



Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 28 Issue 1 January 2010

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail
throughout the world*

Seattle Buddhist Church

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Wheel of the Sangha

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**This is a cover page.
Please scroll down
to view the rest
of the newsletter.**

Seattle Betsuin Vision

*Embrace true and
real life*

in Nembutsu



Seattle Betsuin Mission

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

January 2010 Special Services/Events

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2010 10:00 AM

BETSUIN NEW YEAR PARTY/INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010 – 12:00 NOON

KIESHIKI with SOCHO OGUI: SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 – 10:00 AM

SHINRAN SHONIN 750TH MEMORIAL SERVICE AND OCHIGO

PROCESSION: SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010 10:00 AM

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Betsuin Events for January 2010

EVERY SUNDAY (exceptions will be announced) All are invited:

- 8:45 am MEDITATION SERVICE, with Rev. Castro, held in Buddhist Education Center, (1441 S. Main St); includes Sutra Chanting, 20-minute meditation and discussion
- 10:00 am SERVICE - in Hondo (main sanctuary) includes Sutra Chanting, singing, and Dharma Talk
- 11:00 am DHARMA EXCHANGE - an opportunity for questions and discussion with minister and ministers assistants; takes place in Dining Room downstairs

EVERY WEDNESDAY All are invited: 10:30 am DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP

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SUNDAYS EVENTS in addition to above

January 3

- 11:00 am Japanese Service: Rinban Matsubayashi
- 11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi)

January 10

- 11:00 am Japanese Service: Rinban Matsubayashi
- 12:00 pm BETSUIN NEW YEAR PARTY/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

January 17 All Day **2009 YAC Reunion Retreat**

- 10:00 am **SHINRAN SHONIN 750TH MEMORIAL CELEBRATION/HO-ONKO with Ochigo Processional**
- English: Rev. Bob Oshita, Rinban, Sacramento Betsuin
- Japanese: Socho Koshin Ogui, BCA
- 11:30am **Celebration Luncheon**
- 1:00 pm Metta Award Class, Final Exam

January 24

- 10:00 am **Children's Service: MA**
- 11:00 am Japanese Service: Rinban Matsubayashi
- 11:45 am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting
- 1:00 pm Sangha Award Class (Practice)

January 31

- 11:00 am Japanese: Rinban Matsubayashi
- 1:00 pm Sangha Award Class (Practice)

MONDAYS

- January 4, 18, 25 Rinban Matsubayashi (Days off)
- January 11 7:30 pm Shinran Shonin 750th Committee Meeting

TUESDAYS

- January 5, 12, 19, 26 Rev. Castro (Days off)
- January 12 10:00 am SBBWA Board Meeting
- January 26 Rev. Castro (Day off)
- 10:30 am Keiro Service (Rinban Matsubayashi)

February Newsletter Deadline: Monday, January 18, 2010 8:00 pm Print: January 22

WEDNESDAYS

- January 6 7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting
- January 13 Rinban Matsubayashi (Day off)

THURSDAYS

- January 7 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev Castro)
- January 14
- 2:00 pm Minister's Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)
- 7:30 pm Religious Dept. Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)
- January 21
- 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Matsubayashi)
- 7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)
- January 28
- Ministerial Training & Development Committee Meeting at Jodo Shinshu Center (Rev. Castro)
- 7:30 pm Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting

FRIDAYS

- January 1 10:00 am New Year's Day Service
- January 15 4:00 pm **2009 YAC Reunion Retreat**

SATURDAYS

- January 2 Holiday for Ministers
- January 16 All Day **2009 YAC Reunion Retreat**
- 10:00 am Affirmation Ceremony

February 2010: Major Events of Interest

- February 7** Sunday Boy Scout Service
- February 12-14** No Services at Seattle Betsuin NW District Buddhist Convention hosted by Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple (Ontario, OR)
- February 21** Sunday Nirvana Day and Pet Memorial Service
- February 27-28** Sat-Sun BCA Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Commemoration – Fairmont Hotel, (San Jose, CA)



A Happy New Year in Gratitude -Light of Dharma 50 Years- Rimban Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi, Ed.D.

May the year of 2010 be a prosperous, healthy, and happy year for all. My wife and I wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation to you for your kind support and friendship extended to us during the past year.

