



Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 28 Issue 1 January 2009

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail
throughout the world*

Seattle Buddhist Church

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Wheel of the Sangha

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JOYA-E NEW YEAR'S

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of the newsletter.**

Seattle Betsuin Vision

*Embrace true and
real life
in Nembutsu*



Seattle Betsuin Mission

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

January/February 2009 Special Events

- NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE JANUARY 1 10:00 AM
- BETSUIN NEW YEAR PARTY JANUARY 11 NOON
- SHINRAN'S MONTHLY SERVICE JANUARY 16 10:00 AM
- HO-ONKO SERVICE JANUARY 18 10:00 AM
- CHILDREN'S CHAPEL SERVICE JANUARY 25 10:00 AM
- SCOUT SUNDAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 1 10:00 AM
- NIRVANA DAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 8 10:00 AM
- NORTHWEST CONVENTION FEBRUARY 13 - 15

EVE SERVICE DECEMBER 31 7:00 PM

Betsuin Events for January 2009

SUNDAYS

January 4 Rev. Castro (Vacation)

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Children: Joe

Adult: Rev. Warrick

Japanese: Rinban Matsubayashi

DX: Rev. Warrick

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Matsubayashi)

January 11

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Children: Rev. Castro

Adult: Rinban Matsubayashi

Japanese: Rinban Matsubayashi

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

January 18

10:00 am Ho-Onko Service

Children: Joe Schwab

Adult: Rev. Castro

Japanese: Rinban Matsubayashi

DX: Rev. Castro

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

January 25

10:00 am Children's Service (Rev. Castro)

Youth: Joe Schwab

Adult: Rinban Matsubayashi

Japanese: Rinban Matsubayashi

DX: Rev. Warrick

3:00 pm Spokane (Rev. Castro)

MONDAYS

January 5 Rev. Castro (Vacation)

January 12, 19, 26 Rinban Matsubayashi (Days off)

TUESDAYS

January 6, 13, 20, 27 Rev. Castro (Days off)

January 27

10:30 am Keiro Service (Rinban Matsubayashi)

WEDNESDAYS

Shinran Shonin's 750th Memorial Observance

Logo is made up of a combination of the number 750, and the letter S, the initial for Shinran Shonin. All together, the logo symbolizes the interconnectedness among people and also expresses the current slogan of the Hongwanji Core Program, "Let us build the world in which all life shines." The six colors used in the rainbow-like arc of the logo are blue, yellow, red, white, scarlet, and a mixture of the five colors, which represents the colors of the Buddhist flag. The copyright of this logo belongs to Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha. *—extracted from:*

www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org

December 31 Rev. Castro (Vacation)

7:00 pm Joya-E New Year's Eve Service (Rinban Matsubayashi and Rev. Warrick)

January 7 Rev. Castro (Vacation)

7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi)

January 14

January 21

January 28

THURSDAYS

January 1 **New Year Holiday**

10:00 am New Year's Day Service (Rinban Matsubayashi and Rev. Warrick)

January 8

2:00 pm Ministers' Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Matsubayashi)

7:30 pm Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi, Rev. Castro & Rev. Warrick)

January 15

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)

7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)

January 22

7:30 pm Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)

January 29

FRIDAYS

January 2 Rinban Matsubayashi (Holiday for the 1st) Rev. Castro (Day off)

January 9 Rinban Matsubayashi (Day off)

January 16

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

11:00 am Ministers' Meeting (Rinban Matsubayashi & Rev. Castro)

January 23

January 30

SATURDAYS no events scheduled as of 12/15/08

February 2009: *Major Events of Interest*

February 1 (Sunday) Boy Scout Sunday Service

February 8, (Sunday) Nirvana Day Service

February 13-15 (Friday-Sunday) Northwest District Convention at Portland

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

January 19, 2009 8:00 PM

Email Articles to: Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com

Print on January 23, 2009

2009 New Year Greeting

Rinban Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi, Ed.D.

