



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 27 Issue 9 September 2008

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail  
throughout the world*

## Seattle Buddhist Church

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### New Office Hours

Mon-Sat 9:00am-3:00pm

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Rimban

Hoshu Matsubayashi

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### Wheel of Sangha

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### Seattle Betsuin Vision

*Embrace true and  
real life  
in Nembutsu*



### Seattle Betsuin Mission

*Promote, protect, and  
share the Buddha,  
Dharma and Sangha*

## September 2008 Special Events

- Office Closed for Labor Day Monday, September 1
- FALL MONPO SEMINAR SEPTEMBER 13 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- FIRST DAY OF DHARMA SCHOOL/FALL OHIGAN: SEPT 14
- CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HALL CHAPEL SERVICE: SEPT 28

<p><b>1</b> Temple Contact Information</p> <p><b>2</b> Calendar of Events</p>	<p><b>3</b> Rimban's Message, Newsletter Schedule, Deadline: <b>Sept.15</b></p> <p><b>4</b> Taiko Workshops, Go Paperless</p>	<p><b>5</b> Messages from Rev Castro, President Tahara, Religious Department, Okesa</p> <p><b>6</b> Membership, Hatsumairi</p>	<p><b>7</b> SBWA, Fall Monpo Seminar,</p> <p><b>8</b> Camp Fire, Scouts, Dharma School, Save Our Planet</p> <p><b>9</b> SBC Donations</p>	<p><b>10</b> SBC Donations, Save the Date, Shoshinge Class</p> <p><b>11</b> Dharma Exchange</p>
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## Betsuin Events for September 2008

### SUNDAYS

- September 7** Rinban on Vacation - in Japan 9/3-9  
10:00 am **FAMILY SERVICE**  
English: Rev. Warrick  
Japanese: None  
DX MA, Joe Schwab
- 11:45 am SBWA Board Meeting  
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm Essential Buddhism  
Class #6 (Jim & Joe)
- September 14 FALL OHIGAN SERVICE, First Day  
of Dharma School,** Yakima Ohigan (M.A.)  
10:00 am **FAMILY SERVICE**  
Children: Rev. Hanayama  
English: Rev. Hanayama  
Japanese: Rev. Hanayama  
DX: Rev. Castro
- 1:00 pm Karuna/Sangha Award Class (Rev. Castro)
- September 21 FAMILY SERVICE**  
10:00 am Children: Rev. Taniguchi  
English: Rev. Taniguchi  
Japanese: Bishop Ogui  
DX: Rev. Taniguchi
- September 28** BC, Canada BUDDHIST CONVENTION: 9/26-28  
10:00 am **FAMILY SERVICES**  
Children: Rev. Warrick in Chapel  
Youth: Joe Schwab  
English: Rev. Castro  
Japanese: Rinban  
DX: Rev. Castro
- 1:00 pm Karuna / Sangha Award Class (Rev. Castro)

### MONDAYS

- September 1 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY** Office Closed  
**September 8** Rinban on Vacation-in Japan  
**September 15, 22** Rinban Days Off  
**September 29** Rev. Castro Day Off

### TUESDAYS

- September 2** Rinban Day Off  
**September 9**  
**September 16**  
10:00 am Shinran Shonin Mo. Memorial (M & C)  
11:00 am Minister's Meeting (M & C)
- September 23**  
10:30 am Keiro Service (Rev. Castro)
- September 30**  
10:00 am SBWA Memorial Service Planning Mtg. (Rinban)

New Office Hours:  
Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Monday - Saturday

### WEDNESDAYS

- September 3** Rinban/Vacation - in Japan 9/3-9  
7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting (Rev. Castro)
- September 10**  
**September 17** CONTINUING EDUCATION  
SEMINAR –Berkeley, Rev. Castro in Berkeley
- September 24**  
7:30 pm Shoshinge Class (Rev. Castro)
- September 31**  
7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting (M & C)

### THURSDAYS

- September 4** Rinban on Vacation - in Japan  
1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)
- September 11**  
7:30 pm Religious Dept. Meeting (M & C)
- September 18** CONTINUING EDUCATION  
SEMINAR –Berkeley, Rev. Castro in Berkeley  
1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban)  
7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting (Rinban)
- September 25**  
7:30 pm Betsuin Board Meeting (M & C)