Under the guiding light of Dharma, 50 years have been passed since I became a minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii on September 1, 1959. Over the last 50 years, I have served as a minister of the Hawaii Hongwanji Kyodan, the Buddhist Churches of America, the Buddhist Churches of Canada, and again the Buddhist Churches of America, and I will be retiring from the ministry on July 31, 2010.

The propagation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism on the mainland of the United States officially began with the arrival of the Hongwanji dispatched ministers, Rev. Dr. Shue Sonoda and Rev. Kakuryo Nishijima, in San Francisco on September 1, 1899. This year marks the 111th anniversary of the Buddhist Churches of America. Let us all pay our utmost respect and admiration to the dedicate Nembutsu followers who worked diligently to maintain and to develop the teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Miyoko Kaneta, a retired school teacher who was raised in Central California, recorded "**A Song of Praise for Issei Pioneers**" from her memory. The first verse describes the Issei fathers who were determined to establish their lives in the wild and deserted land. The second and third verses run as follows:

From the wrinkles on her forehead,
To the palms of her hands,
Holding me in her left arm,
A hoe in her right hand,
Ah--, the unforgettable figure of our mothers.

We live this day, grateful to our parents,
Deep emotions now move me to tears,
For we would not be here but for them,
And today, we stand firmly,
Here, on this land.

Over the course of my 50 years as a minister, I have learned and witnessed the dedicated lives of the Issei pioneers and the dedicated Nembutsu

followers. In order to awake to the Infinite Light of Amida Buddha, we have to listen to the Buddha-Dharma. Rennyō Shonin instructed us on how to listen to the Buddha-Dharma in his writing **Rennyō Shonin Goichidai Kikigaki (The Words of Rennyō Shonin)**, No. 155, "Even though we do not have spare time, we should listen to the Buddha-Dharma. It is wrong to think that we listen to the Buddha-Dharma only when we have spare time. The Buddha-Dharma teaches us that we never know for sure if we have tomorrow." There is no guarantee that there will be a tomorrow for every one of us. We should listen to the Buddha-Dharma, so that we will awaken to the Compassionate Heart of Amida Buddha. Rennyō Shonin encouraged us to listen to the Buddha-Dharma with our special determination.

When I was a resident minister at the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church, a certain member of the church went back to Japan to see his 84-year-old mother in the hospital. When he met his mother at the hospital, she asked her son, who was a very busy businessman running multiple companies, "Are you attending church?" He answered, "I am very busy, so I cannot attend the church as I wish to." His mother said, "Please attend church first. Then you say, 'I am busy.'"

When I heard this, I immediately recalled Rennyō Shonin's words, "Listen to the Buddha-Dharma even though you do not have spare time." Her wonderful message was essentially same as Rennyō Shonin's. The word "busy" in Japanese illustrates to lose a heart. If we fail to see the heart of the Buddha, the heart of mother, and the heart of people, we are not able to see the truth of our lives nor able to become the true Nembutsu followers.

Under the guiding light of the Dharma for 50 years, I was able to carry on my ministry with the support and friendship of countless Nembutsu followers in the Hawaii Hongwanji Kyodan, the Buddhist Churches of Canada, and the Buddhist Churches of America. How grateful I am! As we celebrate the new year of 2010, the year of my retirement as your Rimban, my wife and I wish to extend our sincere greetings to you all in gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu

Look Who's Blogging! Rimban Matsubayashi and Reverend Castro, Reverend Jim Warrick, and EcoSangha! Join in, and post your comments. Rimban is blogging in English and Japanese.
<http://revmatsubayashi.blogspot.com/>
<http://revcastro.blogspot.com/> <http://revwarrick.blogspot.com/>
<http://ecosangha-seattle.blogspot.com/>

submitted by Alan Hoshino

Dharma School January 2010 submitted by Joyce Tsuji

A successful Bodhi day potluck was chaired by Dharma School parent Leslie S. We would like to express our gratitude to all who made contributions to this event.

We would like to welcome new Dharma School Board members Dave A and Kelly E.

The new Dharma School Board Officers for 2010 are:

Co-Chair – Connie O (primary point of contact)

Co-Chair – Kelly E (responsible for correspondence)

Treasurer – Debbie S

Secretary – David A

Classroom reports

PreK/Kindergarten The PreK/Kindergarten class is very grateful to the middle school class for hosting a Halloween party, where there were stations to decorate cookies, eat donuts from a string, play tag, and a mummy wrap. It was great fun! Over the following weeks, we have been focusing on good behavior by writing thank you cards to the middle school class for the Halloween party, remembering to say "itadakimasu", being aware of the concept of "dana" with emphasis on not expecting anything in return, and trying to recycle.

whenever we can. Most recently, we celebrated Bodhi Day and talked about the gift of Buddha.

