



The Two Sides of Obon

By Rinban Don Castro

We have entered the season of Obon and our Bon Odori festival. I can't think of a Buddhist holiday that is so sweet and sad at the same time, especially for our Hatsubon families; Hatsubon being the first Obon after a loved one has died. The solemnity of the Obon service is balanced by the Bon Odori dancing which acts as a reaffirmation of the joy of life. Having both the sadness and joy gives us the full range of our human experience.

Some years ago, I had the most remarkable experience during Obon. I had just finished a number of graveside Obon services and was driving through the cemetery on my way out when I suddenly saw something that completely baffled me for a few moments. In front of me was a young woman in a pure white wedding dress holding her bridal bouquet and walking across the grass among the graves. At first, I felt I must be looking at a ghost but, then, I saw a limousine parked and a young man in a black dress suit leaning against it. After a few moments I (think I) figured out what was happening. Have you figured it out yet?

By my reckoning, the woman in white was just married and, on her way to the wedding reception, she stopped at the cemetery to lay her bridal bouquet on the grave of one (or both) of her parents. The man next to the limo was her husband. I felt like an intruder to a very sacred and private experience. Yet, at the same time, I felt like I was witnessing the very essence and universality of the Obon spirit. I have no idea what religion or ethnicity the bride was but it is obvious she had a deeply loving relationship with her parent(s). I was truly humbled by such a sublime gesture! In the midst of tears was the bride's reaffirmation of the beauty and joy of life. As it says in the funeral gatha "Nadame,"


continued on p. 2...



2013 October Kieshiki Ceremony

Sign-up For Bon Odori Shifts

- Thursday, July 14
- Friday, July 15
- Saturday, July 16
- Sunday, July 17

Go online - see p. 2 
In person - at temple

Volunteer friends, relatives
Get to know our sangha
Have fun!

**FBWA seeking
volunteer drivers
see p. 10**

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

*Though their bodily eyes are closed,
Our loved one is watching our gathering
With the superb eyes of the Dharma.
In our grief, there is consolation.
(loosely translated)*

The consolation is the joy of the Nembutsu; the experience of unconditional love and diamond-hard wisdom. I hope this Obon season brings you and your family loving memories.

Postings from Weekly All Sangha News*

2016 Bon Odori will be July 16 & 17. Dance practices will take place July 5-7 and July 11-12 from 7:30 to 9 pm in the temple gym.

SBBWA is asking for donations of **gently worn yukata, kimono, obi, hair ornaments, getta, etc. to sell** during Bon Odori. SBBWA will be selling these items along with hand crafted specialties at the Craft Booth. Please bring your donations to the Temple Office, marked: **For SBBWA Craft Booth**. Thank you!

Bon Odori volunteer sign-ups are now available online. Please use the links below to view jobs and sign up.

Prep Days (Thursday and Friday)

[http://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori2](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori2)

Saturday (7/16):

[http://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori)

Sunday (7/17):

[http://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da9ab29a3ff2-bonodori1)

NW YBL Summer Retreat Seattle Betsuin is hosting the 2016 NW YBL summer retreat on July 22-24. This fun filled retreat includes bingo with Keiro residents, workshops surrounding the movie "Inside Out", and White River Bon Odori. We have Rev. Kakiyama, Rev. Sekiya, and Rev. Warrick joining us. We also will have kids from Portland, Spokane, Tacoma, and White River. This is a great way to network and meet fellow NW youth. Registration is \$35 and due

June 25. Forms can be found by contacting the Temple office.

Jr. YBA Textile Drive Update

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes. We collected 6,300 lbs and raised \$970! These funds will help to further the growth and activities of JR. YBA. THANK YOU EVERYONE!



44th FBWA Conference Please be a booster for the 44th Federation of Buddhist Women's Association's Conference, to be held on October 7-9, 2016, at the Westin Bellevue Hotel. NWD BWA Chapters are hosting this National Conference, which is open to all woman & men, members and non-members. Funds will be used to defray the cost of the Conference. To be a Booster, please pick up Form in the Temple Foyer or in the Office. Thank you for your support.

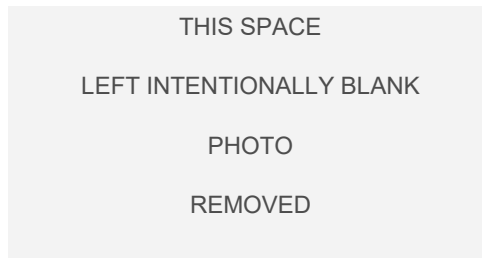
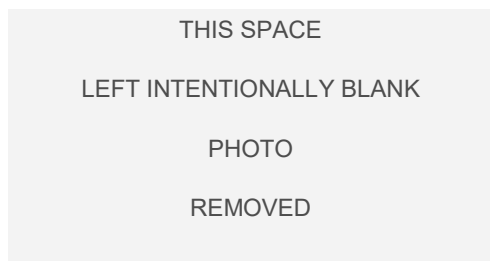
Rinban Castro Retirement Party

