



Wheel of the Sangha

- a monthly newsletter of Seattle Buddhist Church

Volume 35 Issue 1

Live a Real Life

January 2016

Embrace true and real life in Nembutsu. Promote, protect, and share the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha.

Ganjin Lives, Part 3

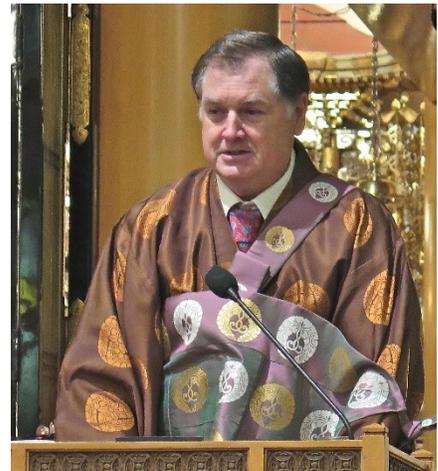
The Gatha "Ganjin's Journey"
by Rinban Don Castro

My first wife, Linda Luebke, was very impressed by the heroic story of Ganjin. When I was first assigned to Seattle Betsuin in 1986, our two sons were young and Linda became very involved in the Betsuin choir, Dharma School and initiated an annual Buddhist Arts Retreat that lasted for about ten years. Seeing a need for more contemporary children's gathas, she composed and published "Six Songs for Buddhist Children" in 1990 which included "Ganjin's Journey." For Linda, Ganjin's selfless missionary spirit is the same spirit that motivated the issei ministers who crossed the sea from Japan to establish what would become the Buddhist Churches of America. For the issei, it was not the ocean journey that was so perilous but what they encountered when they arrived here; they spread the Dharma in the face of racial prejudice, religious intolerance and great economic hardships. The ministers persevered like the words of the gatha, "Foreign lands, does it matter? Foreign tongues may speak the same thought."

A few days before she died of pancreatic cancer in December 2013, I went to visit Linda. She had given up her teaching position in Indiana and moved to Milwaukee to be close to her mother and sister. Our two sons Quincy and Ted had taken family leave from their jobs to share a two bedroom apartment with her and, with hospice care, to take care of Linda's needs.

Thankfully, Linda was lucid and able to stay in her apartment until the last day of her life. The last time I spoke with her, I said, "You are on Ganjin's journey now." I told her I would try to take

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Rinban Castro on Bodhi Day at Seattle Betsuin. Photo by Sat Ichikawa

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SPRING SALMON DINNER FUNDRAISER

Save the date for this year's Salmon Dinner Fundraiser which will be held on March 19th and also having an alternative entrée option instead of salmon. We'll be mailing tickets to this event in late February or early March. As in prior years, we will need your help in making this event a financial success. The needed assistance is to advertise and to sell the tickets you receive to your family and friends and not return them unsold back to the Temple. We can provide additional tickets for your immediate family as well as additional tickets that are needed for friends and family. This event is one of two major fundraisers for the Temple and helps to support its operational expenses.

Watch for tickets to be mailed out and in your mailboxes. There will be a date suggested in the mailing for returning payment for the tickets, requests for additional tickets or if need be, returned tickets. Please help us as the payments or any returned tickets by the specified date which is before the event will help us in estimating the amount of salmon that is ordered. We hope you can understand that with the prices involved we don't want to over-estimate the quantity needed but we do want to ensure that we have enough ordered for this fundraiser. - HL

...**Rev. Castro's Message** continued from p. 1

Quincy and Ted to Ganjin's temple in Japan and to present her gatha. She smiled and replied, "That would be nice."

Eleven months later, in November 2014, I travelled with Quincy and his wife Caitlin to Toshodaiji and was received by the abbot Rev. Chien Ishida who was extremely kind but who didn't speak any English. With my extremely limited Japanese, I presented Linda's gatha to him and tried to explain the reason for our visit. Somehow we communicated and, after talking and serving us tea, Rev. Ishida gave us a wonderful tour of the monastery complex. The three of us agreed our visit and the kindness we received were the highlight of our Japan trip.

