

# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 28 Issue 6 June 2010

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail  
throughout the world*

## Seattle Buddhist Church

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Rimban

Hoshu Matsubayashi

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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*

## June 2010: Major Events of Interest

- Sunday June 6 All Sangha Memorial Service
- Sunday June 13 Awards/Recognition Service, Potluck/Bingo & Retirement Tea for Rimban Matsubayashi
- Sunday June 27 Bishops'/Rimbans' Memorial Service
- June 28 – July 2 Kids Summer Program

**SAVE THE DATE: SEATTLE BETSUIN BON ODORI: JULY 17, 18, 2010**

<p><b>1</b> Temple Contact Information</p> <p><b>2</b> Calendar of Events, Newsletter Deadline: <b>July 19, 2010 8:00 pm</b> <b>Print: July 23, 2010</b></p> <p><b>3</b> Rimban's Message, Onenju Available</p>	<p><b>4</b> Dharma School, Letter from Religious Dept Go Paperless,</p> <p><b>5</b> Rev. Castro, President Mori, Orion Center Service Project</p> <p><b>6</b> SBBWA, Save Our Planet</p>	<p><b>7</b> Membership, U. S. Vets Photos Wanted, SBC Donations</p> <p><b>8</b> SBC Donations, Donation Receipt Policy,</p> <p><b>9</b> Poster Contest, Dharma Support/Meditation Service, Hanamatsuri Donors</p>	<p><b>10</b> Camp Fire USA, JSC Correspondence Course, Help Needed for Flower Arrangements, Study Group Meets</p> <p><b>11</b> Dharma Exchange Notes</p> <p><b>12</b> Dharma Exchange, McLean Family Photos</p>
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## Betsuin Events for June 2010

### EVERY SUNDAY All are invited:

- 8:45 am MEDITATION SERVICE, 1441 S. Main St; Sutra Chanting, meditation & discussion  
10:00 am SERVICE - in Hondo (main sanctuary) includes Sutra Chanting, singing, and Dharma Talk  
11:00 am DHARMA EXCHANGE – questions/discussion/refreshments in Dining Room downstairs

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** 10:30 am DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP with meditation at 1441 S Main St for All

**EACH FIRST SATURDAY** 9:30am – 12:30pm Buddhist Study Group & Social - bring your own lunch

### SUNDAYS EVENTS in addition to above

#### June 6 ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE

Rimban Matsubayashi in California

- 10:00 am Children: Rev. Castro;  
Adult: Rev. Warrick; DX: Rev. Castro  
11:30 am Camp Fire Council Fire and Reception  
11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting  
12:00 pm Religious Department Meeting

#### June 13 AWARDS & RECOGNITION SERVICE

- 10:00 am (Last Day of Dharma School)  
Children's Service: Rimban Matsubayashi  
Adult: Rev. Castro; Japanese: Rimban  
Matsubayashi; DX: Rev. Castro  
11:30am All Sangha Potluck & Retirement Tea  
for Rimban Matsubayashi

#### June 20 FAMILY SERVICE

- 10:00 am Adult: Rev. Castro; Japanese:  
Rimban Matsubayashi; DX:  
Rev. Castro

#### June 27 BISHOPS'/RIMBANS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

- 10:00 am Adult: Rev. Castro; Japanese:  
Rimban Matsubayashi; DX: Joe  
Schwab

### MONDAYS

- June 7 Rimban Matsubayashi (Day off); Rev. Castro  
(Travel day to Hawaii); Rev. Warrick or Joe Schwab (On call)  
June 14, 21, 28 Rimban Matsubayashi (Days off)  
June 28 - July 2 Kids Summer Program\*at Betsuin

### TUESDAYS

- June 1 Rimban Matsubayashi (Day off);  
Rev. Castro (Day off – On call)  
June 8 Ministers Meetings in Honolulu (Rev. Castro)  
June 15 Rev. Castro (Day off)  
June 22 10:30 am Keiro Service (Rev. Castro)  
June 29 Rev. Castro (Day off);  
9:30 – 3:00 \*Kids Summer Program

### WEDNESDAYS

- June 2 Rimban Matsubayashi (Travel day to California)  
7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting (Rev. Castro)  
June 9 Rev. Castro in Honolulu/Ministers Meeting  
10:30 am Dharma Support Group (Joe Schwab)  
June 16 Rimban Matsubayashi (Study day off)

10:00 am Shinran Shonin Monthly Memorial  
Service (Rev. Castro)

- June 23 Rimban Matsubayashi (Study day off)  
June 30 Meeting/Jodo Shinshu Center (Rev. Castro)  
10:30 am Dharma Support Group (Joe Schwab)  
9:30 – 3:00 \*Kids Summer Program at Seattle Betsuin

**July Newsletter Deadline: Monday,  
July 19, 2010 - 8:00 pm Print: July 23, 2010**

### THURSDAYS

- June 3 Rimban Matsubayashi (Day off)  
1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)  
June 10 Rev. Castro - Honolulu/Ministers Meeting  
June 17  
1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rimban Matsubayashi)  
6:30pm Minister's Affairs Committee Meeting  
(Rimban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)  
7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting  
(Rimban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)  
June 24 7:30pm Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting  
(Rimban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)  
June 31 9:00 – 3:00 \*Kids Summer Program at SBC

### FRIDAYS

- June 4 Kyokucho Meeting at Jodo Shinshu Center  
(Rimban Matsubayashi)  
12:00 pm Gojikai Service and Meeting (Rev. Castro)  
June 11, 18, 25 Rev. Castro (Day off/Vacation/Study Day)  
July 1 9:00-3:00 \* Kids Summer Program

