



The Symbol of Nishi Hongwanji

By Rinban Don Castro

On May 18, we will be celebrating Shinran Shonin's Birthday or Gotan-E. The traditional date is May 21, but BCA temples customarily observe holidays on a Sunday close to the actual date of the holiday. Gotan-E is also referred to as "Fuji Matsuri" or "Wisteria Festival" since this flower is the symbolic crest of our particular sub-sect of Jodo Shinshu. Until modern times, there were ten sub-sects of Jodo Shinshu of which the East and West Hongwanji are by far the largest. Most Issei (first generation immigrants from Japan) belonged to the West Hongwanji which is why most Japanese Buddhist temples in the United States are of this tradition.

To many people's surprise, the sagari-fuji or "hanging wisteria" symbol that we associate with our sub-sect of Jodo Shinshu is a relatively recent adoption, dating to a little before the immigration of Issei to Hawaii. The original crest of the Nishi Hongwanji was a Chrysanthemum crest associated with the Imperial Family. Shinran's descendents, the Ohtani family who continue to produce our patriarch (Gomonshu), had over the centuries married

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President's Message:

Thank you, Sensei. By Yukio Morikubo

Seattle is deservedly known as a city for progressive, off-beat, smart, hardy citizens. Our history includes Ray Charles and Macklemore, Bill Boeing and Bill Gates, Nordstrom and Amazon, and cops on bikes. So, it is fitting to that Rev. Don Castro is our Rinban at the Seattle Betsuin. We are fortunate to have him.

Sensei is, of course, unusual among his peers in the BCA. I cannot list all the ways in which he is out of the ordinary, beyond the obvious. But from his own journey from a Catholic upbringing in sunny California to his life's work sharing the Buddha Dharma in the cloudy Northwest, he has a perspective that reflects the independence of thought and diversity that fits Seattle. During his time at the Seattle Betsuin, he has successfully built bridges between Buddhist groups in the city and the region, partnered with academics at local universities and colleges and with clergy of other faiths to maintain a vibrant religious dialogue in our community, trained ministers and ministers' assistants, and introduced to Jodo Shinshu many who might not otherwise have had the confidence to become part of our *sangha* but for his own example.

Sensei has learned to deftly navigate cultural currents that are all but invisible on the surface. I have seen him console sick and dying lifelong Japanese American Buddhists -- and comfort their grieving families -- with genuine sincerity and cultural sensitivity. I have seen him marry new Buddhists before family and guests who were entirely unfamiliar with Jodo Shinshu precepts and practices, in a way that enabled everyone to focus on the couple and the celebration of their marriage rather than the unfamiliarity of the venue. And I have seen him interact with his peers from throughout the BCA with complete collegiality. In each case, he manages to make others entirely comfortable with him and his role as a Jodo Shinshu minister with his nimble intelligence, humility and credibility.

Rinban Castro serves us well in Seattle, our own American *furusato*. As we ponder what Jodo Shinshu will look like in Seattle and in America going forward, please take a moment to reflect on our good fortune in having Castro Sensei help shape it for us at the Seattle Betsuin. Thank you, Sensei.

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- Rinban's Message continued from page 1

into the Imperial Family and the Hongwanji had become an Imperial Temple (monzeki jiin) in the late Muromachi Period (1392-1573). Three hundred years later, during the reign of Emperor Meiji (1868-1912) the Chrysanthemum crest was restricted only to members of the immediate Imperial Family, as is the case today. As a result, the family crest of the Kujo family, a great patron of the Hongwanji, was then offered to the Hongwanji. This Wisteria crest has since been the official crest of our Shinshu lineage and the Ohtani Family. However, as those of you who graciously and generously came on March 31 to polish the shrine implements have observed, the Chrysanthemum design is very prevalent in our shrine implements. One example is the Kiku rintō or "chrysanthemum-circular lamp" which hangs on either side of the table in front of Amida Buddha, Shinran Shonin and Rennyo Shonin. These are open oil lamps with a circular band over it. This circle of light represents Enlightenment; perfect, without beginning or end. If you imagine our shrine before electricity, all illumination came from the oil lamps and the dynamic, dancing-flamed traditional candles. The subtle light must have created a profound ambience. In my humble opinion, I think we have to be careful not to shine too much light on our shrine. Without over-generalizing, I think Western traditions like to shine light on things (very scientific) while Japanese aesthetics likes to obscure so as not to take away the mystery. I think both traditions go too far. I remember taking a flash photo of Honen Shonin at Chion-in temple in Kyoto which is the headquarters of one lineage of Jodo-shu. I never actually saw the statue of Honen until I got home and developed the film. ###

