

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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FEBRUARY 2012

MY GRANDPA SMELL

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima, Resident Minister

Recently, I have felt depressed over a casual remark made by my daughter.

Because of the winter's chilly nights, my three-year-old daughter and I have been sleeping in her room for several weeks. One morning when my daughter woke up, she said to me, "You and Mom smell different." When I asked her how our smells are different, she answered with a big smile, "Mommy smells nice like shampoo, but Daddy's smell is the same as Grandpa's!"

When my parents visited us here in August of last year, my father shared Kurumi's bed every night, so she remembered the smell of her grandfather. It may sound like a heartwarming story on the surface, but her casual remark that my father and I smell the same became a big problem for me.

I am very sensitive to my father's smell. When I was little, on cold winter mornings, I used to get into my parents' warm bed and enjoy falling asleep again. But as soon as I got into their bed, I sometimes had a fit of coughing because of the scent of my mother's soap mixed with my father's distinctive smell. As a child, I wondered why my father smelled different. When I think about it now, I realize this musk is particular to the aged and middle-aged.

I definitely don't have a prejudice against such natural odors, but prior to my daughter's innocent comment I also had absolutely no reason to associate myself with being old or even middle aged. But when Kurumi said that my father and I smell alike, I was deeply shocked by her observation. It told me that I am growing old and I found this realization sad and painful.

When I told my wife these thoughts, she said, "Recently, whenever I wake you up, I get this longing for my dad because you smell just like him." But she also added gently, "You will be 40 this year, so it is very natural." Yet, told by my daughter that I smell like her grandpa and by my wife that I smell like her father, I was just too stunned to accept the reality that I am leaving my youth behind.

I became so preoccupied by their remarks that they distracted me from concentrating on anything else for a few days. I moped around in a depression. Finally my wife couldn't stand my behavior any longer and admonished me, "You always tell others proudly in your Dharma Talk to accept everything just as it is, but you yourself can't accept reality at all. I have always heard you say that Buddhism teaches us to treasure each moment while living to the fullest."

I thought that I understood more than anyone else around me that life means everyone gets old. But when it was pointed out to me that I now have an "old" smell which I'd never associated myself with, I simply couldn't accept the thought of aging. Worse, I made a sorry display of myself, wasting each day with a sigh. How shameful!

Certainly, as my wife says, to live life is to treasure the present time and each moment. To live life doesn't mean to live tomorrow or one year in the future, but to live now, in this moment. If we have a dream for the future, it is most important to think seriously about what we should do

from this moment on to realize our dream. Buddhism is a true teaching which shows us how to live *now*.

Although I like to assume that I understand this most important teaching, I have learned once again through this recent experience how difficult it is to live truly valuing each day.

This month, I would like to share with you a very meaningful story about a Zen master, Ikkyu. Ikkyu was a very famous Zen priest, the resident priest of the Daitoku Temple in Kyoto.

One day, when Ikkyu set off to a member's house to conduct a memorial service, one of his disciples followed closely behind, carefully carrying his master's baggage. After a while, they saw an eel restaurant ahead of them. The savory fragrance of eel being grilled wafted in the air.

The moment they passed the restaurant, Ikkyu said, "Wow, it smells so delicious!" When his disciple heard these words from Ikkyu, he couldn't hide his surprise. Zen priests were completely forbidden to eat bloody things like eel.

The disciple sincerely respected his master as one who serves Buddha. But he began to wonder if the reason his master had said loudly, "It smells delicious!" was to discreetly signal to him, "You must get some secretly for me later..." But the disciple knew if he went home with grilled eel because he had misinterpreted his master's comment, he would surely be scolded severely. So the poor disciple was completely at a loss. What to do?

All that day, although he continued to assist his master, the disciple's mind was full of the eel. Even when they arrived at the member's house, he was thinking only about whether he should buy eel or not. This preoccupied him during the Sutra chanting and even his master's Dharma Talk.

That evening, when the disciple was preparing supper for Ikkyu, he dared to ask, "Master, today when we passed the eel restaurant, you said something. Do you remember?"

Ikkyu said, "Did I say something?"

The disciple answered honestly, "Yes, you said, 'Wow, it smells so delicious!' Since then I have been thinking about it but I still don't understand what you meant. I've been worrying if you meant I should buy eel for you."