### FRIDAYS

- September 5** Rinban on Vacation - in Japan  
12:00 pm GOJIKAI SERVICE & MEETING (Rev. Castro)
- September 12** Rev. Castro Day Off  
**September 19** CONTINUING EDUCATION  
SEMINAR –Berkeley, Rev. Castro in Berkeley
- September 26** British Columbia BUDDHIST  
CONVENTION: 9/26 to 9/28, Rev. Castro Day Off

### SATURDAYS

- September 6** DS Ice Cream Fun Night 6:30 – 8:00 pm  
**September 13 FALL OHIGAN JAPANESE MONPO**  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm **SEMINAR**  
with Rev. Shousei Hanayama
- 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm **DS Fun Night in Chapel**  
9:00 pm **Camp Fire Sleep-Over**
- September 20 SBWA CENTENNIAL SERVICE &  
BANQUET** with Rev. Shoyo Taniguchi,  
Mrs. Mayumi Ogui
- September 27** BC, Canada BUDDHIST  
CONVENTION: 9/26-28

### Look Ahead ...

- HATSUMAIRI:** Sunday, October 5  
**SBWA Memorial Service:** Sunday, October 26  
**ENGLISH SEMINAR:** Saturday, November 8



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 27 Issue 9 SEATTLE BETSUIN NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2008



## Ohigan – the Land of Utmost Happiness (the Pure Land) Rimban Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi, Ed.D.

Ohigan in Japanese is an abbreviation of “To-Higan,” which literally means “to reach the other shore.” “O” of Ohigan is an honorific prefix in Japanese. The original Buddhist term for “Ohigan” in Sanskrit is “Paramita,” which means “gone to the other shore; crossed, transcend; coming or leading to the opposite shore, complete attainment, perfection...” (Monier-Williams’ *Sanskrit-English Dictionary*, p. 619) In Buddhism, the world of birth and death (Samsara) is referred to as “this shore” and the world of perfection (Nirvana) is called “the other shore.” Therefore, Ohigan means to cross over to the other shore of the Buddha from this shore of the mundane world.

Smaller *Sukhavativyuha Sutra* describes the Land of the Buddha as the Utmost Happiness and how people living in the world of turmoil can reach this Land of the Utmost Happiness. This sutra is one of the three principal sutras of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The Sanskrit term “Sukhavati” was translated into Chinese as “Gokuraku,” which means “the Utmost Happiness” in English, by Tripitaka Master Kumarajiva of Yao Ch’in in 402 A.D. In the two Larger and Smaller *Sukhavativyuha Sutras* of the three principal sutras, the Land of the Utmost Happiness is described illustriously and those descriptions are artistic and religious. However, for those without insight of religious awakening, these descriptions of the Land of the Utmost Happiness are understood as the descriptions of fairy stories.

Smaller *Sukhavativyuha Sutra* states that “From here to the direction of the west, beyond ten billion Buddha-lands there is a land called the Utmost Happiness. In that land there is a Buddha named Infinite Light (Amitabha). He is now, at present, preaching the Dharma.” In a history of the Pure Land Buddhism, the Utmost Happiness was expounded and commented by the Seven Masters and Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

The Second Master Vasubandha stated in his commentary, *The Discourse of the Pure Land*, that “I take refuge in the Buddha of Unhindered Light... and I wish to be born in the Pure Land of the Buddha.” Master Vasubandhu described twenty nine adornments of the Land of the Utmost Happiness which he organized into three categories: seventeen adornments of the Land of the Buddha, eight adornments of the Amitabha (Amida) Buddha and four adornments of the Bodhisattvas. He explained the Dharma-nature as the virtue of the adornment of Purity, the One Dharma Phrase. Then, he concluded that the perfection of twenty-nine adornments in the three categories into the One Dharma Phrase of “Purity.”

