



Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 32 Issue 6 June 2013

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

Take Refuge in the True and Real Light

Seattle Buddhist Church

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Mon-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm

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Cover Page

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Newsletter

Seattle Betsuin Vision

*Embrace true and
real life
in Nembutsu*



Seattle Betsuin Mission

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

Ministers

Rimban Don Castro
24 hours: (206) 779 -2214
Reverend Jim Warrick

Wheel of the Sangha NEWSLETTER

Editors: English - Irene Goto
Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com
Japanese - Machiko Wada
Newsletter-Jpn@SeattleBetsuin.com

Saturday, June 1 Study Group: *Engaged Pure Land Buddhism: Essays in Honor of Professor Alfred Bloom* 9:30 – 12:30 a.m. see p.6
Sunday, June 2 All Sangha Memorial Service 10:00 a.m. see p. 8
Sunday, June 9 Awards & Recognition Service 10:00 a.m.
(last day of Dharma School)
Betsuin Picnic & Potluck Luncheon hosted by Dharma School in the gym 11:45 a.m.
Saturday, June 23 Bishops'/Rinbans' Memorial Service 10:00 a.m.
Monday – Friday, June 24 – 28 KSP at Betsuin (Kids' Summer Program)

ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE - SENBOKAI-IN TSUITO HOYO NEW FORMAT PLEASE SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS

<p>1 Temple Contact Information 2 Calendar of Events, Newsletter Deadline: Monday, June 18, 2013 8:00 pm</p>	<p>3 Rimban's Message, BonOdori Dates 4 SBBWA 5 Membership, YBA 6 Donations to Seattle Betsuin, Book Study Group</p>	<p>7 Dharma School, A Review of Dr. Haneda's Lecture, Save the Dates 8 New All-Sangha Memorial Service, Help Wanted, Dharma Exchange</p>
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Betsuin Events for June 2013

EVERY SUNDAY All are invited:

- 8:45 am *MEDITATION SERVICE at 1441 S. Main St; Sutra Chanting, 20-minute meditation, discussion.
10:00 am SERVICE - in Hondo (main sanctuary) includes Sutra Chanting, singing, and Dharma Talk
11:00 am DHARMA EXCHANGE – in dining room, Q/A, dialogue with minister and ministers assistants

EVERY WEDNESDAY **10:30 am DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP with Meditation

SUNDAYS *8:45 am Meditation Service

June 2

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
10:00 am ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE
Family: Rinban Castro
Japanese Program
DX: Rinban Castro
11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting
1:30 pm Sangha Award Class (Rinban Castro)

June 9

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
10:00 pm AWARDS AND RECOGNITION SERVICE (Last Day of Dharma School)
Family: Rinban Castro
Japanese Program
DX: Rinban Castro
11:45 am Betsuin Picnic & Potluck Luncheon hosted by Dharma School in the gym

June 16

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE
Family: MA in Training, Rosalie Town
Japanese Program
DX: MA in Training, Rosalie Town

June 23

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
10:00 am BISHOPS'/RINBANS' MEMORIAL SERVICE
Family: Rinban Castro
Japanese Program
DX: Rinban Castro

June 30 Rinban Castro in Spokane

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE
Family: Rev. Warrick
Japanese Program
DX: Rev. Warrick

MONDAYS June 25 KSP*

TUESDAYS

- June 4 Rinban Castro in Eugene, OR for NW Ministers' Retreat

June 24 KSP*

June 25 10:30 am Keiro Service

WEDNESDAYS **10:30 am Dharma Support Weekly

June 5

- Rinban Castro in Eugene, OR for NW Ministers' Retreat
10:30 am Dharma Support Group

June 12, 19

- 10:30 am Dharma Support Group (Rinban Castro)

June 26

- *KSP
10:30 am Dharma Support Group

THURSDAYS

June 6

- Rinban Castro in Eugene, OR for NW Ministers' Retreat
1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service