### SATURDAYS

- June 5 BCA Board Meeting at Jodo Shinshu Center  
(Rimban Matsubayashi)  
9:30am – 12:30pm Buddhist Study Group (Rev. Castro)  
June 12, 19, 26 Rev. Castro (Travel/Study/Days off)

### JULY Major Events of Interest

- July 10 Saturday Obon Cemetery Services  
July 11 Sunday 10:00am Obon/Hatsubon Service at  
Betsuin and Obon Services at Cemeteries  
July 17 – 18 Sat. - Sun. Seattle Bon Odori Festival  
July 23 Friday SBBWA Farewell Dinner for Rimban  
Matsubayashi at New Hong Kong Restaurant



## Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 29 Issue 6 SEATTLE BETSUIN NEWSLETTER JUNE 2010



### An Introduction to the Jodo Shinshu Buddhism – (5)

#### “How Can I Find the Buddha?”

Rimban Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi, Ed.D

One of my favorite Gathas is “Where is the Buddha?”  
The first verse is:

O where, where is the Buddha?  
In the spring, at the base of flower laden branches,  
In the summer, under the grass by the pond,  
In the fall, aloft the cloud that floats by,  
In the winter, in the snowflakes, tapping on the window.  
Wherever, Buddha is watching over,  
Whenever, Buddha teaches the Dharma,  
There, there, Buddha is there.

Just like this Gatha, if we are always surrounded by  
the Buddha and we are always receiving the teaching of  
the Dharma, our lives would be so wonderful.

Although I was born near the Olaa Sugar Plantation  
(now the Puna Plantation) in the Island of Hawaii, my  
mother, my four siblings, and I were sent back to my  
father’s home temple in Shimane Prefecture in Japan due  
to my mother’s illness, and we were raised at the temple.  
My father came back to our home temple in Japan during  
the war with the exchange of war prisoners.

From my childhood, I was with the Buddha as my  
grandfather and parents taught me. I enjoyed singing the  
Sunday School Gatha, “Nonno Nonosama, Hotokesama  
(Oh My dear Buddha...)”

As Confucius states in his *Confucian Analects* that  
“At fifteen, I had my mind bent on learning...,” I, too, set  
about seriously learning about the Buddha. When I was a  
junior high school student, my oldest sister had just  
graduated from the Central Buddhist Academy in Kyoto  
and returned to Hawaii. When she returned to our home  
temple from Kyoto, I asked her “How can I find the  
Buddha?”

I still don’t know why I asked her such question, but I  
remember that I was seriously looking for the Buddha. My  
sister answered, “The best way is perhaps to depend on  
‘The Development of the Process of Three Vows (San  
Gan Tennyu)’ or ‘Two Aspects of Deep Mind (Ni Shu  
Jinshin).’” As a junior high school student, I was not able  
to truly understand her answer, but I trusted her answer

and that reassured me to continue searching for the  
Buddha.

“The Development of the Process of Three Vows”  
refers to the process of the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> Vows of  
Amida Buddha. The period of the 19<sup>th</sup> Vow of Shinran’s  
life is the 20 year period of his Buddhist learning and self  
practices at Mt. Hiei. He gave up his studies at Mt. Hiei by  
expressing, “since I am incapable of any practice  
whatsoever, hell would definitely my dwelling.” The period  
of the 20<sup>th</sup> Vow started when Shinran entered Honen’s  
Monastery of Nembutsu teaching from Mt. Hiei. Then, the  
period of the 18<sup>th</sup> Vow was finally reached when he stated  
in his *Kyo Gyo Shin Sho*, that “I, Shinran, disciple of  
Shakyamuni Buddha, discarded sundry practices and took  
refuge in the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha in 1201.” He  
was able to find the Buddha.

“Two Aspects of Deep Mind” are that the first is to  
believe deeply and decidedly that I am an incapable  
being, with never a condition that would lead me to  
enlightenment, and the second is to believe deeply and  
decidedly that Amida Buddha’s Vows grasp sentient  
beings to lead to enlightenment. “Two Aspects of Deep  
Mind” lead us to find the Buddha.

During my Buddhist studies for over a half century,  
my sister’s answer has always been the guide for my  
studies. I appreciate her wonderful answer, which gave  
me the confidence that I could find the Buddha with the  
doctrines of “The Development of the Process of Three  
Vows” and “Two Aspects of Deep Mind.”

Confucius states that “At seventy, I could follow what  
my heart desired, without transgressing what was right.”  
This achievement in his life seems to me very similar to  
“Naturalness (Jinen)”, a synonym of enlightenment, in  
Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Shinran wrote in his letter at the  
age of 86 that “Naturalness (Jinen) means that from the  
very beginning one is made to become so. Amida  
Buddha’s Vow is, from the very beginning, designed to  
have each person entrust himself in Namu Amida Butsu  
and be received in the Buddha’s Pure Land.”  
Namu Amida Butsu



**ONENJU ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE** Onenju 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 onenju. Please visit the office to see the variety of styles available. Proceeds go to Seattle Betsuin. - jn

Dharma School submitted by Joyce Tsuji  
Please join us for the last day of dharma school on June 13<sup>th</sup> for attendance awards and high school graduate recognition. DS will be hosting a potluck to celebrate this day and the retirement of Rimban Matsubayashi. We will have bingo with prizes for all ages and bouncy toys for the kids. This event will be replacing the church picnic this year, so please come and enjoy this final all Sangha event of our school year!!

