

# Wheel of the Sangha



Volume 34 Issue 4 Live a Real Life April 2015

# The Great Physician

By Rinban Don Castro

The Buddha is often referred to as "The Great Physician" because his teaching of the Four Noble Truths is based on a medical model. The first of the Four Noble Truths is *dukkha* which is usually translated "suffering" but really refers to the whole spectrum of human afflictions. Dukkha is the symptom that brings us to the physician and starts us on our quest for spiritual well-being. The second truth is the diagnosis of the cause of suffering, which is selfish attachment. The prognosis is the third noble truth: you can be cured if you become free of selfish attachments. The fourth noble truth is the cure and that is the Eightfold Path.

Notice that the starting point of Buddhism is not belief but experience, the experience of dukkha. Buddhists well understand that the human mind can create beliefs that have no basis in reality. Once we accept a belief, we are bound by it. People will torture and kill in the name of a belief. Thus, the first of the Eightfold Path and the most important one is Right View. As I look at human history, it strikes me that the greatest part of human suffering is a result of wrong views.

Buddhists are often regarded as superstitious idol worshippers. Yet, how can Buddhists be superstitious when our religion is not based on belief? An integral part of being Buddhist is to try and reserve judgment and always be questioning our assumptions. This approach is well supported by the sutras. While Buddhism is a questioning religion, it is also an open minded religion always focused on wisdom and compassion and the resulting spiritual well-being.

# President's Message

In late February, Rinban Castro, Seattle Betsuin Vice-President Calvin Terada and I attended the annual National Council Meeting of the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) in San Diego, California. Seattle member, Shizue Yahata, also attended the meeting as the President of the Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations.

Here are a few highlights of what was brought before the National Council at this year's meeting:

- BCA leadership, led by President Dr. Kent Matsuda, proposed a budget that kept flat the contribution from membership dues at \$1.6 million. The budget was approved. Due to a decline in membership, annual membership dues will increase about \$2 to about \$109 per member. BCA dues are paid for all Seattle Betsuin members out of the dues paid by to the Seattle Betsuin by its members.
- A number of amendments to the BCA bylaws were proposed and approved. The proposed amendments were the product of several years of work by a BCA subcommittee that sought to clarify or correct a number of inconsistencies or discrepancies that had come to exist in the bylaws as they were amended over time.
- The Council approved an EcoSangha Resolution that encouraged all BCA temples to promote awareness of the profound implications of our behavior on future generations and to promote ecologically friendly behavior in the spirit of "mottainai." Rinban Castro was a driving force behind the resolution.
- Three Directors at Large were elected. The newly elected Directors are Karen Suyama (Berkeley), Larry Oda (Monterey), and Diane Belli (Venice).

Continuing a movement that past BCA president, Ron Murakami, started several years ago, the meeting also included opportunities to learn more about how the Dharma was being shared today and to discuss common issues facing temples across the BCA. Delegates had the opportunity to hear Dharma messages from eight ministers, one from each district in the BCA. They also participated in an innovative e-polling session in which participants used their smartphones to register responses to questions posed to them about issues their temples were facing.

All in all, the meeting was a great opportunity to learn and connect with ministers and temple leaders from large and small temples from across the nation. We are grateful to the members of San Diego and Vista for hosting a wonderful event. And, Rinban Castro, Calvin and I are grateful for the privilege of representing you at the National Council Meeting. Please let us know if you have questions about the National Council or about the BCA in general.

Gassho, Yukio.

**SBBWA** Udon Fundraiser: Thank you temple members for purchasing our Udon Bowls and Baked Goods. Over 100 udon bowls and trays of baked







items were served on Sunday, March 8, to benefit the Summer Youth Hunger program. Leanne Nishi-Wong chaired this fundraiser with help from Ritsuko Kawahara and her staff and bakers to help children that depend on free or reduced school lunches during the school year. In the summer months these meals are not available and, with further cuts in summer programs, many youth go hungry. SBBWA will donate



all proceeds to ACRS and the Denise Louie Education Center. We appreciate all of your support for our fundraiser.