The Third Master T’an-luan used the expression of “the Pure Land” in his *Commentary on the Discourse on the Pure Land*. He replaced the Land of the Utmost Happiness with the term of “the Pure Land.” Thus, among the Seven Masters of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, Master T’an-luan was the first to use the term of the Pure Land (Jodo) for the Utmost Happiness (Gokuraku). His intention of using the term of the Pure Land for the Land of the Utmost Happiness was to teach us the true meaning of the Land of the Buddha. His presentation of the Pure Land can be understood in our modern thinking as the demythologization of the Land of the Utmost Happiness.

As we observe the Ohigan Service, let us try to understand the true meaning of the other shore of the Buddha, the Land of the Utmost Happiness/the Pure Land. The other shore of the Buddha, where we are going to reach, is the Land of Purity and Compassion.

NEWSLETTER  
NEXT DEADLINE  
September 15, 2008

8:00 PM

Email Articles to:  
Newsletter@  
SeattleBetsuin.com

Print on  
September 19, 2008

Seal and Label  
Sunday, September 21,  
by:  
Scouts/CampFire/Taiko

**Newsletter Sealing and Labeling  
Schedule for the current month,  
not for the issue Month:**

BWA January & July

Gojikai February & August

Scouts, Campfire, Taiko\*  
March & September

YBA, Dharma School  
April & October

ABA  
May & November\*

Ijikai June & December

## 2008 ADULT AUTUMN TAIKO WORKSHOP

Seattle Matsuri Taiko, sponsored by the Seattle Buddhist Church, will be holding a workshop for persons ages 16 and up. The workshop will cover basic taiko rhythms, sticking and movement as well as playing dynamics as a group. With these skills, participants will learn to play a short taiko song, which they will be encouraged to perform at the Seattle Buddhist Church New Year's Party tentatively January 11, 2009.



**Place:** Seattle Buddhist Church, Gymnasium  
1427 S. Main St Seattle, WA 98144 (206) 329-0800  
**Time:** Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00 pm  
**Dates:** Oct 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 11, 18

Registration Fee: Church Member: \$10 donation (Seattle, White River or Tacoma Buddhist Church)  
Non-member: \$75 donation Registration **Deadline: SUNDAY Oct 5** (or until class is full)  
Please contact Donna Zumoto via the Seattle Buddhist Church at 206. 329.0800 to reserve your space.

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GO PAPERLESS! THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOW ONLINE AT  
[WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.COM](http://WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.COM) Contact the temple office at 206-329-0800 or email  
[Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com](mailto:Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com) to have your name removed from the mailing list and jump online! Conserve!

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## 2008 YOUTH AUTUMN TAIKO WORKSHOP

**Sundays: Oct 12, 19, 26, Nov 9, 16, 23, Dec 7, 14, 18 Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Place: Seattle Buddhist Church Dining Room** (downstairs). Seattle Matsuri Taiko, sponsored by the Seattle Buddhist Church, will be holding a workshop for boys and girls ages 8-16. The workshop will cover basic taiko rhythms, sticking and movement as well as playing dynamics as a group. With these skills, participants will learn to play a short taiko song, which they will be encouraged to perform at the Seattle Buddhist Church New Year's Party tentatively January 11, 2009. **Registration Deadline: SUNDAY Oct 5** (or until class is full) Send registration to: **SEATTLE MATSURI TAIKO WORKSHOP, c/o Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S Main St, Seattle WA 98144.** Or Call Donna Zumoto via the Seattle Buddhist Church at 206. 329.0800 to save a space.

.....(Please detach and send in).....  
**2008 YOUTH AUTUMN TAIKO WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Registration Fee:</b> Church Member: \$10 donation, (Seattle, White River or Tacoma Buddhist Churches); Non-member: \$60 donation.
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Consent Form: I hereby give my consent for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Seattle Matsuri Taiko Fall Taiko Workshop for Teens. I understand the risks inherent in the workshop and declare that I will not hold the Seattle Buddhist Church, Seattle Matsuri Taiko or any instructors responsible for any injury that may be suffered by the participant arising out of or in any way connected with this activity. In case of emergency, the taiko instructors have my permission to take my child to the nearest medical facility, doctor, or dentist for emergency treatment.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian) Date \_\_\_\_\_

