



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 27 Issue 6 June 2008

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail  
throughout the world*

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**This is a cover page. Please  
scroll down for 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*



## Betsuin Events for

October 2007

**SUNDAYS**

**October 7**

10:00 am Family Service  
Children's Message:

Rev Castro

English: Rev Castro

Japanese: Rinban

DX: MAs, Bill

Hirsch and Joe Schwab

11:45 SBWA Board Meeting

## June 2008 Special Events

- ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE June 1 10:00 am
- Awards/Recognition Service June 8 10:00 am (last DS day)
- All Betsuin Picnic June 15 10:00; Service at 11:00 Lake Boren Park; see page 7 for details; **no service at temple**
- Bishop/Rinban Memorial Service June 22 10:00 am
- Shoshinge Services June 1 & 29 8:45 am Memorial Hall Chapel
- Kids Summer Program June 23 – 27 all day, all facility

<b>1</b> Temple Contact Information <b>2</b> Calendar of Events	<b>3</b> Rinban's Message, Newsletter Schedule, Deadline: <b>June 16</b> <b>4</b> Camp Fire, Dharma Exchange	<b>5</b> Messages from Rev Castro & President Tahara, Membership <b>6</b> Hanamatsuri Donations, Go Paperless – Jump Online,	<b>7</b> SBWA, Betsuin Picnic Location & Directions <b>8</b> Dharma School News & FDSTL Conference	<b>9</b> Donations to the Betsuin, Save Our Planet
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## Betsuin Events for June 2008

### SUNDAYS

**June 1** ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE

8:45 - 9:30 am Shoshinge - Chapel Service (Rev Castro)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Children Rev Castro

English Rinban

Japanese Rinban

DX Rev Castro

11:45 am SBWA June/July Board Meeting (Rinban)

1:30 pm Minister's Meeting (Rinban & Rev Castro)

**June 8** Dharma School Award/Recognition Service (last day of Dharma School)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Children Joe Schwab, MA

English Rev Castro

Japanese Rinban

DX Jim Warrick Sensei, MA

1:00 pm Karuna/Sangha Award Class (Rev. Castro)

4:00 pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor, gym (M & C)

**June 15** BETSUIN PICNIC – no temple service

11:00 am Picnic Sunday Service (M & C)

**June 22** Bishop/Rinban Memorial Service

Rev. Castro – Vacation

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

English Jim Warrick Sensei, MA

Japanese Rinban

**June 29**

8:45 am Shoshinge - Chapel Service (Rev Castro)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

English Rev. Castro

Japanese Rinban

DX Joe Schwab MA

### MONDAYS

**June 2**

**June 9, 30** Rinban Days Off

**June 16** Rinban Day Off

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

**June 23** Rev. Castro – Vacation

KSP 2008 – All Day/All Facilities

9:00 am KSP Morning Service (Rinban)



### TUESDAYS

**June 3**

**June 10**

**June 17**

12:45 pm

**June 24**

BCA FUKEN in New York

Visit by Stevens ES (Joe Schwab, M.A.)

Rev. Castro – Vacation

KSP 2008 – All Day/All Facilities

-continued Tuesdays

9:20 am

10:30 am

KSP Morning Service (Rinban)

Keiro Service (Rinban)

### WEDNESDAYS

**June 4**

7:30 pm

**June 11**

**June 18**

**June 25**

9:20 am

Rinban Day Off (5/26-Memorial Day)

DS Board Meeting (Rev Castro)

BCA FUKEN in New York

Rinban Day Off

KSP 2008 – All Day/All Facilities

KSP Morning Service (Rev Castro)

### THURSDAYS

**June 5**

1:30 pm

**June 12**

7:30 pm

**June 19**

**June 26**

9:00 am

7:30 pm

Rinban Day Off – In California

Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)

Religious Committee Meeting (M & C)

BCA FUKEN in New York

KSP 2008 – All Day/All Facilities

KSP Morning Service (M & C)

Betsuin BOD Meeting (M & C)

### FRIDAYS

**June 6**

12:00 pm

6:30 pm

**June 13**

**June 20**

**June 27**

9:00 am

7:00 pm

Rinban in California

GOJIKAI Service & Meeting (Rev. Castro)

Socho Ogui Reception @ JSC, CA (Rinban)

Rev. Castro – Day Off

BCA FUKEN in NY – Ministers Travel Day

KSP 2008 – All Day/All Facilities

KSP Morning Service (M & C)