With our busy, complicated schedules, it was impossible to coordinate a trip for both my sons and their wives and me to visit Japan at the same time. So, once again, I am off to Japan to visit Toshodaiji with my younger son Ted and his wife Hanine. Thanks to the help of our new minister Rev. Sala Sekiya, I was able to make contact with Rev. Taichi Ishida who is the son of the abbot we met last year. I hope I will be able to report on a successful journey in the next newsletter. - DC

Temple's Walk-in Refrigerator Project

The deteriorating condition of the Temple's walk-in refrigerator has led to a decision to upgrade the unit that is more temperature efficient and safer for food handling. The current condition of the materials used in the construction of the original walk-in has caused bubbles to form on the ceiling and to have a brown liquid drip in a few spots inside the unit. The project work for the replacement started in December with the demolition of the walk-in. The project is expected to take about 2 months and is tentatively slated to be completed by early March in time for the Salmon Dinner fundraiser. In the interim, we will be using the kitchen refrigerator to store needed items. Please keep any unnecessary items out of the refrigerator as space is limited.

During this project be aware of other impacts:

- The **freezer** has been temporarily unplugged as the electrical plug for this unit is on the same electrical line that powers the evaporator and light for the walk-in refer. Some of the items in the **freezer** were relocated to the refrigerator or thrown out as some items have been in there for a period of time. We are looking to temporarily relocate the **freezer** to another location during this time.
- In January we will be installing a drain line by cutting the concrete in the **area outside the walk-in and also into the rice washing room**. This area will be blocked off while the work is being done. Please **limit your access** to this area during the construction.

- HL

HAPPY NEW YEAR! CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO OUR INCOMING

CABINET! **President's Message** It is quite a commitment to agree to serve as an officer of the Seattle Betsuin. We are fortunate to have dedicated, qualified members who are willing to make that commitment. *Arigatoo* (thank you) and *onegaishimasu* (we're counting on you).



Of course officers can't do everything, so it's important that we all do our part to continue to do what we can to enable the Betsuin to continue to operate and prosper. What does that mean? First, it means to care enough to continue to give of yourself. We rely on our members to provide contributions of time, money and energy to sustain the Betsuin. Secondly, it means to embrace the Seattle Betsuin's mission – to promote, protect and share the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha.

Why is the Seattle Betsuin worthy of your support? Because daily, we improve the quality of people's lives in our community, and because we have been entrusted with a teaching that must remain accessible to our children and grandchildren. The Seattle Betsuin is here to connect like-minded people with a philosophy that enables us to accept loss and that enriches our appreciation for what we have; a philosophy that connects us to the wisdom of generations of deep thinkers who have pondered the human condition before us; and a philosophy that compels us to confront our weaknesses, and challenges us to be better.

So please join me in thanking our new officers for stepping up, and in recommitting to doing what we can to make the Seattle Betsuin a better and stronger institution, for now and for the future.

Gassho, Yukio

2016-2017 Betsuin Cabinet

Chairperson – Alan Hoshino

1st Vice Chair – Calvin Terada

2nd Vice Chair – Tyler Moriguchi

3rd Vice Chair – Ken Kubota

Recording Secretary – Craig Nakashima

Corresponding Secretary – Steph Ojima

Treasurer – Howard Luke

Auditor 1 – Michael Teramoto

Auditor 2 – Julianne Tosaya

Auditor 3 – Susie Taketa

Musical Notes submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi

Thank you to all participants and sangha attending the 7th annual autumn family music service on November 22. Rev. Sekiya's music-theme Dharma message was an integral compliment to the musical offerings, including the special kansho by Matsuri Taiko and guest percussionist Emi. The Bodhi Ensemble did a fine job presenting gathas of Donna Sasaki *Gassho 'Round the World* and *Okagesama de Arigato*. The Seattle Betsuin Ukulele Band with Sangha Singers performed *You've Got a Friend* with Steve Yamasaki on clarinet. We also appreciate Mark Taylor saxophone leading us in the singing of the *Golden Chain* this time. Any new musicians interested in adding musical offerings for 2016 are welcome. Also, registrants for the upcoming NW district convention in ID-OR who wish to learn a new gatha by Donna Sasaki called *Sing Namu Amida Butsu* are welcome to join our before 10 am singing sessions in the hondo. We will continue to meet weekly from January 17 on.

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If you are not a SBBWA member, please join us. We are a community of Buddhist Women whose main goals are to assist within the temple, provide support to our Sangha community when needed, take part in service activities or assistance outside of the temple (community service), and to provide opportunities that are social in nature as well as educational.

SBBWA News by Nina Tomita Kato

Our Annual Sokai/Irokai service and luncheon was held in November. A huge thank you to all the dedicated members that continue to support BWA and their efforts. Our organization cannot exist without the contributions that all of you make. We continue to request your continued support.

We are sorry to have lost a dedicated member of BWA, Sayeko Aoyama. Our sympathy goes out to her family members.