Dharma School submitted by Joyce Tsuji.

A message from Yvette, our DS co-chair:

On behalf of the Dharma School we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who helped make the 2nd Annual Salmon Dinner a success. From buying and selling tickets, to food preparation, to enlisting friends and family in helping the day/evening of, and everything in between, your support is greatly appreciated.

We would also like to acknowledge a few special participants that helped in the Hanamatsuri festivities. Thank you to Adlai, Danilo, Mika, Kai, Zoe, Emi, Maia, Drew, Hieu, Minh, Kaya, and Nathan, for decorating the beautiful Hanamido. Thank you Erin and Lynne for all of your organizational efforts.

Also, you would be very surprised to know that only a small group of nine worked extremely hard to prep and cook the beautiful and delicious Hanamatsuri lunch. Thank you to Joan, Marie, Steph, Kari Ann, Susie, Julianne, Nina, Grace, and their fearless leader Ron. Many of these fabulous cooks are also your Dharma School teachers and ALL do so much behind the scenes work for our temple. Please when you see them, don't forget to thank them for all that they do for our children and Sangha.

Thank you, Eric N, for continuously organizing our gym set-up for special services and luncheons, and also to the parents who stay after to clean up.

Of course, there are numerous people to thank everyday who donate their time and energy to help keep our temple running and flourishing. It's inspiring to see the spirit of DANA (generosity from the heart) in all of our members.

Classroom Reports

1st/2nd grade The kids listened to the story of Shinran's early life and the poem he wrote about the cherry blossoms when he was entering the monastery on Mt Hiei. They made beautiful cherry trees full of flowers out of tissue paper and affixed a copy of the poem to the picture. You can come and see these in our classroom. Then on Hanamatsuri we made big tissue paper flowers for our "flower festival". Finally we talked about the upcoming Earth day and what it means and what we can do to help. The students made handprint wreaths and in the palm of each hand was something they could do to help the Earth. Earth day reminds us of the concepts in the Golden chain and how we are all interconnected to each other and our environment.

High School In April, the HS class is focusing on the concept of Impermanence as an underlying theme. On April 13, Rev. Dr. Mark Unno's sermon on falling leaves and what happens to them on the ground fit perfectly into the theme. Dr. Unno's sermon was a source of excellent discussion on the theme. As part of this theme, the class on April 20 composed Haiku mainly focused on "spring", where students wrote a minimum of 2 haiku and shared them with the class. Some students also wrote illustrations to accompany their haiku, while one student wrote their haiku bilingually (English and Japanese).



MAY 2014 ENGLISH SEMINAR with DR. NOBUO HANEDA

Friday, May 2, 2014 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

The Seattle Betsuin is pleased and honored to have as our guest speaker reknown:

Dr. Nobuo Haneda, Director of Maida Center, Berkeley, CA

Theme: Dharma Breeze

At:

**Seattle Buddhist Betsuin Temple
1427 South Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144**

For information please call:

**Seattle Buddhist Church
206-329-0800 or
Fumi Groves 206-324-6226**



Everyone is cordially invited. There is no charge. (Donations are welcomed)

On Dr. Haneda: Dr. Haneda was born in Nagano City, Japan in 1946.

