



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 28 Issue 8 August 2010

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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Cover page

Please scroll down.

**Seattle Betsuin Vision**  
*Embrace true and  
real life  
in Nembutsu*



**Seattle Betsuin Mission**  
*Promote, protect, and  
share the Buddha,  
Dharma and Sangha*

## August 2010: Major Events of Interest

- **ATOMIC BOMB VICTIMS' MEMORIAL SERVICE** with Rev. Gimyo Takemura Sunday, August 1 & start of **Overview of Buddhism Class**
- **BUDDHIST STUDY GROUP** - "Rennyō Shonin"  
Saturday, August 7 9:30 am–12:30 pm see *page 4*
- **SBBWA ESHINNI-KO & KAKUSHINNI-KO SERVICE** with Rev. Gimyo Takemura Sunday, August 22

## Betsuin Events for

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Temple Contact Information</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Calendar of Events,</p> <p><b>Newsletter Deadline:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>August 16, 2010</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>8:00 pm</b></p> <p>Print: August 20, 2010</p>	<p><b>3</b> Reverend Castro's Message, Onenju Available</p> <p><b>4</b> Study Group, Orion Center Service, Mongolian, KSP Thanks</p> <p><b>5</b> President Mori, Bon Odori Thanks, SBBWA</p>	<p><b>6</b> Bishop/Rinban Memorial Donations, Wednesday Dharma Support Group, ABA's Trip to Canada for Shinran's 750<sup>th</sup> Memorial Convention, Betsuin Sangha Bon Odori, JSCC Poster Contest</p> <p><b>7</b> SBC Donations</p>	<p><b>8</b> SBC Membership, Go Paperless, Save the Planet, Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course, Sunday Jodo Shinshu Meditation Service, Look Who's Blogging, Dharma Exchange Notes</p>
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## Betsuin Events for August 2010

### EVERY SUNDAY All are invited.

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

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

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

### SUNDAYS EVENTS in addition to above

August 1 10:00 am ATOMIC BOMB VICTIMS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

English: Rev. Castro  
 Japanese: Rev. Gimyo Takemura  
 DX: Joe Schwab

11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting  
 12:00-1:30 pm "The Overview of Buddhism" Class

August 8 10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

English: Rev. Castro  
 Japanese Program  
 DX: Rev. Castro

August 15 10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

English: Rev. Warrick  
 Japanese Program  
 DX: Rev. Castro

12:00pm Religious Dept. Luncheon (Rev. Castro, Rev. Warrick, Joe Schwab) and Meeting  
 12:00-1:30 pm "The Overview of Buddhism" Class

August 22 10:00 am SBBWA ESHINNI-KO & KAKUSHINNI-KO SERVICE

English: Rev. Castro  
 Japanese: Rev. Gimyo Takemura  
 DX: Rev. Castro

11:30 am 2011 Nembutsu Camporee Meeting (Rev. Castro)  
 12:00 – 1:30 pm "The Overview of Buddhism" Class

August 29 10:00 am English: Rev. Castro  
 Japanese Program

DX: Rev. Castro  
 11:45am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting  
 12:00–1:30 pm "The Overview of Buddhism" Class

### MONDAYS

August 9 Travel Day to Reno (Rev. Castro)  
August 16 10:00 am Shinran Shonin Monthly Memorial Service (Rev. Castro)

August 30 Rev. Castro (Day off)

### TUESDAYS

August 3, 17 Rev. Castro (Days off)  
August 10-12 BCA Ministerial Association Meetings and Retreat in Reno (Rev. Castro)

August 24 10:30 am Keiro Service (Rev. Castro)  
August 31 Rev. Castro (Study day off)

**WEDNESDAYS** Dharma Support Group 10:30 am

**Sept. Newsletter Deadline: Monday, Aug. 16, 8:00 pm**  
**Print: August 20, 2010**

## THURSDAYS

August 5 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)

August 19

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rev. Castro)  
7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting (Rev. Castro)

August 26

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

## FRIDAYS

August 6, 13, 20 Rev. Castro (Study Days off)

## SATURDAYS

August 7 9:30 am–12:30 pm Buddhist Study Group  
- “Rennyō Shonin” (Joe Schwab)



# Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 29 Issue 8 SEATTLE BETSUIN NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2010



## Should We Emphasize Evil Person?

By Rev. Don Castro

On July 14, the Wednesday before this year's Bon Odori weekend, I was visited by Rev. Masumi Kikuchi from Japan. Rev. Kikuchi served with the Buddhist Churches of Canada but resigned due to health problems and returned to Japan. She is presently working on her Ph.D. at our Hongwanji-related Ryukoku University in Kyoto and she came to the U.S. to conduct research for her doctoral dissertation. As part of her research, she interviewed me for over 3 hours (actually we had lunch together too). Rev. Kikuchi's research concerns how Jodo Shinshu can be expressed in English in a way that will keep its authentic character while also appealing to a modern North American temperament. She is also investigating the history of Jodo Shinshu propagation in English. During our conversation, we both agreed that early efforts in Hawaii and the Mainland focused far more on “general Buddhism” and there was a much smaller flavor of authentic Jodo Shinshu until the 1970's. When I enrolled at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in 1973, it was hard to find very many Jodo Shinshu texts in English. Today, I can't keep up with the wonderful publications of Jodo Shinshu material.

We need to appreciate the fact that Jodo Shinshu Buddhism has a distinct and unique personality; a doctrinal fingerprint. What sets us apart in certain ways from other Buddhists is not a modern development. Many of the same themes we address today were issues at the time of Shinran as well. Rev. Kikuchi asked me if I think Jodo Shinshu's emphasis on “the evil person” turns people away from our teaching. I replied that we have to be careful how we introduce our teaching to newcomers. If I tell someone new that our teaching offers salvation to the evil person they may very well be turned off. However, if I tell them the essence of our teaching is an awakening to gratitude, their first impression of our teaching may be more favorable and certainly no less accurate. Recent psychological studies of gratitude have shown how important it is for our mental health and happiness.

People who become interested in Buddhism are often moving away from something else. If what they are investigating appears too much like what they are rejecting, they will keep looking. Shinshu's salvation for the evil person and fundamentalist Christianity's salvation for the sinner superficially seem similar. However, there are crucial areas where we completely differ and one of these areas is the issue of judgment. From the very beginning, Amida Buddha is not a judge but is

the working of boundless wisdom and compassion doing everything possible to bring about our liberation from pain and suffering (dukkha, skt.). In Buddhism, judgment is a function of our discriminating mind; an egotistic attachment we do to ourselves. In fundamentalist Christianity, it is taught that Christ died for our sins, but God had previously imposed the legalistic standard of sin in the Ten Commandments. In Buddhism, we are motivated by the desire to eliminate dukkha in ourselves and others. We do not need the threat of punishment.

**ONENJU ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE** Onenju for children, women, and men are now available for purchase in the temple office. Heirloom and modern beads have been restrung by Pauline Sakuma into beautiful new onenju. Please visit the office to see the variety of styles available. Proceeds go to Seattle Betsuin. - jn



### Study Group

All are welcome to the August meeting of the Buddhist Study Group. It will take place on **Saturday, August 7, from 9:30-12:30**. We will meet in the Buddhist Education House at 1441 S Main St (2 doors east of the temple) for a short meditation service. A discussion will follow focusing Rennyō led by Joe Schwab. Sensei Castro has some articles on Rennyō that he will distribute. If you are interested, please ask Sensei Castro for copies. If you like, you can bring a brown bag lunch. - by Leonora Clarke

### Orion Center Service Project

Another dinner meal was served to the homeless youth at the Orion Center on behalf of Seattle Betsuin on July 16, 2010. Our volunteers were Keijo Oi, Rev. Julie Hanada, Mae Ikawa, Laverne Imori, and Irene Goto. Tasks included shopping preparing and serving lasagna, coleslaw, fresh fruit and garlic bread. Mae Ikawa donated and prepared 20 peanut butter sandwiches for the street outreach program. Our contributors were Richard Kelly, Shirley Shimada, Mae Deguchi, Aiko Fujii, Fran Shintaku and Laverne Sasaki. Thank you, all. The next meal will be served on Friday, August 20, 2010. An event coordinator and 4 or 5 more volunteers will be needed from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm for this date at the Orion Center, (1828 Yale



Avenue at the corner of Denny and Stewart). Dollar donations are appreciated.