A special thank you to the following DS volunteers who helped set up table and chairs for the SBBWA membership luncheon on May 2nd: *Stuart and Kobe Teramoto, The Kosai/Eng Family, The Kashima Family, The McClean Family, Joan Nakano, and Harrison and Bryson Chinn.*

Dharma school class pictures will be available for purchase. Please contact your child's teacher for more info.

Nine DS teachers were able to attend this recent conference and share these experiences:

It was a wonderful opportunity to have attended the **59th Annual Federation of Dharma School Teachers' League Conference**, held at the Renaissance Hotel in Los Angeles. The Theme of the conference was, "TADA" and the dharma talk was given by Kodani sensei. As always Reverend Mas gave a thought provoking message full of historical information and delivered with humor and many "aha" moments. I again see how intertwined our religion is with the Japanese culture. I appreciate the opportunity to socialize with other Dharma schoolteachers in the BCA and our own team of teachers from Seattle, it's always an inspirational experience for me and I am grateful for this privilege.

"TADA" - (just do it)...I went and I'm glad I did. With gassho, Nina

The DS students conducted a service for Keiro Nursing home residents on Gotane. The service was led by the high school class and included chanting, a gatha, incense offering and gifts for the attendees.

### **Classroom reports**

**Infant/toddler class** To celebrate Mother's Day the class decorated pens with tulips to create mini bouquets for their mothers. They also decorated more pens for the residents of Keiro Nursing Home so they could be distributed at the Gotan-e Service on May 16.

**First/second grade** We started this Spring with a discussion about the Dana paramita on Ohigan. The students then made bird feeders as a gift to their bird friends. We also reviewed the story of the Three Bears with the idea of a middle path in mind. We continued with the idea of Right Livelihood and the students drew pictures of what they wanted to be when they grew up. The students then worked hard to make the Hanamatsuri centerpieces. They turned out great. Thanks kids!! We read some Hanamatsuri stories too. As the DS celebrated Earth day and the theme of Peace and Tranquility the kids created a poster of their handprints with what they could do to help the Earth on them. It can be seen in the upstairs hallway. In honor of Boys/Children's Day we made origami "kabuto" or samurai helmets out of newspaper to wear. Finally we went over the 4 Gratitudes and made flower pens as gifts to our mothers. Many of our students also went to Keiro to participate in that service.

### **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 your remove name from the mailing list and jump online! Thank you!

### **Dharma School Parents,**

The Religious Department would like to meet with you on Sunday June 6th, during Dharma School in the Memorial Hall Chapel to discuss opportunities for community outreach efforts, similar to the current efforts being undertaken to benefit the Orion Center, (see article on next page). We are looking for ideas to give back to the local community and to put into practice the *dana* paramita of selfless giving.

In Gassho,  
Religious Department  
Alan Hoshino, Vice-Chair

Remembering Rimban Ouchi  
By Reverend Don Castro

On June 27, we will observe our annual Bishops'/Rimbans' Memorial Service. I have many fond memories of serving under our late Rimban Sadamaro Ouchi who served Seattle Betsuin from 1978-1995. One trait of Rimban Ouchi that I vividly recall is how he would spontaneously utter "arigatai" as he was going about his work in the shrine area. He would say this not aware that anyone was in hearing range. What a wonderful expression! "Arigatoo" is generally translated "thank you" but I've been told that it literally means "difficult to be." When we realize how difficult it is for things to come into existence (and yet, here they are!) we feel grateful; especially for the Dharma and the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha. As it says in the Three Fold Refuge in our service book:

"Difficult is it to receive a human form,  
Now we are living it.  
Difficult is it to hear the Dharma of the Buddha,



Now we hear it."  
We should sincerely take this to heart. At my ordination ceremony in Japan in 1975, the first words of our Patriarch (Gomonshu), who spoke in English, were, "You have been brought here by profound causes and conditions." If we can truly appreciate where and who we are right now, and how we receive totally out of proportion to what we deserve, it causes us to be "arigatai." Put in a Jodo Shinshu context, I believe Rimban Ouchi's expression truly reflects the two aspects of Shinshu faith-entrusting (Shinjin) that lies at the heart of the Shin experience. The mystery, wonder and sublime Truth of Jodo Shinshu is expressed as "arigatai" or "Namo Amida Butsu" when we appreciate that someone undeserving like myself is embraced and transformed, just as I am, by boundless, unconditional wisdom and compassion.

*A step in the right direction...* by President Paul Mori

I'm rescinding the president's message for the Orion project which is more timely.....and a step in the right direction for our future...**As Betsuin President I need to support Sangha members who are making a difference; please read the following article.** gassho paul mori.



**Orion Center Service Project** by Elliott Zimmermann

Last winter, a number of Dharma School parents were looking for a social service project for our Middle School students. We wanted a project that would directly incorporate Buddhist principles such as compassion, dana, right view, and sila (ethics). We adults also wanted a project that would allow us to participate, either on our own or with our kids.

We came up with the idea of preparing and serving dinner once per month at the Orion Center, one outreach facility of YouthCare. YouthCare is a non-profit organization that helps homeless kids with meals, showers, emergency services, transitional housing, educational opportunities and employment training. It also gives kids a place to get off the street for a few hours. In recent years Seattle has seen a 63 percent spike in the number of street kids looking for help, and Orion Center has attempted to

expand to meet those needs. Our monthly project involves planning the meal, shopping for the food, cooking and preparing it, and serving it to the street kids that show up at Orion Center.