- | | | | |
|------|---|--------------|---|
| 1969 | Graduated from Tokyo University, in Foreign Studies. Major – Russian. | 1979-80 | Taught at Otani University, Kyoto. |
| 1971 | Came to the USA and studied under Rev. Gyomay Kubose and Rev. Gyoko Saito (Buddhist Temple of Chicago). | 1981 | Taught at Buddhist Educational Center, Chicago. |
| 1973 | Entered University of Wisconsin - Major – Buddhist Studies. | 1984-85 | Interim Dean and Head Professor, Institute of Buddhist Studies. |
| 1979 | Received PhD in Buddhist Studies. Dissertation: Shan-tao's Pure Land Thought. | 1987-97 | Researcher for Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research, Berkeley. |
| | | 1997-present | Director: Maida Center of Buddhism, Berkeley |

Publications: December Fan, Evil Person, Heard by Me, Dharma Breeze.

Married to Tomoko and lives in Berkeley, California.

ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE SENBOKAI-IN TSUITO HOYO

Sunday, June 1, 2014 Service at 10:00 AM

The annual **ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE** will be held on **Sunday, June 1, 2014, at 10AM**. This important service is dedicated to honoring the lives and contributions of members and friends of the temple who have gone before us.

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 submitted a photo for last year's service and want it displayed again during this year's service, you do not have to do anything. If you want to remove or replace a photo please send the appropriate instructions by email to allsanghamemorial@seattlebetsuin.com.

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 26. We cannot guarantee that photos/names received after the deadline will be included.

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

Musical Notes: submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi Hanamatsuri service paid special tribute to the late Linda Castro (Luebke) with the traditional singing of *A Flower Grows*. Thank you to Ron Hamakawa for chairing this special service with the choir providing music prior to service during kambutsu (offering of sweet tea). The sangha enjoyed additional special music from the ukulele band and Bodhi Ensemble in April. In addition to Kristy, Kayla, Alina, Emily, Rosie and Aaron, how nice to have additional youth musicians Alison and Brent!



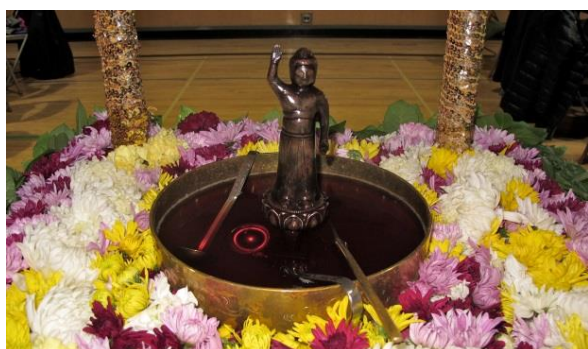
The Betsuin choir wishes to acknowledge the kind donation from Peggy Tanemura in memory of Linda Castro. Since forming the Seattle Betsuin choir in 1986, Linda made great impact on the musical activities of our temple in addition to composing some of our favorite gathas. Terrie Tanino recalls the early years of weeknight choir practice when she picked up Linda with young Quincy and Teddy. She also recalls that the Betsuin choir chartered a bus to sing up in Vancouver, BC one year. A special dedicated article in remembrance of Linda will be published in an upcoming issue of the Wheel of Dharma.

Gotan-E service on May 18 will also be our spring music service this year. Please plan to attend and hear

more about the new service book project that Kemi Nakabayashi is spearheading with Rinban Castro and the ministerial staff, Dennis Yamashita and the Tacoma Gatha Committee. The primary goals for the new service book are to republish Linda Castro's gathas and consolidate the gathas from Tacoma.

Bodhi Ensemble performed *Like Blossoms* by Dii Lewis and *Golden Chain* by Donna Sasaki during Earth Day's family service on April 20. Photo by Sat Ichikawa

2014 April 6 Hanamatsuri Photos by Sat Ichikawaka



THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN BUDDHISM with Dr. Mark Unno, University of Oregon and Dr. Jason M. Wirth of Seattle University took place on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 9:30am - 12:30pm in Seattle Betsuin Memorial Hall Chapel; approximately 35 were in attendance. The dialogue was moderated by Rev. Don Castro. – Irene Goto and Sat Ichikawa



ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE... We would like to “thank” the following regular members, for contributing their annual Ijikai dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). This is the list of those paid members for the fiscal year of 2014, since the last posting.

