



## DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL SERVICE: OBON –

**GATHERING OF JOY – KANGIE-E, JULY 15** from Shin Buddhist Service Book, (2013), Orange County Buddhist Temple, submitted by Irene Goto

Obon is a day to remember those who have gone before us with gratitude for enabling us to exist and to encounter the Dharma. As Shinran observed, “All sentient beings, without exception, Have been our parents and brothers and sisters in the course of countless lives in the many states of existence” (*Tannishō*, Chapter 5).

Part of the inspiration for Obon comes from the Ghost Festival of Chinese folk religion, as re-envisioned in a Buddhist context. The word Obon is the shortened form of *uranbon-e* which means to suffer as if being hung upside down, and comes from the *Ullambana Sutra*. The sutra tells the story of Maudgalyayana, one of Śākyamuni Buddha’s ten great disciples, and how he suffered over the death of his mother, feeling a deep sense of regret and sorrow. He believed that her devotion to him had been a barrier to her understanding the Dharma. The Buddha told him to reflect upon this, and Maudgalyāyana, known for his deep insight, came to realize that his mother’s devotion to him was based on an unselfish love. With this deep insight into his mother’s life, he danced with joy as his regret and sorrow were transformed into appreciation and gratitude.

For Shin Buddhists, outdoor folk dancing (*bon odori*) is done in the memory of the deceased and not to welcome back the spirits of the departed or to generate merit for them. Thus, it is also called Gathering of Joy (*Kangie-e*) in grateful remembrance of all those who have influenced our lives.



## President’s Message

As summer approaches, our members are preparing to conduct two of our most popular programs at the Seattle Betsuin, the Kids’ Summer Program and Bon Odori. Through both, we open our doors and reach out to the community to celebrate our *Nikkei* roots. They are incredibly labor-intensive efforts, but important ways in which we try to give back to our community.

I’d like to recognize and thank all of our members and friends who come out to help with these programs, and to our ministerial staff who work hard to support them. They take an incredible number of man/woman-hours to pull off. However, I’m hoping that everyone who helps takes pride in the knowledge that they are bringing cultural awareness and appreciation to children and adults, and giving members of our community the opportunity to laugh, play and dance together -- that is, to be happy. Thank you very much for your *dana*.

Please join us in celebrating Obon again this year. Our events calendar will list the relevant dates and times for services and Bon Odori practice. As always, we will need a lot of help in the days leading up to Bon Odori. And of course, we will need a lot of help during Bon Odori itself on July 18 and 19. We will also need your help spreading the word to friends and family about the event. We want as many people as possible to take part in our annual, two-day street party. Please help however you can. *Onegaishimasu*.

Gassho, Yukio

### **Bon Odori Dance Practices:**

July 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 & 14

7:30pm – 9:00pm in temple gymnasium

### **SEATTLE BON ODORI SET UP:**

July 16 & 17 (Th. & Fri.)

### **Bon Odori Festival:**

July 18<sup>th</sup> 4pm-10pm

July 19<sup>th</sup> 3pm-8pm

**Center for Buddhist Education  
Public Lecture  
Held in conjunction with the Jodo Shinshu  
Correspondence Course –  
August Workshop 2015**

**Presents**

**Evolving Buddhism: Transformation of  
Zen and Shin in the 20th Century  
Two special lectures and a Q & A session  
Saturday, August 1, 2015**

**1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**On Zen: Dr. William M. Bodiford**

Professor, University of California, Los Angeles,  
Dept. of Asian Languages and Cultures

**On Jodo Shinshu:**

**Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto**

Professor, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Jodo Shinshu Center**

2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704

For more information email us at

[hongwanjioffice@bcahq.org](mailto:hongwanjioffice@bcahq.org) or call 510-809-1441

Synopsis: "A look at the transformation of traditional Zen Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu as they each developed in Japan, both confronting social and political changes in the 20th century, and together facing challenges and prospects in the 21st century."

**SBBWA Continued from p. 3 Figures:**

1 - Religious Committee members, Fumiko Groves and Shirley Shimada.

2 - Omigaki Crew members: Top to bottom, Ken Dodobara, Merwin Kato, Dennis Shibata, Kiyo Takashima, Junko Nakano, Aiko Fujii, Fran Shintaku, Ritsuko Kawahara, Kiyoko Nakanishi, Leonora Clarke, Sonoe Taketa, Miyoko Yamazaki, Irene Goto, Karen Morikubo, & Janet Baba.