June 20

- 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Castro)
7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

June 27

- Betsuin BoD Meeting

*KSP

FRIDAYS

June 7

- Rinban Castro (Vacation)
12:00 pm Gojikai Service & Luncheon Meeting

*June 24 – 28 (Mon-Fri) KSP (Kids Summer Program)

SATURDAYS

June 1 9:30 – 12:30 am 1st Saturday Study Group – *Engaged Pure Land Buddhism: Essays in Honor of Professor Alfred Bloom*

June 8

Rinban Castro (Vacation)

June 29

Rinban Castro to Spokane

July 2013: Major Events of Interest

July 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, & 16 Bon Odori Practices

July 13 Obon Services at Mt. Pleasant, Washington Memorial, and Lake View Cemeteries

July 14 Obon/Hatsubon Service at the Betsuin Obon Services at Evergreen Washelli Cemetery and Sunset Hills Memorial Park

July 18 & 19 Bon Odori Set-up

July 20 & 21 SEATTLE BON ODORI

July 26 – 28 NWYBL Retreat

JULY Newsletter Deadline:

Monday, June 18, 2013

8:00 pm



Our Burning Desire?

By Rinban Don Castro

“Our burning desire to hear the Dharma is about to explode from every pore in our bodies.” This quote is from a letter signed by 83 members of the YMBA (Young Men’s Buddhist Association) of San Francisco in September 1898 and sent to our mother temple in Kyoto requesting ministers be sent to serve the recently arrived Japanese immigrant community – possibly the parents, grandparents or great-grandparents of some of our members if they arrived before this date. Their expression “burning desire” might strike us as hyperbole today. Who has such a burning desire to hear the Dharma that it is about to explode from every pore in your body? Who even has a sense of urgency about really hearing the Dharma even though Shinran Shonin warns us that our spiritual life is “that matter of first importance?”

One of the times in my life when I felt I might be dying and felt an extreme sense of urgency was when I was in high school and joined a few friends who were going surfing at a beach near Santa Cruz in California. It was winter and the waves were pretty big, just right for surfing. The only problem was I had never swum in the ocean much less surfed (I was not noted for being the brightest bulb in my class). I paddled out and waited for my chance to just ride the board on my stomach back to shore. I started in and fell off the board just as (I was told later) a “sneaker set” of exceptionally large waves started rolling over me. Not knowing to dive under the waves I just kept getting pounded as the waves broke on top of me. Thinking I was drowning and having been raised Catholic, I began to pray to, interestingly, the Blessed Mother Mary to save me; something like, “I will be a good boy and very devout if only you will save my life!” At that time, I didn’t have a direct line to God and felt I needed some intervention; always go to mom.

I certainly had an existential burning desire for a few minutes when my very existence was in jeopardy but I think it cooled drastically about ten minutes after I got out of the water. The waves had simply washed me to shore. I remember the relief I felt when my foot finally struck the sandy bottom. Actually, now that I think of it, my relief and the loss of my burning desire probably happened at exactly the same moment. I remember reaching shore and being extremely tired but relieved.

For the Issei men who petitioned the Hongwanji, however, there was no relief to lessen their burning desire. Let’s read the two sentences preceding my opening quote from their petition of 1898:

“In the eight directions are non-Buddhist forces surrounding the Japanese Buddhists, and we cannot be at ease. It is as if we were sitting on the point of a pin; no matter how we move, we will be pricked.”

I’ve heard it said, “If there were no suffering you would not need Buddhism.” That does not just mean our own suffering (Dukkha) “but also that of others.” (Golden Chain) The Buddha cautions us not to be attached even to happiness for it is fleeting. For the Issei, life was so tough they truly had a burning desire, this was not hyperbole. Whenever I visit our cemeteries, I glance around at the oldest grave markers dating from the early 1900’s and note the age of the person. More often than not, the deceased is a young man in his twenties.