New Membership Service & Friendship Luncheon: We are happy that many new women will be joining our organization on March 26 during our New Membership Service and Luncheon. The luncheon, which follows the formal service, is a friendship luncheon for our members. We encourage all members to attend the service to initiate new members and to renew friendships and to build camaraderie among members. We're still seeking women who would like to give service to our temple, community, as well as make new acquaintances. Please see Joan Nakano in the temple office for more

SBBWA Historians: Our historians, Akico Taniguchi

and Tomi Zumoto are often seen with cameras in their hands at events as our New Membership Service, Memorial Service, New Year

information.



Party, conventions and conferences. They document our history with photo collages that are seen on our temple bulletin board. Our historians keep a running file of our activities and events to record the history of SBBWA. The photos of its members and their activities can tell a story of an organization.

Breakfast at Lunchtime: We are planning our third annual Breakfast at Lunch Fundraiser to be held on Sunday, May 17, following Dharma Exchange. Our menu includes eggs, sausage, waffles, rice, and more. We hope you'll support our breakfast fundraiser.

**Kitchen Clean Up**: Our January, February, March and April Toban groups will be cleaning the kitchen and pantry on Wednesday, April 15, from 12:30pm – 3:00. This clean-up follows our Salmon Dinner to give a good wiping of counters and sorting odds and ends left in the pantry. All available hands, among the four toban months are asked to give a hand to complete this task. Thank you all who can help!

In Gassho, Janet

#### Calendar:

Cabinet Meeting	March 29
SBBWA Board Meeting	April 5
Hanamatsuri	April 12
Cabinet Meeting	April 19
New Member Service & Lunch	April 26

#### **Notes from Dharma Exchange**

Dharma Exchange is an open discussion led by one of the ministerial staff following Sunday Service. It takes place in the dining room downstairs. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments are served from 11:30 - Noon.

Sun, Feb. 22, 2015 - Rinban Castro talked about the militant Buddhist monks in Burma and Sri Lanka; They are nationalistic and strident and do not respect the people. Being a monk is a respected position, but Sensei felt they do not really know much about Buddhism or they would not be killing others. Sri Lankan militant monks wish to "protect" Buddhism as they claim they practice the purest form of Buddhism. At the time Sensei attended a Catholic school their teaching claimed, "We have the truth and everyone else is wrong." They no longer hold to this. Sensei said certain forms of Buddhism are closer to Christian teaching than some Christian group's closeness to each other. . . Two guests from Seattle University attended the temple today and participated in the Dharma Exchange. They are taking a class in Religion/Theology, which emphasizes the relationship of food, culture and religion. Sensei told them about the Eco-Sangha at SU conducted by Dr. Jason Wirth, vet another example of SU's diversity. Sensei said every religious group presents its religion as "home.". . .Rev. Bridge gave an outstanding keynote address at the NW Buddhist Convention. . . A participant thanked people for their participation. It is possible to see highlights from the NW Buddhist Convention on YouTube. Temple member Michael Garnett saved the Betsuin some \$2,000 for his expertise in sound engineering, making the music portion most enjoyable.

Sun, March 1 - What makes one a Buddhist? Rev. Jim Warrick said the "Three Seals" qualifies, and they are: (1) Understanding of Impermanence, (2) Craving causes suffering, and (3) There is no inherent separate existence. Further, he said Nirvana is peace, and enlightenment is beyond all concepts. Supreme Enlightenment is the ultimate goal, and it must be experienced as it is not possible to explain it. . .He said 40 troops from Joint Base Fort Lewis (JBFL) visited the temple in order to improve their abilities in outreach. Many men thought they might be sent to a foreign post. Simply stated, they wanted to know how to approach a wounded Buddhist soldier. Sensei told them to recite the Three

Treasures because it is common to all Buddhist sects. He added Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is one way but not the only way. . . Sensei talked about the Marathon Monks, mainly from Japan and China, who spend 1,000 days circumambulating Mt. Hiei. Only 48 monks of the Tendai sect have completed this task since 1885, and the seven years of preparations are grueling. . .