3 - Kanako Kashima and Janie Okawa cooking eggs.

4 - Miyoko Yamazaki, Michi Vaart, and Kiyo Takashima serving miso shiru.

5 - Card Craft Class members: Mae Deguchi, Sachiko Kusachi, Shizu Kaku, Darlene Shimizu, Judith Nakamura, Tomi Zumoto, & Elaine Nakamura.

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**Errors in May Issue** Anniversary of Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, CA is 9 years not 5 years this year. Judy Kono, chair, Special Functions and Events Committee, announced that the BCA's 10th Anniversary Commemoration of the Jodo Shinshu Center will be held on October 22, 2016. **Also:** **Disregard CBE's FREE PUBLIC LECTURE: FROM SHINJIN TO SHINSHU; it took place in 2012. My apologies** -IHG

**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.

*Jack & Fumi Habu, Michiko Hirata, Dale & Shizu Kaku, Ann Kashiwa, Shogo & Fusako Kusumi, Rick Mamiya, Yoshiko Mamiya, George & Irene Mano, Mariko Mano, Takiko Miyauchi, Yoshiko Miyauchi, Akio & Mabel Nishizaki, Greg & Ann Oxrieder, Miyoko Tazuma, Joe & Hideko Terada, Rob Weinsheimer & Kari Palmer*

***We'd like to 'welcome' Rob Weinsheimer & Kari Palmer 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, 2015. If you have any questions about your membership status, contact the Betsuin office: 206-329-0800 or [office@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:office@seattlebetsuin.com).  
(compiled by HL, PS, JN, & SO)

## SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (SBBWA) Submitted by Janet Baba

**FBWA Meeting & Conference:** Our 2015/2016 FBWA Planning Committee met at the Yakima Buddhist Temple to meet with our NW District chapter members from Idaho-Oregon, Tacoma, Oregon, White River, and Yakima on May 9 to share reports. Much of the initial planning for the October 10 Representatives' Meeting is now complete. Speakers for the event will be Bishop Kodo Umezu and Rev. Ron Kobata, the BCA Ministerial Advisor. We are expecting 100 representatives for this meeting, which will be held at the DoubleTree Suites in Tukwila. Registration is now open for this meeting. The NW District is looking forward to hosting representatives from our FBWA Districts.

**Bon Odori Items:** Our Activity Committee continues to produce craft projects as well as seeking donations of kimono, yukata, happi, and hair accessories to sell at this summer's Bon Odori Craft Booth. In April, Darlene Shimizu taught a Washi Paper Iris Eye craft class. The cards will be packaged and offered for sale, along with other craft items and Japanese clothing and accessories. This summer our Bon Odori Festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 18 & 19.



Figure 5

**Breakfast at Lunch/Bake Sale:** Our third annual "Breakfast at Lunch," fundraiser was held on May 17. Members prepared eggs, sausage, waffles, pancakes,



Figure 3



Figure 4

miso soup, rice, tsukemono, fruit, juice & coffee. A bake sale accompanied the breakfast selections. Machiko Wada and Ritsuko Kawahara organized the breakfast and Suzanne Fujinari chaired the bake sale.

We thank our temple members for their continued support for our annual major fundraiser. We raised over \$1100 from the lunch and almost \$600 from the bake sale.

**Visitors from Hiroshima:** The Seattle Betsuin is expecting 42 visitors from Hiroshima Binngo Kyoku District in Japan, on Monday, June 1, following the

World Buddhist Women's Convention in Calgary, Canada. Rev. Castro and our SBBWA members will host a reception for the visitors the morning of their two-hour visit. A short service and tour of our temple will also be scheduled. Many of our members are from the Hiroshima prefecture and are looking forward to this visit.

**Onaijin Omigaki:** Our six Kiku Rinto, chrysanthemum lanterns were polished and rehung in the onaijin by temple members in April. Chairperson, Sonoe Takeda and 14 members wearing rubber gloves for polishing and cotton gloves for handling the shiny brass pieces accomplished this meticulous task of polishing the many pieces of the lantern and reassembling them in the correct order. Our lanterns are now shiny, following the completion of the annual polishing session.



Figure 2

**Religious Committee:** We appreciate the work of our Religious Committee members throughout the years. Fumiko Groves has been preparing our service programs for our SBBWA events and Betsuin's special services over an extended period. Her computer skills have added clip art to our program covers. Shirley Shimada has been responsible for providing service chairs for Sunday morning services, during the summer months. Our members work well together in preparation for our religious services.