As we welcome the year of 2009, my wife and I wish to extend our sincere New Year Greetings in wishing all the members and friends of the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church the best of spirit and health in the Nembutsu. A famous poet Issa wrote the following Haiku on New Year's Day:

*Kado Matsu-ya! (The New Year's decorative pine trees)
It's a milestone to the world of Nirvana.
It may be happy, or it may not be happy.*

This Haiku poem gives us an opportunity to think about the true meaning of the celebration of the New Year with the word of "Happy." For the answer to this question, I found a very interesting article written by a lady in Ashiya City in the *Mainichi Newspaper*.

She had lost a close family member during her childhood. As a result, she became so afraid of death that she would constantly look at the clock and say, "I am gradually approaching death." As soon as her sad words were heard by her father, he told her, "That is not right! You are extending your life by one second, and one second!" Her father's advice turned her fear away, and she became a healthy girl again.

After she was awakened to the wisdom of her father's advice, she realized that when she thinks positively, her future becomes bright, and when she thinks negatively, she falls into a deep sense of depression. She also realized that "To live one day in her life is the most respectful thing. If I live a day with complaints and hatred, I am really wasting my life! **'It's Mottai-nai, Mottai-nai!'** I am too grateful for each day of my life!" Both Issa's Haiku and the Japanese lady's letter enlightened me to appreciate the New Year's Day as a happy day!

When I was living in Canada, I saw a movie on the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) television station entitled "The War Between Us," which described the friendship of Caucasian and Japanese women in unusual circumstances. In the story, a middle-aged Japanese Buddhist, Mr. Kawashima, created a handmade family Buddhist shrine in his temporary quarters at the relocation center. He repeatedly recited the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu, during this uncertain time. I thought that the movie scene truly represented the lives of the Japanese Jodo Shinshu Buddhists in those days.

During such a difficult period in the history of the Japanese immigrants to North America, the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu, became a living power for Jodo Shinshu Buddhists. Those who are awakened by the wisdom of the Nembutsu are able to lead a life without fear of any obstructions. The *Tannisho* describes this great way of the Nembutsu life as "The Nembutsu is the unimpeded Single Path in our life."

Realization of the Nembutsu way of life was expressed beautifully in Japanese poem by the noted poet, Wariko Kai, as follows:

*Over and around, the rocks and
the tree trunks,
The water flows on – the babbling brook
flows on.*

The spirit of the Nembutsu was carried over by Jodo Shinshu Buddhists to live in [the] hardship with [a] great hope and joy. Let us all appreciate the unimpeded Single Path of the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu, throughout the year. Gassho

SEATTLE BETSUIN *New Year's Party* January 11, 2009 in the Gym

Tickets Adult Bento: \$10; Kid's Meal: \$5 for age 6 & over; free for age 5 and under, (ticket required). Complimentary for Betsuin members age 80 years and over, (please sign up at Betsuin Office). – Yukio Morikubo



CAMP FIRE



Annual Camp Fire Candy Sale It's that time again! Camp Fire students will be selling candy from Jan. 23 - Feb.16. Each box costs \$5, with half of the proceeds supporting local Camp Fire programs. There will be the traditional creamy mints, almond roca and caramel clusters. In addition, our group receives a refund for each box sold. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. There will be students selling in the hondo lobby on Sundays, or buy from your favorite Camp Fire student. Thank you for your support!

Camp Fire Bodhi Day Bake Sale Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. The generosity of our temple Sangha members during these uncertain economic times was appreciated even more. We were able to raise \$273 that will go toward camping and North Bend property maintenance.

A "wow" to our Camp Fire members and family who contributed an eye-appealing, mouth-watering array of goodies: Kristal., Amanda, Teresa Shimizu, Tomi Zumoto, Emily, Marisa, Rev. Julie, Stuart Teramoto, Emi, Joan Nakano, Aiko, Mike Teramoto family, Erica & Meghan, Grace Ichikawa, Lauren Asaba, Bev Sakamoto, Lauren, Mabel T., Samantha, Kayla, Jaime, Susie Yamane, Kris Teranishi, Ellen Mori, Alison Yamasaki, Lani Carpenter, Kristy, the

Atcheson family...plus, those who brought goodies and missed signing the list; and, to our coordinators Lynda & Tina. – submitted by Tina Zumoto-Ko

Camp Fire Sunday – March 1 We would like to invite the Sangha and all Camp Fire alumni to attend our annual birthday service. It will be held on March 1, coordinated and hosted by the Hummingbirds group (5/6th graders).