KSP 2008 Program



### SATURDAYS

**June 7**

**June 14**

11:00 am

**June 21**

**June 28**

Rev. Castro Day Off – Stand By

Minister's Meeting (M & C)

Rev. Castro – Day Off

Month of July 2008 Events:

July 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY – Office Closed  
July 12 & 13 Obon Cemetery Services  
July 13 Obon & Hatsubon Service  
July 19 & 20 Seattle Betsuin Obon Festival  
July 25 -27 NW YBA Retreat

[www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org](http://www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org)  
links to BCA bookstore, BCA Campaign 21 Century,  
*Wheel of Dharma*, Temples  
[www.BCAyouth.org](http://www.BCAyouth.org)

#### Helpful Web Sites



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 27 Issue 6

SEATTLE BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

June 2008

## Awakening Faith (Shinjin) in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism

Rinban Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi, Ed.D.



A famous Buddhist scholar, Dr. D.T. Suzuki, once said about the contribution of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism of Shinran Shonin, "Of all the development Mahayana Buddhism has achieved in the Far East, the most remarkable one is the Shin teaching of the Pure Land School. It is remarkable, chiefly, because geographically its birthplace is Japan and, historically, it is the latest evolution of Pure Land Mahayana, and therefore the highest point it has reached."

One of the important characteristics of Mahayana Buddhism is the Bodhisattva ideals. The principal teaching of the Bodhisattva is to work for others for one's own benefit. It is important for all of us to work for others with compassion, just like Dalai Lama XIV encouraged us to practice when he visited Seattle recently. However, it is also important to realize and appreciate that we are living as the beneficiaries of such great compassion and work of others. Jodo Shinshu Buddhism was also established with the Bodhisattva Ideals by Shinran Shonin.

Shinran Shonin stated in the **Shoshin-ge** that Amida Buddha's light of great compassion always shines upon us untiringly and he reminded us to awaken to the great compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha. When we are awakened, we are able to understand that "Samsara of birth-and-death is Nirvana." The **Shoshin-ge** states:

**When Faith is awakened in the minds of ordinary people,**

**They are made aware that Samsara of birth-and-death is Nirvana.**

This is the ultimate attainment of Awakening Faith (Shinjin) in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. However, in our rational understanding, the Samsaric world of birth-and-death is not the world of Nirvana because the Samsaric world is the defiled and unenlightened world; whereas Nirvana is the fully enlightened world. Shinran Shonin taught us that when our Faith is awakened in our minds, the world of Nirvana, Enlightenment, embodies the Samsaric world of birth-and-death and the Samsaric world becomes one with Nirvana.

The profound realization of the Dharma by Shinran Shonin is stated in the **Tannisho**: "When I carefully consider the Vow which Amida Buddha brought forth after five Kalpas' contemplation, I find that it was only for me, Shinran, alone! So, how gracious is the Original Vow of Amida Buddha who resolved to lead me to enlightenment, possessed of many Karmic evils!" On the other hand, Shan-Tao's profound realization of Human Natures is stated, "Know that we are, in reality, ordinary people of evils, subject to Birth-and-Death, having been ever sinking and ever transmigrating since immeasurable Kalpas up to the present, and that we have no chance for liberation." The author of the **Tannisho** reminds us that "these two kinds of profound realization are not a bit different" according to Shinran Shonin.

The essence of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism by Shinran Shonin is "Awakening Faith (Shinjin)" to the great compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha; where we find "Samsara is Nirvana." This is the ultimate attainment in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and also the highest point of the development of Pure Land Mahayana according to Dr. D.T. Suzuki. In this attainment, we find the world of Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu. Namo as ordinary people become one with Amida Buddha.

A devout Jodo Shinshu Nembutsu follower, Saichi Asahara, wrote a poem of oneness of Amida Buddha's heart (Nirvana) and his heart (Samsara) as follows:

**My heart is your heart; your heart is my heart.**

**It is your heart which becomes my heart.**

June is the month of graduations and weddings. How wonderful it is for young people to be guided by the compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha as they start their new life. Gassho

## NEWSLETTER NEXT DEADLINE

June 16, 2008

8:00 PM

Email Articles to:

Newsletter@

SeattleBetsuin.com

Print on  
June 20, 2008

Seal and Label  
Sunday, June 22,  
by:  
Ijikai

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

BWA January & July

Gojikai February & August

Scouts, Campfire, Taiko\*  
March & September

YBA, Dharma School  
April & October

ABA  
May & November\*

Ijikai June & December

\*duty has been switched as of July '07

# Camp Fire Group News

Submitted by Dana Nakashima

**Adventure 2/3:** On April 27 our group hosted a Camp Fire Open House for prospective new Camp Fire members and families. The girls planned the event, designing an Icebreaker activity, selecting refreshments, and performing their High School Musical dance for Entertainment. We were excited to see such a great turnout, as adults and kids stayed to meet, greet and eat. We hope everyone found the Open House worth attending. Special thanks to Alison & Tiffany, Kris & Erin, Tina & Emily, and Dana & Emi for providing refreshments.

On May 4 our group decided they want to donate the majority of their Candy Sale money to three organizations: The Humane Society, Locks of Love and the Fire Department.

**Hummingbirds:** On May 4 we had our last meeting of the school year.



• It is our tradition to donate our meeting dues at the end of the year to a worthy charity.

This year, we decided on an orphanage in China. One of our members (Shawn) lives in Beijing, and will help coordinate the project.

- We held elections for our 2008-09 officers. Congratulations to the incoming Fall '08 cabinet: President - Koki, VP - Kristy, Secretary - Samantha, and Treasurer - Tedi. The girls will be having a retreat/training event in July, and are excited to take on more responsibility in leading the group.
- We discussed activities that we'd like to do next year. Our group will be run as a co-op, and all families signed up to take on activities and meetings.
- We prepared for the Council Fire.

We're looking forward to a summer, where we continue our Camp Fire program with fun social activities. Thank you to all our parents, friends and Sangha for your support and encouragement throughout the year!

## NOTES FROM DHARMA EXCHANGE - MAY 4, 11, 18, 2008

**NOTE:** The purpose of this column is to inform members who are unable to attend Dharma Exchange - parents, those who must attend committee meetings during this time, and spiritual seekers who access the Internet.

At the May 4th DX Jim Warrick sensei and MA Joe Schwab led a lively discussion on "other power" and "self power." Elmer talked about the author of the poem, *Seiya*, Takeko Kujo, which became a gatha used at our temple.

Elmer attributed his longevity to drinking Manchurian tea for 14 years, and suggested if we want to emulate him we should also drink it. \* \* \*

Warrick sensei reported at the DX of May 11th on "An Evening with Dr. Nobuo Haneda from the Maida Center of Buddhism" on Friday, May 9, at the temple. Dr. Haneda commented on some interpretations of *Hongan*; i.e., "most desirable thing," "innermost aspiration," and "Primal Vow." Dr. Haneda remarked it is what makes us human. At the lecture he carefully read into the questions posed by attendees and was able to give incisive answers. (See samples of Dr. Haneda's essays on the temple's website, [www.SeattleBetsuin.com](http://www.SeattleBetsuin.com), see "pamphlets.")

Warrick sensei commented that to be happy is to make others happy, the basis of Mahayana Buddhism. A participant said we must aspire to learning and being a student. Wisdom comes from seeing change, letting go of concepts, learning from a bad situation as well as a good one, staying open and

not letting ideas become fossilized. Sensei likened the Dharma to a flame. If the flame is contained within a globe it will result in blackening. \* \* \*

On May 18 MA Joe Schwab introduced Sat Ichikawa who displayed a beautiful photo of Takeko Kujo, who wrote the poem, *Seiya*. He also shared a unique painting by her of plant forms mounted on a long, narrow piece of bamboo.

On May 19 the UW presented honorary degrees to those Nikkei students whose lives and studies were interrupted by the war and sent to camp. A participant queried, "Why now?" *Tetsuden Kashima*, a UW professor of American ethnic studies, petitioned the regents to award the degrees after he and some UW library staffers researched the plight of the Nikkei students." [from the *PI* of May 19]

Regarding women in Buddhism, a participant noted that Prince Shotoku (576-622), promoted Buddhism, then a new religion, in Japan extensively. Of the seven temples he founded, four of them were nunneries.

Joe noted there are many Buddhist websites available and suggested we have a look at

[www.nembutsu.info](http://www.nembutsu.info), an online journal of Shin Buddhism.