Figure 1

We thank our members for giving service to temple activities, Keiro and Nikkei Manor services, and to the community. With all of your help, we are able to accomplish these tasks by working collaboratively toward our common goals.

In Gassho, Janet

### Calendar:

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| All Sangha Memorial Service    | June 7     |
| SBBWA Board Meeting            | June 7     |
| Kids Summer Program            | June 22-26 |
| Bishop & Rinbans' Memorial Svc | June 28    |
| Cabinet Meeting                | June 28    |

(Figure details on page 2)



**DHARMA SCHOOL** submitted by Joyce Tsuji Please join us for the last day of dharma school on June 14 for attendance awards, and high school and college graduate recognition. DS will be hosting a potluck luncheon to celebrate this day and ask that you consider bringing your favorite dish to share. We will have some fun activities for the kids. Please come and enjoy this final all Sangha event of our school year!!

The DS students conducted a service for Keiro Nursing home residents on Gotan-e. The service was led by the high school class and included chanting, two gathas, incense offering and gifts for the attendees. This year there was also a special performance by the Seattle Betsuin Bodhi ensemble featuring Kristy on piano, Emily on violin, and Allison on viola.

### Classroom Reports

Pre K/K On Mother's Day, the students listened to the story A Present for Mom and talked about gift giving. They discussed how their love is the most precious gift of all they can give and made gifts to give to their moms. In preparation for the Dharma School visit to Keiro Nursing Home, the students listened to the story "Luca Lashes and his Visit to the Nursing Home". We discussed what they might see when they visit the nursing home. We also discussed how the residents like to receive little gifts so they made a small token gift to pass out. After the Gotan-e service the students walked to Keiro and participated in a service for the residents and then passed out the gift they made to the residents.

First/Second Grades We celebrated Children's/Boy's Day by making some paper koi windsocks. We read a Yoko story where her mother is so nice to her and then made teapot cards containing tea bags and a special poem for our Moms to show our gratitude for all they do for us. Finally we joined the rest of the DS in the service for the residents of Keiro on Gotan-e.

**2015 FDSTL CONFERENCE** Nine Seattle Betsuin Dharma School teachers attended the 2015 FDSTL (Federated Dharma School Teachers League) Conference April 24-26 at the Concourse Hotel in Los Angeles. Keynote speaker, Reverend Masao Kodani, BCA Minister Emeritus, spoke to the theme of the conference "Let Go—of Everything You're Afraid to Lose." His talk focused on rituals we practice in our temples and their roles in highlighting one's ego. After participating in workshops centered on the theme, teachers attended an evening banquet where Connie Ozeki-Chinn and Tina Ko were recognized for 10 years of teaching Dharma School.

Conference attendees received instruction in chanting of the Shoshinge Wasan and put it into practice at the closing Sunday service. They were also privileged to hear Kinnara Gagaku from Senshin Temple play at the service. The Seattle Dharma School teachers express their sincere gratitude to the Betsuin and Dharma School for their support which enables them to attend this annual conference.

In gratitude and gassho, Seattle Betsuin Dharma School Teachers



**FDSTL Evening Workshop** Marie Kosai-Luke, Kari Ann Yokoyama and Steph Ojima learning how to make okesa cases.

**Bishop's 10 Year Recognition Award** Bishop Umezu congratulating Connie Ozeki-Chinn on completing 10 years of teaching Dharma School.



**SCOUTS** - This month we did a lot of rank advancements. May 17 we went to the Nisei Veteran's Center. Some of us learned of the history of what had happened to the Japanese Americans during World War 2, some of us refreshed our memory of what happened. The museum was as good as it was last year and I would recommend you visit there. We also got a book called: *An American Hero Shiro Kashino*, which described the story of a Japanese American who fought with the 442nd regimental combat team. ~Bryan

## THE SEATTLE BETSUIN GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS APRIL – MAY 2015

### Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

|   |             |                        |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Yoko Isomura – Funeral Service            | \$ 1,000.00 | Estate of Yoko Isomura |
| Masayoshi “Mike” Kubo – Funeral Service   | \$ 1,000.00 | Masako Kubo            |
| Masayoshi “Mike” Kubo – Inurnment Service | \$ 300.00   | Masako Kubo            |
| Katsumi Aoyama – Memorial Service         | \$ 250.00   | Anne Moriyasu          |
| June Yamada – Memorial Service            | \$ 250.00   | Anne Moriyasu          |
| Masao Yamaguchi – Memorial Service        | \$ 250.00   | Marvin Yamaguchi       |
| Sumiko Yamaguchi – Memorial Service       | \$ 250.00   | Marvin Yamaguchi       |
| Yoko Isomura – In Memory of               | \$ 200.00   | Estate of Yoko Isomura |