BWA distributed gifts of facial tissue to residents at Keiro, Nikkei Manor, and other assisted living residences where our some of our temple members reside. The service was calming, and watching our temple members and non members participate was touching.

BWA served a meal on Nov. 20 at the Orion House Youth Service Outreach Center, a center that provides educational needs, counseling, shelter, and meals for youth that are presently homeless. The youth were appreciative and hungry and are in need of hats, scarves, and gloves for the winter season. There is also a center for homeless youth in the University area that houses younger homeless teenage youth. We appreciate the continued monetary support that is given to cover the cost of these meals.

Events coming:

January 1: New Year's Day service 10 A.M.

January 10: Betsuin New Year's party and installation of officers; tickets on sale now.

January 17: Hoonko Service

January 31: Board of Directors meeting 11:45 A.M.

February 12, 13,&14th annual Northwest Convention, Ontario Oregon.

... **Musical Notes** continued from p. 3

My husband Jim Norton and I were invited to Palo Alto Buddhist Temple to provide the entertainment for a special 40th anniversary celebration of the Yuwa Kai, for this seniors group's Bonenkai, year-end luncheon on December 12. We were specifically asked to present *Everyday Rhythm of the Nembutsu* and received help from the PABT choir and instrumentalists. We also performed a number of familiar Japanese tunes for sing along and introduced Donna Sasaki's *We Are One* in the program and concluded with Linda Castro's *The Bodhi Tree*. As Rinban Castro pointed out, it is clear that *The Bodhi Tree* was written in Seattle as we sing the lyrics "it doesn't grow very well up here". How wonderful though that *The Bodhi Tree* music lives on and is sung in warmer climates like Hawaii and California! PABT choir director Alice Fukushima attended our NW district convention and was able to do a great job rehearsing her group. She also gave us advanced notice that the biennial choir festival will be hosted by Mountain View Buddhist Temple on Saturday, June 11, 2016. PABT choir is presenting *Everyday Rhythm of the Nembutsu* at the choir festival. Any NW district singers interested in participating with PABT choir for this event are welcome. Please notify me or leave a message in the temple office if interested in additional details. – KN

Dharma School News

submitted by Joyce Tsuji

On November 1, Dharma School students dressed as celestial beings for the Eitaikyo Muen Hoyo service Ochigo procession. Thank you to the well behaved participants, their parents for bringing the eager children on time, and the activity coordinators. They did a great job!

Another successful and delicious Bodhi day potluck was chaired by Dharma School parents. "Thank You" to all who made contributions to this event.

Classroom Reports

First/Second Grade. The middle and high-schoolers treated us to a great Halloween party! Each student made a gift tag for a thank you treat bag to show their gratitude. We delivered these to them to fuel them for temple clean up. After that we all worked hard to clean up our classroom; our windows, walls and cabinets are nice and clean now! Then we read the Jataka tale, "The magic of patience" about a kind buffalo that is grateful for his monkey friend who gives him the opportunity to practice patience in the face of his teasing. We discussed how this story shows the Golden Chain points of saying and doing pure and beautiful words and deeds. We have some pipe cleaner monkeys on display in the classroom that we made too.

We then wrote things we are thankful for on the feathers of some paper turkeys. We celebrated Bodhi Day by coloring ornaments of the seated Buddha on a large Bodhi leaf. These we laminated to preserve them. Finally we showed how thankful we were for our families by making them gifts of sparkly, North Star-esque snowflakes.

High School. In December, the HS Dharma School class completed a short survey on what they know and don't know, as well as on learning methods. Sharing one encouraging result, 100% said they are "Proud to be a Buddhist". In January we will continue our discussion on "how hard is it to be born into human life", first from a mathematical reasoning standpoint and secondly from a lore standpoint. Also, we will focus on the relationship of Bodhisattva Dharmakara and Amida and how that relates to our favorite sutra, Juseige. Lastly, we will decide how we will complete the Buddhist Rap gatha this school year. - Dennis Yamashita



Salmon Dinner Fundraiser

Save the Date:
Saturday,
March 19, 2016

Temple Maintenance & Parsonage Remodel Project:

Ever wonder how the Temple remains in working order? We are very fortunate to have a dedicated hard working Maintenance crew led by Cyrus Honmyo.



Cyrus Hommyo,
Craig Nakashima and
Gary Shibata

Extracted from Weekly All Sangha E-News Contact Calvin Terada at calterada@comcast.net or office @seattlebetsuin.com to have other family members added to the All Sangha E-News distribution list!

Want to play Bridge?