In Gassho, Pat Bobrow

# Buddhism, Ecology, and Conservation

by Rev. Don Castro

I have frequently stated the fact that to be a Buddhist is to be an ecologist. This is not ecology in a narrow sense but cosmic ecology, meaning everything is profoundly interrelated. We often say, "The Oneness of all existence." Since ecology is a science, I want to emphasize that Buddhism is not *just* science, but it incorporates science. To exercise our best judgment in making decisions, we need as much as possible to understand relationships and causality. Buddhists use the scientific method to gather information in order to make these sound and skillful decisions.

Behind all human actions are motives and the compelling motive in Buddhism is the compassionate elimination of pain and suffering (dukkha). In this regard, the Buddha is frequently called "The Great Physician." Buddhism is based on a medical model as formulated in the Four Noble Truths: 1. symptom (dukkha) 2. diagnosis; the problem is caused by selfish attachments 3. prognosis; a cure is possible 4. cure; The Eightfold Path. Like any skillful doctor, the Buddha as the Great Physician uses the technique and findings of science to investigate an illness and effect a cure. This technique is just as

applicable on the individual level as on the global level. In fact, Buddhism teaches that individual and global are profoundly interrelated. This is exactly what we mean when we talk about the Oneness of all life and non-duality.

In terms of the environmental crisis, the Buddha could be called "The Great Conservationist" who diagnoses selfish attachment as the source of the crisis and a firm commitment to global harmony and sustainability as the cure. The Buddha calls for global healing which in turn is healing ourselves. Recently, the Dalai Lama urged the United States and other wealthy countries to downscale our lifestyles and try to focus on inner contentment. To quote the Seattle Times article, "Because there are limitations on external material resources, but not on internal ones, it's better to seek contentment and peace rather than material things, he said." Thus, in conclusion, to be a Buddhist is to be both an ecologist *and* a conservationist. To me, ecology expresses wisdom and conservation expresses compassion. These are the two hands of Amida Buddha. Tread lightly on this fragile planet of ours.

## TEMPLE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mas Tahara

NW District Council

As all of you recall, BCA National Council and Ministers Association meetings were held in Portland, Oregon, with the Northwest District as the host district. The accounting of the event showed around \$20,000 in excess. NW District Council voted on May 17 to donate \$12,000.00 to BCA Campaign, credited to BCA Endowment's effort in supporting the Campaign. The meeting at Yakima Buddhist Temple clarified that the assessment for each temple is based on the actual number of members reported to BCA a year prior to the current fiscal year. The dues assessment for our temple is \$2,964.48 (\$5.33 x 556 members).

The 2009 NW District Buddhist Convention will be hosted by Oregon Buddhist Temple in Portland, OR, and 2010 Convention will be held at Ontario, OR, hosted by Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple.

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

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

Marian Asaba, Mae Deguchi, Mitsuko Fukuhara, Fumiyo Hanada, Edith Imanishi, Yoshiaki & Bok Soon Ikeda, Roy & Deanna Ikegami, Iwako Iseri, Eileen Kanemoto, Miyoko Kaneta, Grace Kasahara, Hisako Kato, Chieko Kubota, Dr. Peter Kusakabe, Kelly Kuwahara, Julie Mayeda, Emiko Okada, Mari Ohara, Asako Okubo, Joan Seko, Anthony Shimizu, Motoko Shimizu, Albert & Fran Shintaku, Lois Taniguchi, Elmer Tazuma, Gary & Julianne Tosaya, Mary Tsukamaki, Tosh & Jackie Uyeji, Sumie Yokota, Kevin & Kari Ann Yokoyama

**AS A REMINDER:** The basic dues towards the Church maintenance/operations is *\$250 for those over 70 years of age and \$300 for those under 70 years old. Payments are due by September 30, 2008.*

# Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following 2008 Hanamatsuri Donations From:

Mary Akada	Yaeko Ito	Yukio & Karen Morikubo	Leslie Sumida
Jim & Louise Akizuki	June Iwafuchi	Kemi Nakabayashi	Judy Suto
A Aoki	Yoshiye Iwamura	Ruby Nakamura	Terry & Gail Suzaka
M/M Takao Aoki	SM Jofuku	M/M Yoshio Nakamura	Mas & Anna Tahara
M/M Masatoshi Aoyama	Dale & Shizue Kaku	Joan Nakano	Jean Takano
Marian Asaba	Miyoko Kaneta	Junko Nakano	Kuniko Takamura
Penny & David Atcheson	Grace Kasahara	Dana Nakashima	Kiyoko Takashima
Janet Baba	Kashima Family	Tomi Nakashima	George & Jean Taketa
Clara Beard	Yoshi Katayama	Tsukasa & Keiko Namekata	M/M Haruso Taketa
Pat Bobrow	Tad Katayama	Hiro & Dorothy Nishimura	Susan Taketa
David & Micha Boneham	Edward & Joyce Kato	Hisashi & Sadako Nishimura	Noboru Taki
Steve & Lori Chisholm	Hisako Kato	M/M Akio Nishizaki	Mas & Frances Tamekuni
Jene Deguchi	Nina Tomita-Kato	Setsuno Noshoh	Rikuko Tanaka
Mae Deguchi	Hatsuye Kawada	Michiye Ohtani	Martha Taniguchi
Yasuko Desaki	Ritsuko Kawahara	Fred & Steph Ojima	Fumie Taniguchi
Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara	Miyoko Kawaguchi	Emiko Okada	Theodore & Akico Taniguchi
James & Mary Doi	Jan Keltner	Marlene Okada	M/M Kats Tanino
Toshiko Enomoto	Mrs. Momoko Kido	Janie Okawa	Elmer Tazuma
Suzanne Fujinari	Shizue Kikuchi	Ray & Mineko Okamura	Grace Tazuma
Sue Fujino	Evelyn Kitashima	Tomi Okano	M/M Joe Terada
Lutes Fujita	Janet Knutzen	Asako Okubo	Ron & Suzuko Terada
M/M Nobuichi Fujita	Jeff & Tina Ko	Mary Osaki	Margaret Teramoto
Tad Fujita	Mas Koba	Nobuko Otsuji	Stuart Teramoto
M?M George Fukeda	Mrs. Haruko Kobuki	Patricia Oye	Elsie Tokita
Mitsuko Fukuhara	Taka Kogita	Ted & Sunkie Oye	Dolly Tokunaga
Mary Furuta	Esther Kojima	Connie Ozeki-Chinn	Paul & Mabel Tomita
Kazumi Goshoh	Frank Komoto	Gerald Quintua	Gary & Julianne Tosaya
Alan & Fumiko Groves	Miyoko Kondo	Tamiko Platnick	M/M Min Tsubota
Ron Hamakawa	M/M Aizo Kosai	Karry Sakamoto	M/M Tak Tsuchida
Gladys Hamano	Janet Kosai	Aya Sakoda	Joyce Tsuji
Jane Hamatani	Betty Kubota	Masako Sako	M/M Sam Uchida
Peggy Hanada	Carolyn Kunihiro	Pauline Sakuma	Toshio Uyeji
Miyuki Hanada	Daisy Kuramoto	Dennis Shibata	Joe Wakazuru
Reiko Hara	Kinue Kuwahara	Gary & Debbie Shibata	Jim & Rona Warrick
M/M Mack Harada	John Litz	Masako Shibuya	Shizue Yahata
Nelson Harano	Yoshi Mamiya	M/M Harry Shigaya	Fumiko Yamaguchi
Steve & Ann Hasegawa	Andrea Mano	M/M Ken Shigaya	M Yamasaki
Hiroko Hasegawa	M/M George Mano	Steven & Stacey Shigaya	Dennis Yamashita
Miki Heider	Mariko Mano	Ben & Etsu Shimbo	Michiko Yanagimoto
Amy Hirasawa	Teruo Maruko	Shirley Shimada	Sumie Yokota
Mickey & Yoshie Hiroo	Fumiye Masunaga	Aiko Shimizu	Charlene Yoritsune
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Toshiko Isomura	Paul & Teresa Mori	Florence Sumida	

Submitted by  
Nelson Harano

**GO PAPERLESS! THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOW ONLINE AT**

[WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.COM](http://WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.COM)

Contact the temple office at 206-329-0800 or email

[Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com](mailto:Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com) to have your name removed from the mailing list and jump online! Conserve!