## HAPPY CENTENNIAL, BWA by Rev. Don Castro

On Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Buddhist Women's Association in Seattle. It was founded here in May 1908 as the "Bukkyo Fujinbu" under the direction of Rev. Hoshin Fujii, one of the early Betsuin ministers with a "handlebar moustache" who served here from 1908-1922. There were nine original members and they paid annual dues of 25 cents per person. According to our Betsuin Centennial album, "Until 1930, the ministers were bachelors or men whose wives did not accompany them to this country. When Rev. Zenyu Aoki joined the leadership of the Betsuin, his wife became the first Fujinkai president in 1934. The tradition of having the minister's wife be the Fujinkai president continued until 1966, when Mrs. Hatsue Fukuda became the first Fujinkai president who was not a minister's wife."

Over the decades, our BWA grew into, by far, the largest affiliated organization of our temple guided by the following resolution issued at the first National BWA Convention in February 1952:

1. We shall constantly pursue the Buddha Dharma in order to follow a righteous way of life.
2. We shall mutually endeavor to establish a bright family and social atmosphere by living a life of Nembutsu.
3. We shall unite our efforts in order to promote Buddhism in America.

Besides being the main support group for temple activities, both our local and our national BWA are involved in diverse social welfare, charitable and educational activities.

We are very grateful for the profound and crucial role our BWA plays at Seattle Betsuin and we wish you continued success. Congratulations on preserving the spirit of Lady Takeko Kujo, the world BWA founder, who contributed the proceeds of "Muyuge", her classic book of poetry, to help fund the construction of Asoka Hospital in Japan. Truly, this is the working of Amida Buddha's Boundless Compassion.

## MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS by President Mas Tahara

Hope everyone has spent the summer months engaging in many activities that are fulfilling and memorable. Now we are already in September, looking forward to more events and activities.

Fall Monpo Japanese Seminar will be held on Saturday, September 13 with Reverend Shousei Hanayama of Watsonville Buddhist Church as the lecturer. He will speak on Shotoku Taishi. Fall Ohigan is on Sunday, September 14 with Rev. Hanayama as the guest speaker.

Dharma School will be in session starting the same day.

Also, the most anticipated event of 2008 is Centennial celebration events of the Seattle Buddhist Women's Association. This will be on Saturday, September 20, for the luncheon with Socho and Mrs. Koshin Ogui and Rev. Dr. Shoyo Taniguchi participating, and a special service on Sunday, September 21.

Also, it should be noted that our Dharma friends in British Columbia will be having their annual convention on September 26, 27 and 28.

*Mas Tahara*

## FROM RELIGIOUS DEPARTMENT ... submitted by Paul Mori

A generous donation of \$1000 was received from Karen Nishimura in honor of her father's 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. She is the daughter of Hiro and Dorothy Nishimura. Her request is that it be used to support our Minister's Assistant program.

On behalf of the RD, I would like to thank Irene Goto for coordinating the Bookstore sales during the Bon Odori.

For those who attend the DX, how is the revised seating arrangement?

gassho

## OKESA ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN DECEMBER 7, 14 ... by Irene Goto

## On behalf of the SBC Membership Committee... by Steph Ojima

We would like to “thank” the following **regular members**, for contributing at least the minimum annual Ijikai dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). This is a list of those paid members that have posted dues since our last month’s posting:

Steve Aisaka, Mary Akada, Jim & Louise Akizuki, Janet Baba, Ed & Jenni Chin, Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Gwen Florence, George & Toshi Fukeda, Sue Furuta, Irene Goto, Steve Harada, Sachiko Hayami, Norigiku Horikawa, Laura Ichikawa, Sharyl Kamihara, Ann Kashiwa, Tak & Mary Katayama, Marc & Jan Keltner, Carolyn Kunihiro, Satoshi & Rose Masuda, Lisa Kumasaka-Mitchell, Hisako Morimoto, Hatsue Mizuno, Fred & Stephanie Ojima, Masako Sako, Mary S. Shigaya, Jean Takano, Peggy Tanemura, Asako Teranishi, Kiyoshi & Ruby Yasui