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 20. That's when we will honor Rinban Castro for his service to Seattle Betsuin for 31 years and help him celebrate his retirement. The planning committee is looking for old photos and stories from his first days at the temple to the present, which illustrate his contributions, his humor, and

*To receive Seattle Betsuin Weekly News via email - contact [Tyler Moriguchi](mailto:Tyler.Moriguchi@SeattleBetsuin.com) or [Joan Nakano](mailto:Joan.Nakano@SeattleBetsuin.com) at Office@SeattleBetsuin.com

Chairperson's Message by Alan Hoshino

As I write this article the temple is buzzing with activity to prepare for the Kids Summer Program, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, sending two of our Minister's Assistants to Japan for Tokudo Ordination, our Bon Odori festival and the Northwest Young Buddhist League summer retreat. Thank you to all the volunteers who work tirelessly to make these events happen.



Over the past month there have been several major accomplishments by many of our temple youth. Curtis Yokoyama received a grant from the Masaru & Mitsuma Shimokon Jodo Shinshu Collegiate Scholarship Fund which focuses on medicine, engineering and other sciences, and graduating high school seniors Brandt Tosaya, Kayla Butler, Mikio Habu, Matthew L., Brandt Tosaya, Emily Yamashita and Trevor Yokoyama each received scholarships from a combination of the Harold & Yoshiko Tsujihara Continuing Education Grant and the temple's Continuing Education and Jodo Shinshu Grant funds.

Camp Fire USA recognized Amanda H., Meghan H., and Emi N. with the prestigious WoHeLo Award, the highest achievement for youth in Camp Fire, after a multi-year program during which each of them completed three major projects. Our Camp Fire Group also celebrated their annual Council Fire with awards and fly ups for all.

Continued on page 8...

2016 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year we awarded six high school scholarships and one college grant. The following are the recipients.

Seattle Betsuin Tsujihara Family Memorial Scholarship Grant (High School): **Kayla B.** is a Garfield High School graduate. Kayla will attend the University of Washington majoring in Computer Science. **Tyler Mikio H.** graduated from Garfield High School. His choice of college and major are still to be determined. **Matthew L.** is a Kentwood High School graduate. He will be attending Arizona State University with a major in Finance (Business).

Seattle Betsuin Continuing Education Grant (High School): **Brandt T.** graduated from Inglemoor High School. Brandt's plans are to attend the University of Washington and major in Pre-Engineering. **Emily Y.** attended Garfield High School. Emily's plans are to attend either the University of Washington or New York University. She has not declared a major, but leaning towards Humanities. **Trevor Y.** graduated from The Overlake School and plans to attend the University of Utah. There he will major in Computer Science.

Masaru & Mitsuma Shimokon Scholarship Grant (College): **Curtis Y.** He is currently attending Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, California. Curtis' major is Computer and Information Science/Software Engineering. **CONGRATULATIONS to our outstanding students and their parents!!!!**

The awards were presented on Sunday, May 29, 2016 at the 10am service. Following the service, a small reception with cake for the families was held in the high school classroom.

Thank you to the selection committee for their commitment in selecting & honoring our outstanding recipients. Also, a big thank you to Tish Oye of Glassworks who again generously donated the glass awards and Mae Yamasaki for making ribbon leis in the student's high school colors. Another thank you to Julie Mayeda who took group pictures in the hondo.

The high school class with Steph Ojima was again very helpful with the reception. Everything went very smoothly! We thank them and really appreciated their help. - submitted by Shizu Kaku

SBBWA News by Nina Tomita-Kato

Our Udon/ Bake Sale fundraiser was a success and thank you to our chairs and all that were involved in this event. It does take a village to make things happen.

Reminder to please join us for the Federation conference in October. It's an event filled with outstanding speakers and a time to reacquaint ourselves with new and old friend from around the U. S. Registration is happening now and we can help ease this process. Just drop by on Sundays in the lobby before service and we can assist you. We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:

1. greeter at the airport (contact Kiyo Takashima)
2. drivers from the airport to the Bellevue Westin (contact Joan Nakano)
3. drivers from the temple to the Westin for our local BWA women (contact Nina Tomita Kato). Please help us support this special Northwest conference; you don't have to be a BWA member to attend and men are welcome.

Michiko Toyoshima, thank you for your many, many, beautiful hats and scarves that you make with love and thoughtfulness. The many organizations and the homeless youth thank you for your kindness.

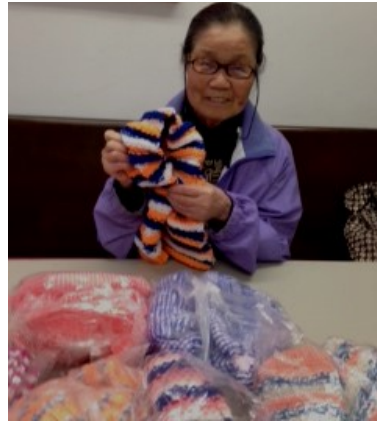
We are in charge of Yaki Soba for Obon Odori,

please look for sign-up sheets.