Grade 3/4/5 Since Thanksgiving is in November, we talked about gratitude and what we are grateful for. This class is very insightful and they were thankful for more than just video games and their material items. If you come and visit our classroom, you will see that they looked deep within themselves and were grateful for sun, air, their families, the Temple and so many things, as is evident by all the colorful leaves on our "tree" on the wall. For Bodhi Day we made votive candle decorations with the Buddha sitting in front of our own version of a Bodhi Tree. We also began working on the centerpieces for the upcoming Betsuin New Year's party. They will look bright and cheery on all the tables. The class practiced some of the verses of the new version of the Shoshinge, a bit of the Wasan, and also Ondokusan. The teachers are very impressed with the vocals. Whew. We've been busy! We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

On behalf of the SBC Membership Committee...

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 for the new fiscal year of 2010:

James Doi, Harumi Fujioka, Mieko Gilmore, David Ichikawa, Nina Tomita-Kato, Jeffrey Ko & Tina Zumoto-Ko, Doug & Masayo McLean, Jack Matsui, Tomio & Jenny Moriguchi, Akira Nakashima, Roy & Kazumi Shimizu, Franklin Shinoda, Victor Shinoda, Thomas Smith, Paul Suguro, Haruso & Sonoe Taketa, Margaret Teramoto, Fumiko Yamaguchi, Mitsuo Yamamura

***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, 2010.** 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.

Jodo Shinshu Meditation Service at Buddhist Education Center House:

Sundays 8:45 - 9:30 AM

Happy New Year 2010

by Rev. Don Castro

Happy New Year! "May Peace and Tranquility Prevail Throughout the World." This is the BCA and Hongwanji theme for the 750th Anniversary Memorial for our founder Shinran Shonin. Locally, we will observe the memorial in conjunction with our annual Hoonko Service on January 16-17 and nationally the memorial will be held in San Jose on February 27-28.

Our Jodo Shinshu tradition observes a major memorial for Shinran every 50 years with the last one culminating in 1961. I have before me an issue of "The American Buddhist," which was the BCA's national monthly publication before it was replaced by our present "Wheel of Dharma." The issue I have before me is from April 1961 with the headlines and cover story written by a youthful Rev. Haruo Yamaoka* who much later became our bishop and who recently "retired" from the ministry. The headlines of the 1961 issue read "**700th Memorial Rites in Kyoto**" and the articles by Yamaoka Sensei chronicle some of what he experienced attending various memorial ceremonies. Yamaoka sensei wrote:

What impressed me most of all at these services, wasn't the colorful pageantry, or the solemn ritual but the



way the followers recite Nembutsu. Throughout the services, except for the reading of the Shoshinge and the singing of 'Ondokusan' or 'Shinshu Shuka,' there is a virtual hum of voices. Hardly audible at a distance yet close up, the endless flow of Namandabu Namandabu Namandabu...can be heard. The flow is unhindered like water down a stream. True, the people are old with long religious experiences, but it is not just one Nembutsu, nor even three, but a continuous flow of gratitude.

This year and next, there will be 750th memorial pilgrimages to Kyoto by many of our members. This year, our Dharma School families will travel to Japan from July 29th thru August 7th. I hope our pilgrims find the same Nembutsu spirit alive in Japan that Yamaoka Sensei did a half century ago.

*Please note Rev. Dr. Yamaoka's article "Personally Speaking" in the December 2009 issue of "The Wheel of Dharma." <http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/WOD/Dec2k9.pdf>

To Our Members, by President Mas Tahara

With the New Year dawning upon us, Seattle Betsuin has a new president and the chairperson of the Board of Directors. Paul Mori was elected by the members of the Seattle Betsuin Board at the meeting on December 17, 2009. Paul has been an active member of our church for many decades, growing up as a Dharma School student and YBA member when he was young, then as a teacher and the superintendent of the Dharma School, a leading member of ABA, Religious Department Chair, on the Board of Directors, and an officer of the Cabinet for several terms. Paul works hard as a dedicated volunteer in the church throughout the year, pitching in wherever and whatever help is needed.

When I took the position of President/Chairman of the Board two years ago, I pledged to be a bridge



that would carry our church across to a bright future with great hope.