**\*AS A REMINDER:** The basic dues towards the Church maintenance/operations, is **\$250 for those over 70 years of age and \$300 for those under 70 years old. Payments are due by September 30, 2008.** If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact Howard Luke or Steph Ojima by way of the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com

### 2008 BETSUIN MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30

The basic dues towards the Church maintenance/operations, are **\$250 for those over 70 years of age and \$300 for those under 70 years old.** The Temple pays an assessment to the BCA and to the Northwest District for each Temple regular member, about \$88.40 to both organizations combined. The remainder of your paid dues is used in the area of salaries and benefits plus the costs for maintenance, utilities, and insurance. You can see why it is important for everyone to pay their dues.

For those of you who have already paid your 2008 Ijikai membership dues, we say “**THANK YOU**” for your support. Your contributions have been helping us to maintain and operate the Temple during this fiscal year. Those of you who are making installment payments, we ask that your **balance be paid by September 30.** Those of you have yet to make any contribution for 2008, the deadline is September 30.

**Thank you again**, for your contributions and continued Temple support. If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact Howard Luke or Steph Ojima by way of the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com

**Hatsumairi or “First Visit”** is a Jodo Shinshu tradition to acknowledge the baby’s first visit to the temple. It is the parents’ announcement before Buddha and the sangha of the birth of their child, and is an expression of their gratitude. Parents resolve to nurture the newborn child as a potential Buddha, and to reflect upon the causes and conditions in their lives.

Hatsumairi ceremony will be held during the 10:00 a.m. service of October 5, 2008. Although this ceremony identifies the presentee as infants, children of all ages are welcome. If you would like to present your child(ren) at this happy occasion, please return the completed registration form below and **return it to Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S Main St, Seattle, WA 98144 by October 2, 2008.** A Dharma School representative will contact you with details. If you have questions, please direct them to the office at (206) 329-0800 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

### 2008 Hatsumairi Registration

Child's Name	(B)oy/(G)irl	Month/Day/Year of Birth	Child's Name	(B)oy/(G)irl	Month/Day/Year of Birth
_____		_____	_____		_____
_____		_____	_____		_____
Parents Name(s) _____					
Mailing Address _____					
		City	State	Zip Code	
Phone: _____		E-mail: _____			

## Seattle Buddhist Women’s Association

Ritsuko Kawahara, Food Chair, coordinated the general planning assisted by Machiko Wada who handled the work assignments and Marian Asaba, Telephone Committee Chair who made supreme efforts, as usual, to contact members for help. Food Committee Chairs were: Yakisoba, Shizue Yahata; Barazushi, Kinue Kuwahara; Yakinigiri, Fran Shintaku/Kazumi Shimizu; and Mizuhiki/Craft, Darlene Shimizu. BWA Representatives to the Bon Odori Committee were Florence Sumida and Kinue Kuwahara.

We had a great turn out for help during the Bon Odori Festivities. From July 18 – 20<sup>th</sup>, there were 36 to 45 ladies that came in the mornings to prepare food in the kitchen. Many other members worked during the evenings in the concession booths. Thank you all for your dedicated service during the three days.

By the time you receive this Newsletter, the BWA will have conducted an annual service to pay tribute to Eshinni-ko, wife of Shinran Shonin. In conjunction we also dedicate the day to honor and celebrate the

life of Kakushinni-ko, daughter of Shinran Shonin and Eshinni-ko. The offertory at this service will be used for the furtherance of Buddhist education for the youth groups at the Betsuin.

Under the supervision of Shizue Yahata, 12 of the toban members for July, August and September cleaned the Betsuin kitchen. We gratefully thank temple members, Karry Sakamoto, Jim Akizuki, Norio Yamazaki, and Haruso Taketa who cleaned the heavy stove elements and mopped the floors. Thank you all for your services.

by President, Terrie Tanino

**SBWA Donations received this month:** Fujie Nakamura and Nami Tanaka - General donation; Dharma School KSP – Orei; Dr. & Mrs. Robert Iguchi - In memory of Chieko Iguchi