Several groups including Dharma School, Camp Fire, and Jr.YBA, as well as individual families from Seattle Betsuin have been making, serving, and donating dinner on the third Friday of each month since November, 2009. Individuals and groups are welcomed to participate in this *dana* for homeless Seattle youth on behalf of Seattle Betsuin. Can you help by donating food or dollars? Contact Elliott Zimmermann or Irene Goto. Go to [www.YouthCare.org/index.php/services/orion](http://www.YouthCare.org/index.php/services/orion) or read the article on page 5 of the 2010 June issue of *The Wheel of the Sangha* to learn more.

- by Irene Goto

### Mongolian Community Thank You

Nearly two years ago Seattle Betsuin Board of Directors allowed me to sponsor the Mongolian Community of greater Seattle in letting them use a Memorial Hall classroom for a Buddhism class twice per month. With the help of Ben Shimbo, Laverne Imori, Gail Kaminishi, Paul Mori, Jeff Clarke, Dennis Shibata, Karry Sakamoto, Reverend Matsubayashi, and Reverend Castro, the classes were held two Saturdays per month.

There were also visits from Khamba Lama Gabju D. Choijamts and Arjia Rinpoche who were

given permission by the Board and Rinban Matsubayashi to address the Mongolian community with services attended by then MA, Jim Warrick, and Reverend Castro, respectively, in the hondo.

The Buddhism classes were conducted in Mongolian by Venerable Altankhuu. I would like to share his letter which follows.

Gassho. Irene Goto

July 4, 2010

Dear Irene,

First of all, thank you very much for your help. I always appreciate your kindness and supports. You did many good things for many Mongolian people who live in the Seattle area. With the help of you and Betsuin, many Mongolian people had an opportunity to have Dharma class and cultural events. Therefore, Mongolian Buddhist Community would like to express its gratitude to you and Betsuin.

I am going to Mongolia at the end of July and will come back to Seattle at the middle of the September. So, I wish you wonderful and happy summer. See you in September.

Best wishes and many thanks.

Altankhuu Tserenjav

**Kids Summer Program Thank You** The 2010 Dharma School Kids summer program was a huge success due to the many talents that our temple members shared with us. And the time and effort given to passing on Buddhist and Japanese American and Japanese culture to the students and families was truly heartfelt. We had a record 108 1st-8th graders within 7 classes and the temple was buzzing with energy for a week during June 28-July 2! We will publish a full thank you list in the next issue, but for now - a huge *Domo Arigatoo gozaimashita!* - Submitted by Tina Ko

### Oh what a weekend!!! Bon

Odori 2010 has happened. If you attended, the images are still fresh in the mind - such a wonderful event for our Betsuin to host in association with the Seafair community at large. The dancing, the drumming, the food, and the music blended into producing "the best Bon Odori in the World" as Rinban Matsubayashi shared at Sunday's closing message. Ron Hamakawa, who chaired this and many previous Bon Odoris, is to be congratulated for his dedication and leadership in this annual celebration. Many thanks, to his committee who begin the planning during the winter months. Also, much appreciation to Gwen Florence and her odori staff for their effort in preparing the dancers for the weekend. On behalf of the Betsuin Board of Directors I would like to thank the temple members and friends for their continued support of our Bon Odori. Your time and effort created a real and successful 2010 event in celebrating our past sangha.

gassho, paul mori

### 78<sup>th</sup> Bon Odori a success!

*Having met with the power of the Innermost Aspiration, None of us passes this life in vain. Our life becomes the treasure ocean that is filled with wonderful qualities.*

#### Shinran Shonin, Taishō Shinshū Daizōkyō

On behalf of the Planning Committee, please accept our most heartfelt thank you for an outstanding Bon Odori celebration.

Due to countless volunteer hours by the Sangha, we are able to host and share our Jodo Shinshu heritage with the greater Puget Sound community. It is by our actions that we contribute to the landscape of Seattle and its wonderful qualities.

Again, thank you for your work and support of this year's Bon Odori.