Our group of Dharma School parents told Orion Center that we would prepare and serve dinner on the third Friday of each month beginning on Friday November 20, 2009. Since that time, every month either an ad-hoc group or a formal organization at the temple has prepared, paid for, and served meals for between 40 and 60 kids at Orion Center.

Many of our Dharma school kids that have participated in this event have told us that it was a very positive experience for them and taught them important Buddhist lessons. The adults who have participated have been greatly impressed by the

work Orion Center does and have found participating to be a rewarding experience.

Orion Center is located in the South Lake Union area of Seattle at 1828 Yale Avenue (on the corner

## Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

### SBBWA President's Message Submitted by Shizue Yahata

- Approximately 120 SBBWA members welcomed three new members at the annual new members service and fellowship luncheon. Janie Okawa, Cheryl Uyeji and Lynne Goodrich, who was not able to attend, were introduced by membership co-chair, Kiyo Takashima.
- New member Dawn Keely who joined SBBWA after the May 22<sup>nd</sup> event will be introduced to the members at the next BOD meeting.
- Thank you to vice presidents Janet Baba and Machiko Wada for planning and organizing the service and luncheon.
- Chuckanut Drive will be the destination for the Tue., June 22, 2010 outing for the ladies of the SBBWA.

### SBBWA Activity Report Submitted by Marian Asaba

June craft sessions are as follows:

Wed. June 2 Beading classes to make necklaces and bracelets (maximum 10 attendees)  
Wed. June 9 Cutting and sewing Happi Coats. All members are encouraged to attend; as many hands are needed to cut and sew the Happi coats.

These items will be sold to the general public during the Bon Odori in July. The above sessions will probably extend past the allotted time. Therefore, everyone is asked to bring their lunch. The classes will be held in the dining room beginning at 9:30 a.m.



### Large and Small Things to Save Our Planet by Gail Kaminishi

I toured a Seattle factory which sews messenger bags, wallets, etc. out of salvaged bicycle tire inner tubes. They also salvage advertising banners and sew them into bags. So they are saving perfectly good materials and reusing them. Look for such products at health food stores and bicycle/sporting goods stores.

Someone told me another company takes it one step further by affixing solar cells onto backpacks and they can power cell phones, laptops, etc.

Portable solar panels are becoming more available. Campers have long known about solar water heaters or cookers, but now there are more options for solar power use for everyone.

Farmer's Markets are open now. Visit your nearby market for fresh and organic produce. When you eat organic food, you are not contributing to the use of pesticides which poison our ground water. And you are not eating harmful chemicals!

Join the recycling committee, headed by David Atcheson. Meetings are the first Sunday of the month.

of Denny and Stewart). If you would like more information about Orion Center, you can go to their website at:

<http://www.youthcare.org/index.php/services/orion>.

There will also be a Pressed Dried Flower session to be used to make cards. This class will be held after June 9th, but will not be held on a Wednesday. The date and time will be announced soon. The maximum for this class will be 10 attendees.

All pertinent information regarding dates, times and supplies needed for the above classes will be posted on the sign-up sheets in front of the office.

### Donations

#### Submitted by SBBWA Treasurer Shizue Kaku

New Members Luncheon –

*Ruth Aoki, Hatsumi Higa, Yasuko Natsuhara*

In Memory of Masako Dodobara –

*Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara*

In Appreciation –

*Tosh & Dolly Tokunaga, Joan Nakano*

General Donation – *Gladys Hamano,*

*Hiroko Hasegawa, Grace Kasahara,*

*Dorothy Nishimura*

Fumiko Yamaguchi

### SBBWA Calendar

Wednesday, June 2 Beading Class

Sunday, June 6 SBBWA Board Meeting  
(Combined June and July Meeting)

Wednesday, June 9 Happi Coat Class

Saturday, June 19 SBBWA Team participates in  
Walk for Rice at Seward Park

Tuesday, June 22 Chuckanut Drive Outing

*Submitted by Joan Nakano*



## Jodo Shinshu Meditation Service at

Buddhist Education House:

1441 S Main St

**Sundays 8:45 - 9:30 AM**

**Reverend Koyo Kubose is on YouTube**

View two 10-minute video Dharma Talks entitled, “**Buddhist Hell**” and “**OK-ness**”.

*Submitted by Karry Sakamoto*

## 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 since our last article:

*Harry Akizuki, Lisa Butler, Lani Carpenter, Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Toshiko Enomoto, Suzanne Fujinari, Mitsuko Fukuhara, Yoko Hamanaka, Fumiyo Hanada, Peggy Hanada, Jim & Hiroko Hasegawa, Takashi Hori, Mae Ikawa, Roy & Deanna Ikegami, Toshiko Isomura, Larry & June Iwafuchi, Gail Kaminishi, Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima, Miyoko Kawaguchi, Evelyn Kitashima, Kelly Kuwahara, Kinue Kuwahara, Randy & Susan Lavigne, Haruko Mamiya, Julie Mayeda, Ruby Nakamura, Craig & Joan Nakano, Mari Ohara, Mary Osaki, Ann Oxrieder, Sachiko Ozeki, Karry Sakamoto, Aya Sakoda, Pauline Sakuma, Robert & Amy Seko, Dennis Shibata, George Shimizu, Peggy Tanemura, Elmer Tazuma, Michael & Gayle Teramoto, Tazuko*

*Uyenishi, Steve & Valerie Yamasaki, Norio & Miyoko Yamazaki, Sumie Yokota, Kevin & Kari Ann Yokoyama, Mary Yoshida, Elliott Zimmermann.*

**\*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](mailto:office@seattlebetsuin.com)

## Betsuin Archives Committee is seeking members who served in the U.S. Armed Forces

It's time to think about Obon season and that means that the Betsuin Archives Committee wants photos of members who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, both active and in reserves.