Ikkyu then admonished him. "Are you still hanging onto that eel? I already discarded it in front of the restaurant!" After that, he said, "You must be really tired because you have thought too hard throughout the day."

This is my favorite story about Ikkyu. Do you understand why Ikkyu admonished his disciple like this?

When the disciple heard his master say, "It smells delicious!" in front of the eel restaurant, he continued to think about the eel all day long. I do this often myself, worrying over the casual remarks of members or friends. I get preoccupied by these worries and can't turn my attention to other things. When I told by my wife and daughter that I smell "old," I was actually depressed for a few days. However, as we think or worry about such trivial things, a precious day passes all too soon. Zen master Ikkyu teaches us that if we act repeatedly in this manner, there is no mending our life.

(Sensei's Message: Continued on Page 3)

FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 9 a.m. – Odori Practice @Annex Hall 9 a.m. – Dharma School Staff Mtg. @Conf. Rm. 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 February Shotsuki Memorial 2月祥月法要 11:30 a.m. – Jr. YBA Meeting @Annex 1-2 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO Practice @Annex Hall 12 p.m. – BWA Meeting @Conf. Rm. 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing Class @A.H.</p>	<p>6 Temple Closed 7 p.m. – W & M Mtg. @Conf. Room</p>	<p>7 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2</p>	<p>8 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall</p>	<p>9 6:30 pm – Board of Directors Mtg. @Conf. Rm.</p>	<p>10 7:30 pm – So. District Council Mtg. @West LABT</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 9 a.m. – Odori Practice @Annex Hall 9 a.m. – Jr. YBA Chanting Class @Hondo 10 a.m. – NIRVANA DAY/ BWA MEMORIAL 涅槃会・婦人会 会員追悼法要 Guest Speaker: Rev. Tesshi Aoyama from Placer Buddhist Church 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing Class @A.H</p>	<p>13 Temple Closed</p>	<p>14 10:30 a.m. – SD Ministers Mtg. @LA Nishi Betsuin 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall</p>	<p>15 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall</p>	<p>16 10 a.m. – 宗祖御命日 Gomeinichi @Hondo</p>	<p>17 10 a.m. – Buddhist Study Class B with Rev. Yanagihara @Conf. Rm.</p>	<p>18 10 a.m. – Koto Class 琴教室 @Sangha Hall 10 a.m.-12 p.m. BEC Sangha Seminar "Basics of Jodo Shishu" @Conf. Room</p>
<p>19 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 12 p.m. – Okinawa Kenjinkai Party @Annex Hall</p>	<p>20 Temple Closed</p>	<p>21 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2</p>	<p>22 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall</p>	<p>23 9 a.m. – Mrs. Sadako Oehler, Ikebana Society @Sangha Hall</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 6-9 p.m. BTSD/VFW BINGO @Annex Hall</p>
<p>26 9 a.m. – Odori Practice @Annex Hall 9 a.m. – INTRO. TO BUDDHISM @Sangha Hall 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO Practice @Annex Hall 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing Class @S.H BCA National Council Meeting @Sacramento</p>	<p>27 Temple Closed</p>	<p>28 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall</p>	<p>29 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 7 p.m. – Fundraising Mtg. @Conf. Room</p>	<p>BCA Minister's Meeting @Sacramento</p>	<p>BCA National Council Mtg. @Sacramento</p>	<p>BCA National Council Mtg. @Sacramento</p>

(Sensei's Message: Continued from Page 1)

Ikkyu told the disciple, "When I pass the eel restaurant, I breathe in fragrance of the grilled eel, thinking that it smells good. When I pass the flower shop, I am deeply moved by the beauty of flowers, remarking that flowers are so elegant. When I pass the house from which I hear koto music, I calm my mind thinking what a marvelous sound it is. In this way, I live my life to the fullest, enjoying everything just as it is at each moment."

"Today, because we happened to pass an eel restaurant, I said, 'It smells delicious!' Yet because you were confused by my words and spent time neglecting other things, you must realize that you didn't fully live today."

What a precious truth this is. Certainly, if we are swayed by something and can only think about that one thing, even if we manage to do anything else, it is done absent-mindedly and thus a waste of time. Therefore, to live as Buddhism teaches means to try to do our best to enjoy, learn, and be impressed with all our heart *now, at this moment*, while being grateful for the life we have received.