A big shout out to the creative forces behind the many crafts that are being created for sale at Obon Odori as well. We have a talented and giving group of women in BWA.

There are still spots for the Japan trip for the Spring of 2017. We will be traveling South to Kumamoto and it promises to be a spiritual and historical journey. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Lastly, our Activities chairs have been busy formulating plans for our annual Summer Outing. Please look for information to be sent out via email. They are projecting for either the 2nd or 3rd week of August.



Michiko Toyoshima and her hats

Musical Notes submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi



Photo by permission of Keiro Northwest

On June 8 Seattle Betsuin Sangha Singers performed at Nikkei Manor. We provided a program suitable for audience sing along. We were happy to hear Kokoro Kai participants joining us for some of the familiar tunes we have added to our repertoire including *Sakura* with Mas Tamekuni on ukulele and Jim Norton on flute and *You'll Never Walk Alone* and *Climb Ev'ry Mountain* from Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals. We are taking a hiatus from weekly singing before

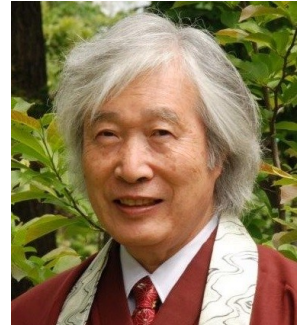
Sunday service but welcome interested singers to contact me as we prepare for future special services including Obon service on July 10 and the Atomic Bomb Victims Memorial service on August 7.

Mountain View Buddhist Temple hosted a successful Choirfest on June 11 with more than 150 singers and musicians participating. Jim and I performed *Everyday Rhythm of the Nembutsu* with the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple choir. Singers from Berkeley, Fresno, Salinas, San Francisco, San Jose, Southern Alameda County and Mountain View also performed. In addition, three selections were chosen as mass choir pieces including *We Are the World*. The event was videotaped, so I hope to share the performances with the Seattle sangha sometime.

Religious Education Events

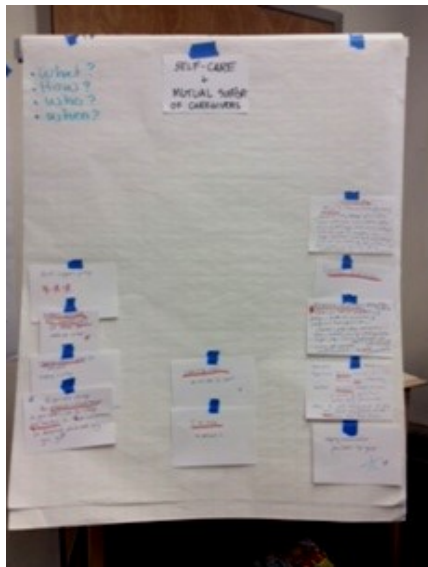
Rev. Dr. Toshikazu Arai, Professor Emeritus, Soai University, Osaka, will hold seminars at Seattle Betsuin as follows. All are welcome.

<u>English Lectures</u>	July 25, 26, 27	7 - 9 pm
	July 30	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
<u>Japanese lectures</u>	August 1 & 2	10 am – noon
	August 3	1 – 3 pm



Joe Marino on Gandharan Buddhist Texts

On Saturday, June 4, Betsuin's Buddhist Study Group welcomed Joe Marino, PhD Candidate at the University of Washington and a member of the Early Buddhist Manuscripts Project, ebmp.org. He discussed with a dozen attendees what some extant Gandharan Buddhist texts tell us about early Buddhism. His presentation was friendly and informative. The color copies of birch bark manuscripts that his team has been translating at the UW made Buddhism's genesis come to life. These manuscripts were meticulously pieced together from scattered shards of rehydrated bark. One of the copies is pictured in the foreground in the photo to the right, with Joe Marino, Reverend Castro and Leonora Clarke. - submitted by Irene and Leonora



The Compassionate Care Workshop held by Northwest Dharma Association at Seattle Betsuin on June 18, 2016 was attended by 25 Buddhists, from Zen, Tibetan and Jodo Shinshu backgrounds, who are concerned not only with those who need care but also, with the care of care-givers themselves. Enso House on Whidbey Island cares for patients at the end of life and also holds retreats for care-givers' respite. In breakout sessions, we learned that not all Buddhists hold the same belief systems and that we, as care-givers, can relate to patients who are facing pain and end-of-life issues only in terms of their beliefs, or non-beliefs, not ours, and in terms of their past experiences, not ours. A Tibetan Buddhist group on Whidbey Island actively reaches out to home-bound people in need of company and care, similar to Betsuin's Karuna Outreach Team that was active several years ago. A follow-up gathering is planned.