We've currently some 95 photos and are looking



for more. This display always attracts attention each year. We'd like to continue to honor those members who have served our country. Please submit photos to the Betsuin office: Attn: Betsuin Archives Committee - Sat Ichikawa or Nobue Shimizu. Thank you. Sat

## The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations – April 2010 – May 2010

<u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Masako Dodobara – Funeral Service	\$ 1,500	Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara
Ruth Nomura – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000	Dennis Nomura
Lily Hori – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service	\$ 1,000	Takashi Hori
Amy Kuramoto – Funeral Service	\$ 500	Daniel Kuramoto
Osa Edamura – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service	\$ 400	Yvonne Edamura
Yoshiaki Paul Ikeda – 49 <sup>th</sup> Day Memorial	\$ 300	Bok Soon Ikeda
Katsumi Nakamichi – 49 <sup>th</sup> Day Memorial	\$ 300	Laurie Nakamichi
Chikayo Fujioka – In Memory	\$ 300	Fumie Taniguchi
Takumi Mikami – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service	\$ 300	Yoshie Mikami
Nokotsudo	\$ 300	Reiko Hara
Nokotsudo	\$ 300	Shigeru Moritani
Ruth Nomura – 49 <sup>th</sup> Day Memorial Service	\$ 200	Dennis Nomura

Mary Shigaya – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial	\$ 100	Kenneth Shigaya
Frank K. Yokota – 33 <sup>rd</sup> Year Memorial	\$ 100	Sumie Yokota
Nokotsudo	\$ 100	Keiko Takeda ...continued→

←continued...

**Remembrances for:**

**Given by:**

Toshiko Abe	Dick & Misao Yoshimura
Masako Dodobara	Hal Ise; Aizo & June Kosai;; Janet Kosai; Tokuzo & Mari Okumura; Jack Matsui; Pauline Sakuma; Al & Fran Shintaku; Dolly Tokunaga
Osa Edamura	Kazumi Goshō
Michisuke Harada	Mack & Setsuko Harada
Lily Hori	Minoru & Aiko Fujii; Sue Fujino; Lutes Fujita; Nobuichi & Sachiko Fujita; Amy Hara; Satoru & Grace Ichikawa; Toshiko Isomura; Haruko Kobuki; Helen Kubo; Jack Matsui; Paul & Teresa Mori; Fred & Stephanie Ojima; Ray & Mineko Okamura; Pauline Sakuma; Masako Shibuya; Florence Sumida; Rikuko Tanaka; Kiyoko Takashima; Fumiye Taniguchi; Fumiko Yamaguchi; Dick & Misao Yoshimura
Hisako Kato	Yoshiko Mamiya; Trisha Morton; Bob Umeda
Amy Kuramoto	Marian Asaba; Daniel Kuramoto; Judy Suto
Mitsue Matsui	Seattle Betsuin Gojikai; James & Tomi Zumoto
Ruth Nomura	Sue Fujino
Fumi Mayeda	Fumiko Yamaguchi
Susumu Shimokon	Sue Fujino; Fumiko Yamaguchi
Dorothy Suto	Daisy Kuramoto
Etsuko Lilly Tanino	Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara; Tokuzo & Mari Okumura

**Temple Supervision:**

Spokane Buddhist Temple

\$ 200

**General Donations:**

Seattle Betsuin Camp Fire - 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	\$ 750
Connie Ozeki-Chinn	\$ 315
Paul & Teresa Mori	\$ 300
Kiyo Takashima	\$ 200
Alice Takeuchi	\$ 100
Kazuya & Fusako Ichikawa	\$ 25
Kevin & Kari Ann Yokoyama	\$ 20
Munehisa Yabuki	\$ 10
Cavcanaugh; Arlene	\$ 10
Eri Murakami	\$ 10
Tsetsegee	\$ 1

**Onenju Sales to Date**

\$ 625

**PLEASE READ: CHANGE IN NOTIFICATION OF DONATIONS**

**NOTE: Receipts for donations received during the 1st quarter of 2010 are available in the office. Please stop by and pick up your receipt to help minimize postage expense.**

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 is effective as of January 2010.

As in past years, your canceled check can also be used for purposes of proof of donation. The Temple office staff is collecting any comments/questions that may be received, but is not responsible for the change in policy and The Temple hopes that you understand the need for the change.



The Betsuin gratefully acknowledges the donations received from the following for (please accept our apologies for any inadvertent omissions or misspelling of names):