We now have a group of cabinet officers who are in their early 60s and younger. This is quite significant when you consider many of our current members are seventy and older. The new officers may be younger, but they have all been active and knowledgeable in the church business and operations. Most of all, they are all dedicated to making our church a better place for all of us.

Please give your continuous support as you so generously gave me the last two years.

I would like to express my appreciation to each of you for your valuable advice and encouragement that sustained me in fulfilling my term.

Gassho, Mas Tahara

Camp Fire– submitted by Lisa Butler

Bake Sale Thank You! December 6, Camp Fire held a Bake Sale during the Bodhi Day Potluck. The sale raised about \$350, which will go toward maintenance of the Church's North Bend site. A big THANK YOU to everyone who provided baked goods for the sale. Additional thanks to our bake sale packagers and sellers.

Camp Fire Candy Sale Be on the lookout for Camp Fire members selling candy on Jan. 24, Jan. 31, and Feb. 7 in the church lobby! Each box costs \$5 with proceeds supporting local Camp Fire programs and our individual Camp Fire groups. The students will be selling the traditional mints, Almond Roca, caramel clusters and new this year, P-Nuttles, peanuts with a toffee shell. Thank you for your support!

Camp Fire 100th Birthday Celebration – March 28 In 2010 Camp Fire turns 100! All past and current Camp Fire members and leaders, mark your calendars for a Camp Fire birthday celebration on March 28, 2010.

Starflight K Submitted by Grace T. For our November meeting, the girls continued work on the "Trail to Family & Community" Starflight Program. The theme for the meeting was "TRASH IT" and the girls learned about keeping our communities clean. Each of the girls hand made a litter bag made with flannel and a plastic liner.

To begin the holiday season, the girls assisted in decorating the Wisteria View Manor. The girls helped with hanging paper chains and snowflakes. In early December, the girls enjoyed a holiday party hosted by the RAINBOWS. THANK YOU, RAINBOWS for a fun-filled party! The girls enjoyed making special-shaped sandwiches, drinking fruit smoothies, making crafts & playing games.



Adventure 4/5 Submitted by Dana N. November 16, our group met at Meghan and Pam's house for a video viewing get-together. The girls watched music videos/clips, then voted on the music/routine they wanted to perform to at the January New Year's Party. They chose "We Go Together" from the movie "Grease."

November 29, the girls hung wreaths on residents' doors at Wisteria View Manor. It was fun to see Wisteria View looking so sparkly and festive! After decorating, the girls began practicing their New Year's Party dance routine. Special thanks to Erica for helping the girls get started by walking them through the start of the routine.

Hummingbirds Submitted by Lani C. The Hummingbirds hosted their 3rd annual Starflight Carnival on 11/15. Five local Camp Fire groups from the church, Bellevue and Shoreline attended, representing about 35 students. The Starflight kids had a great time playing games, learning songs, and making crafts. In addition, the Hummingbirds raised \$144 from donations and a bake sale. Proceeds were split between the Seattle Humane Society and Kiva (a not-for-profit organization that funds small businesses in developing countries.) Special thanks to our parents, Marisa Y., Alina B., and Kayla H. for helping us run the carnival.

On 12/20, the Owens family hosted a special holiday party for the Hummingbirds. Families enjoyed a pizza lunch, and students made beautiful beaded jewelry. Thank you to Trang for supplying the bead materials and teaching the students how to make the jewelry.

Reverend Koyo Kubose is on YouTube
View two 10-minute video Dharma Talks entitled, "Buddhist Hell" and "OK-ness". Additional videos are being planned.

Submitted by Karry Sakamoto

GO PAPERLESS! THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOW ONLINE AT WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.COM Contact the temple office at 206-329-0800 or email Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com to have your name removed from the mailing list and jump online!
Thank you!