In the 1990s mummified human remains of a man, were discovered inside a paper mache statue of Buddha, covered in lacquer. It dates back to China or Tibet of the 10th Century and CT scans revealed a man of 40-50. Self-mummification was mainly a Japanese practice in which the monk ate only nuts and seeds for 1,000 days, then roots and bark for another 1,000 days. Lastly, a toxic tea made from the sap of the Japanese varnish tree was consumed. The monk would be buried alive, and when he had died the mummified body would be removed after 1.000 days and preserved.

Sun, March 8 - Rinban Castro read a piece regarding the complex Japanese understanding of the fragility of life. . . There is no English word for "dukkha," as it is difficult to sum up in English. It conveys spiritual dissonance, awkwardness, mental illness (mild to extreme), which we all have to some degree. . . Sensei felt he could have said more to a dying temple member; and a participant thought that a patient expects comforting words from a visiting minister. . . A settled mind is our most important task in life.

Sun, March 15 - Jim Sensei opined that a horrific disaster like a tsunami causes people to become numb and unable to react normally to the death of loved ones. We need a good foundation in life to survive such a disaster -- much like a house needs a solid foundation. . . Two newcomers at the DX would like to learn more about Jodo Shinshu, and Sensei recommended the Four Noble Truths. . . The Pure Land is everywhere. We live in samsara and Nirvana simultaneously, but because of dualistic thinking it is difficult to realize. . . Many religious traditions in the US are now practicing meditation. . . A participant reflected that being kind to others is most important. . . Spirituality is an inner journey to peace; and religion is a roadmap to spirituality. Karma = volition of action. . . Buddhism is a way of life and a way of thinking, and it is important to choose a path that you can walk. In gassho, Pat Bobrow

#### **NWYBL Spring Retreat 2015**

Seattle Buddhist Church hosted the 2015 NW Young Buddhist League Retreat on the weekend of March 14-15. The purpose of this retreat was to interact with other kids from various temples including WRBT, and Tacoma BT. This packed weekend included workshops, volleyball, movies, and bingo with the Wisteria View Manor Residents. We were also fortunate to have Rev. Yugo Fujita, and MA Jason Yokovama. Thanks to Ron.



Steph, Marie, and Susie for cooking all the delicious meals, and for staying the night. We hope to all see each other again over the summer during Relay for Life, volleyball activities, and Summer Retreat!

Gassho, Alex S.

**Scout Troup 252** Some of the scouts went to winter (well more like spring) camp at Camp Sheppard. They had tons of fun even with the absence of snow. They earned merit badges, shot arrows at the archery range, went hiking and signed off on advancements. We also did Flags at the Capital, Brent N, Brandt T, Josh M, Kobe T, Daniel S, Lukas A and Evan K where present. They were also on King 5. We are now in the process of Scouting For Food, to get food for the people who are not able to get any. ~Bryan Yee

# **'SCHOLARSHIPS' - High School Seniors / College Students**

HIGH SCHOOL: The Seattle Betsuin Tsujihara Family Memorial Scholarship Grant and Seattle Betsuin Continuing Education Grant are offering scholarships to high school seniors graduating in 2014.

COLLEGE: If you are a student currently enrolled and completed one year of college, the Masaru & Mitsuma Shimokon Scholarship Grant is offering scholarships for careers as nurse practitioner, medical doctor, registered nurse, engineer, or computer science. Other fields in the technical, math and science programs may also be considered. This is a one-time only grant.

All high school and college applicants or their parent(s) must be a member of good standing of the Seattle Buddhist Church.

The *deadline* to submit applications is Monday, April 6, 2015 before or by 2:30pm to the temple office. For applications and/or questions, please contact Shizue Kaku via the temple office 206-329-0800 or email: office@seattlebetsuin.com

**April Buddhist Study Group** The Buddhist Study Group will meet on Saturday, April 4 at 9:30-11:30am in the Memorial Hall Chapel. We will discuss Muyuge, a Flower without Sorrow which is a book of poems by Lady Takeko Kujo. This book is available through the BCA bookstore.