### Hanamatsuri:

Adachi, Helen; Aisaka, Steven; Akada, Mary; Akutsu, Marilyn; Aoki, Michele Anciaux -; Aoki, Takao & Ruth; Aoki-Kramer, Michael; Aoyama, Doris; Aoyama, Masatoshi M. & Sayeko; Aramaki, Hanako; Asaba, Marian; Baba, Janet; Bobrow, Patricia; Brundige, Grace Tazuma -; Butler, Lisa; Canfield, James & Sheri Mizumori -; Chin, Edwin & Jenni; Chinn, Connie Ozeki -; Dalmage, Renaldo; Deguchi, Jene; Deguchi, Mae; Desaki, Yasuko; Dodobara, Kenny & Yoshie; Enomoto, Toshiko; Fujii, Minoru & Aiko; Fujikado, Sue; Fujinari, Suzanne; Fujino, Sueteko (Sue); Fujita, Florence; Fujita, Lutes; Fujita, Nobuichi & Sachiko; Fukeda, George & Toshiko; Fukuhara, Mitsuko; Furuta, Mary Y.; Gosho, Kazumi (Janice); Groves, Alan & Fumiko; Habu, Gordon & Mae Yamasaki -; Hamakami, John & Lynda; Hamakawa, Ron; Hamatani, Jane; Hanada, Fumiyo; Hanada, Miyuki; Hanada, Peggy; Hara, Reiko; Harada, Mack M. & Setsuko; Harano, Nelson; Hasegawa, James & Hiroko; Hayami, Sachiko; Hirasawa, Amy; Hiroo, Mickey & Yoshie; Honmyo, Mas; Hori, Takashi; Horikawa, Norigiku; Horn, Kenneth & Pam; Hoshino, Alan A.; Howland, Laura Ichikawa -; Ichikawa, Satoru & Grace; Ikawa, Mae; Ise, Hal; Isomura, Toshiko; Iwafuchi, Larry & June; Jeffereis, Gail Kaminishi -; Jofuku, Scott; Kaku, Dale & Shizue; Kaneta, Miyoko; Kashima, Tetsuden & Cecelia Kanako; Katayama, Takeo & Mary K.; Kato, Edward & Joyce; Kawada, Noboru & Hatsuye; Kawaguchi, Miyoko; Kawahara, Ritsuko; Kido, Momoko; Kikuchi, Shizuko; Kitashima, Evelyn A.; Knutzen, Paul & Janet; Kobuki, Haruko; Kogita, Paul & Takako; Kojima, Esther; Komoto, Frank; Kosai, Aizo & June (Yoshie); Kubo, Masayoshi & Masako; Kunihiro, Carolyn; Kuwahara, Kinue; Litz, John; Mamiya, Haruko; Mamiya, Yoshiko; Mano, Andrea; Mano, George & Irene; Masuda, Rose; Masunaga, Fumiye; Matsubayashi, Hugh & Ivy Chen -; Matsui, Jack T.; Matsuzaki, Joseph; Mayeda, Duane & Ann; Mayeda, Julie; McManigal Rick & Nancy; Mikami, Yoshie; Mitchell, Lisa Kumasaka -; Miyata, Tetsuo & Linda; Mizuno, Hatsue; Mori, Paul Bruce & Teresa; Naemura, Joseph & Janie Okawa -; Nagai, Ernest & Sanaye (Sunnie); Nakabayashi, Kemi; Nakamura, Ruby; Nakamura, Yoshio & Judith; Nakano, Craig & Joan; Nakashima, Craig & Dana; Nakashima, Tomi; Namekata, Tsukasa & Keiko; Nishimura, Hiro; Nishimura, Hisashi & Sadako; Nishizaki, Akio & Mabel; Nitta, Nancy; Noritake, Shinako; Noshu, Setsuno; Ohtani, Michiye; Ojima, Stephanie; Okada, Emiko; Okamura, Ray & Mineko; Okano, Tomiko; O'Shields, Dean; Otsuji, Nobuko; Oye, Sunako (Sunkie); Ozeki, Sachiko; Platnick, Tamiko; Sakamoto, M. Karry; Sako, Masako; Sakoda, Aya; Sakuma, Pauline; Shahbaghlian, Steve & Patricia Oye -; Shibata, Dennis M.; Shibata, Gary & Deborah; Shibuya, Masako; Shigaya, Harry & Teruko (Terrie); Shigaya, Kenneth; Shigaya, Mary S.; Shimada, Shirley; Shimbo, Ben & Etsu; Shimizu, Haruko; Shimizu, Roy & Kazumi; Shimizu, Sato & Darlene; Shinoda, Franklin; Shintaku, Albert & Frances; Sordetto, Gayle; Suguro, Nori; Sumida, Florence; Sumida, Leslie; Suto, Judy; Suzaka, Gail; Tahara, Masaru & Anna; Takamura, Kuniko; Takano, Yasuko Jean; Takashima, Kiyoko; Takemura, Yoshiaki & Naomi; Taketa, Haruso & Sonoe; Taketa, Jean; Taki, Noboru & Takako; Tamekuni, Masao & Frances; Tanaka, Rikuko; Taniguchi, Fumiye; Taniguchi, Martha; Taniguchi, Theodore & Akico; Tanino, Katsumi & Terrie; Terada, Calvin J. & Yvette; Terada, Joe & Hideko; Terada, Ronald & Suzuko; Teramoto, Margaret; Teramoto, Stuart; Tokunaga, Dolly; Tomita, Jr., Paul & Mabel; Tosaya, Gary & Julianne; Tsuchida, Tak & Florence; Uchida, Sam & Masako; Uyenishi, Tazuko; Vaart, Michiko Jean; Wada, Machiko; Warrick, James & Rona; Yahata, Shizue; Yamaguchi, Fumiko; Yamasaki, Fujie; Yamasaki, Steve & Valerie; Yamashita, Dennis; Yanagimoto, Michiko; Yasui, Kiyoshi & Ayako (Ruby); Yokota, Sumie; Yokoyama, Kevin & Kari Ann; Yorita, Takako; Yoritsune, Charlene M.; Yoshihara, Isoko; Yoshimura, Dick & Misao; Yoshimura, Irwin; Yutani, Nobuo; Zumoto, James & Tomiko

### Ohigan:

Beard, Clara; Horn, Kenneth & Pam

**Wednesday Dharma Support Group & Jodo Shinshu Meditation Service** with Rev Castro takes place from 10:30 to Noon at 1441 S Main St Wednesdays. All are invited; no fee.