Dharma Support Group with Rev Castro Meets Wednesdays from 10:30 to Noon

The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations -
November - December 2009

<u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Mary Kono (35 th Day); Robert Kono (1 Year) and Russell Kono (55 th Year) Memorial Services	\$ 1,000	Randy Kono
Nokotsudo	\$ 1,000	Jennifer Habu
Kito Kaneta – 49 th Day Memorial Service	\$ 200	Miyoko Kaneta
Kojiro Taki – In Memory of	\$ 100	Noboru Taki

<u>Remembrances for:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Robert & Mary Kono	Mits & Kazzie Kawachi; Fumie Taniguchi
Tsuruko Muramoto	Beth & William Kawahara
Shigeru Bob Sakoda	Fumie Taniguchi; Allan Terada

Onenju Repair:

<u>Other Gifts:</u>	<u>Donor:</u>	<u>For:</u>
\$ 100	Waldorf School Assn of Seattle	Grade 8 Tour and Lecture
\$ 10	Dana Teeter	Temple Visitation

PLEASE READ: CHANGE IN NOTIFICATION OF DONATIONS

As all have experienced the rising costs in today's world, the same can be said for the Temple as many of the similar expenses have risen as well. As with the households of the Sangha members, the Temple has looked at its own operations and ways to eliminate waste and minimize costs. This is an ever-evolving process that does not end. As you have noticed, postage rates have increased the past few years and the Temple incurs a significant expense in sending receipts for donations that have been received. To help reduce the cost of postage, the Temple changed its process of sending a receipt for every donation to sending a summarized listing quarterly. The mailing will be made at the end of each calendar quarter for January through December. We will not be using the Temple's fiscal year quarter. This change will be effective as of January 2010.

As in past years, your canceled check can also be used for purposes of proof of donation. This is a change from how things have been done in the past but the Temple must adapt to new challenges. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the change, please feel free to contact the Temple either via e-mail to the Temple office, mailing in of your comments/questions or dropping it off at the Temple office. Please note, the Temple office staff is not responsible for the change in policy and is only collecting any comments/questions that may be received. The Temple hopes that you understand the need the the change.

In Gassho, Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church Treasurer

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance, Symposium and Banquet:
Saturday, February 27, 2010, Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California
http://www.ingassho.com/registration/page9/assets/Shinran750th_Registration.pdf
Deadline to register is January 27, 2010

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

SBBWA January 2010 Newsletter Article submitted by Terrie Tanino Under the direction of Fran Shintaku, a group of SBBWA members volunteered to prepare lunch for temple members that came in to work on the 8 hour Maintenance Committee Clean up Project. Those from SBBWA were: Fran Shintaku, Kinue Kuwahara, Yoshie Hiroo, Kazumi Shimizu, Joan Seko, Kiyo Takashima and Terrie Tanino.

Newly elected officers for 2010-2011 are as follows: President Shizue Yahata, VP(E) Janet Baba, VP(J) Machiko Wada, Recording Secretary(E) Joyce Kato, Recording Secretary(J) Etsu Shimbo, Corresp. Secretary(E) Joan Nakano, Corresp. Secretary(J) TBD, Treasurer(E) Shizu Kaku, Treasurer(J) Suzuko Terada, Auditors Frances Tamekuni and Karen Morikubo. On December 7th, the Federation of Buddhist Temples in Seattle (Koyasan, Nichiren and Seattle Betsuin) conducted an Annual Bodhi Day Service at the Keiro Nursing Home. Officiant was Rev. Taijo Imanaka, Koyasan, Rev. Don Castro served as MC and Rev. Kanjin Cederman delivered the Dharma Message. Each temple had an oshoko representative. Members from the temples assisted residents with incense offering. It is always gratifying to see so many residents attend the service and as usual, many look forward to offer incense regardless of their faith and nationality. The entire program was organized by Rimban Hoshu Matsubayashi before his departure to a BCA Meeting in California.

Donations Submitted by Treasurer Mabel Nishizaki:
Hiroko Hasegawa - In Appreciation
Yoshiye Iwamura- In Appreciation
Mitsue Matsui- In Appreciation
Naomi Takemura - In Appreciation
Sue Fujino - Special donation

Memorial Service Donations: Miyuki Hanada, Chester & Martha Murakami, Martyn & Gwynn Sugihara, and Emi Taniguchi

Calendar: Sunday, January 3, 2010 SBBWA Board Meeting at 11:45 AM in the dining room.
Submitted by Deanna Ikegami

2010 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Traditionally, memorial services are held for loved ones on designated anniversaries. These are precious occasions to honor the treasured memories of our beloved ones and to realize how fortunate we are to be embraced by Amida Buddha's Light of Wisdom and Life of Compassion. If you have a loved one who has passed away in the following years, you are encouraged to conduct a family memorial service.