We will have two meetings in April. On Saturday, April 25 we will discuss *The Universe in a Single Atom* by the Dalai Lama. Everyone is welcome to stay for brown bag lunch afterward. There is no cost to attend. There will be no book study group meeting in May. Submitted by Leonora Clarke

# The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations January – February 2015

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsu	do:			Given by:
Amy Seko – Funeral Service		\$	1,000.00	Robert Seko
Arthur Koura – Funeral Servi	ce	\$	1,000.00	Dyanne & Christopher Middaugh
Daichi "Dan" Tanabe – Funer	ral Service	\$	1,000.00	Estate of Daichi Tanabe
Teruo "Ham" Koba – In Mem	ory of	\$	700.00	Masao Koba
Yoshio Shiota – Funeral Serv	rice	\$	500.00	Betty Shiota
Sae Akada – 1 Year Memoria	al Service	\$	400.00	Estate of Sae Akada
Mary Izutsu – Removal of Uri	n from Nokotsudo	\$	400.00	Kenneth Izutsu
Atsushi Watanabe – 49 <sup>th</sup> Day	Memorial Service	\$	300.00	Kimie Watanabe
Dick Yoshimura – In Memory	of	\$	100.00	Harry Yoshimura
Misao Yoshimura – In Memo	ry of	\$	100.00	Harry Yoshimura
Kenneth Fujita – In Memory o	of	\$	100.00	Stephen & Florence Fujita
Tad Fujita – In Memory of		\$	100.00	Stephen & Florence Fujita
Nokotsudo		\$	10.00	Norihiro Niki
Remembrances for:		<u>Gi</u>	ven by:	
Sachiko Fujita	Irene Akada; Henry & Rose Kuramoto	Fuka	ano; Reiko Har	a; Toshiko Isomura; Amy Kato; Daisy
George Fukeda	Henry & Rose Fukano; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki			
Ellen Tamaki Harano	Lauren Asaba-Aratani; William Hirai; Howard & Marie Kosai-Luke; Craig & Joan Nakano; Pauline Sakuma; Nori Suguro; Sam & Masako Uchida; Kevin & Kari Ann Yokoyama			
Amy Hirasawa	Dennis & Lillian Asato; John & E. Lisa Duff; Charles Furukawa; Miyuki Hanada; Peggy Hanada; Reiko Hara; Setsuko Harada; Shizue Kikuchi; Daisy Toyoko Kuramoto; Curtis & Charlene Nakayama; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki; Kunio Otani; Steven & Penne Sakuma; Sato & Darlene Shimizu; Gayle Sordetto; Rikuko Tanaka; Emiko Taniguchi; Fumiye Taniguchi; Margaret Teramoto; Massie Tomita; Ayako Ruby Yasui; Nobuo Yutani			
Evelyn Kitashima	Setsuko Harada; Peggy Tanemura			
Arthur Koura	Hiroshi Hayashida: Sharon Kitamoto: Mitsuhiro & Lilly Kodama: Kazuko Nakao: Robert &			

Arthur Koura Hiroshi Hayashida; Sharon Kitamoto; Mitsuhiro & Lilly Kodama; Kazuko Nakao; Robert &

Sally Nakata; Vernon & Amy Nakata; Janice Nishimori; Gary & Mary Yoshida

Fusa Kozu Seattle Betsuin Scout Troop 252

Yoriyu Mamiya Moen Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara

Kimiko Mori Shizue Kikuchi

Amy Seko Cary & Ruth Akiyoshi; Janet Baba; Ernesto Dolan; Dale & Lisa Echigoshima; Edwin &