**JSCC POSTER CONTEST** The Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office is looking for a graphic designer to create an original poster for online course by September 15. For project details, please contact: [JSCC@cbe-bca.org](mailto:JSCC@cbe-bca.org). Selected designer to receive \$300.00  
JSCC Office, 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: 510-809-1441

### **Camp Fire USA** by Debbie Shibata

**Our annual Council Fire** will be June 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:00 pm in the gym. All are welcome to attend our end-of-year awards and fly-up ceremony. If you have any questions, please contact Lani Carpenter.

Starflight K – Submitted by G. Tazuma April was a very busy month for the Kindergarten Starflight Group. The girls worked hard to complete the last of their trail projects. They focused on learning about nutrition, the food pyramid and how different types of vegetables grow. The carrots and beans that they each planted are beginning to sprout and are ready to be transplanted into the garden outside.

To wrap up their first year, the group plans on going on their first hike along with the Rainbows.

Starlights 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> - Submitted by D. Shibata The girls enjoyed a gathering at Metropolitan Gymnastics where a coach took the girls through a little warm-up/stretch and an obstacle course. Everyone enjoyed pizza and snacks and then went back out to play on the equipment some more.

The group also chose to donate some of the proceeds from their candy sales to A.C.R.S' Walk for Rice campaign. A representative from A.C.R.S came to the girls' meeting and described what ACRS does and how it helps people in the community. The girls joyfully received a water bottle with ACRS's logo and some goodies in it. The Walk for Rice is in June and some of the girls are already talking about wanting to participate!

Hummingbirds – Submitted by L. Carpenter Our Spring meetings have a definite cool vibe! We had a "Smoothie Showdown" where teams created their own smoothie recipe. Parents and students voted for their favorite. We also had an ice cream Sunday party where we made sundaes and root beer floats. YUM! In addition to the culinary fun, we've been working hard on preparing and practicing for the Council Fire, which our group is hosting. We are looking forward to summer!

### **Flower Arrangement Help Is Needed**

Mrs. Matsubayashi has graciously and artfully composed the arrangements in the recent past since the retirement of our flower arrangement committee. The Religious Department is seeking volunteers to make live arrangements each week – 3 for the *naijin* and 1 for the *nokotsudo*. Flowers are delivered to the

temple on Thursday; they can be arranged between delivery and Saturday and should last through the following Friday; water needs to be changed during the week. The weight of the vases with the flowers and water may present a handling challenge. Lessons for flower arranging can be made available. In the event that live arrangements can not be prepared, artificial arrangements may be used for backup. If you, and perhaps a friend, are interested in pursuing this beautiful and appreciated temple service, please contact Rev Castro via the Betsuin office at 206.329.0800. submitted by Irene Goto

### **Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course - 2010 Fall Enrollment Applications Now Accepted**

The Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office is now accepting applications for their fall 2010 enrollment. The popular 2-year, computer-based program continues to offer online instruction in the origins and development of Buddhism, Shinran Shonin's life and teaching, sutras & masters of the Pure Land tradition and history of Jodo Shinshu.

An excellent opportunity for beginners or for those who have already studied Jodo Shinshu, the program reaches out to people all over the world. Students come from Brazil, Canada, Germany, Malaysia, Belgium, Poland, Japan, as well as, Hawaii and the BCA. With over 100 students enrolled, the course has much to offer those interested in deepening their understanding of Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu. The course instructors consist of 14 ministers and professors who specialize in the subjects taught. An optional August Workshop at the Jodo Shinshu Center is held every year.

For more information, please visit the course website at: [www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org](http://www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org). Applications may be submitted online at course website. Deadline: August 15. Questions may be directed to: Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office, 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA. Tel: 510-809-1441, email: [jsc@cbe-bca.org](mailto:jsc@cbe-bca.org).

### **Study Group** by Leonora Clarke

Please join the new Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Study Group! This group is open to everyone and will offer

activities such as book discussions, speakers, field trips, etc. We meet on the first Saturday morning of each month from 9:30-12:30. No fee. Please meet in the Hondo. You are welcomed to bring a brown bag lunch. On June 5<sup>th</sup> we will discuss D.T. Suzuki's book on Shin Buddhism called "Buddha of Infinite Light". It is available online - new or used.

*Notes on Dharma Exchange* Dharma Exchange takes place from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. after Sunday Service in the dining room. All are welcome to attend this opportunity for discussion and questions. Discussion is typically led by Reverend Castro, Reverend Warrick, or Minister's Assistant Joe Schwab and often follows a theme that was presented in the Dharma Talk presented in the service immediately prior. These notes are intended for those who are unable to attend Dharma Exchange -- Dharma School parents, Japanese service attendees, committee members, etc.

**April 25** - Rev. Castro said life is about issues we all have, and religion helps us cope. Sensei said Buddhism is everyday life and illustrated that idea with the story of a monk who entered a chilly temple and set fire to a statue of the Buddha to keep warm. He indicated sadness and mirth are closely related as was shown at a memorial service when someone suddenly snored loudly and attendees giggled.