- submitted by Irene Goto

Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations May - June 2016

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

Given by:

Isamu Iseri – 13 th Year Memorial Service	\$ 1,000.00	Iwako Iseri
Ray Okamura – 3 rd Year Memorial & Inurnment	\$ 750.00	Estate of Ray Okamura
Mineko Okamura – 3 rd Year Memorial & Inurnment	\$ 750.00	Estate of Ray Okamura
Marie Honmyo – Memorial Service	\$ 500.00	Crystal Yoshimi
Masayoshi Honmyo – Memorial Service	\$ 500.00	Crystal Yoshimi
Kiichiro Yamamoto – Memorial Service	\$ 500.00	Crystal Yoshimi
Kikuno Yamamoto – Memorial Service	\$ 500.00	Crystal Yoshimi
Akio Nishizaki – 1 st Year Memorial Service	\$ 400.00	Mabel Nishizaki
Masayoshi Kosai – Nokotsudo	\$ 300.00	Janet Kosai
Takeshi Tsuchida – 3 rd Year Memorial	\$ 300.00	Estate of Florence Tsuchida
John Yamada – In Memory of	\$ 200.00	Arlene Yamada
Mary Takahashi – 13 th Year Memorial	\$ 200.00	Hiro & Kazuko Takahashi
Hideo Hattori – 26 th Year Memorial	\$ 200.00	Shig Takahashi
Hisako Kato – Inurnment	\$ 100.00	Alan Kato
James Hasegawa – In Memory of	\$ 100.00	Kathy Hasegawa
Hideo Mori – Inurnment Service		
Kimiko Mori – Inurnment Service	\$ 100.00	Estate of Kimiko Mori

In Memory of:

Given by:

Aya Demise	Jay & Alice Demise
James Demise	Jay & Alice Demise
Tamako Niwa Kano	Miyoko Kaneta
Akio Nishizaki	Iwako Iseri; Tak Miyabe; Ronald & Suzuko Terada
Mineko Okamura	Alan Kato
Ray Okamura	Alan Kato
Florence Tsuchida	Mary Yoshida
Takeshi Tsuchida	Mary Yoshida
Kiyoko Kaneta Yamada	Janet Anthony

Special Donation for Temple Renovation: Minoru & Aiko Fujii - \$ 1,000.00

Continued on page 7...

...Donations continued

General Donations:

For:

Gary Uyeji	Onenju donation
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa	General Donation
Waldorf School Association of Seattle	Appreciation for Visitation
Seattle Hiroshima Club	Appreciation for Use of Facilities
Miyo Kaneta	General Donation
Charlotte Ramsey	General Donation
Masao Koba	General Donation
Resident of Nikkei Manor	General Donation
Kenneth & Anna Tamura	Appreciation for Pre-school Visitation
City of Seattle	Rebate for Conservation Program
Anonymous	Donations for Numata Calendars
Anonymous	Donation for old kitchen range
Miyoko Tazuma	Appreciation for use of Facilities
Shizue Kikuchi	General Donation

The Betsuin gratefully acknowledges the 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:

All Sangha Memorial: Akira, Donald & Karen; Aoki-Kramer, Michael & Carol; Aoyama, George; Arinobu, Gene & Yuki; Asaba, Marian; Deguchi, Mae; Edamura, Yvonne; Fujii, Minoru & Aiko; Fujino, Suteko (Sue); Groves, Fumiko; Hanada, Miyuki; Hanada, Peggy; Harada, Setsuko; Kawahara, Ritsuko; Kosai, June (Yoshie); Kunihiro, Carolyn; Kuwahara, Kinue; Mano, George & Irene; Mano, Mariko; Mayeda, Julie; Miyauchi, Takiko; Mizumori, Sheri; Moriyasu, Anne; Morton, Trisha; Nakayama, Curtis & Charlene; Nakayama, Karen; Nishimura, Hiro & Dorothy; Nishizaki, Mabel; Osaki, Marianne; Oye, Sunako (Sunkie); Sakaguchi, Sono; Shigaya, Mary S.; Tanaka, Rikuko; Tanemura, Peggy; Taniguchi, Fumiye; Tazuma, Miyoko; Terada, Ronald & Suzuko; Toyoshima, Michiko; Yamane, Jeffrey & Susan; Yokoyama, Fusae