Although I am telling you this sincerely, I myself don't make each day and each moment a full one. I tend to become distracted. When studying or working, I think idly about playing. On the other hand, when I am trying to relax, I start worrying over the preparation of my Dharma Talk for Sunday Service or Study Class. To live without being able to devote oneself wholly to enjoying each moment is really tedious and stressful.

Several years ago, during a casual conversation with Bishop Ogui, he made several suggestions to me: "When away from work, you should forget the Sunday Service and enjoy playing. But when it is time to study, you should concentrate your attention to it. There is a beautiful ocean in San Diego. Stretch yourself out on the beach and look up at the vast sky without thinking about anything. The hint of the Dharma Talk will flash into your mind unexpectedly. We can concentrate deeply on our work because we play very hard. It is the worst thing to leave everything half done." His meaningful words settled deeply into my mind.

Everyone has had the experience of being unable to truly appreciate each day because we have been distracted by something. But if our days pass as a series of distractions, we will live an empty and meaningless life. We won't get anywhere if we cling to past glories, are haunted by past faults or bad memories, or if we are anxious about our future. We must realize that it is really important to enjoy and lean greatly on each day. We must try our best to live fully our brilliant life in this very moment.

If having a grandfather smell is part of my ever changing life, it is embarrassing to worry about it too much. After gratefully accepting this gift, I should also like to devote myself to living with strength and joy each day like my father who sincerely rejoices in the Nembutsu. *In Gassho.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Michael Kinoshita, Board President

I am writing this message, as usual, at the last minute of the deadline to get this into the Newsletter. I deeply apologize to our editor who has dealt with my consistent tardiness over the past two years. Thank you for your patience! It is now the end of January and I can reflect on the past year to what we have accomplished.

As I mentioned last month, we felt 2011 was a successful year as we observed our events like our June Bazaar, Obon, Asian Food & Craft Fair, 85th Temple Anniversary/Kieshiki Ceremony, New Year's Eve Bell-ringing at Shelter Island, and our Buddhist Education Committee lectures being well attended by many individuals from our Temple and the community. During the past month, we were to calculate the financial aspect of our past year and I am happy to report that we have ended 2011 in a healthy financial state with our income being more than our expenses.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for all of your efforts. As you may recall, in December we increased our membership dues for many. I

want to assure you that we, the Board of Directors, discussed and reviewed various options but felt the increase was necessary to keep up with the costs to operate the Temple, even if we did have a slight excess in operating income for 2011.

We are now moving forward in 2012. February brings us membership month with activities directed to engage the Sangha and the community to the teaching of the Buddha. Please review the calendar of events and make it a point to participate in one of the many activities. Participate not only in February, but during the whole year.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the past two years. I ask that you fully support our new Co-Presidents in 2012. *Gassho.*

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

On January 12, 2012, the Board of Directors (BOD) met and the following items were discussed:

1. BOD approved the Jr. YBA's use of the temple facilities on March 3 to co-host Southern District Seminar 2.
2. Fiscal year 2011 ended in the black thanks to increased membership and increased donations including those made for the 85th Anniversary observance.
3. The Board approved an increase in the Office Secretary's salary.
4. The Buddhist Education Committee (BEC) has a full calendar of presentations and events planned for 2012. A generous anonymous donation was given to the BEC to help offset expenses associated with the lectures.
5. Mukojima Sensei and a Board member will serve as the delegates representing BTSD at the BCA National Convention in Sacramento in February.
6. This year's 50/50 opportunity drawing tickets will be sold by Board members with the drawing to be held on April 8.
7. The Annex floor was refinished and restoration of the damaged first-floor rooms is almost complete following repair of the damage caused by leakage of the kitchen sink plumbing.
8. The BTSD Service Book has been delivered and the new book holders will be installed in time for use for the Ho-Onko service.

ABA NEWS

Happy New Year to all!!!

January started out with a breakfast meeting on the 7th at Jimmy's in the Park in Chula Vista. We all enjoyed our breakfast.

The Ho-Onko Service was on the 15th followed by the Temple New Year party which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Our next breakfast will be on March 3rd at 9 a.m. at Island Style Cafe. Please let Motoo know if you would like to attend.

Membership dues are \$5 and are now due for this year.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

Ho-Onko was observed on January 15 with guest minister Rev. Laverne Sasaki. The 6th-8th grade class led the sutra chanting. Since "Ho on" means the return of gratitude, and "ko" means to clarify the meaning of, or gathering, Grades 5 and below listened to a Japanese folktale, "The Grateful Statues." They also played Bingo, and the winners took turns calling the numbers. Many families celebrated together at the Temple New Year Party following the service.