### Given by:

### Remembrances for:

### Given by:

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Alan Groves            | Don & Karen Akira; Janet Baba; Miyuki Hanada; Steve Hasegawa; Ritsuko Kawahara; Jack Matsui; Dennis Shibata; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Sato & Darlene Shimizu; Frances Shintaku; Masaru & Anna Tahara; Haruso & Sonoe Taketa; Masao & Frances Tamekuni; Katsumi & Terrie Tanino; Joe & Hideko Terada; Art & Beverly Uyeda; Irwin Yoshimura |
| Yoko Isomura           | Sue Fujino   |
| Masayoshi Kubo         | Rebecca Bogard; Paul & Taka Kogita; Mutual Fish Company, Inc.; Akio & Mabel Nishizaki; Robert Seko; Ryan Seko & Tami Echigoshima; Sato & Darlene Shimizu; Frances Shintaku; Haruso & Sonoe Taketa; Fumiye Taniguchi; Sam & Masako Uchida   |
| Michiko Morikubo       | Dennis Shibata   |
| Elmer Tazuma           | Jack Matsui  |
| Rev. Kiyoshi Yamashita | Florence Tsuchida  |

### General Donations:

### For:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Takamitsu Miyabe & Shirley Subala-Nishimura | In Honor of Akio Nishizaki's 88 <sup>th</sup> Birthday |
| Ben & Yoshiko Yamada                        | In Honor of Akio Nishizaki's 88 <sup>th</sup> Birthday |
| Shogo & Fusako Kusumi                       | General Donation                                       |
| Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa                     | General Donation                                       |

**CAMP FIRE DOLPHINS 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE** – submitted by Grace Tazuma The Dolphins had a busy month in May. Early in the month, the girls spent the day in Hoodspport. They learned about Hood Canal and how our behavior can have both a positive and negative affect on the canal and the marine life. With the bright blue skies and very low tides, they had a lot of fun collecting and identifying many different sea creatures including various crabs, moon jelly-fish, starfish, eels and even caught a bullhead fish. They finished up their "Adventure Trail" work on diet, nutrition and exercise. They ended their day by making clay art pieces, and roasting marshmallows over the camp fire. Arigato to Erica Sugita & Family for opening up their home on the canal.

The girls ended their year with the annual Council Fire. It was a very memorable event as the girls crossed over to the "Discovery" level.

**BOOK STUDY COMMENTS.** A Book Study participant shared the following insights for 2 sessions in May. Submitted by Irene Goto

**Re: Muyuge by Takeko Kujo** Ms Shimada's summary of pre and post Meiji life as well as Ms. Shimbo's translation of Lady Kujo's personal life created context for understanding her writings, and achievements. A preference was shown for the version of "Seiya" in our temple gatha book over this particular translation.

**Re: The Universe in a Single Atom by The Dalai Lama** I am amazed by this peerless, humble, man of the universe who embodies and applies the Dharma from the original Sanskrit of Nagarjuna and Vasubandhu up through the scientific/technological world of today and sees its ramifications for humanity of today and tomorrow. Great thinkers, (Sir Ken Robinson), teachers ( Eckhart Tolle and Matt Goldman of the Blue School Creativity Center), psychologists, (Daniel Segal,) find a oneness with The Dalai Lama. Rev. Castro compared stroke patient, Joyce BolteTaylor's transformation and experience of luminosity and clarity to that of the light and clarity of the cessation of suffering and manifestation of Dharma.

Join us for the next Buddhist Book Study session with Rev. Kurt Rye on June 7. The details are in the next column.