In Gassho,  
Ron Hamakawa,  
Bon Odori Chair



Photo by Ryan Nakata



## Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

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

- 17 members of SBBWA/ABA/Seattle Betsuin participated in the Walk for Rice sponsored by ACRS. With donations from the families of participants, friends and temple members, we

were able to raise \$1,700 for the ACRS food bank. Thank you. Hope to walk again in 2011.

- Obon: Under the direction of Mrs. Ritsuko Kawahara, members came out to assemble ingredients for barazushi and yakisoba. Thanks to all who helped.

- Many thanks to all the ladies of the SBBWA who came for KSP to teach the children participating in the program. The talented ladies of the SBBWA not only taught cooking classes, but also calligraphy, sumie, flower arranging and how to make manju and tofu.

**SBBWA Activity Report Submitted by Marian Asaba** On Tuesday, June 22nd, with the anticipation and excitement of the SBBWA members, including several of their spouses, participants boarded two buses for the once a year outing trip via the scenic Chuckanut Drive. It was a beautiful, sunny and warm day; the first stop was the Sakuma Brothers Farms where the group was given a walking tour as well as a brief story regarding the company's experimental tea making process. The members were able to sample the tea as well as purchase

**The Betsuin gratefully acknowledges the donations received for 2010**

**Bishop/Rinban Memorial:** Furuta, Sue Sumiko; Kubo, Masayoshi & Masako; Kuwahara, Kinue; Mamiya, Sumio & Haruko; Mano, Mariko; Ouchi, Yasuko; Sakuma, Pauline; Shimizu, Haruko; Shintaku, Albert & Frances; Terada, Joe & Hideko; Teramoto, Margaret; Yamasaki, Fujie

*Please accept our apologies for any inadvertent omissions or misspelling of names.*

Seattle BetsuinTreasu

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

**ABA Plans Trip to Canada for 750th Memorial Convention** Join us for a weekend trip to Steveston, B.C. September 24-26 for the Steveston Buddhist Temple's Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Convention. The speakers will be Rev. Drs. David Matsumoto and Mark Unno. There will be an overnight walking meditation which was inspired by the long journey Shinran underwent on Mt. Hiei. Registration is \$45 adults, \$20 children. We will carpool to Steveston with riders sharing the cost of gas. Lodging can be reserved at the Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport. The flyers and registration form can be seen in the temple hallway across from the office, at [www.steveston-temple.ca](http://www.steveston-temple.ca) and at [www.SeattleBetsuin.com](http://www.SeattleBetsuin.com). Please respond asap to Gail if you are interested. [gkaminishi@hotmail.com](mailto:gkaminishi@hotmail.com)

fresh strawberries grown on the farm. Second stop, the members enjoyed a delicious special Sunday Buffet Brunch at Chuckanut Manor made possible by having more than 40+ in the group. Third and last stop was the Taylor Shellfish Farm where they were able to purchase fresh oysters, clams, mussels and crabs which were iced packed for take home. Thanks to the hard work and effort put forth by Peggy Hanada and Marlene Okada, everyone had a truly good time and enjoyed this once a year outing.

**SBBWA Calendar**

Sunday, August 1  
 Sunday, August 22  
  
 Sunday, August 29

SBBWA Board Meeting  
 SBBWA Eshinni-ko and  
 Kakushinni-ko Service  
 SBBWA Cabinet Meeting

*Submitted by Joan Nakano*



BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation  
 Fraser Valley Kamloops Kelowna Steveston Vancouver Vernon  
**Shinran Shonin 750<sup>th</sup> Memorial Convention**  
 "May Peace and Tranquility Prevail throughout the World"  
 2010 September  
 24 (Fri) 5:30 PM Banquet (Radisson Hotel)  
 25 (Sat) 1:30 PM Convention  
 5:00 PM Sarana Affirmation (by Shinrons sama)  
 26 (Sun) 10:30 AM 750th Memorial Service  
 Steveston Buddhist Temple (Sep. 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup>)  
 4360 Garry Street, Richmond, BC, V7E 2V2  
 Tel: (604) 277-3223  
 www.steveston-temple.ca

親鸞聖人750回  
 大遠忌法要  
 世のなか  
 安穏なれ  
 あんのん

2010年9月24日(金) 5:30 PM タ宴会 (Radisson Hotel)  
 25日(土) 1:30 PM コンベンション  
 5:00 PM (前門棟2F) 帰敬式  
 26日(日) 10:30 AM 親鸞聖人750回遠忌法要  
 会場: (25・26日) スティーブストン仏教会