These are thoughts I have as we observe our All Sangha Memorial on June 2, the Bishops’ and Rinbans’ Memorial on June 23 and enter our Obon season.

2013 Bon Odori Festival

Saturday, July 21, 4 pm - 10 pm and

Sunday, July 22, 3 pm - 8 pm.

Please share the dates with family and friends
to make sure they don't miss this year's event. -AO

SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION *Submitted by Joan Nakano*

SBBWA President's Message by Janet Baba

New Members: We were happy to announce our group of ten new members at our annual New Membership Service and Fellowship Luncheon held on May 5. Our new members are:

Editha Akiyama	Lauren Asaba
Laura Ichikawa-Howland	Claire Murata
Leanne Nishi-Wong	Susan Shinoda
Midori Takagi	Gayle Teramoto
Miyoko Yoshikawa	Donna Zumoto

We welcome our new members! We look forward to have them join us in continuing to give service to the temple, our Sangha, and community outreach as well as participating at conventions, conferences, annual field trip, classes and workshops.

Many thanks to Machiko Wada and Joyce Kato for chairing the event with help from Kiyo Takashima, Membership Committee Chair, Shizu Kaku, Fumi Groves, and numerous other members.



Back row - MA Irene, Rev. Warrick, Rinban Castro and MA Joe. Front row - SBBWA President Janet with new SBBWA members Gayle, Midori, Leanne, Claire and Lauren

Loss of Past SBBWA President: Pat Yayeko Kihara passed away on April 19, 2013 at age 93. She was president during the years 1991-92. Her memorial service was held at the temple on May 5 and was attended by many family and temple members. She will be greatly missed by SBBWA friends for her past leadership to our organization. Many SBBWA members participated in the service and helped with her reception. We will honor her at our Memorial Service with other deceased members on October 27, 2013.

Classes & Workshops: Mabel Nishizaki gave a Kastera Class. Kastera is a Japanese cake, which originated in Portugal and adapted by the residents of Nagasaki. Nagasaki *kastera* is well known for this tasty pastry treat.

Gyoza and Won Ton Class was given by Miyoko Tazuma. These noodle dumplings were a culinary



Kastera class with Mae, Kazumi, Instructor Mabel, Florence, Ritsuko, Miyoko and Kinue

delicacy for a luncheon for the student members. Our Ukulele Group performed the song "Imagine" with the Betsuin choir for the Sunday Service following a message by Rev. Warrick about the meaning of the song and how it relates to Buddhism. Mas Tamekuni is the lead instructor for the Ukulele class.

Orion Center: Kiyo Takashima, accompanied by Shizue Yahata, Fran Shintaku, Ayn Quan, Derek Quan and Dennis Shibata served dinner to 40 plus homeless youths at the Orion Center on April 19. A special local Chinese restaurant cooked and delivered the dinner to the center for the youths to enjoy. Thank you to Aldis Quan for his continued support.



Volunteers Ayn, Derek, Dennis, Frances and Shizue at the April 19 Orion Center dinner

Kitchen Clean up: Our members gave a good cleaning of the temple kitchen following the Salmon Dinner on April 19. New divider trays were purchased to organize the tongs, spoons, and utensils in the pantry cabinets. The kitchen items will be easier to locate when preparing for the Obon Odori cooking this summer.

Donations - Submitted by Treasurer Shizue Kaku
Hiromi Sakata - In Memory of Mitsu Kato

Calendar: June 2 All Sangha Memorial Service & SBBWA Board Meeting

June 24-28 Kids Summer Program

SBC MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:

Howard Luke & Steph Ojima

We have reached the half year point of our 2013 fiscal year. To those who have already paid, we are grateful for your ongoing support of the Betsuin and its mission: to promote, protect and share the Buddha Dharma Sangha. If you haven't yet been recognized in the *Wheel of the Sangha* newsletter, be assured that you will be.