Adventure 3-4 On Dec. 1, the girls joined the rest of the Camp Fire groups in decorating Wisteria View Manor. We hung close to 90 wreaths on resident and office doors. Some of the residents saw us hanging wreaths and expressed their appreciation. It was nice to see Wisteria View looking so colorful and festive.

We're starting to practice a dance routine for the upcoming Temple New Year's Party. Pam and Alison are choreographing the routine, to the tune of "All For One", from High School Musical 2.

Special thanks to Tina Ko, for spearheading the Camp Fire Bodhi Day Bake Sale. We appreciated the amazing support from our group families and Camp Fire members. Many thanks to those who helped price items, sell items, and to everyone who donated bake sale items.

Submitted by Dana Nakashima

Notes from Dharma Exchange ... is available on the internet at www.seattlebetsuin.com in the "newsletter". Thank you, Pat Bobrow, for keeping us all apprised of this Sunday interactive discussion.

SCHOLARSHIPS

High School Seniors 2009 - If you are a temple high school senior class of 2009 you are eligible to apply for the Seattle Betsuin Tsujihara Memorial Scholarship Grant / Seattle Betsuin Continuing Education Grant. All applications must be submitted by 1pm Friday, April 24, 2009. Contact: Shizue Kaku via the Betsuin office at 206 329-0800.

College Students - The Masaru & Mitsuma Shimokon Scholarship Grant is available to temple college students. To apply you must be currently attending college with majors in medicine, nursing, or engineering. The application submission deadline is Friday, April 24, 2009 at 1pm. Contact: Shizue Kaku via the Betsuin office at 206 329-0800.

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

NEW YEAR'S GREETING

by Reverend Don Castro

Happy New Year 2009! "Another year older and deeper in debt," as the old song goes. I should say, "deeper indebted." I am indebted for all of the many kindnesses extended to me this past year. Thank you all, and I wish you a joyous and healthy 2009 in the boundless spirit of the Nembutsu. "Another year older" reminds me of a haiku poem by Jokun:

*Toshi toranu
tsumori narishi ga,
Kane no naru!*

*I intended
never to grow old,
But the temple bell
sounds!*

We mark the transition from one year to the next by ringing the big temple bell (bonsho) 108 times on New Year's Eve.

*Shinran Shonin's
750th Memorial*



Each New Year takes us one year further away from the life of our founder Shinran Shonin, but his spirit and teaching is ever fresh and green (especially in the Evergreen State). "As long as there is one saying the Nembutsu, know that there are two. When two say it together, know that there are three, and that other one is me, Shinran." The Nembutsu is our spiritual connection with Shinran Shonin.

This year we continue observances leading up to the world 750th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's death in 1262. In 2010, we will observe the memorial on a national level, but this year we will incorporate the 750th Anniversary theme into our Northwest District Convention in Portland. Don't forget to register by December 31. Our honored guest will be Shinran Shonin.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mas Tahara

Happy New Year! At the beginning of the Year of the Ox I would like to wish each of our members a very Happy New Year! Also I'd like to express my appreciation for your dedication to our temple by supporting and participating in the events and programs of the past year. Special thanks go to the support I received from the Board of Directors throughout the year.



With the "Review and Planning" process, the Board of Directors focused on finding many areas of our temple's operations and management

deep and wide so that we can come up with the direction we should take together.

We expect Seattle Betsuin would be no exception to being subjected to the economic hardships this region, the state, and the country are experiencing. It is a challenging and trying time for all of us in many senses, but we must not lose the real meaning and purpose of our temple's existence: "Embrace True and Real Life of Nembutsu".