Sumi Fulwider; Esther Furugori; Devin & Ann Hass; Ross Hori; Satoko Hori; Gary Iwamoto; Yoshito Iwamoto; Masayoshi & Masako Kubo; Daisy Kuramoto; Daniel Kuramoto; Cheri Lee; Ray & Grace Michihira; Stephani Miller; James & Jean Morishima; Mutual Fish Company, Inc.; Mary Nakamura; Yoshio & Judith Nakamura; Stephanie Ojima; George Okawa; Kunio Otani; Raymond & Julia Otani; Shig & Mary Otani; Judge Clarence Seeliger; Larry & Clara Shibuya; Chris & Kristi Shimada; Joan Seko; Lauren Seko; Mark & Shaun Seko; Kathryn Suyama; James Takano; Margaret Teramoto; Sam &

continued on next page....

Masako Uchida; Fujie Yamasaki; Kevin & Kari Ann Yokoyama; Harry Yoshimura; Ritsuko ...continued

Yoshino; Nobuo Yutani;

Albert Shintaku **Daisy Kuramoto** 

Terie Akada; Reiko Hara; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki; Sam & Masako Uchida; Scott Woo; Judy Suto

Rose Yoshitomi

Sadamu Takashima **Daisy Kuramoto** 

Daichi "Dan" Tanabe Georgia Crouch; Vanguard Contractors, c/o Georgia Crouch

Elsie Tokita Mae Deguchi; Reiko Hara; Dale Kaneko; Tokuzo & Mari Okumura; Masaru & Anna

Tahara; Peggy Tanemura; Theodore & Akico Taniguchi; Machiko Wada; Stanley &

Phyllis Yasuda

Rev. Taitetsu Unno Anonymous; Masatoshi & Sayeko Aoyama; Janet Baba; Patricia Bobrow; Rev. Don

> Castro & Shuri Saigusa; Greg & Gina Chor; Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara; Marion Dumont; Minoru & Aiko Fujii; Satoru & Grace Ichikawa; Rev. Grant & Noriko Ikuta; Gail Kaminishi; Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima; Ritsuko Kawahara; Allan & Rose Kishi; Kinue Kuwahara; George & Irene Mano; Julie Mayeda; Yukio & Karen Morikubo; Elmer Morishita; Kemi Nakabayashi; Tsukasa & Keiko Namekata; Craiq & Joan Nakano; Junko Nakano; Rev. Koshin & Mayumi Ogui; Sunako Oye; Mary S. Shigaya; Ben & Etsu Shimbo; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Sato & Darlene Shimizu; Frances Shintaku; Masao & Frances Tamekuni; Rikuko Tanaka; Theodore & Akico Taniquchi; Alvin & Mitsuko Terada; Michiko

Toyoshima; Machiko Wada; White River Buddhist Temple; Shizue Yahata

Sumiko Yamaguchi Daisy Kuramoto

Rev. Kiyoshi Yamashita Nobuko LeMay; Yasuko Natsuhara; Masaru & Anna Tahara; Gary & Mary Yoshida

Jerry Yuasa Seattle Betsuin Scout Troop 252

Temple Supervision: Spokane Buddhist Temple \$ 100.00

> Yakima Buddhist Temple \$ 200.00

Alan Hoshino; Janet Kosai; Hidemi & Keiko Tsuboi; Bill & Karen Garland-Vogeley **New Years Services** 

**General Donations:** For:

Kawabe Memorial Fund **Annual Distribution** 

**SBBWA End of Year Appreciation** 

Janet Kosai New Year's Service

Sanaye Kawamura Appreciation for Onenju Repair Tamio Uchida Appreciation for Newsletter

Susumu & Hideko Tsutsumi **General Donation** Sam Gebala & Amy Shibuya **General Donation** Leann Nishi-Wong General Donation

**SBBWA** End of Year Appreciation for P. Sakuma

**General Donation** Gary Lu Wilma Kawasaka **General Donation** Anonymous **General Donation** Machiko Wada General Donation Gary & Deborah Shibata To Endowment

Tami Arinobu General Donation with Costco Matching Donation

#### HANAMATSURI LUNCHEON

**Sunday, April 12, 2015** 11:45 AM

All Betsuin families and friends are cordially invited to attend the Hanamatsuri Luncheon on Sunday, April 12, at 11:45 AM in the gym. Dharma School will be preparing and hosting this complimentary luncheon. Please join us in celebrating the Buddha's birthday and enjoying the fellowship of our Sangha on this joyous occasion.