Marian Asaba; Lance & Lisa Barr; Steve & Lori Chisholm; Sandra Cross; Jean Deguchi; Jimmy & Alicia Eng; Minoru & Aiko Fujii; Sue Fujino; Harumi Fujioka; Sam Gebala & Amy Shibuya; Alan & Fumi Groves; Yoko Hamanaka; Sue Hatai; Sachiko Hayami; Michiko Hirata; Roy & Deanna Ikegami; Jean Ishii, Toshiko Isomura; Yaeko Ito; Dale & Shizue Kaku; Mary Katayama; Kazue (Katie) Kato; Miyoko Kawaguchi; Frank Komoto; Janet Kubota; Patricia Kubota; Sachiko Kusachi; Kinue Kuwahara; Ricky Mamiya; Yoshiko Mamiya; Hugh Matsubayashi & Ivy Chen; Joseph Matsuzaki; Julie Mayeda; Sheri Mizumori; Tetsuo & Linda Miyata; Lisa Morihite; Kemi Nakabayashi; Ted Nakamura; Shizuko Nose; Mari Ohara; Michiye Ohtani; Barry & Marlene Okada; Ann Kawasaki Romero; Tom & Bev Sakamoto; Irene Saito; Ken Shigaya; George Shimizu; Frank Shinoda; Susan Shinoda; Florence Sumida; Haruso & Sonoe Taketa; Noburo Taki; Tom Tanaka; Peggy Tanemura; Kats & Terrie Tanino; Allan & Kayoko Terada; Ronald & Suzuko Terada; Michael & Gayle Teramoto; Stuart Teramoto; Asako Teranishi; Victoria Terao; Elsie Tokita; Dolly Tokunaga; Gary & Julianne Tosaya; Sam & Masako Uchida; Machiko Wada; Barbara Wakazuru; Leanne Nishi-Wong; Fusae Yokoyama; Mary Yoshida; Crystal Yoshimi; Harry Yoshimura; Jim & Tomi Zumoto

We'd like to 'welcome' Sam Gebala & Amy Shibuya, Lisa Morishige, and Harry Yoshimura 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, 2014. If you have any questions about your membership status, contact the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com.
(compiled by HL, SO, & PS)

MAY BUDDHIST STUDY GROUP submitted by Leonora Clarke The Buddhist Study Group will forgo their meeting in May and encourage members to attend a special English speaking seminar with Dr. Nobuo Haneda on the evening of May 2 at 7pm. Recommended reading: Dr. Haneda's book *Dharma Breeze*. Six of the articles in his book are available at <http://seattlebetsuin.org/index.php/pamphlets/>

Gojikai meets monthly Members are pictured here on Friday, April 4. Back row from left: Ruby Yasui, Anna Tahara, Fusako Kusumi, Mariko Mano, Amy Hirasawa, Pauline Sakuma, Mas Tahara, Shogo Kusumi. Front row: Jack Matsui, Alan Groves, Fumi Groves



Walk for Rice

Team Name: SBBWA

Team Leader: Shizue Yahata

Date: Sat., June 28, 2014

Place: Seward Park, 2.5 miles walk/run

To register: Search on the internet for ACRS Walk for Rice, go to website; click on Registrar if you would like to participate or you can donate to SBBWA team; goal is \$500. In the past \$1,000 has been raised. Come join the SBBWA team; you do need to be an SBBWA member.

Submitted by Shizue Yahata

Save the Dates Mark your calendars now so you won't miss any of three big upcoming 2014 and 2015 events:

- Bon Odori, July 19 and 20, 2014
- Third Annual Women and Buddhism conference, Saturday, September 20, 2014
- Northwest District Convention, February 13-15, 2015, Bellevue Westin Hotel; “Like” the convention on Facebook and receive updates as speakers and the program becomes more solidified:

<https://www.facebook.com/buddhistconvention>

New Members: We welcomed our 2014, nine new members, Haru Hirota-Terada, Jamie Huh, Sachiko Kusachi, Lisa Morishige, Debbie Shibata, Erin Taylor, Mayumi Terada-Park, Yvette Terada, and Michiko Toyoshima, into our organization on April 27. A New Membership Service and Luncheon was held to celebrate this occasion. We look forward to working together to accomplish our goals of giving service to our Temple, Sangha, and Community. In addition, we enjoy the fellowship with new members, as we, together, promote and nurture our Jodo Shinshu activities.