## Seattle Buddhist Women's Association

### May 2008 BWA Report to the Betsuin Board

submitted by Terrie Tanino The Annual New Membership Service and Luncheon was held April 20. A brief installation service was conducted by Rinban Hoshu Matsubayashi assisted by Ministerial Assistant, Jim Warrick. The 130 members and guests that were in attendance witnessed six ladies introduced to the organization. They were: Gwen Florence, June Iwafuchi, Leslie Sumida, Gail Suzaka, Susanne Umeda and Tina Zumoto-Ko. During our luncheon (Fellowship hour), Membership Committee Chair Kiyo Takashima read each lady's most impressive bio. I thank the two VP's (E/J), Janet Baba and Machiko Wada, Membership Committee members, Kiyo Takashima, Norigiku Horikawa and Sheri Mizumori for Chairing the event and a host of other participants that made this a very meaningful occasion. The luncheon/fellowship was followed by entertainment provided by Mas Tamekuni, Steve Yamasaki, Thomas Chinen, and Junko Nakano.

### Donations submitted by Mabel Nishizaki

Mary S. Shigaya - In memory of Mary H. Shigaya  
Yasuko Natsuhara - New member luncheon  
George Tsukamaki- In memory of Asako Tsukamaki

### Activities submitted by Darlene Shimizu

SBWA Wednesday Classes:

June 11, 18, & 25 Mizuhiki Class  
Instructor: Mrs. H. Shimizu  
9:30 - noon

July 2, 2008 Chiffon Cake Class  
Instructor: Kiyo Takashima  
9:30 - noon

Please Note: this class will be held at Church

**DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR KIMONOS, YUKATAS, HAPPIS, OBIS, ETC.? WHY NOT DONATE THEM TO CHURCH FOR OUR O'BON. WE WILL GLADLY ACCEPT THEM. PLEASE DROP IT OFF AT THE TEMPLE OFFICE.**

### June Calendar

June 1 BOD Meeting  
All Sangha Memorial Service  
June 15 Betsuin picnic  
June 22 Bishop's/Rinban's Memorial Service

Submitted by Deanna Ikegami

## Betsuin Picnic - Sunday, June 15, 2008

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Location: Lake Boren Park, Newcastle, WA 98059

The SBWA is coordinating bento lunches to order, in addition to transportation to and from the picnic. The cost for a bento lunch is \$8 each; however, anyone 80 years and above will receive a complimentary bento. If you are interested in purchasing/ordering a bento, or require transportation to the picnic, please sign-up on the forms located in the temple foyer. For members not ordering a bento lunch, please bring a potluck dish to share with other members.

The Betsuin Picnic is always a great time to get together with other temple members, eat good food, and just have fun. In addition, there will be games for the children and a bouncy jumper. Please plan to attend this enjoyable event!

### Directions to Lake Boren Park:

From the North, West or East - Take I-90 toward I-405 and then take I-405 South. Immediately take the Coal Creek Parkway Exit and at the end of the ramp, turn left onto Coal Creek Parkway. Continue on Coal

Creek Parkway for approximately 2 miles. You will pass Safeway, QFC and McDonalds. When you see Lake Boren on your right, get in the right lane and turn right at SE 84<sup>th</sup> Way. Take the first right into the park. If you come to a little bridge, you have gone too far.

From the South - Take I-405 North, and take the Coal Creek Parkway Exit. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Coal Creek Parkway. Continue on Coal Creek Parkway for approximately 2 miles. You will pass Safeway, QFC and McDonalds. When you see Lake Boren on your right, get in the right lane and turn right at SE 84<sup>th</sup> Way. Take the first right into the park. If you come to a little bridge, you have gone too far.

Submitted by Kari Ann Yokoyama

*Editor's Note:* For a map, go to Coal Creek Parkway Construction Website at [www.coalcreekparkway.com](http://www.coalcreekparkway.com).



## DHARMA SCHOOL - JUNE 2008

Submitted by Joyce Tsuji

**P**lease join us for the last day of Dharma School on June 8<sup>th</sup> for attendance awards, high school and college graduate recognition and scholarship presentations.

Class pictures are available for purchase now. Check with your student's teacher for further information.

The entire Dharma School, excluding the infant/toddler class, trekked up to Keiro nursing home on a sunny Gotan-e. The Jr/Sr high class conducted a short service that included chanting, a gatha, and a Buddhist reading. The preK/K class presented residents with bright flower wall hangings and the 4/5 class passed out colorful bookmarks which the students had made.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

### Classroom reports

**1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade-teachers Dave Scattergood and Joyce Tsuji** Our class has been discussing the three Treasures and thinking of some other things we consider treasures. The kids also made Mother's day flower stake gifts after a Four Gratuities lesson, where parents are included as something to be grateful for.