-JN

# **Dharma School Classroom Reports**

#### Pre-K/K class

The Pre-K/K class listened to the story Mindful Monkey, Happy Panda and discussed ways to practice being mindful. Following the lesson, each student used heart shapes to make a picture of a happy panda. The following week, the class listened to the story Be Nice to Spiders and talked about how it relates to the "Golden Chain." Students made books by illustrating and writing how they follow the "Golden Chain." The students talked about the love of Amida Buddha and how Amida is always with us. They made a necklace by coloring an image of Amida Buddha and threading it onto a piece of string along with pieces of straw and foam shapes. The students reviewed what they've learned so far in Dharma School by playing a concentration game using pictures representing those things. Then they each made their own concentration game to play at home with their families.

#### 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

We continued our discussion of the Eightfold Path and read the story of the six blind men and the elephant wherein they each feel a different part of the elephant and come to a different idea as to what an elephant is like. We used this to illustrate Right View. Then Adlai and Ai's moms were kind enough to substitute teach while we were out of town. The kids enjoyed seeing their moms in class as they worked on puzzles depicting various Buddhist holidays. Finally we talked about the Three Treasures, trying to get beyond the fact that treasure means Pirate's booty. The kids wrote down what

they thought were treasures for them and we did share some chocolate coin booty.

#### High School class

The HS class spent February talking about Gratitude. We often take things for granted, not just teens but adults as well. We focused on how we



react when we don't get what we want whether it's something tangible (iPhone 6) or intangible (didn't get asked to a dance) and how it makes us react. Instead of taking things as granted, taking a moment to focus on the "nice things" that others do for us, we begin to realize how we often don't recognize and appreciate the "niceties" others give to us, whether we deserve it or not. At the end, the class decided to depict what "gratitude" meant to them visually.

Submitted by Joyce Tsuji

#### **Musical Notes**

The 68th annual Northwest District Buddhist



convention 'Everyday Rhythm of the Nembutsu' has passed, but it will be enduring in the heart and minds of everyone who attended. Rev. Harry Bridge from the Buddhist Church of Oakland took the theme and ran with it with his Dharma music ideas, supported by Merwin Kato during his keynote address. All the ministers and ministerial staff embraced the music theme. My musical vision for the convention with the help of my husband Jim Norton could not have been implemented without the participation of so many people. We had 27 singers in the NW District choir for the convention song presented at opening service including members from Tacoma and Oregon Buddhist Temple (Portland). How wonderful it was that all ages came together from the youth musicians performing in the opening and closing services, to the 21 buskers young and old(er!), and culminating with the Sunday closing service Circle of Life ministerial procession, Dharma School offering and GRAND procession! Mas Tamekuni and the Seattle Betsuin Ukulele Band were terrific assisting at the gatha music sing-along and as buskers. Donna Zumoto literally kept the beat going from the Friday evening youth jam session with Rev. Bridge and throughout the weekend services. What a fun idea of Ron Hamakawa to have the Electric Slide flash mob! Kudos to Yukio Morikubo for the inspiration of the story and sing along presentations at the banquet as well as the idea of recognizing all service musicians at this convention, including Florence Sumida for her lifelong service as Betsuin organist since she first learned to play organ as a teenager. Last but not least, please don't forget Michael Garnett-thank him personally when you see him at Temple—for the extraordinary time and effort he put in before and during convention to be our own 'inhouse' sound engineer. We are so fortunate to have his expertise! If you have not yet become a friend on Facebook of Seattle Betsuin-Sangha, now is the time because as great as photos are, the video clips posted on Fb really bring the sound memories back to life!