## **Buddhist Book Study Special Event: Reverend Kurt Rye of Ekoji Temple**



will be joining us for a book discussion on  
*A River to Live By: The 12 Principles of Morita Therapy* by Dr. Brian Ogawa

**Saturday, June 6, 2015  
9:30am - 12noon in the Memorial Hall Chapel**

This book is available online both in a paperback and electronic editions. Don't worry if you haven't read the book! Come and learn about it. You may want to read the book after the discussion. Everyone is encouraged to stay for brown bag lunch afterward. There is no cost to attend.  
- LC

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Women in Buddhism Conference**  
**at Seattle Betsuin**  
**Saturday, October 3, 2015**  
**Speakers:**

**Rev. Patti Nakai, Chicago Buddhist Temple**

**Linda Anderson Krech from Tōdō Institute**

- IHG

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Please check the lost and found box on the gym stage for any items you are missing – umbrellas, hats, jackets, glasses, etc.

All unclaimed items will be donated to charity in June. Please check with the office if you are missing an okesa and/or its case. - JN

**SEATTLE YBA** had a fun evening on May 2, 2015 playing volleyball. We played against Steph O's volleyball team. Afterwards, we enjoyed pizza, salad, and root beer floats prepared by Marie. Thanks! Also, **thanks to everyone who supported our Relay for Life Team, 'Shinran Steppers'**. We are fortunate to everyone who helped raise cancer awareness, and support cancer research! - AS



## **ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE - SENBOKAI-IN TSUITO HOYO**

**Sunday, June 7, 2015 Service at 10:00 AM**

The annual **ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE** will be held on **Sunday, June 7, 2015, 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.

Guest speaker for this service will be Rev. Kurt Rye of the Ekoji Temple in Virginia. Rev. Rye began his ministerial studies here in Seattle in the 1990's so please come out and welcome him home. Rev. Rye will also conduct a seminar in the chapel on Saturday, June 6, 2015, from 9:30 am to noon on Morita Therapy and its Twelve Principles of Living.

During the All Sangha Memorial Service, photos of those being remembered will be displayed on a screen in the hondo. We invite families of the deceased to submit the name and a photo of their loved one to [office@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:office@seattlebetsuin.com). Please limit the file size of photographs to 100KB and include your name and telephone number in your e-mail message. If you submitted a photo for previous years' services 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 [office@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:office@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. You may also complete the form below and submit it to the Betsuin Office.

The deadline for submission of photos and names is Sunday, May 31. 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*

Name of Deceased

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Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

## **MUSICAL NOTES** submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi

Thank you to Kayla for playing flute to help lead the sangha singing of *Life of Shinran* for the Gotan-E service. The Seattle Betsuin Ukulele Band led by Mas Tamekuni continues to provide lively service music periodically. For regular summer services, if there are specific suggestions for gatha selections, please let Kemi know.

**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.

**4-26** - Rinban Castro's Dharma talk in the Hondo featured an in-depth look at the complete difference between Christians and Buddhists in their perception of authoritative constructs. . . Irene Goto Sensei conducted the DX and indicated the BCA Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley will be 10 years old, and a celebration is set for October 22, 2016. . . a participant complained that the group to which he belongs consists of a bunch of gossips. He was annoyed when he was targeted. A participant suggested he accept the gossipers as teachers, (*Bodhisattva*), try not to feel offended, and accept their comments with good humor. Irene Sensei reminded him to let it roll off his back as suggested by an old adage. . . A participant reported she was part of a group that visited Japan, and a Christian minister said she would go to hell upon learning she was Buddhist. Another woman in the group said, "Wait until he finds out I'm Jewish." . . Sensei reported there are currently 180 members in the MAP (Ministers Assistants Program) with 4 MAs from the Betsuin. She said almost all Jodo Shinshu ministers now support MAP. . . Sensei said the Eightfold Path can be remembered by using the acronym, "ICE CREAM", with each letter standing for one of the admonitions. (to be continued). . . [Ed. note: Before Frank S.'s son Steve and wife arrived at DX, Frank delightedly showed me a picture of his new grandson, Logan, 10 days old - his first visit to the Betsuin. Congratulations!]

**May 3** - Rev. Jim Warrick and wife Rona recently returned from Italy. They visited a town, Cittavecchia, outside Rome and were puzzled by a statue of Samurai Hasekura Tsunenaga who headed a diplomatic mission and traveled to Spain and Italy in 1613 to 1620, seeking trade agreements. He was cordially received in Europe, but refused entering into trade agreements by various monarchs because he had no diplomatic status; and also, Japan was moving toward suppressing Christianity. He returned to Japan in 1620. . . When we say "Namo Amida Buddha" we are including everything the name connotes, including wisdom and compassion. The power is what is in the idea, not just the words. Shinran claimed we will go to the Pure Land if we have true entrusting, say the name and have a desire to go to the Pure Land. . . Warrick Sensei had a dharma name, but he wanted to change it during Tokudo ordination. He chose "Houkai," meaning dharma ocean. Upon learning this, Rona laughed because in the Samoan language "kai" means sewage. Sensei kept his old name.

