzo Ikeno
02/28 Tadashi Yoshida	03/01 Ronald Shunji Inouye
03/02 Mitsuko Ohta	03/05 Sueki "Toby" Matsuoka
03/18 Teru Tanaka	05/05 Sherri Lynn Teruko Ichishita
05/18 Kikue Ashihara	05/23 Tokiko Matsuda
05/30 Tone Sakamoto	05/30 Teruo Hirata
06/09 Mise Nishikawa	06/11 Tamotsu Fujikawa
06/12 Seichi Nishina	06/16 Larry Shinzo Matsumoto
06/19 Hanako "Helen" Uemoto	06/26 Chiaki Kato
07/02 Yoshito "Jones" Aoki	07/25 Neal Hisao Morimoto
08/12 Mark Masaichi Onaka	08/15 Shigeko "Doris" Okumura
10/19 Masanori "Windy" Aoki	11/22 Chiyome Shimamoto

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1990)

02/26 Ume Kitaoka	03/08 Itsuo Seto
03/14 Mitsue Onizuka	03/22 Hilary Michiko Masunaga
03/30 Ernest Shinichi Koyanaga	04/02 David Megumu Araki
04/21 Akio "Aki" Okumura	05/10 Suehiko Matsumoto
05/16 Satsuki Koyanagi	06/08 Niwa Matsuda
06/11 Kiyoshi Akahoshi	07/07 Sanji Ikeno
07/28 Charline Yukiko Masuhara	08/08 Troy Takao Shiraki
08/28 Noboru Yoshiki	09/12 Michael Toshio Matsumoto
10/05 Yoshio Kondo	10/08 Sueme Ege
10/11 Sue Makida	10/18 Sadaharu Tashima
10/23 Michiko Masunaga	11/13 Genichi Yukuno
12/08 James Tsugio Kondo	

FIFTIETH YEAR (1973)

01/04 Kunishige Omori	01/18 Nase Ikeda
02/14 Barbara Kazuko Nakagawa	03/25 Toshie Ohayakawa
03/26 Tanizo Takagi	04/28 Ichi Isemoto
05/04 Tsune Motohiro	05/21 Gonzaburo Harano
06/02 Naoyuki Yamagata	06/15 Chiju Sakamoto
06/26 Tetsuyo Nozaki	08/26 Seki Kadooka
09/22 Akie Matsumoto	10/18 Eiki Kobayashi
11/21 Yoshimatsu Fukuzaki	12/22 Gunichi Ohta

NOTE: If you have any questions or corrections regarding the information listed above, please call the office at 323-2993. Thank you.