Youth Exchange: NW District BWA's Youth Exchange Organizing Committee is planning to send two young women, who are students 18-24 years to Japan. This is an opportunity for the chosen youths to spend 14-15 days to stay with a host family, to visit Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, and to meet Lady Ohtani, wife of Shinmon Ohtani. Forms for the program Overview, Applications and Host Family will soon to be available in our temple office, or by contacting Kanako Kashima, and Janie Okawa. The temple phone number is, 206.329.0800.

Breakfast at Lunch: Tickets are now on sale for our, Breakfast at Lunch Fundraiser, to be held on Sunday, May 18, following Gotan-e Service & Dharma Exchange. Eggs, Sausage, Waffles, Pancakes, Miso shiru, and Tsukemono, will be served. Tickets are \$10. /Children for \$5. We welcome all temple members to join us at our, Breakfast at Lunch Fundraiser.

World Convention: The Preliminary Surveys have been submitted and the registration process has begun for attendance at the World Convention in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Dates of the convention are May 30-31, 2015. Final payment is due prior to November 15, 2014. Eastern Canada & Western Canada tours are available. For more information, contact Machiko Wada, Joyce Kato, or Joan at the temple office.

Omigaki: Members of the temple took part in, *Omigaki*, the polishing and caring for the *Kiku Rintō* (chrysanthemum-circular lamps) that adorn our *Naijin*. On March 31 we began our work and learned the process which must be followed with



precision. The same order the brass pieces were disassembled was the exact order the pieces were reassembled. It is a complex system that must be followed for the parts to fit. It was amazing how shiny the brass parts looked after a cleaner was applied, then rubbed, rinsed, and dried. A special, thank you, to the *Omigaki* Group, as the *Naijin* will be shiny for another year! [See more *omigaki* photos on page 8]
In Gassho, Janet



Acknowledgement for Listening Assist System by Kiyo Takashima, Joyce Kato, & Fumi Groves. It has been a year since SBBWA started offering hearing aid equipment for the hearing impaired. The program was made possible from the generous donation from Takashi and Lily Hori, both of whom have passed away.

The use has been steady; and we encourage others to use the equipment. It is surprising how the clarity makes attending services more enjoyable. It also offers clarity for those wearing hearing aids. As telecoil is activated by your provider, the sound comes through the speakers from a necklace instead of the ear or over-the-head speakers.

The SBBWA Toban committee has been distributing the hearing aid equipment during the family services and we extend our greatest appreciation and thanks for their time and effort. Thanks also to Darlene Shimizu who made hands free soft coverings with a lanyard worn to protect and hold the costly receivers.

We strongly encourage everyone to try the hearing aid equipment. The equipment works in the hondo; however, the range does include the gymnasium. The hearing system can also be offered for other uses, i.e. memorial services and seminars with advance notice to the SBBWA.

Calendar:

SBBWA Board Meeting	May 4
Paper Flower Pin Class	May 14
Gotan-e Service	May 18
Breakfast-at-Lunch Fundraiser	May 18
Cabinet Meeting	May 25
Okonomiyaki Class	May 28

Compiled and submitted by Kanako Kashima

The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations February – March 2014

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

M. Karry Sakamoto – 1 st Year Memorial Service	\$ 1,500.00*	Estate of Karry Sakamoto
* to Endowment	\$ 100.00*	Carolyn Kunihiro
	\$ 100.00	Ichiro Sakamoto
Masayoshi Honmyo – Inurnment Service	\$1,000.00	Estate of Masayoshi Honmyo
Takako Taki – 49 th Day Memorial Service	\$ 300.00	Noboru Taki
Richard Ishikawa – In Memory of	\$ 100.00	Steven Ishikawa
Sam Taniguchi – In Memory of	\$ 100.00	Fumiye Taniguchi