Public YouTube videos from the convention can also be accessed from the Seattle Betsuin website link to White River Buddhist Temple. We appreciate the expertise of Dennis Asato from WRBT for making the video memories possible.

Kayla and Alina provided the beautiful music for the Camp Fire 105<sup>th</sup> birthday service on March 15. The Earth Day service on April 19 will be our spring music service this year. Youth musicians are slated to participate again along with the Seattle Betsuin Ukulele Band and Seattle Sangha Singers.

Submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi

#### 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 2015.

Karen Akira, Gaylen Akira, Satoru & Grace Ichikawa, Yoshiye Iwamura, Masao Koba, Peter Kusakabe, Jack Matsui, Ernest & Sanaye Nagai, Hisashi & Sadako Nishimura, Pauline Sakuma, Joyce Sato, Stuart Teramoto, Lori Tanaka, Nami Tanaka, Peggy Tanemura, Sam & Masako Uchida, Machiko Wada, Leanne Nishi-Wong, John & Arlene Yamada, Fujie Yamasaki, Fukuyo Yee, Sumie Yokota, Elliott Zimmerman

\*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, 2015. If you have any questions about your membership status, contact the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or office@seattlebetsuin.com. (compiled by HL, PS, JN, & SO)

The Institute of Buddhist Studies & Center for Buddhist Education presented their 2015 Winter Pacific Seminar for the first time in the Pacific Northwest at Seattle Betsuin on Saturday, March 7, 2015. Keynote Speaker, Professor Tomoyasu Naito, Kangaku – Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha and Professor Emeritus of Shinshu Studies at Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan, presented "Life of Awakening: True Teaching" in Japanese with English translation by Rev. Mutsumi Wondra. Professor Naito and Reverend Wondra were accompanied by Reverend Kiyonobu Kuwahara, codirector of CBE and Coordinator of the Hongwanji Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course. Photos by Sat Ichikawa







#### SAVE THE DATE!

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Buddhism Conference at Seattle Betsuin Saturday, October 3, 2015

9:30am - 3:30pm

Speakers: Reverend Patti Nakai

www.BuddhistTempleofChicago.org
and

Linda Anderson Krech TōDō Institute

www.TodoInstitute.org

# 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Sukiyaki Fundraiser on March 1, 2015 at the Wapato Buddhist Hall was a huge success.

Organizer, Lon Inaba reports that nearly 1700 dinners were sold; around 200 volunteers



helped to clean, decorate, promote, presell tickets, prep the food, and put on the event. Volunteers and diners came from as far away as Redwood City California, Seattle, Wenatchee, Ellensburg, the Tri-Cities, Port Orchard, Spokane, as well as, from the local communities. As in many years, we had reports that this was the best dinner ever. The photo is the stage display in the Buddhist Hall. Proceeds go to the operation of the Hall and the adjacent Buddhist Temple. Lon adds, "Thanks for your support."

Northwest Dharma Association has included an article and photos on the late Rev. Dr. Taitetsu Unno in their current issue of Northwest Dharma News. Go to <a href="http://northwestdharma.org/2015/03/rev-taitetsu-unno-a-u-s-pure-land-leader-honored-at-seattle-memorial-service/#post-7423">http://northwestdharma.org/2015/03/rev-taitetsu-unno-a-u-s-pure-land-leader-honored-at-seattle-memorial-service/#post-7423</a>.

#### **Buddhist Educational Events**

**Calendar** is an online resource for BCA events. They are listed according to districts and venues. Go to

http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/educational-events-page to find a lecture, meditation or study session at a temple near you. Here are 4 that are posted for White River Buddhist Temple, 3625 Auburn Way North Auburn, WA 98951 Phone Number: (253) 833-1442:

- FRI., MAY 1 | DR. NOBUO HANEDA WEEKEND (ENGLISH) 7:00 pm 9:00 pm SAT., MAY 2 | 10:00 am 4:00 pm (JAPANESE)
- SAT., MAY 16 | PUBLIC DHARMA TALK BY REV. HIROSHI ABIKO 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
- SAT., SEPT. 26 | PUBLIC DHARMA TALK BY REV. MUTSUMI WONDRA 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
- SAT., NOV. 14| FALL BODY & MIND SEMINAR BY REV. TATSUYA AOKI 9:00 am 3:30 pm

Rev.Kodo Umezu, Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America will visit Seattle Betsuin on October 10, 11, 2015. Look for details in the coming months.