Would you like to enjoy a few hours of fun and stimulation? Then join the Temple Bridge Group that meets on Thursdays from 1 to 3:30PM in the dining room. If you play the game, used to play or never played we'll teach you or help you remember. So come join us for a fun afternoon. Please contact [Irene Mano](#).

Religious Education Events:

Winter Pacific Seminar: "East Meets West" Jodo Shinshu from the Higashi and Nishi Perspectives in Los Angeles, CA - Saturday, January 30, 2016, from 9 am - 4 pm at the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (in the morning) and the Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple (in the afternoon). English and Japanese panels will feature speakers from both traditions. Registration is \$40 and includes lunch. Co-sponsored by the BCA Center for Buddhist Education and the Institute of Buddhist Studies. Register by Jan.21 at www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org or call 213.680.9130.

January Buddhist Study Group The next meeting of the Buddhist Study Group will take place on January 9th. We will be watching the second part of a video/lecture given by Rev. David Matsumoto on the Tannisho at a recent Buddhist Education meeting at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. There is no official book reading for this month, but if you would like to challenge yourself with another version (or your first) of the Tannisho, please do so!

The meeting takes place in the Memorial Hall from 9:30 to 11:30am. There will be a brown bag lunch afterwards. There is no cost to attend.

Please come even if you missed the first part of the lecture - this is a multi-part series and you can pick up anywhere.
- Leonora Clarke

Notes on Dharma Exchange:

Nov. 22 - In her Dharma talk Rev. Sala Sekiya demonstrated two ancient Japanese flute-type instruments. She also chanted beautifully in the Gagaku style. At DX a participant said it reminded her of Sala Sensei's comments about mountains, trees, and wind in nature during Sala Sensei's talk at the October "Women in Buddhism Conference." . . Rinban Castro explained that we have no personal relationship with Amida Buddha (in contrast to Christians' personal relationship with Christ) because we are constantly discovering and adjusting. We develop a sense of Universal Identity, even during tragedies. The Dharma is present and Amida Buddha is present in all of us. . . In the early 1950s the largest conversion took place in India when 2-3 million Untouchables became Buddhist.

Nov. 29 - Rinban Castro invited Rev. Sala Sekiya to conduct her first Dharma Exchange today. She said her family is from Tokyo but now lives in Kyoto, and her sister lives in Boston. Sala Sensei worked in Tokyo for over 12 years, and was attracted to Buddhism. She had many questions when younger, and those questions were answered when she took classes and attended seminars. Later, she decided to pursue Buddhism and become a minister. Last year she was certified in chanting and liturgy with gagaku instruments, and she looks forward to involving the Sangha in those endeavors. She said the instrument Sho was very hard to play and it makes a beautiful sound. A participant asked, what is your biggest challenge here? She said working with people who are ill and dying. Also, she intends to learn Jodo Shinshu in English over time. A participant: How did you manage work and Rinzai Zen at the same time? Sensei commented one needs to be a monk to do it. Another participant asked: What are you looking toward in the US? She likes the Sangha very much and wants to be here. She said other power and self power have an impact on her. The paths are different, and we are fortunate to have those choices. . . Kemi said the new song book will come out later in 2016. Meanwhile, she presented Castro Sensei with six gathas using the new font, and he accepted most graciously. . . Rinban Castro said when he visited Toshodaiji Temple in Nara last year with his son and wife (despite not making arrangements in advance) they were warmly welcomed. He plans another trip to Japan with younger son and wife, and Rev. Sala

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Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges Donations November - December 2015

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

Sayeko Aoyama – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000.00	Aoyama Family
Rick Abe – Inurnment Service	\$ 200.00	Tony & Karen Abe
Hiroko Hasegawa – In Memory of	\$ 100.00	Kathy Hasegawa
Aya Sakoda – Graveside Service	\$ 50.00	Estate of Aya Sakoda

Given by:

In Memory of:

Sayeko Aoyama

Mary Akada (Estate of); Gordon Habu & Mae Yamasaki; Miyuki Hanada; Satoru & Grace Ichikawa; Richard & Edna Koyama; Jack T. Matsui; Yoshio & Judith Nakamura; Craig & Joan Nakano; Nobuko Otsuji; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Frances Shintaku; Lawrence & Julie Stallman; Masaru & Anna Tahara; Kiyo Takashima; Haruso & Sonoe Taketa; Masao & Frances Tamekuni; Fumiye Taniguchi; Martha Taniguchi; Joe & Hideko Terada; Margaret Teramoto; Toshio & Dolly Tokunaga; Machiko Wada; Fujie Yamasaki; Sumie Yokota