•••

On behalf of the SBC Membership Committee...

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

Ken Kubota, Jack Matsui, Shirley Shimada, Ross Yokoyama

We'd like to 'welcome' Ross Yokoyama as a new member to our Sangha.

***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, 2009.** If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact Howard Luke or Steph Ojima by way of the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com.

***Shin Buddhism As The Conclusion of
All Searches for Happiness***

**Saturday
January 10, 2009**

White River Buddhist Temple
3625 Auburn Way N, Auburn, WA 98002
(253) 833-1442

**ENGLISH: 9:00 to Noon
JAPANESE: 1:00 to 4:00**

Donations are welcome.

Info: <http://www.whiteriverbuddhistmpl.org/>
Questions: wrlink4goldenchain@comcast.net

Everyone wants to be "happy". We try to do so first through worldly means: i.e. through pleasing our senses, physical comfort, acquiring things, vacations, good music, etc. First, we tend to be satisfied with such, but in the end, slowly boredom sets in, e.g. after you've gone to Hawaii, Japan, Thailand, Australia, and even Alaska; where else is there to go?

Then, we might try to go beyond sensual pleasures and find meaning in life through doing "good". But although admirable, that too, in the end,

proves to be dissatisfying. Why? Because we find it impossible to do good in a perfect, egoless manner.

If you're Buddhist, you might, as a last resort, turn to Buddhism, which teaches that True Happiness can be found only when you give up one's attachment to oneself. That is, to become egoless. We try, but we find that, too, to be impossible.

It's at this point that the true meaning, value and power of Shin Buddhism manifests itself. It is, then, on this Shin Buddhism, the Teaching of Shinran Shonin, that this seminar will focus. The talk will be informal, on the simplest possible level, and all questions will be more than welcome.

Gassho, Rev. Tetsuo Unno

Personal History – Reverend Tetsuo Unno –
Education: UC Berkeley, Ryukoku University, Tokyo University, UCLA. Teaching: California State University Northridge and Long Beach (Religious Studies); IBS (Berkeley). Ministry: Seattle Betsuin (at which time he also served as minister for the White River Buddhist Church), Senshin Buddhist Church, and at present, part-time minister, Pasadena Buddhist Church. Activities: Lecturing, mostly within BCA, Hawaii, and Canada temples, but at times at colleges when invited. Activities occasionally include translating, editing, and writing. Personal: Married, four children, all with families of their own.

submitted to *Wheel of the Sangha* by Mas Tahara

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

To members of the Sangha, Happy New Year.

As we greet the year 2009, I look forward to continuing to work with the present SBBWA Cabinet, former Board members and I "welcome" the newly elected members to the Board of Directors. To the general membership of the SBBWA, please continue to give the leaders your cooperation, to support the objectives of the organization, to cultivate religious awareness as Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Women, and to promote fellowships amongst its members; to serve and support the Seattle Betsuin and contribute services to the welfare of the community.

Members who are interested in attending the 62nd NWD Convention hosted by Oregon Buddhist Temple on February 13 - 15, please contact Peggy Hanada, SBBWA Registrar. - Terrie Tanino

Donations submitted by Treasurer Mabel Nishizaki
General donation Hiroko Hasegawa

Memorial Service S. Kawamura, M. Matsui, E. Tokita

Centennial Celebration S. Hayami, T. Zumoto

Calendar:

1/11 Betsuin New Year Party
1/13 BOD meeting 10:00 a.m.
1/18 Ho-Onko Service
1/25 Cabinet meeting

Submitted by Deanna Ikegami

SEATTLE BETSUIN BWA CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

On Saturday, September 20, 2008, 151 SBBWA members, their spouses and special guests attended the organization's 100th Anniversary celebration at the Maplewood Greens Golf Course. Although, the weather was far from ideal, it did not mar the beauty of the setting which was enjoyed by all who attended. The Celebration opened with a Service which included a Japanese Dharma talk by Mrs. Mayumi Ogui. It was followed by a luncheon and program featuring Rev. Dr. Shoyo Taniguchi from the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church in Union, California who gave the English keynote speech. After a group Sing-Along and solo by Sanaye Kawamura, a Bon Odori number "Seattle Samba" was performed by Gwen Florence, Gail Suzaka and Suzanne Umeda, followed by a short slide presentation by Fumi Groves. A group photo was taken following the program.