**6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade-teachers Nina Tomita-Kato, Paul Mori, and Angela Sato** The 6th/7th grade class rocks. Although we didn't finish first in our Buddhist Bowls, we had fun thinking of the questions and attempted to answer the questions within a specific time period. It amazes me how knowledgeable our children are regarding Buddhist information. Thank you, contestants, and thank you all for being great sports.

### Federation of Dharma School Teachers League Conference

**T**welve Dharma School teachers attended the annual FDSTL Conference in San Mateo, CA on May 2-4, 2008. The attendees were Ann Hasegawa, Joan Nakano, Kari Ann Yokoyama, Marie Kosai-Luke, Joyce Kato, Susie Taketa, Julianne Tosaya, Nina Tomita-Kato, Steph Ojima, Tina Zumoto-Ko, Lori Kozai and Ron Hamakawa. The conference theme was "The Heart of Jodo Shinshu: Living a Triple "A" Life," where the three A's represent Awareness, Authenticity and Appreciation. The keynote address was given by Rev. Dr. David Ryo Matsumoto of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple and the Director of the Institute of Buddhist Studies – Center for Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies. Congratulations to Lori Kozai (high school class) for being recognized by Socho Ogui for 10 years of service as a teacher.

In Workshop #1, we worked with clay, creating our own Buddha statues. We were given 32 physical characteristics of the historical Buddha, 80 secondary characteristics of the Buddha and 17 characteristics of the statue of the Buddha. Our second task was to create a Buddhist concept out of clay: enlightenment, Pure Land, compassion, interdependence, etc. In Workshop #2, Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto spoke



about Living a AAA Life. He talked about how Nagarjuna and Shinran presented the notion of the finger pointing to the moon. Without the finger, we could not see the moon. But, we should not mistake the finger for the moon. For Workshop #3, each delegate was asked to bring a story, poem or song that was meaningful to them. In addition to the three themed

workshops, evening sessions provided some extra fun, exercise and education with kamishibai, games, gathas and line dancing. New gathas, written by temple members, with contemporary rhythms were a hit. Each temple brought home a CD with music and lyrics to share with their Dharma Schools.

Although some had visited the Jodo Shinshu Center previously, the group took the opportunity to visit the JSC for a firsthand experience. We were welcomed by Glenn Kameda (Facility Manager) and Robert Noguchi (Campaign BCA-21<sup>st</sup> Century), who graciously gave us a tour of the Center.

As the Dharma School year comes to a close, the teachers will meet to share what was learned at the FDSTL conference and to plan for next year with new ideas. The teachers are very grateful for this retreat-like learning experience.

Gassho, Julianne Tosaya, DS Co-Superintendent

## Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations – April/May 2008

<u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u>	<u>For:</u>		<u>Given by:</u>
Pete Hanada	– 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service	\$ 500	Miyuki Hanada
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Mary H. Shigaya	– 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Memorial Service	\$ 500	Ken K. Shigaya
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Toshio Harada	– In Memory of	\$ 100	May Harada
Nokotsudo		\$ 100	Yutaka Yasui
Nokotsudo for Mrs. Taka Ishigami		\$ 100	Keiko Takeda

<u>Remembrances for:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Miyoko Ise	Yoshi Katayama
Hiroshi Nakashima	Yoshi Katayama
Mary H. Shigaya	Mr. & Mrs. Ben Ikeda; Roy Ikeda; Harry & Terry Shigaya; Mary S. Shigaya
George Suetsugu	Jim & Hiroko Hasegawa
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**General Donations:** Jim & Hiroko Hasegawa, Emiko Okada, Cindy Taketa

**Temple Supervision:** Yakima Buddhist Church \$ 200

<u>Other Gifts:</u>	<u>Donor:</u>	<u>For:</u>
Mark E. Stiller		Yooko Uchida, Residence Service
Dick Yoshimura		In Honor of Pat Kihara's 88 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Miyoko Kaneta		In appreciation of Rinban & Mrs. Matsubayashi

**LARGE AND SMALL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SAVE OUR PLANET** by Gail Kaminishi  
 What will we use when companies eventually phase out plastic bags? King County Library System's website, [kcls.org](http://kcls.org) states that they have ordered BioBags to give to patrons. They will take the place of plastic bags and are biodegradable and compostable. The company also makes such things as food storage bags and trash bags which are made of cornstarch and vegetable oil.



Consider getting a metal or improved nalgene-type water bottle instead of buying bottled water, which has to be transported over great distances and adds to the greenhouse gases.