Gotan-e: Aisaka, Steven; Akira, Donald & Karen; Aratani, Lauren Asaba -; Asaba, Marian; Bobrow, Patricia; Chinn, Connie Ozeki -; Chisholm, Steve & Lori; Deguchi, Mae; Desaki, Yasuko; Dodobara, Kenny & Yoshie; Driscoll, Irene Goto -; Fujii, Minoru & Aiko; Fujino, Suteko (Sue); Fukeda, Toshiko; Goshu, Kazumi (Janice); Gotchy, Joseph & Margaret; Habu, Gordon & Mae Yamasaki -; Hamakami, John & Lynda; Hamakawa, Ron; Hamatani, Jane; Hanada, Miyuki; Hanada, Peggy; Hara, Reiko; Harada, Setsuko; Hasegawa, Kathy; Hinds, Cynthia; Hoshino, Alan A.; Ichikawa, Satoru & Grace; Isomura, Toshiko; Kaku, Dale & Shizue; Kaminishi, Gail; Kaneta, Miyoko; Kashima, Tetsuden & Cecilia Kanako; Kashiwa, Ann T.; Katayama, Mary K.; Kato, Nina Tomita -; Keltner, Marc & Janice; Kido, Momoko; Kikuchi, Shizue; Knutzen, Paul & Janet; Kogita, Takako; Kojima, Esther; Kumasaka, Lisa; Kunihiro, Carolyn; Kuramoto, Daisy Toyoko; Kusachi, Sachiko; Kusakabe, Peter; Kuwahara, Kinue; Mamiya, Haruko; Mano, Andrea; Mano, George & Irene; Mano, Mariko; Matsui, Tsugio Jack; Mayeda, Julie; Miyauchi, Takiko; Mizumori, Sheri; Naemura, Joseph & Janie Okawa; Nagai, Ernest & Sanaye (Sunnie); Nakabayashi, Kemi; Nakamura, Yoshio & Judith; Nakano, Craig & Joan; Nakano, Junko; Namekata, Tsukasa & Keiko; Nishizaki, Mabel; Ohara, Mari; Ohtani, Michiye; Okada, Barry & Marlene; Okada, Emiko; Oxrieder, Gregory & Catherine Ann; Oye, Sunako (Sunkie); Quintua, Gerald; Sako, Masako; Sakuma, Pauline; 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; Tahara, Masaru & Anna; Takashima, Kiyoko; Taketa, Haruso & Sonoe; Tamekuni, Masao & Frances; Tanaka, Rikuko; Tanemura, Kevin; Taniguchi, Fumiye; Taniguchi, Martha (Masayo); Taniguchi, Theodore & Akiko; 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; Watanabe, Henry; Wong, Leanne Nishi -; Yamasaki, Fujie; Yokota, Sumie; Yokoyama, Kevin & Kari Ann; Yoshida, Fuyo; Yutani, Nobuo; Zumoto, James & Tomiko

Hanamatsuri: Chinn, Connie Ozeki -; Habu, Gordon & Mae Yamasaki -; Nakamura, Ted **Ohigan - Spring:** Chinn, Connie Ozeki - **Earth Day Service:** Toyoshima, Michiko

...Chairperson's Message continued from p. 3

Our Cub Scout Pack 252 held its annual Blue & Gold celebration where all the boys received their new badges of rank along with several other awards. Following the handing out of the awards the Pack held an exciting Space Derby where each boy raced a balsa wood rocket they prepared to the whoops and cheers of all. It was a great way to end the program year.

Not to be topped, the Boy Scouts of America has bestowed upon nine our young men Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout.

an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Michael Morikubo, Matthew K., Brandt Tosaya, Mikio Habu, Matthew L., Trevor Y., Azaad Z., Lukas A., and Alex S. received their awards bringing the total number of Eagles produced by the temple's Boy Scout Troop to 115.

Later this month four deserving members of our Young Buddhist Association, Alex S., Josh M., Amanda H., and Marissa W. will be traveling to the Sacramento Betsuin to participate in the week long Buddhist Churches of America's YAC (Youth Advocacy Committee) retreat program. Each of them submitted applications and were accepted into the program which will end with them becoming Youth Minister's Assistants and being able to help out at temple religious functions.

Our youth are the future of the temple and based upon these young people's accomplishments the future looks extremely bright! Please congratulate them when you see them and thank you all for the support you've provided for all of our youth programs.

The Obon season is upon us and as we stop to reflect and express our gratitude to our loved ones who have passed on before us, we remember that they, like us, were young at one point. They too were full of energy and excitement and through their actions helped build the foundation for our own lives. While we can reflect upon and remember them at home please consider, if you can, joining in the Obon service at the temple on Sunday, July 10th and/or at lo-

cal cemeteries that weekend. The following weekend, on the street in front of the temple, we'll gather to dance in a celebration of our gratitude and joy;

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and possibly, if even for just a moment or two, feel the energy and excitement of the youth.