Special guests included Socho Koshin Ogui, who offered us a Congratulatory message. Guests from the NW Buddhist Churches were Rev. and Mrs. Kosho Yukawa and Kiku Morita from Tacoma; Rev. Kakei Nakagawa and Lilly Kato from White River; Alice Ando & Etsuko Osaki from Oregon; Laurel Saito and Isoko Yoshihara from Idaho/Oregon; Takako Uchida and Cami Wada from Yakima. Representing the Seattle Betsuin were Rinban and Mrs. Hoshu Matsubayashi, Rev. Don Castro and Mrs. Yasuko Ouchi. Temple organizations sent Paul Mori – SBC; Norigiku and Ed Horikawa – Gojikai; Kerry Sakamoto

– ABA; Debbie Shibata - Dharma School; Reese Morikubo - Sr. Yba and Mariko Keltner - Jr. YBA.

To celebrate this important date SBBWA presented the Betsuin with a gift of new pew cushions and wheel chair access in the Hondo

The Centennial Committee members included Rinban Hoshu Matsubayashi & Mrs. Kyoko Matsubayashi, Janet Baba, Pat Bobrow, Fumi Groves, Peggy Hanada, Yoshie Hiroo, Deanna Ikegami, Shizu Kaku, June Kosai, Kinue Kuwahara, Sheri Mizumori, Mabel Nishizaki, Tish Oye, Kazumi Shimizu, Fran Shintaku, Rikuko Tanaka, Terrie Tanino, Miyoko Tazuma, Elsie Tokita, Machiko Wada.

SBBWA would like to give special thanks to Sat Ichikawa - Banners & Signs; Haruko Shimizu - Mizuhiki Cranes; Julie Mayeda and Akico Taniguchi – Photography; and Salinas Buddhist Women's Association - Onaijin & Offertory Flowers. We would also like to express our gratitude to many of the SBBWA members who are not listed above, but without whose help we could not have had a successful event.

A Centennial Album to commemorate SBBWA's 100th Anniversary is being prepared for distribution in January, 2009, and we would like to thank the following for their help: Carol Aoki-Kramer, Doug Hanada, Joyce Kato, Connie Ozeki-Chinn and Susie Yamane.

In Gassho,
Kiyoo Takashima & Irene Mano
SBBWA Centennial Committee Co-Chairs

The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations – November/December 2008

<u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u>	<u>For:</u>		<u>Given by:</u>
Hiroko Kitano – Funeral		\$ 1,500	Diane Kitano
Tommy Tameo Deguchi – Funeral		\$ 1,000	Jean Deguchi
Robert Kono – Funeral		\$ 500	Mary Kono
Tom Masumi Osako – 49 th Day Memorial Service		\$ 500	Yasumi Osako
Kaye Kazuye Sullivan – Funeral		\$ 300	Susan Blackwell
Satoshi Masuda – Burial Service		\$ 300	Rose Masuda
Linda Akemi Quintua – 17 th Year Memorial Service		\$ 200	Gerald Quintua
Ben Yanagimoto – 7 th Year Memorial Service		\$ 200	Michiko Yanagimoto
Former SBWA Members		\$ 200	SBWA →

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Tsuma & Masaru Harada – In Memory of	\$ 150	Hatsumi Harada
Chiyo Iwamura – In Memory of	\$ 100	Don & Karen Akira
Kojiro Taki & Yasie Taki - In Memory of	\$ 100	Taki Family
Nokotsudo	\$ 100	Kinue Kuwahara
Nokotsudo	\$ 100	Al & Fran Shintaku

Remembrances for:

Ted Adachi
Iku Asaba
Tommy Tameo Deguchi

Given by:

Rose Marumoto; Tomie Takamoto
Yoshi Mamiya
Don & Karen Akira; Sumie Akizuki; George Aoyama; Katchi Aoyama; Arinobu Family; James & Mary Lou Burdulis; Christina Chinn; Cheryl Chow; Susan F. Combs; Janice Deguchi; Osa & Yvonne Edamura; Fujii Family; Robert & Gloria Fujii; Marcia Fujimoto; Susan Fujita; Rose & Henry Fukano; George & Toshi Fukeda; Michael & Marion Fukuma; Colin H. Funai; Gordon & Vicky Funai; Mary Furuta; Helen N. Gota; Jack & Fumi Habu; Mack Harada; Jim & Hiroko Hasegawa; Hatsumi Higa; Mike Higa; A & K Higashi; Amy Hirasawa; Michiko Hirata; Mickey & Yoshie Hiroo; Tom Hoshikawa; Alan & Cheryl Hoshino; Jack & Aki Ichikawa; Sat & Grace Ichikawa; Nobi & Kimi Ishii; Joe Jinguji; Arlene Kadoshima; Sharyl & Duane Kamihara; Mits Katayama; Tak Katayama; Mitsuo Kawachi; Ray & Marilyn Kihara; Amy & Charles Kinoshita; Lillian & George Kiuchi; Glen Kiyonaga; Paul & Taka Kogita; Janet/Matsuo Kohler; H.A. Kumasaka; M/M R. Kumasaka; Carolyn Kunihiro; Bonnie Kurata; Chiye Kusakabe; Tomio & Alice Kusakabe; Kinue Kuwahara; Cecil Leung; Dana & Kevin Lim; Sanaye Maekawa; Mariko Mano; Mark Mano; Stephanie Mano; Tosh & Tomi Mano; Franklin Marr; Richard & Leslie Matsuda; Tebo & Midge Matsudaira; T. Jack Matsui; Yoshie Mikami; Yasuko Mito; Rick Miyamoto & Gayle Shimizu; Tamio Miyata; Moriguchi Family; Kenzo & Carol Moriguchi; Kevin T. Moriguchi; Lisa Moriguchi; Tomio Moriguchi; Anne Moriyasu Trisha Morton; Ed Muneta; Murakami Family; Mas Murakami; Wash Murakami; Sanaye & Ernest Nagai; Barbara & Richard Nagaoka; Sue & Yosh Nakagawa; Arata Nakamura; Judith & Yoshio Nakamura; Kenjiro & Irene Nakamura; Marilyn Nakamura; Pat Edamura-Nakamura; Ted Nakamura; Alan Nishi & Family; Nishi Family; Helen Nishimura; Iso Nishimura; Akio Nishizaki; Noji Family; Nomi Family; Henry Nose; Robert & Marian Ohashi; Arlene Oki; O'Neill Family; Marianne Osaki; Otani Family; Nobuko Otsuji; Oyabe Family; Phillips Real Estate LLC; Joyce Pisnanont & Sean Kakigi; Rainier Golf & Country Club Ladies Div.; Wes Sagami; Irene Saito; Alfred & Jacqueline Sakamoto; Karry Sakamoto; Pauline Sakuma; Jack M. Sameshima; Joe Sasaki; John & Reiko Sato; Don Scott; Robert Seko; Charlene Mano-Shen; Karl Shibayama; Shigaki Family; Harry Shigaya; Mary S. Shigaya; May Shigihara; Nobue Shimizu; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Al & Fran Shintaku; Eddie & Mitsue Suguro; Nori Suguro; Florence Sumida; Toshiko Sunohara; Marianne H. Tada; Naomi Takagi; Shuzo & Alice Takeuchi; Mas Tamekuni; Peggy Tanemura; Ted & Akico Taniguchi; John & Irene Tanino; Janet Terada; Margaret Teramoto; Elsie Tokita; James; Tsukiyo Takano; Jean Y. Takano; Jean Taketa; James Terada; Victoria Terao; Toshio & Dolly Tokunaga; Masako Tomita; Julianne & Gary Tosaya; Umeda Family; Marcia & Ken Usui; Tosh Uyeji; Beverly Jean Wagner; James & Ruth Walby; Teruko Watanabe; Edwin Wong; Sumi Yagi; Yamamoto Family; Kenneth Yasui; Kiyoshi Yasui; Rick Yokoyama; Carol A. Yamamoto; Art Yorozu; Ron Yoshida; Gloria Yoshinaka; James & Betty Yuasa; Vivian & Ronald Yorita; Zumoto Family