James I. Doi

Masaru & Anna Tahara

Alan Groves

Norigiku Horikawa; Takiko Miyauchi

Amy Hirasawa

George & Regina Hirasawa

Haruko Shimizu

Dwight & Rosemary Fujimoto

Harry H. Taketa

Janet Baba; Dennis M. Shibata

Kazuo Watanabe

Takiko Miyauchi

General Donations:

Brian Kaku

General Donation – Boeing United Way Employee Fund

Donna Zumoto

General Donation – Boeing United Way Employee Fund

Kelly Kuwahara

General Donation – Boeing United Way Employee Fund

Robert Hamatani

General Donation – Boeing United Way Employee Fund

Tami Arinobu

General Donation – Personal and Costco Matching

Irene Goto

In Honor of Masaru Tahara

Yaeko Ito

General Donation

For:



2016 FAMILY MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Traditionally, family memorial services are held for the deceased on designated anniversaries. These are significant occasions to honor the memories of our loved ones while listening to the Buddha Dharma. If you have a family member who has passed away in the following years, you are encouraged to conduct a family memorial service.

Year of Death

2015.....	1 st annual memorial.....	1 year from date of death
2014.....	3 rd anniversary memorial.....	2 full years from date of death
2010.....	7 th anniversary memorial.....	6 full years from date of death
2004.....	13 th anniversary memorial.....	12 full years from date of death
2000.....	17 th anniversary memorial.....	16 full years from date of death
1992.....	25 th anniversary memorial.....	24 full years from date of death
1984.....	33 rd anniversary memorial.....	32 full years from date of death
1967.....	50 th anniversary memorial.....	49 full years from date of death

Please call the temple office at (206) 329-0800 to schedule a service. - JN

In the late 1980s the stock dividends and interest earned by the Betsuin Eitaikyo Endowment Foundation accounted for 20% of the budget, but in 1994 the increased inflation rate destroyed over 10% of their value. When the new chairman asked for higher financial contributions, the Sangha responded quickly to cover the shortfall. Mukashi Mukashi, p. 292 -IG

Submitted By: **Fund Management**

The Fund Management Committee is responsible for the management of the Seattle Buddhist Temple Endowment Foundation Funds and other reserve funds. The yearly earnings from the primary Endowment Fund are used to provide financial assistance for the operations, maintenance of the temple and to ensure the teachings of Jodo Shinshu for future generations. Each year the temple operates at a financial loss. The deficit is made whole by the financial assistance from the endowment fund.

As the year 2015 ends please consider a donation to the endowment fund. Your donation may be in the form of cash, stocks or securities. All donations are tax deductible. Also while doing estate planning please consider the endowment fund as a beneficiary.

On behalf of the fund management committee we wish to extend our deepest gratitude to those who have contributed into the Endowment Fund and other managed accounts. We wish you happy holidays and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

In Gassho,

Craig Nakano

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE...

We would like to “thank” the following regular members, for contributing their annual Ijikai dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). This is the first listing of those paid members for the fiscal year of 2016.

David & Tara Anne Tamaribuchi Gibbs; Joseph & Margaret Gotchy; Toshiko Isomura; Mas Koba; Ken Kubota; Sachiko Kusachi; Lynne Miyauchi; Tomio Moriguchi; Emiko Okada; Phillip & Penne Lee Robbins; Zachary & Ann Ishimaru Semke; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Thomas Smith; Paul Suguro; Florence Sumida; Masaru & Anna Tahara; Henry & Christy Watanabe

We'd like to 'welcome'

Joseph & Margaret Gotchy and Henry & Christy Watanabe

as new members of our Sangha.

***AS A REMINDER:** The minimum for basic dues towards the Temple 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, 2016, for this fiscal year.** If you have any questions about your membership status, contact the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com. (compiled by HL, PS, JN, & SO)

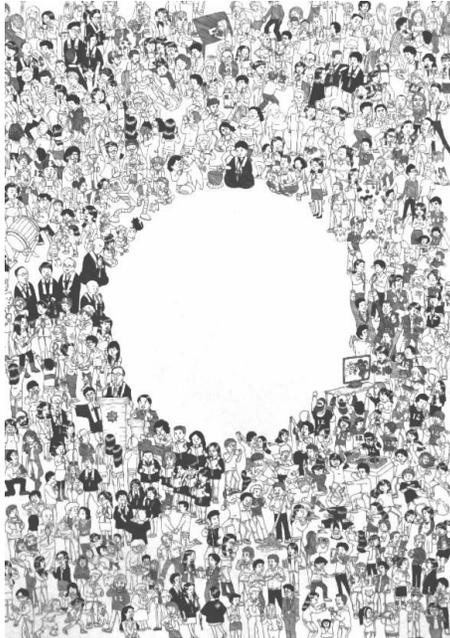
The Betsuin gratefully acknowledges donations received for the following special services. If your name is not listed, the donation may have been received after the deadline for this newsletter and will be listed in the next edition. Please accept our apologies for any inadvertent misspelling of names:

Bodhi Day: Aratani, Lauren Asaba -; Asaba, Marian; Baba, Janet; Beard, Clara; Bobrow, Patricia; Chinn, Connie Ozeki -; Chisholm, Steve & Lori; Deguchi, Mae; Desaki, Yasuko; Dodobara, Kenny & Yoshie; Driscoll, Irene Goto -; Fujii, Minoru & Aiko; Fujinari, Suzanne; Fujino, Suteko (Sue); Fujita, Florence; Fukeda, Toshiko; Furuta, Mary Y.; Habu, Gordon & Mae Yamasaki -; Hamakawa, Ron; Hamatani, Jane; Hanada, Peggy; Hara, Reiko; Harada, Setsuko; Hasegawa, Kathy; Hirata, Michiko; Ichikawa, Satoru & Grace; Kaku, Dale & Shizue; Kaneta, Miyoko; Kashiwa, Ann T.; Katayama, Mary K.; Kawaguchi, Harold; Kawahara, Ritsuko; Keefe, Dan; Kikuchi, Shizue; Knutzen, Paul & Janet; Kogita, Takako; Kojima, Esther; Kunihiro, Carolyn; Kusakabe, Peter; Kuwahara, Kinue; Mano, George & Irene; Mano, Mariko; Matsui, Jack T.; Mayeda, Julie; Mitchell, Lisa Kumasaka -; Mizumori, Sheri; Morikubo, Yukio & Karen; Naemura, Joseph & Janie Okawa -; Nakabayashi, Kemi; Nakamura, Yoshio & Judith; Nakanishi, Kiyoko; Nakano, Craig & Joan; Nakano, Junko; Namekata, Tsukasa & Keiko; Nishizaki, Mabel; Ohtani, Michiye; Okada, Emiko; Otsuji, Nobuko; Oxrieder, Gregory & Catherine Ann; Oye, Sunako (Sunkie); Ozanich, Kiyomi Taketa -; Parke, Troy & Mayumi Terada -; Sako, Masako; Shibata, Dennis M.; Shigaya, Kenneth; Shigaya, Mary S.; Shigaya, Teruko (Terrie); Shimada, Shirley; Shimbo, Ben & Etsu; Shimizu, Roy & Kazumi; Shimizu, Sato & Darlene; Shinoda, Franklin; Sordetto, Gayle; Sumida, Leslie; Tahara, Masaru & Anna; Takashima, Kiyoko; Taketa, Haruso & Sonoe; Taketa, Jean; Taketa, Susan; Tamekuni, Masao & Frances; Tanaka, Rikuko; Tanemura, Peggy; Taniguchi, Fumiye; Taniguchi, Martha (Masayo); Taniguchi, Theodore & Akico; Tanino, Katsumi & Terrie; Tazuma, Grace; Tazuma, Miyoko; Terada, Allan & Kayoko; Terada, Calvin J. & Yvette; Terada, Ronald & Suzuko; Teramoto, Margaret; Teramoto, Stuart; Toyoshima, Michiko; Uchida, Sam & Masako; Uyenishi, Tazuko; Vaart, Michiko Jean; Wong, Leanne Nishi -; Yahata, Shizue; Yamasaki, Fujie; Yamashita, Dennis & Elaine Aoki -; Yanagimoto, Michiko; Yokota, Sumie; Yokoyama, Kevin & Kari Ann; Yoritsune, Charlene M.; Yoshida, Fuyo; Yoshimi, Crystal; Yutani, Nobuo; Zumoto, James & Tomiko;