With your annual tax-deductible contributions, the Betsuin is able to offer a strong program of Buddhist education in Japanese and English, while paying for salaries of our minister and other staff, utilities, insurance, building maintenance, repairs and other operational expenses. Your contribution and your help at fundraising events are essential to keep the Betsuin operating. Even so, our minimum dues don't cover all expenses and no one should feel they are limited to paying only the amount set here.

Three organizations share your annual dues: the Betsuin, Buddhist Churches of America and the Northwest District. For those contributing the

minimum of \$300, less than \$200 stays with the Betsuin and less than \$150 for those contributing \$250 as an assessment is paid per member to each of the other organizations.

The suggested minimum dues for "regular" members is as follows:

- Ages 70 and older as of September 30, 2012: \$250 per individual.
- Under age 70 as of September 30, 2012: \$300 per individual

You may pay your dues in increments. All we ask is that you make the last payment by September 30. This is the closing date for counting the Betsuin's membership that is reported to Buddhist Churches of America.

We hope you agree that maintaining the Betsuin, its programs and services is critical for keeping the Dharma alive for current members and future generations of Buddhists in the region.

ON BEHALF OF THE 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 paid for the 2013 fiscal year.

Editha Akiyama; William Anthis; Marian Asab; Setsuko Harada; Jim Hasegawa; Lauren Ichikawa-Howland; Miyoko Kawaguchi; Kinue Kuwahara; Rick Mamiya; George & Irene Mano; Julie Mayeda; Eric & Betty Nakashima; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki; Mary Osaki; Pauline Sakuma; Dennis Shibata; Teruko Shigaya; Ben & Etsu Shimbo; George Shimizu; Nami Tanaka; Barbara Wakazuru; Leanne Nishi-Wong; Michiko Yanagimoto; Mary Yoshida; Nobuo Yutani

We'd like to 'welcome' Editha Akiyama and Leanne Nishi-Wong as new members to our Sangha

*AS A REMINDER: The minimum for 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, 2013. If you have any questions about your membership status, contact the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com. (compiled by HL & SO)



Seattle Betsuin YBA is participating in this year's Relay for Life on June 15 from 10AM to Midnight. Relay for Life is a walk in support of cancer survivors, and those who are currently fighting cancer. This year our team name is the "Shinran Steppers". We will be participating in the Green Lake relay and we need your help. Our team agreed that our goal for this year would be \$1,000. The whole month of May, and part of June, we will be collecting donations in the foyer before service. All of these donations go directly towards Relay for Life to help cancer patients. Your donation of: \$50 will purchase a wig for women diagnosed with cancer, \$25 will help with materials and guidance for a newly diagnosed cancer patient, \$10 will purchase microscope slides to help research cancer. Submitted by Alex S

The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations April – May 2013

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

Given by:

Mary Shigaya – 3 rd year Memorial Service	\$ 500	Ken Shigaya
George Masao Matsuno – 7 th Year Memorial Service	\$ 400	Roderick Matsuno
Linda Okuma – 3 rd Year Memorial Service	\$ 300	Tony Okuma
Su-Yun Hung – Funeral Service	\$ 300	Estate of Su-Yun Hung
Nokotsudo – For Ricky Joe Hara	\$ 300	Reiko Hara
Shigeo Kano – In Memory of	\$ 100	Satoko Kano

Remembrances for:

Given by:

Hiroko Hasegawa	Tom & Ichiko Fujishima
Takeo Katayama	Meri Shimada
Taeko Betty Komura	Tom & Ichiko Fujishima; Ellen Hale; Fumiko Maeshiro; Hiro & Dorothy Nishimura; Meri Shimada
Chizuko Norton	Masaru & Anna Tahara
Karry Sakamoto	Gene & Yuki Arinobu; Nelson Harano; William & Beth Kawahara; Julie Kubota; Kenneth Kubota; Joe & Brenda Matsudaira; Kengo Sakamoto
Mary Shigaya	Steven & Stacey Shigaya; Marty & Gwynn Sugihara