Sugiyo Fukuma
Michisuke Harada
Akio Hoshino

Kay Fukuma
Mack & Setsuko Harada
Karen Akira

→

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Mrs. Y. Kashima	Shirley Shimada
Hiroko Kitano	Sue Fujino; Ritsuko Kawahara; Terry Nakano; Martha Taniguchi; Hideko Terada
Sowa Mamiya	Yoshi Mamiya
Kameno Nakahiro	Mary Koyano
Tom Osako	Hatsumi Higa; Joe & Barbara Wakazuru
Ted Oye	Hatsumi Higa; Sat & Grace Ichikawa
Roger Masuda	Amy Hirasawa; Martha Imabori
Linda Quintua	Carolyn Kunihiro
Akiye Sanbo	Tomiko Zumoto
Minoru Tsubota	T. Hoshikawa; Shinya Ichikawa
Tad Tsujii	Paul & Taka Kogita

<u>Supervising Minister:</u>	Yakima Buddhist Temple	\$ 100
	Spokane Buddhist Temple	\$ 1,200

Weddings:

Sanaye Nagai	\$ 500	Marriage of Kevin Nagai and Jennifer Asato
Marcia O'Donnell	\$ 300	Orei

Other:

Donor:

For:

Waldorf School Assoc. of Seattle	Student Visitation
Janet Seo / Marian Grier	General
Anonymous	General
Alice Doi	General
Marilyn Akutsu	General
Brian Kaku	General
Robert Hamatani	General
Kelly Kuwahara	General
Takako Ogata & Family	General
Don & Karen Akira	General
Irene Goto	General

Religious Department---Are we there yet? by Paul Mori

Dear Sangha, join me and take time to reflect upon our past to set a path to the future. Our department worked quite diligently to provide meaningful services, events and seminars. The RD has many components which are not as visible such as the bookstore, liaison for the Northwest Dharma Association, temple religious calendar scheduling and donuts/coffee. There are only so many hands to assist in keeping these functions going. This is where we as a temple need to help each other.

Beginning this year, our Betsuin organizations will be asked to provide Regular service chairpersons for their assigned months. This is our opportunity to have Sangha members participate in the service. Those who have chaired in the past, thank you very much. To the new volunteers thank you ahead of time. Please, when asked to chair, remember we (who have participated) had to start some time. If the service is important to you, take part in it; you may find it enlightening. ●●●

Dharma School *Submitted by Joyce Tsuji*

Sixteen children (15 girls and 1 boy) participated in the Etaikyo Ochigo procession. They were assisted by 9 adults and 3 high school students. Thanks to all who participated - it all looked great!

A successful Bodhi day potluck was organized by Dharma School parents Leslie Sumida and Lynne Goodrich. Notably, we generated only one half garbage bag of trash; everything else was recycled or composted. We would like to express our gratitude to all who made contributions to this event.

We would like to welcome new Dharma School Board member Joanne Kosai-Eng and welcome back Ken Takemura, Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Debbie Shibata, Stuart Teramoto and Steve Chisholm. We would also like to express our appreciation to Stacy Nakata, Ann Kawasaki-Romero and Ed Kato who will be leaving the Board.

The new Dharma School Board Officers for 2009 are: Co-Chairs: Connie Ozeki-Chinn, and Ken Takemura; Treasurer: Debbie Shibata, and Secretary: Steve Chisholm

Classroom Reports

Infant/toddler In thinking about the animals in the colder weather, the infant/toddler class made pinecone feeders with pinecones, peanut butter, and birdseeds. For our Thanksgiving project we decorated pumpkin pie scented votive candles with stickers. We also colored a cute turkey. Bodhi Day was observed with our annual tradition of making Bodhi Ball ornaments.