Year of Death

2009.....	1st annual memorial.....	1 year from death
2008.....	3 rd anniversary memorial.....	2 full years from death
2004.....	7 th anniversary memorial.....	6 full years from death
1998.....	13 th anniversary memorial.....	12 full years from death
1994.....	17 th anniversary memorial.....	16 full years from death
1986.....	25 th anniversary memorial.....	24 full years from death
1978.....	33 rd anniversary memorial.....	32 full years from death
1961.....	50 th anniversary memorial.....	49 full years from death

Please call the temple office at (206) 329-0800 to make arrangements for a service.

- jn

ONENJUS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Onenjus for children, women, and men are now available for purchase in the temple office. Heirloom and modern beads have been restrung by Pauline Sakuma into beautiful new onenjus. Please visit the office to see the variety of styles available. Proceeds go to Seattle Betsuin.

- jn

63rd Annual NW Buddhist Convention February 12 - 14, 2010

Registration Deadline is January 10, 2010 for Seattle Betsuin

Register with your organization's focal e.g. DS, SBBWA, Jr YBA, etc., by **January 10, 2010**, (NY Party date), and make **checks payable to your organization**.

Not affiliated with an organization? Make **check payable to Seattle Buddhist Church** and leave completed form, (found on foyer table), and payment in the office by **January 10, 2010**. (Steph Ojima will submit all Seattle's registrations to Idaho-Oregon by January 15, 2010.)

Bus Transportation - separate and in addition to registration

Cost: \$80 per person – Must sign-up on sheet located on the foyer bulletin board; check payable to Seattle Buddhist Church; submit check to office.

Departure from Seattle Betsuin Temple: Friday, **February 12, 2010 6:00 a.m.**

Lunch: Stop at a restaurant enroute.

Return: Sunday, February 14, 2010 after closing service; arrive home about 9:00 p.m. depending on weather conditions.

Preliminary Schedule

From: Mike Iseri **Sent:** Wednesday, December 02, 2009 10:33 AM **Subject:** Preliminary Schedule

We're not quite ready to release the full details yet, and, things will continue to be tweaked for awhile anyway, but here's a rough schedule for convention:



Friday

4-9PM, registration at the Temple

5-630PM, Ministers meeting (dinner at 630P)

8-10PM, NWDC meeting (for Ministers, Temple Reps & NWD Officers)

730PM, Dodgeball

Saturday

8-9AM, registration, bookstore, interactive gatha rehearsal, all at Four Rivers Cultural Center

9-945AM, oshoko prior to service

945-1115AM, opening service & keynote speaker

1130AM-1230PM, morning session

1230-145PM, lunch (BWA, NWDS, & NWWYBA meetings during lunch)

145-245PM, afternoon session

3-4PM, second afternoon session

530PM, social hour

630PM, banquet

830PM, post banquet activities

Sunday

9-1030AM, NWDC Meeting, BWA General Meeting

1030-11AM, oshoko

11AM-12N, closing service

12N, bento box lunch

Mike Iseri

primary email: mikeiseri@fmtc.com

Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple Website:

www.IOBT.org for registration fees and info.

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Celebration/ Hoonko Our Betsuin will begin the observance of Shinran Shonin's 750th Memorial during the weekend of January 15-17, 2010. The planned events will include the Sarana affirmation service (Kie Shiki) held on Saturday the 16th @ 10:00 am followed by participant luncheon. Sunday's service will be attended by Socho (Bishop) Koshin Ogui of the BCA, Rimban Bob Oshita of Sacramento Betsuin as well as our Rimban Matsubayashi, Castro Sensei and more, including Ochigo Processional and a celebration luncheon for all attendees. Also during this weekend, the YAC Reunion will take place in our temple. Please plan to attend this important event for our Betsuin.

- PBM

Musical Notes by Kemi Nakabayashi

The family music service on November 29 was an attempt to feature the talents of members of our sangha and also encourage full participation. We hope that those of you in attendance enjoyed the program. It featured the music service version of Ju Sei Ge and choir performance of *Sen no Kaze (I am a Thousand Winds)*. In addition, *Nembutsu* by Chizuko Iwanaga, was reintroduced in anticipation of a special use of this gatha to be done at the upcoming Northwest District Convention hosted by Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple. *Sing!*, the Carpenters tune made famous on Sesame Street decades ago, was done as a sing-a-long with Buddhist lyrics written by Shieko Uno of Colorado. As music service coordinator, I would like to acknowledge and thank Ron Hamakawa (service chairman), Donna Zumoto (taiko opening), Terrie Tanino (choir director) and the Betsuin choir, Mas Tamekuni and Sat Ichikawa (ukeleles), and Daniel and James Kashima for their wonderful guitar and oboe arrangement of Ondokusan I for closing gatha.