Temple Supervision: Yakima Buddhist Church \$ 100

Other Donations:

Donor:

For:

William Liggett	General Donation
Rev. Yuren Tai (Koyasan Temple)	General Donation
T. Jack Matsui	To the Betsuin Endowment In honor of Dr. James Doi's 90 th Birthday
Katsumi & Terrie Tanino	To the Betsuin Endowment In honor of Dr. James Doi's 90 th Birthday

Seattle Buddhist Temple Book Study Group will meet on Saturday, June 1 to discuss *Engaged Pure Land Buddhism: Essays in Honor of Professor Alfred Bloom*, edited by Kenneth Tanaka and Eisho Nasu. It contains 15 essays by such well known teachers as Mark Unno, Taitetsu Unno, Gregory Gibbs, Richard Payne, etc. . The book can be purchased from the BCA Bookstore for \$10.00 (free shipping) at <http://stores.homestead.com/BCABookstore/Detail.bok?no=164>. There are also two copies available in our library available for loan. Since there is such a short time between meetings, we will only be reading the first three essays for this meeting. We will meet from 9:30-11:30 in the Memorial Hall Chapel. Everyone is welcome to stay for brown bag lunch afterward. There is no cost to attend.

Submitted by Leonora Clarke

Dharma School submitted by Joyce Tsuji Please join us on the last day of dharma school, June 9 for attendance awards, and high school graduate recognition.

Nine DS teachers were able to attend the recent FDSTL conference in San Mateo, CA. The conference theme was "ICE: Being Buddhist in a Diverse Society." Keynote speakers were Rev. Harry Bridge (Oakland Buddhist Temple) and Rev. Mushim Ikeda (East Bay Meditation Center). The weekend's focus was to melt the...

***I C E**—Ignorance, Craving, Ego using Interaction, Communication, Engagement and Interdependence, Compassion, Enlightenment To explore: Being Buddhist in a Diverse Society and How we as Dharma School Teachers, Families and other Sangha members can build more inclusive communities.*

The DS students conducted a service for Keiro Nursing home residents on Gotane. The service was led by the high school class and included chanting, a gatha, incense offering and gifts for the attendees made by DS students.



Classroom Reports

Pre-K/K Classroom Report To celebrate Earth Day, the students listened to a comic book story about a city that was forced to live underwater because their ancestors had made living above water unlivable. The students then did an Earth Day project in which they had to give a reason why the Earth was worth saving.

The Pre-K/K students were excited to play Dharma Bingo led by Lindsey Y. from the high school class. She created cards with Buddhist symbols and objects the students have been learning about this year in Dharma School. The children took home prizes they won while playing bingo. We extend a big THANKS to Lindsey for leading this fun activity in our class!

To prepare the students for their visit to Keiro; a story about a little boy who lived next to an old people's home was read to them. They learned how the little boy helped one of the residents "find" her memory again. They then made pinwheels to give to the residents when they visit them on Gotanye. The class listened to a story about mothers and their importance in our lives. The students honored their mothers by making presents and cards to give to them on Mother's Day.

First/second grade Our class was treated to some very special guest teachers recently. Kara's mom kindly stepped in and gave the students a lesson about Earth Day where the students ended up making a poster of handprints saying what they could do to help the Earth. Then a couple of the high school class students came in and led a lively game of Buddhist Pictionary. The teachers had written down Buddhist terms on pieces of paper and the kids would draw them on the board while the rest of the class had to figure out from the drawing what the word was. The students also gave the class a refresher on how to gassho. Big thanks go out to them!! We discussed boys/children's day in Japan and made some colorful koi windsocks. Finally we created gifts to give to their mother's to honor them on Mother's day and show our gratitude for all they do.