This year will be our 84th Annual Bon Odori Festival. Thank you in advance for turning out to help us stage the event. If you love the dancing be sure not to miss the Bon Odori events at our neighboring temples, White River on Saturday, July 23rd and Tacoma on Saturday, July 30th. - AH

Notes on Dharma Exchange

May 22 - The session was conducted by Doug McLean MA. He distributed printed information entitled, "Buddhism 101: Basic Buddhism," and he outlined each of the topics addressed. He mentioned the Three Dharma Seals, (1) All phenomena are impermanent. (2) All things exist not on their own; and they each depend on causes and conditions; e.g., a tree dies without soil, sun and water. (3) The state of Nirvana is the only lasting peace, and it is through the Pure Land that we attain Nirvana. . . He described the Buddha's idea of Samsara -- aimless wandering evincing no long term plan or sense of direction. . . Doug described a Kalpa in terms of a time measurement. It is unimaginable in size and could be millions of years. The Buddha admonished us to not

squander our time on Earth. . . Buddha said there were three things in which a person could take refuge -- The Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. So, how do we achieve Nirvana, a state that transcends phenomena we know such as birth and death? Studying the sutras which were written after the Buddha's Nirvana. Reciting the sutras (teachings) helps internalize those teachings, and they uphold the unbroken tra-

continued on page 9...

Notes from Dharma Exchange continued

ditions from Dharma to the present. Meditation also generates good karma. Present-day sanghas focus on certain sutras in their practice. We are in the final age when the Dharma will pass out of existence and will be revealed later when Maitreya, the future Buddha appears. . . Doug offered some general advice about the pursuit of this rich tradition. (1) Do not rush things as the teachings can be difficult to grasp at first. (2) Do not become bogged down in details of the sutras. Pick those that interest you in your tradition. (3) Ask questions. (4) Do not compare self to other Buddhists because we all come into this world with different conditions, burdens and inclinations. Doug encouraged having fun and not rushing through the sutras.

May 29 - Rinban Castro recently visited older son and daughter-in-law in Chicago's Hyde Park near the university, where there is a huge police presence. He visited her lab, which was huge. He noted no AC in their apartment, and it was hot and humid. After witnessing the Awards Ceremony, Kemi remained hopeful for the next generation. She said the temple's youth organizations are invited to attend board meetings. . . Sensei said the Spokane temple has had the biggest growth in the BCA. A retired psychologist administers the temple, and even though there is currently no resident minister everyone comes on Sunday. The Sangha consists of Japanese Americans, Caucasians, African Americans, Mexicans and Koreans.

June 5 - Doug McLean MA distributed printed outlines of "Buddhism 102: Mahayana Buddhism" during Dharma Exchange. He outlined each heading with brief explanations of the text. Mahayana Buddhism, also known as the "Great Vehicle Buddhism," spread from India to East Asia before spreading into the West. Theravada Buddhism, known as "Way of the Elders" spread to Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka. . . Mahayana teaches emptiness and interdependence of all phenomena and the universal potential for Buddhahood. Further, Buddhism is expected to decline until the next Buddha appears. . . Many current popular schools of Buddhism employ a Mahayana foundation including Zen, Pure Land, Tibetan, Nichiren, and others. . . There are many examples of bodhisattvas including; e.g., Jizo, the protector of children; Kannon, known for compassion; and Dharmakara Bodhisattva who later became Amitabha Buddha. . . Doug indicated that emptiness exists in all phenomena, even in the Pure Lands of the Buddhas, and that the religious institutions will disappear, but not the Dharma itself. . . In the Fall, Doug will offer Buddhism 103 which will address the foundation of the Jodo Shinshu tradition.

June 12 - Rinban Castro said gratitude is not one-sided -- it is two-sided. To illustrate his point, he recalled in the past a Karuna Sangha was formed at our temple with the intent of visiting house-bound temple members. Yuki Miyaki declined as she felt she was imposing on those who wanted to visit. A volunteer told her that people who are very ill have said, "What a lesson this has been." Finally, Yuki agreed to a visit. Gratitude benefits those who give and those who receive; hence, it is two-sided. . . Rev. Dr. Nobuo Haneda cautioned not to chase a dragonfly, but to simply stand still, extending a finger and the dragonfly likely will land on it. It happened, and then the dragonfly bit the person. . . Sensei said we have fewer defenses as we age, and it is important for us to have a refuge, the temple, because the world is becoming more inhumane. A participant mentioned the worst mass killing in US history occurred Sunday morning in Florida. Rev. Jim Warrick feels we are more aware of what is happening in the world and we tend to dramatize events that occur. . . A participant suggested we invite to the temple the Dharma School students who received awards to offer insights into their new work. One such college graduate will be doing research at Children's Hospital in Seattle.

June 19 - Rinban Castro referred to Shinran who postulated that if we live a life of shinjin, we are assured Enlightenment at death. The Koyasan tradition is concerned with attaining Enlightenment in this world in this body. Zen Master D.T. Suzuki noted that more people who practiced Jodo Shinshu reach Satori, a preliminary state of Enlightenment, than Zen practitioners. . . Sensei talked about the Four Noble Truths: (1) There is Dukkha, suffering and unease (2) Dukkha comes from attachment to desires (3) Dukkha ceases when attachment to desires ceases, and (4) Freedom from Dukkha is possible by practicing the Eightfold Path. . . Sensei made the point that memorial services are

important in that the Dharma is conveyed in honoring the deceased and their family. . . When Buddhism first came to the

US at the turn of the last Century, general Buddhism was practiced; in 1981 the Denver Buddhist Temple published a Service Book, and the language changed to reflect Jodo Shinshu thought and practice. . . The children's song, "The



← Golden Chain" conveys the idea of their being kind and gentle to all sentient beings. Sensei noted our hypocritical nature in loving all animals and eating them. By saying "Itadakimasu," we register our sorrow for eating a sentient being. Obviously, we live in a world of delusion. . . A participant recommended following a plant-based diet --Vegan --benefitting personal health, being kind to animals, and helping to save the Earth through lessening pollution. . . Sensei quoted the Dalai Lama who stated, "Kindness is my religion."