Rimban Matsubayashi also provided the background history of *Sen no Kaze*, which is a popular tune in Japan with lyrics denoting Buddhist themes. He also told us that it was recited by the daughter of one of the people killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack at the memorial service held at Ground Zero. Rev. Castro gave the children and adult Dharma

messages for this special Thanksgiving Sunday service.

For 2010, I am hoping that we can continue the musical energy by encouraging Dharma School student musicians to perform in small ensembles throughout the year. Steve Yamasaki played saxophone with Mas and Sat for Hatsumairi service in October, and we look forward to his participation again also. I am grateful for the support of the music program from the ministers, minister assistants, and the religious department. We plan to continue an annual tradition of music service on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend. Dharma school parents and students, please respond to the solicitation from the Dharma School to let us know which instruments our students play and the number of years of musical study so that we can work together to incorporate different musical selections into the family services.

We will also be attempting to use the audio-visual projection equipment to facilitate use of new lyrics for gatha selections with the goal of being "green" and limiting the copying of gatha sheets for distribution. We tried an initial effort in November, but had some technical difficulty projecting to the larger screen. We will do better the next time.

I encourage anyone who has suggestions or would like to participate more in the musical portion of the services to contact Julianne Tosaya for Dharma School or me, Kemi Nakabayashi via the office.

Mochi Making for 2009

Dharma School, Jr. YBA, Camp Fire and Matsuri Taiko would like to thank all the individuals that purchased mochi distributed on December 19th and 20th. Many of you will have used the mochi as part of your New Years' celebration, so we hope that you found it to your satisfaction. For those that eat mochi throughout the year and do not just use it for New Years, there is still a limited quantity that can be purchased from the Temple. Please contact the Temple office if you would like to purchase any. The cost is the same at \$4.00 per dozen.

Thanks and appreciation to many individuals who gave up part of their day to help make mochi and okasane with the 850 lbs of rice. While it does take a lot of effort, the parents and individuals from the benefited groups along with others that just wanted to help had an enjoyable time working the mochi dough and just working together. It was good to see new faces in this event and hopefully some got to work with Rev. Julie Hanada as she helped and apparently had a good time. While there are too many individuals to list, as there are space restrictions, there are a few individuals whose experience and help for some specific tasks need to be noted. A huge thank you to Jim and Tomi Zumoto, Donna Zumoto, George Shimizu, Ron Hamakawa, Steph Ojima, Joan Nakano, Joyce Kato, Julianne Tosaya and Susie Taketa. There are many others who contributed, and this is not to discount their efforts, as it takes the combined efforts of many to put this together. Please accept an apology if your name is not specifically listed.

Submitted by Howard Luke

Maintenance Day Thanks

Thanks to all who showed up on our 2009 November 28th maintenance day. It was great to have everyone show up and take a job and just "Git'er done". Check out the pictures Sat Ichikawa took of the event in the Hondo Hall across from the Rinban's office.

Quick stats:

- * Painted Memorial Hall heat registers, classrooms and common areas
- * Sealed moisture damage in dining room
- * Replace brick work on gym stage
- * Replace missing or broken end caps on the chairs
- * Replace or tightened screws on plastic tables
- * Clean and removed exhaust fans
- * Cleaned and touched up paint in downstairs hall and gym/hondo staircase
- * Cleaned and polished Memorial Hall alley staircase and landings
- * Installed 2 new exit lights in gym
- * Cleaned and polished downstairs hall and classroom floors
- * Replaced light ballast in chapel
- * Installed new T-8 fluorescent in the Taiko room
- * Replaced ties on rear stage curtain
- * Clean gym stage
- * Replace plastic curtain guides

- * Clean gym window sills and fans
- * Wash and re-hang curtains
- * Clean gym walls and floor
- * Repair SW gym heater
- * Replace gym over head lights
- * Trim tree away from gym gutters

And a bunch of other items...

Thanks again for helping, Cyrus W. Honmyo

All,

Here we go again, but with a new twist – we're basically going to disable the kitchen for a day.