Reverend Dr. Nobuo Haneda presented his perspective on Kyogyoshinsho in Seattle on Friday May 3. Dr. Haneda gave a very enthusiastic talk with illustrations on the whiteboard, making the Kyogyoshinsho a little more understandable. The Kyogyoshinsho follows Shinran's three stages of awakening, a message we need to hear over and over. Few of our Seattle Sangha were there, a beautiful and busy Friday night, but his talks give us another perspective, a little more academic but still accessible. I encourage more of our members to take advantage of his thinking and writing. Submitted by Shirley Shimada

SAVE THE DATES:

Bishop Kodo Umezu
to Visit Seattle Betsuin in 2013 on
Saturday, October 5
Sunday, October 6

Women in Buddhism Conference
at Seattle Betsuin
Saturday, October 19, 2013
"The Heart and Mind That Benefits Others"
Rita No Kokoro 利他の心

NEW ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE - SENBOKAI-IN TSUITO HOYO

Sunday, June 2, 2013 Service at 10:00 AM

This important, annual service is dedicated to honoring the lives and contributions of members and friends of the temple who have gone before us.

This year **photos of those being remembered will be displayed on a screen** in the hondo during the service. We invite families of the deceased to submit the name and a photo of their loved one to allsanghamemorial@seattlebetsuin.com. Please limit the file size of photographs to 100KB. Please include your name and telephone number in your e-mail message.

If you do not have a digital photo available you may bring a color or black and white photograph to the Betsuin office and the office staff will scan it for you. If no photo is available **you may submit just the person's name** to the same e-mail address and it will appear on the screen during the service.

The deadline for submission of photos and names is Monday, May 27. We cannot guarantee that photos/names received after the deadline will be included. The photos/names will be displayed in the order received.

In Gassho, *Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple, 1427 S. Main Street, Seattle, WA 98144, (206) 329-0800*

HELP WANTED

• VOLUNTEER BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENER

Margaret Teramoto has been offering her service to take blood pressure measurements for our members on the last Sunday of each month for the past 20 years. She was once a part of a team, but has been doing this solo for several years. It is time for her to pass on this important monthly service to someone else.

• AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT

VOLUNTEERS to set up equipment for seminars & special events.

If you are interested in offering either of these services, please notify the office at 206 329.0800 or at Office@SeattleBetsuin.com. Training is available.

Submitted by Irene Goto

NOTES FROM DHARMA EXCHANGE

On April 14, 2013 Rinban Castro talked about Malvina Reynolds, peace activist and songwriter (Little Boxes) who also wrote a song which was never recorded, "The Soul of an Onion" – "You peel and you peel and never find the core.." She must have been influenced by Buddhism because there is no soul, no permanent part of us which lasts beyond our lives, we become part of the whole, which is in constant flux. Everything is flowing into something else. This was followed by comments about noticing the little things, the kinds of things we don't pay attention to that Alissa Kato's Dharma talk so beautifully pointed out. Which led to magazines which used to portray the kinds of things we did not appreciate until we saw them in Post, Life, etc. Dandelions are edible; fire ants do sting. Jodo Shinshu makes us recognize that as humans we destroy habitats so that we can be comfortable, but in doing so we must acknowledge that we are destructive. - Shirley Shimada

On April 23 Rev. Jim Warrick conducted the DX, and Rev. Castro read a letter addressed to him and the sangha from Mo Okita's parents in Southern California. Mo has returned there. The parents were grateful that our sangha was so welcoming of their son and "looked after him" while he was in Seattle with the U.S. Navy. They expressed hope that some of us could visit their temple. They sent a large assortment of *manju*. The Ukelele Band is increasing in size. Many thanks to Mas Tamekuni for organizing the service this Sunday and performing *Imagination* by John Lennon. Participants visited the John Lennon Memorial in Central Park across from the Dakota Apts. where Lennon lived and was shot. Matt May, MA, showed a beautiful nenju holder he crafted with a laser. A Women's Conference will be held in October, and the speaker will be Rev. Patty Usuki. Her book is called *Currents of Change* and is available from the BCA Bookstore.

In gassho, Pat Bobrow