In gassho, Pat Bobrow

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 list of those paid members for the fiscal year of 2016.

Donald & Karen Akira; Gaylen Akira; Michael & Carol Aoki-Kramer; Lauren Asaba-Aratani; Marian Asaba; Amy Berg; Lisa Butler; Jennifer Habu Chinn; Connie Ozeki-Chinn; Jean Deguchi; Burke Dykes; Sue Furuta; Cathleen Goshō; Fumiko Groves; Gordon Habu & Mae Yamasaki; Miyuki Hanada; Eileen Hamamoto; Reiko Hara; Steve Harada; Sue Hatai; Jean Ishii; Yoshiye Iwamura; Scott Jofuku; Mary Katayama; Gary & Madeline Kato; Harold Kawaguchi; William & Beth Kawahara; Momoko Kido; Jeff & Tina Ko; Bill Komoto; Janet Kosai; Kris & Keiko Kosugi; Janet Kubota; Masako Kubota; Shogo & Fusako Kusumi; George & Irene Mano; Mariko Mano; Hugh Matsubayashi; Jack Matsui; Duane & Ann Mayeda; Tetsuo & Linda Miyata; Takiko Miyauchi; Sheri Mizumori; Tyler & Thy Pham Moriguchi; Joseph & Janie Okawa Naemura; Ted Nakamura; Curtis & Charlene Nakayama; Mari Ohara; Ann Kawasaki Romero; Irene Saito; Tom & Bev Sakamoto; Joyce Sato; Robert Seko; Tish Oye Shahbaghlian; Dennis Shibata; Ken Shigaya; Frances Shintaku; George Suetsugu, Jr.; Kazue Tagami; Haruso & Sonoe Taketa; Susie Taketa McKinney; Lori Tanaka; Ted & Akiko Taniguchi; Kats & Terrie Tanino; Ryomi Tanino; Allan & Kayoko Terada; Calvin & Yvette Terada; Joe & Hideko Terada; Ronald & Suzuko Terada; Florence Terami; Margaret Teramoto; Michael & Gayle Teramoto; Stuart Teramoto; Michiko Toyoshima; Sam Umeda; Tazuko Uyenishi; Shizue Yahata; Michiko Yanagimoto; Fusae Yokoyama; Crystal Yoshimi; Harry Yoshimura; Jim & Tomiko Zumoto

***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)

Transportation Committee for the 2016 Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations (FBWA) Conference is seeking volunteer drivers

to shuttle attendees from SeaTac Airport to the Westin Bellevue on Thursday and Friday, October 6 and 7 and from the Westin back to the airport on Sunday, October 9. Please call Joan Nakano at the Betsuin office or send an e-mail to office@seattlebetsuin.com if you can volunteer to drive and please indicate your availability. A sign-up sheet is also posted on the bulletin board across from the Betsuin office.

Betsuin Events for July 2016

SUNDAYS 10:55am Meditation (convenes in foyer)

July 3rd (Sunday) Rinban Castro (Vacation)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Adult: Rev. Sekiya
Japanese: Rev. Sekiya
DX: Rev. Warrick
Meditation: MA

July 10th (Sunday)

10:00 am OBON/HATSUBON SERVICE

Adult: Rinban Castro
Japanese: Rev. Sekiya
DX: Rinban Castro
Meditation: MA

1:00 pm Obon Service at Evergreen Washelli Cemetery (Northgate)

3:00 pm Obon Service at Sunset Hills Memorial Park (Bellevue)

July 17th (Sunday)

3:00 – 8:00 pm SEATTLE BON ODORI

July 24th (Sunday)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Adult: Rinban Castro
Japanese: Rev. Sekiya
DX: Rinban Castro
Meditation: MA

11:45 am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting

July 17th – 18th (Sun-Mon)

Visitors from Sairaku-ji Buddhist Temple in Hiroshima, Japan

July 31st (Sunday) Rev. Sekiya and Irene Goto Sensei to Yakima for Obon Service

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Adult: Rinban Castro
Japanese: Dr. Arai
DX: Rinban Castro
Meditation: MA

MONDAYS

July 4th (Monday) Temple Office closed for Independence Day

July 11th (Monday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

7:30 – 9:00 pm Bon Odori dance practice

July 17th – 18th (Sun-Mon)