Major projects:

- Paint the Kitchen Pantry - Move everything out
 - Mark and Remove the cabinet doors, mask Paint the room & cabinets.
 - Paint floors
 - Install LED Exit lights in Gym and install impact protectors
 - Repair floor in Gym chair storage
 - Touch up paint in memorial hall and other areas
- Please let Cyrus, Steph (stephoj@comcast.net), or the Betsuin office know that you're planning to attend. We need a head count for lunch.

Thanks for your help,
Cyrus W. Honmyo

ANNUAL TEMPLE CLEAN-UP *photos courtesy of Sat Ichikawa*



On Sunday, December 20, 2009 a good turnout of temple members cleaned in preparation of the New Year. In addition to our regular membership, we were assisted by three members of the Mongolian community who have been attending basic Buddhism classes held here at the Betsuin taught by Ven. Altankhuu the past year.

HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are a high school senior graduating in the class of 2010 or a college student currently attending a four year college, the following scholarships are available.

HIGH SCHOOL: The Seattle Betsuin Tsujihara Family Memorial Scholarship Grant will offer up to four scholarships of \$2,000 each. **COLLEGE:** The Masaru and Mitsuma Shimokon Scholarship Grant has up to three scholarships: 1 - 5,000 college student who will graduate as a Nurse Practitioner, 1 - \$5,000 college student graduating as a Medical Doctor, 1 - \$3,000 college student degree BS as a Registered Nurse

The deadline to submit applications is Monday, April 5, 2010 by 2:30pm to the temple office. For applications or questions please contact Shizue Kaku via the temple office at 206.329.0800.

Photos from ABA Fundraising Breakfast submitted by Gail Kaminishi

Thank you, everyone, for participating and attending our 2nd Annual Hawaiian Breakfast on Sunday, November 1, 2009. Proceeds of the fundraiser benefited our Mongolian Project (Maitreya Charity) and the ACRS Food Bank.



Large And Small Things You Can Do To Save Our Planet by Gail Kaminishi



- Instead of using sponges to wash dishes (lots of bacteria is trapped in sponges), switch to washcloths. They last for years.
- It's ok to "re-gift" (recycle) that new unwanted gift item. Just don't give it back to the person who gave it to you!
- Save clean, uniform packing styrofoam peanuts you may have gotten with the holiday shipping of gifts. Many shipping stores will take them and reuse them.

Notes on Dharma Exchange *These summations of Dharma Exchange are intended for those who are unable to attend - Dharma School parents, Japanese service attendees, committee members, etc.*

Nov. 22, 2009 The abbreviated session focused on an article Rev. Castro reviewed concerning airbag fraud. Car repair shops have been found to install airbag compartments with no airbag or fill them with debris, and some car dealers knowingly sell cars without airbags. He concludes that there are evil people willing to put lives at risk by deceitful means.

- ig

Nov 29 - There was positive feedback from participants on the music service that took place today, and it is hoped that this format will continue. There are many talented and capable people in the temple who could perform during the music service.

Using stained glass in a religious setting is not necessarily just a Christian practice, according to Rev. Castro.

A discussion ensued about a recent book, *Camp Harmony: Seattle's Japanese Americans and the Puyallup Assembly Center*, by Louis Fiset. As John Litz pointed out in his review in the North American Post of Dec. 9, many books have been written about the 10 camps where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during WWII; this is the first book about

any of the 15 Assembly Centers where Japanese Americans spent up to four months before being assigned to a camp.

The Japanese American Walkway on Bainbridge Island is being planned to commemorate those J-A islanders who spent the war years in camp. It will be a satellite of the future Minidoka Memorial.

Dec. 6 - MA Joe Schwab found few internet sites on how Bodhi Day is celebrated in other sects.

Joe allowed as how the problems in our lives are based on our cravings.

A participant wondered why there is a mural of the Buddha and Mao in Pioneer Square. *Strange...*

Joe indicated "Kharma jars" are replacing tip jars, particularly in sports bars.

Rev. Jim Warrick commented if we had the opportunity of a face-to-face conversation with the Buddha, his teachings would become more clear.

In gassho,
Pat Bobrow

Scout Troop 252 Report November and December

During these last two months the troop has been pretty busy. We have had our North Bend Campout in November. During our regular troop meetings we have been learning and reviewing knots and lashings.

Many of the younger scouts are now getting the hang of it. The day after Thanksgiving, the scouts held the Turkey Bowl, a fun event where the scouts get together and play sports. More than 15 people showed up and they enjoyed playing, basketball, football, and dodgeball.

Sean U.
12-11-09