**May 10** - The pros and cons of China's government imposed one-child policy was discussed. As a result China has less women because of abortions, abandoned or adopted girl babies, and many women with careers now are not marrying. With fewer marriageable women Rev. Castro predicted there would be "bride-prices." Had the one-child policy not been enacted it is estimated there would currently be an estimated 400 million more people in China with attendant serious problems including starvation. Years ago the population of Japan self-imposed limiting family size, and as a result they now have a minus population. Because of immigration from Italy and Greece, the native population is becoming a minority. . . Castro Sensei recited his version of the Pledge of Allegiance without the words "indivisible" and "under God."

**May 17** - Rinban Castro spoke about unconditional love being the greatest meditation. During the protests by Blacks in the US one cautioned it was a real test of unconditional love while undergoing fire hoses and being spat upon. Sensei recommended a book, "My Stroke of Insight" by Jill Bolte-Taylor who is a neuro-anatomist. Sensei is also reading, "Proof of Heaven" by neurosurgeon Eben Alexander, M.D. whose brain was being consumed by viruses. When Sensei finishes the book he will relate how Dr. Alexander survived. . . A participant related that in the next life the Dalai Lama wants to be a "mischievous blonde."



In gassho, Pat Bobrow



**Memorial Services** Shin Buddhist Service Book, (2013), Orange County Buddhist Temple, submitted by Irene Goto

At specified intervals after a loved one has died, we gather for services to listen to the Dharma. During memorial services, we remember the deceased with gratitude for enabling us to be who we are and to receive the Dharma. It is a time not only to strengthen family ties, but also to reflect upon relationships beyond the immediate family, remembering and appreciating the oneness of all life.

**First Obon service after loved one dies – Hatsubon**

Hatsubon is a service held during the first Obon season after a loved one has died. This is a time to reflect upon our lives and how we are continually being influenced by our loved ones. Because death has so recently touched the Hatsubon family and friends, the immediate experience of the impermanence of the physical body leads us to a better understanding that our loved one's life continues to work and influence us.

**Monthly Memorial Service – Shōtsuki hōyō**

Most temples hold a Monthly Memorial Service for all those who died during that particular month of a prior year. The names of the deceased, as recorded in the Eitaikyo book of the temple, are read aloud by the minister. Family members and friends then offer incense.

**Private Family Memorial Service – Hōji**

In lieu of attending the Shōtsuki hōyō, a family may opt to have a private memorial service or Hōji. Arrangements are made with the minister by the family. Traditionally, services for a family member are held on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 49<sup>th</sup>, and 100<sup>th</sup> day, and then one year after the day of death. Thereafter, Hōji take place in years 3, 7, 13, 17, 25, 33, 50, and 100 (the day and year of death are counted as 1 in this cycle). The numerical intervals are culturally derived and have no specific meaning in Shin Buddhism. Some families hold a memorial service every year.

**Did you know that Shinran Shonin loved to eat soba (buckwheat noodles)? There is even a statue of himself (at left) said to be carved by Shinran himself, with a bit of noodle still at his mouth! (Shinran Sobakui no zo)**



- CBE E-News CBE E-News May 19, 2015

**Memorial Services** <http://vhbt.org/about-buddhism/memorial-services>

49 day observances Traditionally a memorial service was held after each of 7 days for 7 weeks (making 49 days in total). The date of death is counted as the 1<sup>st</sup> day.

Nen-ki ("yearly" observances) Special memorial services are held during particularly auspicious years following the birth in the Pure Land of an individual. This tradition was established upon the entering of Buddhism into China. The years chosen to observe these special observances are based on the Chinese Zodiac system which also lays the foundation for the often observed "kanreki (60 year)" birth day celebration.

Isshuki (1<sup>st</sup> "cycle"; the first year observance)

This service is scheduled one year after the passing of an individual.

Sankaiki (3<sup>rd</sup> "cyclic" observance; third year memorial service) The services following the 1<sup>st</sup> year observance are counted a little differently. It is called "cyclic" because it "anticipates" the observance and in English could be described as entering "into" the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Because of this the 3<sup>rd</sup> year memorial service is observed 2 years from the date of passing. In the West, this style of counting is used in counting the number of centuries that have passed since the sharing of the Western Calendar.