Submitted by Mabel Nishizaki

**SBWA Calendar:** 9/07 SBWA BOD meeting; 9/14 Fall Ohigan; 9/20 SBWA Centennial Service/Banquet

Submitted by Deanna Ikegami

**SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE (HONGWANJI-HA)**

**FALL MONPO SEMINAR**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008**  
**10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**  
 AT THE  
**SEATTLE BETSUIN**  
**1427 S MAIN STREET**



**WITH**  
**REV. SHOUSEI HANAYAMA**  
**OF**  
**WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

**THEME: “PRINCE SHŌTOKU”**

We are honored to have Rev. Hanayama who is the son of Rev. Dr. Shoyu Hanayama and grandson of the late Bishop Hanayama. Born in Bridgeton, New Jersey, he moved to Japan in 1968. He has a degree in Psychology from Gakushuin University, Japan. He was a businessman and psychotherapist in Japan prior to his return to the U.S. in 1999. He is bilingual and will be speaking in Japanese and in English, if time permits.

**Deadline to register: September 9, 2008**

**registration form for 2008 Fall Mompo Seminar with Rev. Shousei Hanayama:**

name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_ temple affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00/BCA Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00/non-BCA Member \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please mail or submit registration and payment to: Seattle Betsuin, 1427 S Main St, Seattle, WA 98144. Note: *Monpo Seminar*.

Registrar: Fumiko Groves, via the Betsuin office at 206.329.0800.





## Camp Fire *Submitted by Dana Nakashima* **Hummingbirds (5/6th grade)**

Thank you to our families for volunteering at Bon Odori bake sales or during Obon weekend. The students did a wonderful job and worked very hard. Thank you to the Owens family for hosting the annual swim party & BBQ at their neighborhood pool. Everyone had a great time – some of the kids swam for over 2 hours! The kids also loved roasting hotdogs and s'mores, and playing foosball. Other "tomodachi" summertime activities included camping and hiking at North Bend (thanks Dave!), our annual camping weekend on Camano Island, attending musical concerts, and marching in the Lake City Parade.

Our Helping Hands team (Koki, Kayla and Emma) have been working hard this summer, planning for our Fall Starflight Carnival. This is our community service project where we host a free carnival for several Starflight groups (ages 4-8) and younger siblings. We'll focus on preparing for the carnival at our Sept. and Oct. meetings.

It is with mixed emotions to announce that a few Hummingbirds are "taking flight", and not continuing with Camp Fire as they transition to middle school. We will miss Marisa, Laila and Lauren. They have been in Camp Fire since 1st grade, and we'd like to acknowledge their fine commitment and accomplishments over the past 5 years.



## **Scout Report** *Submitted by Drew Tosaya*

**May 3:** Four scouts went golfing on the short nine at Jackson. Out of the 4 people, Evan was the winner.

**May 16-18:** Curtis and Carter went to the OA ordeal at Camp Piggott. Also, 8 scouts attended the Spring Camporee at Seward Park and won the Iron Chef competition. The special ingredient was noodles.

**May 25:** The Troop visited the newly remodeled Nisei Vets Hall to hear about the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regiment and World War II. • Congratulations to Derrick and his family for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Derrick had his Eagle Court of Honor on June 8.

**June 14:** The scouts went kayaking at Enatai beach on Lake Washington.



## **Welcome Back Ice Cream Social/Dharma School Family Fun Night:** **Saturday, September 6, 2008 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

Please join Dharma School families and friends at our back-to-school ice cream social. We'll be serving sundaes with all the fixings from 6:30 – 7:00 pm, followed by games and social time. Bring a favorite game to share.

Suggested donation for sundaes is \$1/person or bring a potluck snack item to share. - Lani Carpenter

**OBON THANK YOU!** On behalf of the Niku Don group for the Bon Odori, a big arigato gozaimasu to each member who assisted during the Bon Odori festival. We couldn't pull off "Niku Don" without your time and assistance. Parents, friends of the Dharma School and Dharma school kids, thank you very much for your efforts. See you all next year. - Joyce Tsuji



## **LARGE AND SMALL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SAVE OUR PLANET** by Gail Kaminishi

Temple members, Tets and Kanako, have avoided using chemicals to clear their blackberries and other unwanted plants. They hired goats from a service and the goats ate away all the invasive plants. Great idea where a natural alternative is used!