Given by:

Remembrances for:

Ben Matsumoto	Samuel & Matsue Watanabe
Karry Sakamoto	Frances Shintaku; Margaret Teramoto; Sam & Masako Uchida; Paul & Elaine Yoshida
George Taketa	Gene & Yuki Arinobu; Tina Perez
Takako Taki	Mary Hikida
Masao Yamaguchi	Aiko (No last name); Margaret Teramoto
<u>Temple Supervision:</u>	Spokane Buddhist Temple \$ 100.00
	Yakima Buddhist Temple \$ 100.00

Given by:

General Donations:

Jeffrey Hattori	Appreciation for New Year's Party
Dennis Yamashita	Appreciation for New Year's Party
Gail Kaminishi	Onenju Repair
University Child Development School	General Donation
Nikkei Manor	General Donation
Evergreen State College Visitation	General Donation
Alice Doi	Bank of America – United Way Campaign
Gail Suzaka	Bank of America – United Way Campaign
Hiro Nishimura	Use of facility for Hyakudokai New Year Party
	- submitted by Pauline Sakuma

Betsuin Archives Committee is seeking members who served in the U.S. Armed Forces

It isn't too early to think about Obon season and that means that the Betsuin Archives Committee wants photos of members who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, both active and in reserves, in uniform.

We currently have 93 photos and are looking for more. This display always attracts attention each year. We'd like to continue to honor those members who have served our country. Please submit photos to the Betsuin church office by **July 6** so I can print it and mount them. Thanks.

Gassho, Sat



Hiro Nishimura



Troop 252 recently conducted a flag ceremony at the Japanese American Citizens League Installation banquet which was a huge success. We received many compliments including one from the president of JACL. Earlier in March, we crossed over 8 new cub scouts into our troop. They are doing well, and working on many advancements. The troop also went to a razor clam dig in Ocean Shores and we all reached the limit even though it was pouring down rain. We are



looking forward to attending the Thunderbird District Camporee at Seward Park this month and are preparing for it ahead of time by working on knots, flag ceremonies, and other scout skills.
Gassho, Alex



Second "Town Hall" Dharma Exchange took place on Sunday, April 20, in the gymnasium. About 130 attendees met in small groups to share ideas on Internal Communications, External Communications, Member Opportunities, and Membership. Communications Director Calvin Terada introduced the process and Debbie Akiyama focused the attendees toward their task. Each group leader encouraged ideas and a scribe recorded them. One



representative from each group shared with the whole group and the recorded ideas were collected to be reviewed by committee. The Short Term Goal: Take feedback and ideas, develop a work plan to the goal, implement easy improvements. Long Term Goal: Take feedback and ideas, form workgroups to discuss, plan, and implement longer term ideas. By Fall: Hold another Town Hall session to check-in to see if communication (internal and external) and Membership/Member Opportunities are working. **NEXT TOWN HALL IS TENTATIVELY June 8, 11:00am.**



– submitted by Irene Goto, photos by Sat Ichikawa

Omigaki Group Polished Shrine's Brass Lanterns on March 31, 2014



Crew:

Rimban Castro
Haruso Taketa
Sonoe Taketa
Leanne Nishi-Wong

Janet Baba
Jason Yokoyama
Reverend Jim Warrick
Kiyoko Takashima

Ritsuko Kawahara
Fumiko Groves
Alan Groves
Michael Garnett

Dennis Shibata
Ken Dodobara
Kazumi Shimizu
Miyoko Yamazaki

Norio Yamazaki
Irene Goto
[see SBBWA article
for another photo p.6]

Please consider volunteering next year so that a new crew can carry-on this important task. -IHG

Notes on Dharma Exchange

March 23 - Rinban Jeffery Soga was guest speaker at service where he spoke about making our homes the Pure Land by noticing and commenting on one another's "shining face" being "radiant". Rinban Castro commented on the "radiance" of a pregnant woman. He also responded to a question on gender in Buddhism, saying that the Pure Land is pure and there is no gender. He noted that Mrs. Soga is also an ordained minister and she and Rinban Soga likely share the responsibility of serving 5 temples on the island of Hawaii. Irene announced that no one has signed-up for Dharma Exchange refreshment toban for April. -IHG

March 31, Campfire Sunday - the girls received the Karuna Award from Rinban Castro and Rev. Warrick in the Hondo. We also learned that Rosalie and Matt have set their wedding date for April 19, and the Sangha is invited.

