



Rinzai Zen Mission Newsletter

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Next to Baldwin Beach Park ♦ info@rinzai-maui.org ♦ rinzai-maui.org

March-April 2015

Hanamatsuri

This year's Hanamatsuri will be at Rinzai Zen Mission!

The birth of Shakyamuni Buddha was the very first step toward the beginnings of Buddhism. It was said in the old tale that the sweet and fragrant warm water poured gently over the newborn baby in the flower garden of Lumbini in northern India suggested that he would be the Buddha in later years.

It has been over 2500 years since Shakyamuni, from whom so many people in the world have received teachings, was born. Presently, we still continue to celebrate "Hanamatsuri," Shakyamuni Buddha's birthday, here on Maui, far away from India.

This year, we celebrate our annual Paia Hanamatsuri at our temple on Sunday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. with members of Mantokuji Mission and Maui Dharma Center. Our guests from Japan will be Rev. Matsui, Rev. Hoshi, Rev. Kajiro, and five of their friends.

We will have a great lunch, Bingo game, and Okinawan music after the service. Please join with our honored guests and enjoy the special day.

今年も花まつりの季節になります。
今年はお寺でおしゃか様の誕生日、
花まつりをパイアのお寺3ヶ寺のメンバーが一
緒になってお祝いいたします。日本からは二
年ぶりに松井、星、神代の三先生方がお友だ
ち五人とごいっしょに参加して下さいます。
ビンゴゲームも盛大におこないます。
ご家族、ご友人誘い合わせてパイアまできて
ください。

Temple Schedule

March 8, Sun. Cleaning day
15, Sun. 10:00 a.m. Spring Ohigan Service
20 - 22 Loochoo Conference: contact
Maui Ryukyu Culture Group
April 5, Sun. **10:00 a.m. Hanamatsuri celebration**
Lunch, Bingo, and Okinawan
entertainment!
12, Sun. Cleaning day

Other Event

April 25, Sat. MOKK Bazaar at Center (Kaikan)

Problem for Temple

So many people, so many cars!!

Do you know that we were losing so much sand / beach from the front of the temple grounds in recent years? The story has changed very dramatically in the last couple years and we have a very wide sandy beach on our north side now. And that is the big problem for the temple.

Baldwin Beach Park is a very popular spot for all ages, locals and tourists alike, and especially on weekend afternoons. People gather just outside of our property and they all park in front of our entrance (under the NO PARKING signs). Music is very loud too.

So, any large event at our Temple is practically impossible now, unless the weather is poor. We will try to end the Hanamatsuri observance as early as possible too.

Members are welcome to park in our sanctuary any time with Rev. Yamaguchi's permission. It is a beautiful wide beach here in Paia.



Photos of our New Year Celebration



Photos thanks
to Elaine Fujita



Some of the many Bingo prizes



Laa Choo Identity Conference

Ukwanshin Kabudan will be presenting a conference on Okinawan identity which will hopefully provide a better understanding of who we are as Uchinaanchu, and create networking and support for individuals and community groups. We will be looking at and discussing how identity holds a place in culture, language, and history through various presentations and workshops. It will be as non-academic as possible so that everyone may feel comfortable to participate. Through the years, we have seen a growing number in the community who are hungry for more than just being able to say "I'm Uchinaanchu," but who want to be able to explain what it means to be Uchinaanchu. We are not promising a quick fix solution to anything, but, hope that participants will leave the conference with a better understanding, and energy to seek more. The conference will be held March 20-22 on Maui, with some events at Rinzai Zen Mission. For more information or to register online, go to http://www.ukwanshin.org/blog/?page_id=1536. Or contact Maui Ryukyu Culture Group president Amy Shinsato, 276-6684 or amyshinsato@gmail.com.