A participant recently attended a vegetarian festival at the Seattle Center and was asked to leave by the police with no reason given. He thought it may have been because of a group he was involved with 10 years ago. He asked for suggestions from the Dharma Exchange group on ways to handle his dismissal from a public event. Several people offered their thinking on the subject ranging from apologizing for any past misdeeds to how to deal with rejection if that should happen.

**May 2** - Rev. Castro continued on Rev. Warrick's talk during the service, which was based on the idea from the Dhamapada that our thoughts are what we are. In his talk Rev. Warrick presented the example of the Three Monkeys – See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil. There could also be a monkey that thinks no evil and one that does no evil. Rev. Castro collects these monkey figures; he has a set that wear earphones, binoculars and megaphone. Rev. Castro said if someone gives you something that you don't want (even words that offend you), then let them keep the offering; then their gift is their own. Rev. Warrick said that in Jodo Shinshu, "the leaning tree

will fall in that direction." The significance of the monkey is that it is crafty and shrewd and that in Japanese "zaru" has two meanings – "monkey" and "to do". A participant shared that to him everything and everybody is a Buddha (a Teaching). Rev. Castro referred to a DT Suzuki movie and Taitetsu Unno asking what Buddhism is. The answer was that the elbow does not bend backwards; what CAN we do? Freedom? Free from or free to do - not accepting the garbage. Rev. Warrick explained that to him a Bodhisattva is "someone who takes me further along the path."

Rev. Castro related a Reuters News item about the importance of the Bhutan forests for absorbing CO2. He also announced an EcoSangha Conference that was taking place the following weekend at Seattle University at which he and Rev. Mark Unno would speak; the week prior he participated in an Earth Day Interfaith Panel at Seattle University. - IHG

**May 9** - Rev. Castro held forth on Mothers' Day. He informed us that WWII impacted a whole generation of young Buddhists in that after the war families had the burden of restarting their lives and were not in a position to become Jodo Shinshu ministers. To bridge the shortage of ministers Japanese ministers came to the US. The IBS was founded in the 1970s.

In answer to a participant's inquiry about the Youth Ministers Assistant program, Sensei indicated YBC members attend a summer retreat including a few more reunions plus more training, which leads to their becoming a Youth Minister's Assistant. Later, if they choose, they can study and become a minister. Sensei opined that we need people to found their own temple (such as in Everett) over the next 20 years. He thinks there will probably be more volunteer ministers.

The Contra Costa temple supports a community facility that is used by various groups.

Rev. Julie Hanada talked about Buddhism away from a temple environment; i.e., a hospital, as a viable form of sharing the Dharma. Asian Buddhist patients in hospitals are reluctant to say they are Buddhist; whereas Asian Christians are more articulate on that subject, she said.

Castro sensei talked about pre-marital counseling for engaged couples. In one case, the bride was Buddhist and the groom was Christian, and his mother insisted on an all-Christian wedding, but had no idea which Christian denomination she favored.

The bride's mother graciously said it was all right to do an all-Christian wedding in order to maintain harmony. Rev. Julie felt the bride's mother's choice demonstrated she was a strong Buddhist and she  
- *Dharma Exchange continued*

(Rev. Julie) hoped the bride appreciated that.

In another instance of a "mixed" couple planning a Buddhist-Christian ceremony, Sensei asked them in

which religion would they raise their children. Their response was, "Oh, we'll send them to the Unitarian church!"

**May 16** - Castro Sensei's late father was a Post Office employee and his mother helped fill gift packs for three months each year in order to pay for the Catholic education of their three children. His comment was "Motainai," in reference to himself. Sensei, being the third child enjoyed a lot of freedom.

A participant commented that In the *Wheel of Dharma* reference was made to Jodo Shinshu followers being the "Christian Buddhists." Gathas from Hawaii in the 1920s reinforced that idea. Sensei said ministers need to change that perception.

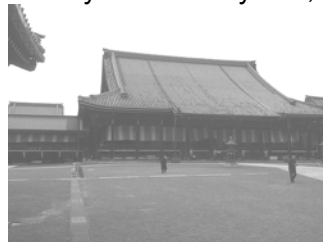
A back issue of *Tricycle* magazine, a Buddhist quarterly, indicated Jodo Shinshu is the most dominant part of Tibetan Buddhism as well as other sects.

At a recent Seattle University seminar on various religions and the environment, an Islamic participant stated the idea that God will save us environmentally must be overcome. A common belief during WWII was that God helped combat the evils of Fascism. Sensei discussed *Sake & Satori: Asian Journals*, by Joseph Campbell. His TV show, "The Power of Myth" was aired on TV in 1987, and still available on DVD. Rev. Castro's own teacher, Eidmann Sensei, had an all-day meeting with Campbell at the Nishi Hongwanji.

During WWII the Japanese government stated that those who died in the service of their country would become Shinto gods if they were Shintoists, and Buddhas if they were Buddhists. The Hongwanji was the only Buddhist group with the courage to publish a counterstatement to the effect that dying for Japan had nothing to do with Buddhism. After the war, the government encouraged the people of Japan to become Christian because Buddhism would not be able to stand up to Communism.

In gassho,  
Pat Bobrow

McLean family visited Nishi Hongwanji Temple last month and were fortunate to be given a tour by Rev. Sekiya of the International Hongwanji Center. While weather was poor, they were able to see buildings and structures once used by warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi, as well as gardens, and Noh theater. Pictures below



show the main altar of the Amida hall, the Amida Hall (阿弥陀堂) itself and the famous Karamon Gate (唐門) once used by the Emperor's messengers, respectively, and Daisy making a donation to the osaisen box.

Submitted by Doug McLean