7, 13, 25, 33, 50, 100, 150 ... The other yearly observances are held on years that end with a 3, a 5, or a 7. These numbers have particular significance and because of this the 7<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> birthdays (or "shichi-go-san") are especially observed. In the list given above, not all the years ending in 3, 5 or 7 are given to add space between the observances, but holding a 5<sup>th</sup> year or a 17<sup>th</sup> year observance will still be significant observances. After the 50<sup>th</sup> year observance memorial services are held every 50 years.

Others

Tsuki meinichi These are services that are held monthly on the day a person passed away. Shinran Shonin, for example, passed away on January 16, 1263. Because of this his Tsuki meinichi is observed every month on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **Jr. YBA Fund Raiser Relay for Life** **2015 Saturday, 6 June**

Seattle Betsuin Jr. YBA is participating in the Relay for Life at Greenlake on June 6, 2015. Our goal is to raise cancer awareness and support research. As a team, we want to raise \$2,000 to donate to the American Cancer Society.

While any donation will be appreciated, a donation of:

- \$35 will help support 2 cancer patients
- \$50: will help lodge a cancer patient
- \$80: helps provide 3 cancer patients travel
- \$100: helps 100 to the clinical trials

We are also selling Luminaria lanterns, which can be decorated in memory of a loved one. The YBA will line them up along the track at night and walk around them in memory.

This event is the largest not-for profit event in the U.S.A. Together we can end cancer. Please make checks payable to JR.YBA. Thank you for your support. A YBA member will be outside in the foyer collecting donations before Sunday Service.

## **Featured Sangha Member**

Meet Ken Dodobara, who has been a Sangha member for over 40 years. Ken is married to his wife Yoshie and has two sons, Ben (Misa), and two granddaughters, and Jon. Ken retired from the Boeing Company, where he assembled airplanes. He loves to come to the Temple to see his friends and ring the Bonsho. Ken has been "Mr. Bonsho" for over 30 years! Guess what? He does not have email!



Ken Dodobara aka "Mr. Bonsho"

## **HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

### **Donate to Disaster Relief Buddhist Churches of America**

The Buddhist Churches of America has setup a donation drive to provide relief aid to the Kathmandu Hongwanji in Nepal. The Hongwanji will then distribute aid to those in need. By following this link, you can go directly to the [BCA Disaster Relief](#) page and use PayPal to donate to this important cause.

If you rather not use the online donation page, please write a check in the amount of your choice addressed to Betsuin (with a note for Disaster Relief) who will then submit your donation to the BCA on your behalf. Please contact the [office](#) for questions regarding donating through the Betsuin.

Thank you for your support and dana in assisting fellow Buddhists in need as a result of this terrible disaster!

### **2015 NW District Convention One More Time!**

Anyone interested in watching videos of some of the opening and closing services and workshops, please go to the public FB page [Seattle Betsuin/Seattle Buddhist Temple](#). The videos were made available by Dennis Asato, White River Buddhist Temple.

### **Everyone can receive email news!**

If you would like to have members of your family receive weekly messages, please have them contact Calvin Terada at [calterada@comcast.net](mailto:calterada@comcast.net) or Joan Nakano at [office@seattlebetsuin.com](mailto:office@seattlebetsuin.com).

### **SBBWA Bulletin Board**

SBBWA is seeking donations of kimono, yukata, happi coats, geta, hair decorations, or any other types of accompanying accessories, to sell at our booth at our Bon Odori Festival, to be held July 18 & 19th, 2015

If you have family or friends who are downsizing or Spring Cleaning, your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Please bring your items, with your name and address attached, to the temple office.

**This page is extracted from SBC Weekly All Sangha News of May 11, 2015, the E-Mail News. Thanks, Calvin!**

## Betsuin Events for June 2015

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

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  
 SITTING IN GRATITUDE MEDITATION\* - 1441 S. Main St; 20-minute meditation, discussion.