**Save the date.....**

**Saturday  
 August 7, 2010  
 5:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Seattle Betsuin Sangha  
 Bon Odori and picnic  
 dinner  
 In the  
 Back Parking Lot**



**Bring a dish to share,**  
**Plus we'll be grilling hamburgers**  
**and hot dogs**  
***It's too soon to pack away your***  
***yukata and happi!***

Photo by Ryan Nakata



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

**The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations**

**June – July 2010**

<b><u>Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:</u></b>	<b><u>For:</u></b>		<b><u>Given by:</u></b>
Toru Matsuoka – Funeral Service		\$ 1,000	Shizu Matsuoka
Yoshio Akada – 7 <sup>th</sup> Year Memorial Service		\$ 500	Saeko Akada
Akio Hoshino – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Memorial Service		\$ 300	Joan Hoshino
Noboru Tazuma – 17 <sup>th</sup> Year Memorial Service		\$ 300	Miyoko Tazuma
Takahashi (no first name) – 7 <sup>th</sup> Year		\$ 150	Shig Takahashi
Takahashi (no first name) – 26 <sup>th</sup> Year		\$ 150	Shig Takahashi
Teruko Fujihira – In Memory of		\$ 100	Joy Fujihira
Nokotsudo		\$ 20	Stacy & Ryan Nakata

**Remembrances for:**

Yoshio Akada  
 Tommy Deguchi  
 Hiroo's (Kango, Miyako & Michiko)  
 Lily Hori  
 Kito Kaneta  
 Amy Kuramoto  
 Toru Matsuoka  
 Fred Ogata  
 Mitsuko Osaki  
 Misayo Yorita  
 Sadamu Takashima

**Given by:**

Sue Fujino; Nobi & Sachi Fujita; Pauline Sakuma  
 Karen Akira  
 Dolly Tokunaga  
 Tak & Ruth Aoki  
 Gloria Shigeno  
 Tak and Ruth Aoki; Margaret Teramoto  
 Ken & Akiko Higashi; Jack Matsui  
 Takako Ogata  
 Toshio & Lois Taniguchi  
 Takako Yorita  
 Peggy Tanemura; Dolly Tokunaga

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

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

To help reduce the cost of postage, the Temple changed its process of sending a receipt for every donation to sending a summarized listing quarterly. The mailing will be made at the end of each calendar quarter for January through December. We will not be using the Temple's fiscal year quarter. This change is effective as of January 2010.

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

<b><u>Temple Supervision:</u></b>	Yakima Buddhist Church	\$ 100
	Spokane Buddhist Church	\$ 100

**General Donations:**

Camp Fire	\$1,000	Appreciation for use of facilities
Sharon Harada	\$ 50	Visitation
Lori Takashima Lau	\$ 50	Appreciation for Use of Projector
Shinya & Jane Ichikawa	\$ 25	Visitation

**Onenju Sales:** \$ 65

**On behalf of the SBC Membership Committee...**

We would like to “thank” the following **regular members**, for contributing at least the minimum annual Ijikai dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). This is a list of those paid members that have posted dues for the fiscal year of 2010 since our last article:

*Gene Akutsu; Michele Anciaux-Aoki; Takao & Ruth Aoki; Lauren Asaba; Patricia Bobrow; Edwin & Jenni Chinn; Steve & Lori Chisholm; Yasuko Desaki; Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara; Burke Dykes; Florence Fujita; Nobuichi & Sachiko Fujita; Sue Furuta; Jack & Fumi Habu; Miyuki Hanada; Mack & Setsuko Harada; Steve Hasegawa; Susan Hatai; Sachiko Hayami; Steven & Cathleen Hokoda; Laura Ichikawa Howland; Bok Soon Ikeda; Edith Imanishi; Sharyl Kamihara; Malcom & Eileen Kanemoto; Gary & Madeline Kato; Kazue Katie Kato; Mitsu Florence Kato; William & Beth Kawahara; George Kodama; Tom Kodama; Esther Kojima; Betty Kubota; Kishiko Kusakabe; Robert Kusakabe; John Litz; Yoshiko Mamiya; Andrea Mano; George & Irene Mano; Teruo Maruko; Rose Masuda Paul & Teresa Mori; Yukio & Karen Morikubo; Ernest & Sanaye Nagai; Kevin*