Eitai-kyo Muen Hoyo: Aratani, Lauren Asaba -; Asaba, Marian; Beard, Clara; Bobrow, Patricia; Deguchi, Mae; Desaki, Yasuko; Dodobara, Kenny & Yoshie; Driscoll, Irene Goto -; Fujino, Suteko (Sue); Fukeda, Toshiko; Groves, Fumiko; Habu, Gordon & Mae Yamasaki -; Hamakami, John & Lynda; Hamakawa, Ron; Hamanaka, Yoko; Hamatani, Jane; Hanada, Miyuki; Hanada, Peggy; Hara, Reiko; Harada, Setsuko; Hasegawa, Kathy; Hirata, Michiko; Hoshino, Alan A.; Ichikawa, Satoru & Grace; Kaku, Dale & Shizue; Kaminishi, Gail; Kaneta, Miyoko; Kashima, Tetsuden & Cecilia Kanako; Kashiwa, Ann T.; Katayama, Mary K.; Kato, Kazue (Katie); Kawaguchi, Harold; Kawahara, Ritsuko; Kawamoto, Masako; Kogita, Takako; Kojima, Esther; Kubo, Masako; Kunihiro, Carolyn; Kusachi, Sachiko; Kuwahara, Kinue; Mano, George & Irene; Mano, Mariko; Mayeda, Julie; Mitchell, Lisa Kumasaka -; Mizumori, Sheri; Morikubo, Yukio & Karen; Nagai, Ernest & Sanaye (Sunnie); Nakabayashi, Kemi; Nakagawa, Yoshie; Nakamura, Yoshio & Judith; Nakano, Craig & Joan; Nakano, Junko; Namekata, Tsukasa & Keiko; Nishizaki, Mabel; Ohtani, Michiye; Okada, Barry & Marlene; Okada, Emiko; Parke, Troy & Mayumi Terada -; Sako, Masako; Seko, Robert; Shibata, Dennis M.; Shigaya, Kenneth; Shigaya, Mary S.; Shigaya, Teruko (Terrie); Shimada, Shirley; Shimbo, Ben & Etsu; Shimizu, Roy & Kazumi; Shimizu, Sato & Darlene; Shinoda, Franklin; Shintaku, Frances; Sumida, Leslie; Tahara, Masaru & Anna; Takamura, Kuniko; Takashima, Kiyoko; Takemura, Yoshiaki & Naomi; Taketa, Haruso & Sonoe; Tanaka, Rikuko; Tanemura, Peggy; Taniguchi, Fumiye; Taniguchi, Martha (Masayo); Tanino, Katsumi & Terrie; Tazuma, Miyoko; Terada, Allan & Kayoko; Terada, Calvin J. & Yvette; Terada, Ronald & Suzuko; Teramoto, Margaret; Teramoto, Stuart; Tokunaga, Toshio & Dolly; Toyoshima, Michiko; Uchida, Sam & Masako; Uyenishi, Tazuko; Vaart, Michiko Jean; Wada, Machiko; Wong, Leanne Nishi -; Yahata, Shizue; Yamasaki, Fujie; Yamashita, Dennis & Elaine Aoki -; Yokota, Sumie; Yokoyama, Kevin & Kari Ann; Yoshida, Fuyo; Yoshimi, Crystal; Yutani, Nobuo; Zumoto, James & Tomiko;

Ohigan - Fall: Beard, Clara; Tosaya, Gary & Julianne **Hatsubon / Obon:** Kogita, Takako.

Season's Greetings!



"Nembutsu in the Northwest"
by
Tessa Asato

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone in the BCA community and beyond, for your participation, encouragement and generosity throughout the year.

Together, let us continue to "expand the Nembutsu circle" and work for peace and contentment for all.

Namu Amida Butsu

Gassho, with Palms Together,

BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA

National Board Members & Staff

BCA ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

Board of Directors & Staff

December 2015

Dharma Exchange...continued from p. 6

Sekiya has contacted the temple notifying them of their visit. Castro Sensei was very grateful for her action.

Dec. 6 - During his Dharma message Rinban Castro was prompted by the words of a song about the Bodhi tree "not doing well up here." He said he had never seen one north of Sacramento. At today's Dharma Exchange Sat I. reported a Bodhi tree lived in Seattle for 8 years before and after the war, and when people returned from camp it was still alive. . . Sensei said absolute truth is incomprehensible; therefore, we use metaphors and images to convey the ideas, making it more compelling. . . Sensei talked about the book, "Proof of Heaven" by neurosurgeon Eban Alexander, M.D. He had always taken it for granted that our consciousness was alive, and when we died it died as well. Not so, he later said after being unconscious for a long period of time and experiencing a host of imaging. . . A participant talked about Jackie Robinson being the only black baseball player in the Major Leagues when he became a Brooklyn Dodger. She recounted the prejudice and hardship he endured from the public and his own teammates. Over time, the teammates became more friendly. Sensei remarked that experiencing unconditional love is the most difficult meditation.