Visitors from Sairaku-ji Buddhist Temple in Hiroshima, Japan

July 25th - August 4th Seminar "Buddha and Man" with guest speaker, Dr. Toshikazu Arai

July 25th (Monday) 7:00 – 9:00 pm English lecture by Dr. Arai

June 27th – July 1st

9:30 am – 3:00 pm KSP (Kids Summer Program)

TUESDAYS

July 5th (Tuesday) Rinban Castro (Day off)

Rev. Sekiya (Day off – on call)

7:30 – 9:00 pm Bon Odori dance practice

July 12th (Tuesday) Rinban Castro (Day Off)

7:30 – 9:00 pm Bon Odori dance practice

July 26th (Tuesday)

10:30 am Keiro Service

7:00 – 9:00 pm English lecture by Dr. Arai

WEDNESDAYS

July 6th (Wednesday) Rinban Castro (Day off)

Rev. Sekiya (Day off – on call)

7:30 – 9:00 pm Bon Odori dance practice

July 13th -15th (Wed-Fri) Bon Odori Set-up (Volunteers needed)

July 20th (Wednesday) Rinban Castro (Day off)

July 27th (Wednesday)

7:00 – 9:00 pm English lecture by Dr. Arai

THURSDAYS

July 7th (Thursday)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Irene Goto Sensei)

7:30 – 9:00 pm Bon Odori dance practice

July 13th -15th (Wed-Fri) Bon Odori Set-up (Volunteers needed)

July 21st (Thursday)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service

7:00 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

July 28th (Thursday)

7:00 pm Betsuin BoD Meeting

June 20th – July 6th Rinban Castro (Vacation)

FRIDAYS

July 1st (Friday) Rinban Castro (Vacation)

Rev. Sekiya (Day off – on call)

Last day of KSP (Kids Summer Program)

July 13th -15th (Wed-Fri) Bon Odori Set-up (Volunteers needed)

July 22nd – 24th Northwest Young Buddhist League (NWYBL)

Retreat, "Buddhism Inside and Out"

SATURDAYS

June 25th (Saturday) 9:00 am – 4:00 pm KSP Set-up

July 2nd (Saturday) Rinban Castro (Vacation)

Rev. Sekiya (Day off – on call)

July 9th (Saturday)

12:00 pm Obon Service at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (Queen Anne)

1:00 pm Obon Service at Washington Memorial Park (Sea-Tac)

3:30 pm Obon Service at Lake View Cemetery (Capitol Hill)

July 16th (Saturday)

4:00 – 10:00 pm SEATTLE BON ODORI

July 22nd – 24th Northwest Young Buddhist League (NWYBL)

Retreat, "Buddhism Inside and Out"

July 30th (Saturday)

9:30 am – 12:30 pm English lecture by Dr. Arai

June 20th – July 6th Rinban Castro (Vacation)

JULY 2016 Major Events of Interest

August 1 Japanese lecture by Dr. Arai from 10 am - noon

August 2 Japanese lecture by Dr. Arai from 10 am - noon

August 3 Japanese lecture by Dr. Arai from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

August 4 Japanese lecture by Dr. Arai from 10 am - noon

August 7 Atomic Bomb Victims' Memorial Service 10am

August 16 – 18 BCA Ministers' Retreat and Meeting at Jodo Shinshu Center

2016 August Newsletter Deadline:
(extended one week, due to Bon Odori)
Monday, July 25, 2016
8:00 pm

Seattle Buddhist Church
1427 S Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144

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



**THIS IS
A COVER PAGE
PLEASE SCROLL UP
FOR NEWSLETTER**

July 2016 Major Events of Interest

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| July 5, 6, 7, 11, & 12 | Bon Odori dance practices
7:30 – 9:00 pm, Betsuin Gym |
| July 9 | Obon Cemetery Services (Mt. Pleasant 12pm,
WA Memorial 1 pm, Lake View 3:30pm) |
| July 10 | Obon/Hatsubon Service at Betsuin 10 am
Obon Cemetery Services
(Washelli 1 pm, Sunset Hills 3 pm) |
| July 13 – 15 | Bon Odori Set-up (volunteers needed)* |
| July 16 – 17 | Seattle Bon Odori (volunteers needed)* |
| July 17 – 18 | (Sun., Mon.) Visitors from Sairaku-ji
Buddhist Temple, Hiroshima, Japan |
| July 22 – 24 | NWYBL Retreat |

****See page 2 for online links to sign-up for Bon Odori!***

Contact Us

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Temple**

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*Visit us on the web at
WWW.*

SeattleBetsuin.com

***Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 9am–3pm***

***Minister 24 hours:
206.779.2214
Rinban Don Castro
Rev. Sala Sekiya
Rev. Jim Warrick***

Wheel of the Sangha Editors
Irene Goto, English: newsletter@seattlebetsuin.com
Machiko Wada, Japanese: newsletter-jpn@seattlebetsuin.com
Deadline is the third Monday each month at 8PM