**GO PAPERLESS!** This newsletter is now on LINE 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!

**Save the Planet** by Gail Kaminishi

*Nagai; Junko Nakano; Eric & Betty Nakashima; Gerry Nakata; Tsukasa & Keiko Namekata; Iso Nishimura; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki; Barry & Marlene Okada; Ray & Mineko Okamura; Tomiko Okano; Dean O’Shields; Kengo Sakamoto; Tom & Beverly Sakamoto; Joyce Sato; Joan Seko; Harry & Terrie Shigaya; Ken Shigaya; Albert & Frances Shintaku; Judy Suto; Yasuko Jean Takano; Noboru & Takako Taki; Katsumi & Terrie Tanino; Joe & Hideko Terada; Patricia Tsurukawa; Cheryl Uyeji; Shizue Yahata; Michiko Yanagimoto; Yoshie Yasuda; Fusae Yokoyama; Fuyo Yoshida*

**We'd like to 'welcome' Robert Kusakabe and Cheryl Uyeji as new members 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, 2010.** If you have any questions about your membership status, please contact Howard Luke or Steph Ojima by way of the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or [office@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:office@seattlebetsuin.com)

Rather than throw out clothes and tablecloths that have stains in them, try dyeing them another darker color.

Save paper that is printed only on one side and use it again to make copies on the other side. Even airlines accept boarding passes printed on the other side of printed pages. Always photocopy back to back (if possible.) No one wants heavy handouts at conferences, school, etc.



**Jodo Shinshu Meditation Service at**  
Buddhist Education House: 1441 S Main St  
**Sundays 8:45 - 9:30 AM**

**Jodo Shinshu Correspondence  
Course - 2010 Fall Enrollment**

**Applications Now Accepted** An excellent opportunity for beginners or for those who have already studied Jodo Shinshu, the program reaches out to people all over the world. With over 100 students enrolled, the course has much to offer

those interested in deepening their understanding of Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu. The course instructors consist of 14 ministers and professors who specialize in the subjects taught. An optional August Workshop at the Jodo Shinshu Center is held every year.

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

**Look Who's Blogging!** Rinban Matsubayashi and Reverend Castro, Reverend Jim Warrick, and EcoSangha! Join in, and post your comments. Rinban is blogging in English and Japanese.  
<http://revmatsubayashi.blogspot.com/>  
<http://revcastro.blogspot.com/> <http://revwarrick.blogspot.com/>  
<http://ecosangha-seattle.blogspot.com/>

submitted by Alan Hoshino

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

**June**

**27** - A long discussion ensued concerning gays and marriage led by Joe Schwab, M.A.

A participant commented that many gays are not seeking a legal definition, but rather are asking for a spiritual commitment in a marriage ceremony.

**July 4** - A participant liked the ideas of "interdependent" and "impermanence" brought into Rev. Castro's Dharma message. The Buddhist feeling toward fireworks is that they are beautiful briefly then they die. He talked about water disputes in Buddhist scriptures causing people to go to war. The Buddha saw both sides of the issue and negotiated.

Castro sensei was shocked during the YBA convention in Portland in that the young people were neutral on the Pledge of Allegiance inclusion of "under god." He also raised the question of how to deal with fundamentalists in family and funeral services.

**July 11** - Rev. Castro discussed the new format changes for Hatsubon/Obon, and how it has changed from previous years.

Comment was made that newsletter articles are due on the third Monday of the month, and should be in the mail by the fourth Monday.

Irene G. discussed the Orion Center for homeless youth. Various organizations take turns providing meals. The Betsuin provides a meal on the third Friday of the month. Contact Irene if you would like to help or wish to contribute. Rev. Julie, who participated recently, said the kids were so well-behaved and polite.

Ron H. announced that those who worked to present Bon Odori (and hence could not dance) will have a potluck and dance on August 7. See page 5 of this newsletter for details.

Gassho, Pat Bobrow