Dec 20 - Irene Goto Sensei acknowledged Rev. Sala Sekiya's wish to "just observe" during DX and told everyone that there is no exact format for DX. . . A participant liked the Bodhi tree Irene Sensei brought to show the kids in the Hondo. Sensei will try to bring a branch for the participant to start as she wants a Bodhi tree. . . Rev. Ken Tanaka's latest book, Buddhism on Air, concerns Buddhism in general, not Jodo Shinshu. Each chapter becomes a program, and a good lesson to be used in Dharma School. . . "When you learn how to die you learn how to live," so said Morrie, the subject of the book, "Tuesdays with Morrie." At a participant's request Sensei read a story named The Second Mark of Existence, which illustrates how good and not-so good outcomes follow each other. An old man had one horse which ran away to the Barbarians, and the village was saddened. Months later the horse returned with another horse, and the villagers were happy. His son tried riding the wild horse and broke his leg. Again, the village felt badly for him. Then the Barbarians attacked and every able person was sent to fight them, and most of them died. The village again was saddened. His son was spared because of his bad leg. So, it turned out well, and the village rejoiced. . . MA Laverne Imori, formerly of the Betsuin, moved to the East Coast to be near her daughter and grandchildren. They all moved recently to San Diego. . . Discussion took place on how to arrange for refreshments and cleanup at the DX. To be continued. In gassho, Pat Bobrow

Betsuin Events for January 2016

SUNDAYS 10:55am Meditation

January 3rd (Sunday)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Youth: Rinban Castro; Adult: Rev. Sekiya

Japanese: Rev. Sekiya

DX: Rinban Castro

Meditation: Irene Goto Sensei

January 10th (Sunday) 10:00 am

FAMILY SERVICE and CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Children: Rev. Sekiya & Irene Goto Sensei

Youth/Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese: Rev. Sekiya; DX: MA Matt May

Meditation: MA & Rinban Castro

12:00 pm Installation of Officers and Betsuin
New Year's Party

January 17th (Sunday)

10:00 am HOONKO SERVICE

Youth/Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese: Program

DX: Rinban Castro; DSDX: MA Doug McLean

Meditation: TBD

January 24th (Sunday)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Youth: Irene Goto Sensei; Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese: Rev. Sekiya

DX: Rinban Castro; Meditation: MA

11:45 am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting

1:30 pm Sangha Award Class

January 31st (Sunday) Rev. Sekiya in Spokane

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Youth: Rinban Castro; Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese: Program

DX: Rinban Castro; Meditation: TBD

1:30 pm Sangha Award Class

MONDAYS

January 4th (Monday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

January 11th – 22nd Rev. Sekiya in Japan

January 18th (Monday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

TUESDAYS

January 5th (Tuesday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

January 11th – 22nd Rev. Sekiya in Japan

January 19th (Tuesday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

January 26th (Tuesday) 10:30 am Keiro Service

WEDNESDAYS

January 6th (Wednesday)

10:30 AM Dharma Support Group

January 11th – 22nd Rev. Sekiya in Japan

THURSDAYS

January 7th (Thursday)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Castro)

January 11th – 22nd Rev. Sekiya in Japan

January 21st (Thursday)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service

7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

January 28th (Thursday)

7:30 pm Betsuin BoD Meeting

FRIDAYS

January 1st (Friday) Holiday – Office closed

10:00 am New Year's Day Service

SATURDAYS

January 9th (Saturday) 9:30 – 11:30 am Book
Study Group – Video/Lecture by Rev. David
Matsumoto on "Tannisho"

January 16th (Saturday) 10:00 am Shinran
Shonin Monthly Memorial Service (Rinban Cas-
tro)

February 2016 Major Events of Interest

February 7th Boy Scout Sunday / Nirvana Day /
Pet Memorial

February 12th – 14th NW District Buddhist
Convention in Ontario, OR

**2016 February Newsletter Deadline:
Monday, January 18, 2016
8:00 pm**

Seattle Buddhist Church
1427 S Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144

Wheel of the Sangha
**A Monthly Newsletter of
Seattle Buddhist Church**



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January 2016 Major Events of Interest

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| January 1 (Friday) | New Year's Day Service 10:00AM
Holiday – Office Closed |
| January 9 (Saturday) | Book Study 9:30 - 11:30 AM
Video Lecture on Tannisho by
Rev Dr David Matsumoto p. 6 |
| January 10 (Sunday) | Betsuin New Year's Party &
Installation of Officers 12:00N |
| January 17 (Sunday) | Hoonko Service 10:00AM |
| January 30 (Saturday) | Winter Pacific Seminar, L.A., CA |

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