During Dharma Exchange the Campfire girls presented a slideshow to illustrate their activities pertaining to the Karuna Award. Those activities included music, art, and cooking during the year and one-half of preparation for the award. Some highlights: They learned about sumi-e with Sat I; card-making w/Darlene S, tea ceremony with Naomi T; and manju with Mrs. Asako T. The girls enjoyed a Karuna Retreat with Rinban Castro; visited the Japanese Garden in the Arboretum; prepared for a morning service; visited the Seattle Asian Art Museum (SAAM); led the Children's Sunday Service; and learned about Koto playing from Kanako K. They met the Japanese Court; and visited the Nissei Vets. For their fall retreat they had discussions with Rinban Castro. They rode the Great Wheel and had dinner at the Red Robin. The guides for Campfire Sunday were Rinban Castro and Jason Yokoyama, and many of the slides shown were by Donna Z K. A large number of parents were involved in all of these activities, and the girls experienced a lasting bond from having worked and played together. . . The Sangha was invited to Rosalie and Matt's wedding on April 19.

April 6 - After the Hanamatsuri service Dharma Exchange was led by Rinban Castro and Irene G. Dharma School provided a delicious lunch.

Flower petals, an ancient tradition, have been employed to welcome all the Buddhas in the Universe. More recently, casting flower petals during weddings has been prevalent. . . According to scripture, whether Buddhas arise or not, everything in the Universe is impermanent. . . A recent excavation in Nepal confirmed the existence of the Buddha, through carbon dating of discovered temples. Sensei reported on the significance of BCE and CE noted after historic dates. . . According to Zen, knowing the self is all-important. However, we were again admonished by Sensei not to get stuck on

anything, including Buddhism. He indicated that thoughts are a function of consciousness, and it is important to cultivate skillful habits. . Further, he feels that Buddhism will eventually die out and be included in some other teaching with the truth of the teaching at the core. . . The head of the Theology Department is female at Seattle U. . . Alan Watts said, "When you get the message hang up."

April 13 - Rinban Castro recalled Rev. Dr. Mark Unno's Seminar of Saturday when he spoke so sensitively about his cat's dying. Sensei feels that pets teach us about our lives, and participants related incidents in their life with a cat. One cat was an inveterate paper shredder, and Sensei's cat stole raw chicken left on the kitchen counter. After chasing the cat he came to the conclusion that it was in the nature of a cat to avail itself of available foo.

April 20 - Dharma Exchange was supplanted by a Town Hall meeting in the gym. The results will be sent to the Sangha.

In gassho,
Pat Bobrow

*SBBWA and Seattle Betsuin cordially invite you to
their 3rd Annual*

Women in Buddhism Conference

To Think of Buddha

is to be Thought by Buddha: "Nembutsu"

Saturday

September 20, 2014

9:30am - 3:30pm

at Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple

Presenters:



Reverend Midori Kondo [Past associate minister at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, Resident Minister of Lihue Hongwanji Mission, Retired](#)

Sierra Lee-Brenner [Licensed mental health counselor and board certified art therapist, Seattle & Bainbridge Island](#)

Reverend Carol O'Dowd [Resident Minister, Longmont Buddhist Temple, Longmont, Colorado \(Mountain District of Buddhist Churches of America\)](#)

- IHG

Betsuin Events for May 2014

MOST SUNDAYS – confirm Sundays listed below. All are invited:

8:45 am MEDITATION SERVICE at 1441 S. Main St; Sutra Chanting, 20-minute meditation.
 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