- IHG

### **Betsuin Events for April 2015**

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

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

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\*

April 5 8:45 am Meditation Service

10:00 am **FAMILY SERVICE** 

> Youth: Rinban Castro Adult: Rinban Castro

DSDX: Irene Goto Sensei

DX: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting April 12 8:45 am Meditation Service

HANAMATSURI SERVICE 10:00 am

Youth/Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program DX: Rinban Castro

11:45 am Hanamatsuri Luncheon April 19 8:45 am Meditation Service

10:00 am EARTH DAY SERVICE & SPRING

MUSIC SERVICE Youth: Rinban Castro Adult: Rinban Castro Japanese Program

DSDX: Irene Goto Sensei

DX: Rinban Castro

11:45 am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting April 26 8:45 am Meditation Service

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE (No Dharma

School – teachers at FDSTL)

Youth/Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

DX: TBD

11:30 am SBBWA New Members' Service and

Luncheon

#### **MONDAYS**

April 6

2:30pm Deadline for Betsuin Scholarship applications

April 13

10:30am Hanamatsuri Service at Keiro with Kovasan Buddhist Temple and Nichiren Buddhist Church

**TUESDAYS** 

April 28 10:30 am Keiro Service (Rinban Castro)

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

April 1 10:30 am Dharma Support Group

April 8, 15, 22

10:30 am Dharma Support Group (Rinban Castro)

Rinban Castro (Study Day Off) April 29

10:30 am **Dharma Support Group** 

**THURSDAYS** 

April 2 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service

April 16

10:00 am Shinran Shonin Monthly Memorial

Service (Rinban Castro)

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Irene Goto

Sensei)

April 23 7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

April 24 – 26 FDSTL Conference in Los Angeles

Rinban Castro (Day Off) April 30

**FRIDAYS** 

April 3 Rinban Castro (Day Off)

12:00 pm Gojikai Service and Luncheon Meeting

SATURDAYS

April 49:30 am – noon Book Study Group

"Muyuge: Flower without Sorrow" by Lady

Takeko Kujo

April 25 9:30 am - noon Book Study Group The

Universe in a Single Atom by Dalai Lama

May 2015: Major Events of Interest

Sunday, May 17 Gotan-e Service

Sunday, May 24 Scholarship Awards Service

Monday, May 25 Memorial Day Service at

Lakeview Cemetery

Sat.-Sun., May 30 - 31 World Buddhist Women's

Convention in Calgary

2015 May Newsletter Deadline: Monday, April 20, 2015 8:00 pm

Seattle Buddhist Church 1427 South Main Street

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Wheel of the Sangha A Monthly Newsletter of

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Seattle Betsuin Vision Embrace true and real life in Nembutsu



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

# 2015 April Events at Seattle Betsuin

Saturday, April 4 9:30am Book Study Muyuge see page 4.

Sunday, April 12 10:00am in Gym - Hanamatsuri Service and Luncheon see page 8.

Sunday, April 19 10:00am Earth Day and Music Service

Saturday, April 25 9:30am Book Study Universe in a Single Atom see page 4.

Sunday, April 26 SBBWA New Member's Service and Luncheon

Ministers: Rimban Don Castro 24 hours: (206) 779 -2214 and Reverend Jim Warrick Wheel of the Sangha NEWSLETTER Editors: English - Irene Goto Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com Japanese - Machiko Wada Newsletter-Jpn@SeattleBetsuin.com

The deadline to submit articles is the third Monday of each month at 8:00 PM Deadline for May Issue: April 20, 2015 at 8:00 PM