Have you noticed that you can buy earth friendly cleaning products (detergent, dish soap, dishwasher soap, laundry detergent, etc.) at most grocery and warehouse stores? You'd be helping the ocean, sea life and the fish you eat by using non polluting cleaning products.

What will your grandchildren and great grandchildren think of the condition we've left the world and the depletion of resources that they will have to deal with?

Please send any of your ideas to [newsletter@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:newsletter@seattlebetsuin.com) or send by mail to the office.



Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations – July/August 2008

<u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u>	<u>For:</u>		<u>Given by:</u>
	Shinsaburo Adachi – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000	Helen Adachi
	Ayako Demise – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000	Fred Demise
	Sadako, Namiji and Yoshiko Kodama – Memorial Service	\$ 1,000	George Kodama
	Teruko & Shiro Fujihira – In Memory	\$ 400	Joy Fujihira
	Kazuko Umeda – Inurnment Service	\$ 250	Robert, Sam & Susanne Umeda
	Toku Nomura – In Memory	\$ 200	Michiye Nomura & Family
	Grace McLeod – In Memory	\$ 100	Rosalie Jacobson
	Terumitsu & Masuko Kano – In Memory	\$ 100	Julie Kubota
	Nokotsudo	\$ 100	Amy Inokoji Johnson
	Nokotsudo	\$ 100	Al & Fran Shintaku
	Nokotsudo	\$ 50	Betty Yoshida
	Memorial Service	\$ 20	Sachiyo Enomoto

<u>Remembrances for:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Shin Adachi	Sue Fujino; Ohmi Club
Aya Demise	Jack Matsui
Mary Fujita	Kirk & Miye Kajita
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Chiseko Nagaishi	Amy Myoraku; Haruko Nagaishi; Mitsuko Otani; Kikue Yamashita; Isoko Yoshihara;
Kenny Nakatani	Wanda Miyahara; Helen Yamamoto;
Asako Nishi	Lily Matsumura; Sally Taniguchi
Mary Shigaya	Nicole Toyama

*continued on page 10-*

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**Remembrances for:**

Teruko Tsutakawa  
Ruth Yoshimura

**Given by:**

Nancy Flournoy; Jane Hamatani  
Mack & Setsuko Harada

**General Donations:**

Boeing Company Employee Community Fund (Marilyn Akutsu; Gary Hamatani; Robert Hamatani; Brian Kaku; Kelly Kuwahara); Shiz Inaba; Isako Kajimura; Fusako Nagamatsu; Mark & Sharon Kosai

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Yakima Buddhist Church \$ 100

**Other Gifts:**

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**For:**

Cy & Hisao Saimoto	Obon Festival
Akiko & Kzau Kusunose (\$100)	In Appreciation of Yoko's Guidance
Nikkei Concerns (\$225)	Facility Use
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Nikkei Historical Assn WA (\$50)	Use of Tables and Benches
Dick Anderson & Teresa Imanishi (\$50)	19 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
Anonymous (\$5)	Temple Visitation

*Save the Date*

SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE  
**FALL ENGLISH SEMINAR**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008  
WITH  
REVEREND TAITETSU UNNO



**SHOSHINGE CHANTING CLASS**

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 15, 29 and Nov. 12 7:00 – 8:30 PM**

This class is a continuation of the Spring Shoshinge Chanting Class where we learned the "Sou-fu" style of chanting. In this Fall class, we will practice the more embellished "Gyou-fu" style.

- This class is open to newcomers and the spring class is not a prerequisite for the fall class. Just bring your chanting voice and an eagerness to learn.
- The classes will be taught in the Memorial Hall Chapel by Senseis Don Castro and Jim Warrick. For further information, please contact Rev. Castro at the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Seattle, WA 98144 Phone number (206) 329-0800

.....cut here .....

*Please mail or give this registration form to Rev. Castro or Betsuin Office*

**SHOSHINGE CHANTING CLASS**

Please Print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \$20 for BCA members and \$30 for others. Please make checks payable to: SEATTLE BETSUIN RELIGIOUS DEPT. Mail or bring this form with the payment to: Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church, Attn: Buddhist Class Registration.