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

**SUNDAYS** 10:45am Meditation\*

June 7

10:00am ALL SANGHA MEMORIAL SERVICE  
 Youth/Adult: Rev. Kurt Rye, Ekoji Temple  
 10:45am Japanese: Program  
 DSDX: TBD  
 DX: TBD \*Meditation:  
 11:45am SBBWA Board Meeting

June 14

10:00 am AWARDS & RECOGNITION  
 SERVICE (Last day of Dharma School)  
 10:45am Japanese: Program  
 DSDX: TBD  
 DX: TBD \*Meditation:  
 11:30 am Year End Potluck Luncheon in gym  
 hosted by Dharma School

June 21

10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE  
 Adult: TBD  
 10:45am Japanese: Program  
 DX: TBD \*Meditation:

June 28

10:00 am BISHOPS'/RINBANS' MEMORIAL  
 SERVICE  
 Adult: TBD  
 10:45am Japanese: Program  
 DX: TBD \*Meditation:

**MONDAYS**

June 1 9:30 – 11:00 am Visit by Hiroshima Bingo  
 Kyoku District Fujinkai  
June 22 – 26 KSP M-F 9:30am – 3:00pm

**TUESDAYS**

June 2 Rinban Castro (Study Day Off)  
June 16 10:00am Shinran Shonin Monthly  
 Memorial Service (Rinban Castro)  
June 23 10:30am Keiro Service (Rinban Castro)  
June 22 – 26 KSP M-F 9:30am – 3:00pm

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

June 3, 10, 17, 24  
 10:30am Dharma Support Group (Rinban Castro)  
June 22 – 26 KSP M-F 9:30am – 3:00pm

**THURSDAYS**

June 4, 18

1:30pm Nikkei Manor Service (Irene Goto Sensei)  
June 22 – 26 KSP M-F 9:30am – 3:00pm

**FRIDAYS**

June 5

12:00 pm Gojikai Service and Luncheon Meeting  
 (Rinban Castro)  
 7:00 pm Minister's Assistants meeting with Rev. Kurt  
 Rye of Ekoji Temple  
June 22 – 26 KSP M-F 9:30am – 3:00pm

**SATURDAYS**

June 6 9:30 am – 12:30 pm Book Study with Rev.  
 Kurt Rye: A River to Live By: *The 12 Life Principles*  
*of Morita Therapy* by Brian Ogawa  
June 20 10:00 am – 1:30 pm Set-up for Kids  
 Summer Program (KSP)

### **July 2015: Major Events of Interest**

**Bon Odori Dance Practices: July 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 & 14**  
 7:30pm – 9:00pm in temple gymnasium

**Obon Cemetery Services, Saturday, July 11**  
 Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park, QA Hill 12Noon,  
 Washington Memorial Park – SeaTac 1:00pm  
 Lake View Cemetery – Capitol Hill 3:30pm

**Obon/Hatsubon Services, Sunday July 12**  
 10:00am at Seattle Betsuin Temple  
 1:00pm at Evergreen Washelli - Seattle  
 3:00pm at Sunset Hill Memorial Park - Bellevue

### **SEATTLE BON ODORI**

**Set Up:** July 16 & 17 (Th. & Fri.)  
**Bon Odori:** July 18<sup>th</sup> 4pm-10pm & July 19<sup>th</sup> 3pm-8pm

### **NWYBL Retreat**

July 24 – 26 (Fri.-Sun.)

**2015 July Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Monday, June 15, 2015**  
**8:00 pm**

**Seattle Buddhist Church** 1427 South Main Street  
Seattle, WA 98144 **Tel:** 206.329.0800  
**Fax:** 206.329.3703 **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9am-3pm  
[www.SeattleBetsuin.com](http://www.SeattleBetsuin.com); Office@SeattleBetsuin.com

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



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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 June Events at Seattle Betsuin

Sunday, June 6 Book discussion with Rev. Kurt Rye, Ekoji Temple on

*A River to Live By: The 12 Life Principles of Morita Therapy* by Dr. Brian Ogawa 9:30am - Noon

Sunday, June 7 All Sangha Memorial Service Guest Speaker: Rev. Kurt Rye, Ekoji Temple 10:00am

Sunday, June 14 Awards & Recognition Service, last day of Dharma School 10:00am

M – F, June 22 – 26 KSP (Kids Summer Program) Entire temple facility will be in use.

Sunday, June 28 Bishops'/Rinbans' Memorial Service 10:00am

**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](mailto:Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com)  
Japanese - Machiko Wada [Newsletter-Jpn@SeattleBetsuin.com](mailto:Newsletter-Jpn@SeattleBetsuin.com)

**The deadline to submit articles is the third Monday of each month at 8:00 PM**  
**Deadline for July Issue: June 15, 2015 at 8:00 PM**