Pre K/Kindergarten The Pre-K/K class talked about gratitude after listening to the story Thanksgiving at Obaachan's. They made a collage of pictures of things for which they are thankful. The students have been learning about the Buddhist shrine and its significance. They were given books about the shrine to color and take home. The following week, they made little obutsudans to use at home. The class celebrated Bodhi Day by making a wall hanging showing the Buddha sitting under the bodhi tree.

First/second grade We have begun our discussion about the Four Gratuities. Ask the students if they can remember any of them from the acronym PACT. We decorated cookies to look like turkeys, made special thank you cards, and bead ornament gifts with gift bags to demonstrate them. For Bodhi Day we made handprint bodhi trees covered in leaves with Sakyamuni Buddha sitting beneath them. Come see them up in our classroom.

You are cordially invited to the 62nd Annual NW Buddhist Convention

“Jodo Shinshu in An Interdependent World” and “Shinran Shonin’s 750th Memorial”

February 13 - 15, 2009, hosted by the Oregon Buddhist Temple

- Keynote speaker will be Reverend Dr Taitetsu Unno
- A variety of workshops for adults, (English & Japanese), YBA, and children will be available during the weekend.
- Registration fees are: Adults = \$90, Students gr. 6 – college = \$75; Children K – 5th grade = \$50 (children’s meals), Children 3 -PreK. = \$30 (children’s meals). Registration includes Saturday lunch and banquet. Sunday BENTO for takeout: \$10

Registration deadline: December 31, 2008

- Child care will be available for children under 3 (no meals provided).
- Hotel reservations at the Doubletree Hotel, 100 NE, Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232; phone: 1-800-996-0510. Request NW Buddhist District Convention rates: Premium King (single or double) = \$124 + tax; Standard Queen (single or double)= \$114 + tax are the responsibility of the delegates.

Reserve your hotel rooms by January 14, 2009

Forms & Schedule of Events: www.OregonBuddhistTemple.com

Additional information: Carol Saiget at kongsfam@comcast.net

Registration information: Tammy Herold at octreehouse@rocketmail.com



Notes from Dharma Exchange of November/December 2008

On November 30 Rev. Jim Warrick recounted his Children's Dharma Talk of the day which was held separately in the chapel. He had asked the children what compassion or kindness was to them? Doing something for others was a common answer; being unselfish every day was another. He expanded this thought to consider that suffering comes from serving ones self and that happiness comes from serving others. Brenden Foster, the little boy whose dying wish was to help feed the homeless, was mentioned as an example of unselfishness. Rev. Jim said that we humans see through our selfish eyes, that selflessness is what monks aspire to. He suggested, "Don't beat yourself up if you are not selfless. Selfishness does not negate the good that's been done. Instead of being self critical, just be mindful."

On December 7 various ideas about the difference between thankful and grateful were raised. Several ideas, including Rev. Julie Hanada's incorporation of the head, heart and walking the talk to express gratitude, were offered.

On December 14 service was held in the chapel and a Dharma Exchange was incorporated into Rev. Castro's Dharma Talk of the day. He began by mentioning the atheist's display in the Olympia Capital building that rejected Christmas. He thought it could have been done in a positive light, e.g. "may everyone enjoy peace..." He expressed that God is not necessary to be compassionate, but identifying with other beings is. He said compassion comes out of common experience of pain and suffering. He asked, "Do animals cringe at the pain of others?" In the case of someone who employs a service dog, she found that some dogs are more sensitive than others, and that instincts vary and play a role in their display of "compassion". Someone suggested that people do not have the ability to recognize the expression of other species. Rinban expressed that evolution also plays a role in being able to have "feelings". Rev. Castro brought up the idea of consciousness which includes neuroses and that, as the Dalai Lama explains in [The Universe in a Single Atom](#), consciousness is something in between matter and energy.

- submitted by Irene Goto