MOST WEDNESDAYS **10:30 am **DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP** with Meditation – **call office to confirm**

SUNDAYS 8:45 am Meditation Service Weekly

May 4 Rinban Castro attending Tacoma
 Buddhist Temple Centennial

10:00 am CHILDREN'S SERVICE &

FAMILY SERVICE - Dr. Haneda

Adult: Dr. Haneda

Japanese: Dr. Haneda

DSDX: MA Irene Goto

DX: Rev. Warrick

11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting

May 11

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE - Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

DSDX: Rinban Castro

DX: Rev. Warrick

May 18 Rinban Castro – at Enmanji

10:00 am GOTAN-E SERVICE AND MUSIC
 SERVICE

Family: Rev. Jim Warrick

Japanese Program

DX: Rev. Jim Warrick

10:45 am Dharma School students visit Keiro

11:30 am SBBWA Breakfast/Lunch Fundraiser
 Camp Fire Council Fire

May 25 MA Joe Schwab to Yakima Tahoma
 Cemetery

10:00 am SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS SERVICE
 - Rinban Castro; Scholarship Recipients
 read essays

DSDX: MA Irene Goto

DX: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

11:45 am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting

MONDAYS

May 5 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Japanese Seminar
 with Dr. Haneda

May 12 Rinban Castro (Day Off)

May 19 Rinban Castro returning from Enmanji

May 26 Memorial Day (Office Closed)

10:00 am Memorial Day Service at Lakeview Cemetery

TUESDAYS

May 6 Rinban Castro (Day Off)

May 13 Rinban Castro (Study Day Off)

May 27 10:30 am Keiro Service (Rinban Castro)

WEDNESDAYS ** 10:30 am - call office to confirm

May 7

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

11:00 am NWD Convention Planning Mtg
 (Rinban Castro)

May 14

10:30 am **Dharma Support Group
 Meeting at White River Buddhist
 Temple (Rinban Castro)

May 21, 28 10:30 am **Dharma Support Group
 (Rinban Castro)

THURSDAYS

May 1

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Castro)

May 15 7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

May 22 7:30 pm Betsuin Board Meeting

April 24 Rinban Castro (Study Day Off)

FRIDAYS

May 2

12:00 pm Gojikai Service & Luncheon Meeting

7:00 pm English Seminar w/ Dr. Nobuo Haneda

May 16 Shinran Shonin Memorial Service - Rinban

May 30 Rinban Castro (Day Off)

SATURDAYS

May 3 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Japanese Seminar
 with Dr. Nobuo Haneda followed by potluck dinner

May 17 Rinban Castro – to Enmanji

JUNE 2014: Major Events of Interest

Sunday, June 1 All Sangha Memorial Service

Sunday, June 8 Awards & Recognition Service
 (Last day of Dharma School)

Town Hall Meeting - TENTATIVE

June 22 Bishops'/Rinbans' Memorial Service

June 23-27 (Mon.-Fri.) Kids Summer Program (KSP)

Newsletter Deadline: May 19, 2014 8PM

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



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down for
newsletter.*

Seattle Betsuin Vision Embrace true and real
life in Nembutsu

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



FRIDAY, MAY 2 ENGLISH SEMINAR WITH DR. NOBUO HANEDA 7PM – 9PM SEE PAGE 3

SATURDAY, MAY 3 JAPANESE SEMINAR WITH DR. NOBUO HANEDA 10AM–4PM + POTLUCK DINNER

SUNDAY, MAY 4 SUNDAY SERVICE WITH DR. NOBUO HANEDA 10AM ENGLISH; 10:50AM JAPANESE

MONDAY, MAY 5 JAPANESE SEMINAR WITH DR. NOBUO HANEDA 10AM –2PM

SUNDAY, MAY 18 GOTAN-E SERVICE AND MUSIC SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 25 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS SERVICE - RECIPIENTS WILL READ THEIR ESSAYS

MONDAY, MAY 26 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT LAKEVIEW CEMETERY; TEMPLE OFFICE CLOSED

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

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