## NOTES FROM DHARMA EXCHANGE – July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 2008

*The purpose of this column is to inform members who are unable to attend Dharma Exchange -- DS parents, committee members, and spiritual seekers who access the Internet.*

Warrick sensei suggested we have a Q&A with the two Thai women who visited the Bestuin on July 27. They talked about some differences at their temple -- not many children attend; there are lots of statues; and the temple consists of three seating levels, one for the Buddha, the monks, and the Sangha which sits *seiza* on the floor. They have services for birth, death, and in May *Wesak* is celebrated. At home they light candles and pray to the Buddha. Praying means thanking him for what they have learned, not asking for favors. \* \* \*

Warrick sensei related an unusual event at the August 3 Dharma Exchange. On Saturday, August 2, a Mongolian Buddhist group held a joint service incorporating Jodo Shinshu with their tradition. Three ideas were of importance to them: (1) How to conduct oneself in the US, (2) Learn, learn, learn, and go home, and (3) the Buddha Dharma. Everyone was attentive at the 4-6pm service that concluded at 7:30pm. Warrick sensei thanked Rinban Matsubayashi and our sangha for allowing this service to take place. There are 500 Mongols in Seattle, but they have no temple yet. Their head lama has spoken at many temples, but he felt most at home at the Seattle Betsuin.

Elmer made known that to him, feelings are most important. Early on, he felt that by closing everyone and everything out he could be himself. He then played a Norwegian song, "River Elvin," on his harmonica. \* \* \*

On August 10, Rev. Castro related highlights of the BCA Ministers Association Seminar at the New York Buddhist Church founded by Rev. Hozen Seki. It was built on the grounds of actress Marian Davies estate on the Upper West Side. The group had a tour and lunch at the United Nations. Among the speakers were Dr. Robert Thurman of Columbia University, and writer Clark Strand, former editor of *Tricycle* magazine who indicated Jodo Shinshu has had the most influence on his Buddhist outlook. He teaches a class on the Buddhist perspective on

Christianity. [For complete and interesting details of the Seminar see July issue of *Wheel of Dharma*.]

Sensei recalled the re-enactment of the bombing (with a sack of flour) of Hiroshima. He felt the cheers from the crowd seemed barbaric and was shocked at how crude and unthinking humans can be. He pointed out the only US holiday entirely devoted to peace is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

We, as a nation, are convenience-oriented and possess a woeful lack of interest and knowledge of history.

Sensei talked about a coming-of-age book, *At Hell's Gate* by Claude Anshin Thomas who was a soldier in Viet Nam and later became a Zen monk.

While Elmer lived in Japan he read a book about how to die. He said every page dealt with that subject.

On August 17, Rev. Castro welcomed home from Japan two participants. He also continued the subject of the Olympic Games, which was his Dharma talk. Following are some comments from participants: ●A woman sees a warfield where one country is pitted against other countries -- win at any cost at the Olympics. ●Another felt the US has dominated Asian countries for their resources for many years and is pleased to see China emerging. ●Another was most impressed with the Opening Ceremony. A comment was made that unbeknownst to many, much was computer generated. ●A participant was irked by a television reporter asking a silver medalist how she felt about not winning, when in fact, she won a silver medal. ●Sensei said unlike some Buddhist sects, Jodo Shinshu acknowledges that we have an ego and are powerless to lose it. ●The purpose of the Special Olympics Marathon is to finish the race, not to compete with each other. ●The late Jim Akutsu, the temple's girl's basketball coach, had complained he couldn't get the girls to shoot. They kept passing the ball around. Were they just being polite? Or as one wag put it, if they missed they'd be "killed" by their teammates.

Gassho, Pat Bobrow

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The newsletter publication of the Buddhist Churches of America, [Wheel of Dharma](http://www.BuddhistChurchesofAmericadotorg), can be accessed through their website at [www.BuddhistChurchesofAmericadotorg](http://www.BuddhistChurchesofAmericadotorg), past issues.