Nirvana Day will be observed on February 12, with our former resident minister, Rev. Tesshi Aoyama of Placer Buddhist Temple, as the guest speaker.

There will be Dharma School and Family Service on February 5, 19, and 26. The Dharma School staff meeting will be on February 5 at 9 a.m.

The 6th -8th grade and 9th-12th grade classes will alternate every other month leading the sutra chanting at the special services. Here is the Spring schedule for the Dharma School sutra chanting program:

February: 9th-12th grade -- Practice: February 5, 11:30 to 12 noon;

Leaders: Feb. 12, Nirvana Day Service.

March: 6th - 8th grade -- Practice: March 11, 11:30 to 12 noon;

Leaders: March 18 Ohigan Service.

April: 9th - 12th grade -- Practice: April 1, 11:30 to 12 noon;

Leaders: April 8, Hanamatsuri Service.

May: 6th-8th grade: Practice: May 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon;

Leaders: May 20 Gotan-E Service.

June: To be announced.

Re-establishment of the Sangha Teens group was formally approved by the Board of Directors in January. The group had its first meeting on January 22 following the service. Avis Honda is the advisor.

In Gassho,

Ann Ong, Assistant Superintendent

JR. YBA REPORT

We would like to thank all of the people who donated nonperishable goods and made monetary donations for the Thanksgiving food drive. We were able to make 4 baskets for needy families.

The Juniors were in charge of the Won Ton prep and sales at the Asian Food and Craft Fair on November 6. We made over 1,000 won tons. We would like to thank the parents, family, friends and temple members for helping with the Won Ton prep. Special thanks to Richard Matsumoto for setting up the frying station outside.

The Junior YBA had their annual Chow Mein Luncheon on December 4. Thanks to all of our helpers: Donna D'Orsi, Guiang family, Johnny and Tsune Hashiguchi, Mich and Naomi Himaka, Miki Honda, Michael and Yasuko Kinoshita, Harold and LuAnn Lee, Nancy Martinez, Richard Matsumoto, Jake and Patty Nakamura, Linda Ring, Debbie Shimizu, Arlene Shimizu, Jamie Shimizu, Betty Torio, Glenn and Mark Torio, Ryan Torio, Lauren, Brian and Mrs. Uchiyama, Alan and Karen Yamanishi. We appreciate all of you who purchased tickets so that we could have a successful, sold-out fund raiser.

Several members helped to pound, shape, and cool approximately 1,500 pounds of delicious mochi at Mochitsuki.

On December 17, all six members attended the annual Jam Session in San Fernando Valley. It was a lot of fun and we thank Mr. Glenn Torio for driving us there.

Seminar 1 was held in Arizona and was attended by all six Junior YBA members. The theme was "Exile to Arizona" and was held January 14-15. The activities, hosted by the Arizona Juniors, educated us on Shinran Shonin's exile. We also learned about the exile of other people and cultures and how each of them influenced our modern world. We would once again like to thank our Advisor, Glenn Torio, for driving us all the way to Arizona and back.

Jr. YBA president Ryan Torio and 1st Vice President Anthony D'Orsi asked the Board for approval to hold Seminar 2 at our temple. The theme is Buddhism, and we will be using and discussing technology in all of our activities. We will be co-hosting with the Vista Junior YBA.

We invite students from the ages or 14 to 19 to join our Junior YBA. Please see any of the officers or advisors for details.

Happy New Year from the San Diego Junior YBA!

FEBRUARY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

Outreach and Activities for New Members: We hope February is the month you invite a friend or relative to join us here as members at the Temple. We have a special seminar planned for you in this regard.

Seminar: Basics of Jodo Shinshu: For potential members with questions or current members who want a refresher course on the basics of our tradition, **Rev. Yushi Mukojima** will present "The Basics of Jodo

Shinshu" on **Saturday, Feb. 18**, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The seminar will be held in the conference room on the Office level of the Temple. The event is free and open to all, and is a great place to bring your questions about our spiritual path.

Obutsudan Day: This annual opportunity to acquire a reasonably-priced home altar will be **Sunday, March 4**, right after service. We will have several formal and informal home altars, new or refurbished, for households who would like them. Priority given to Temple members. Altar accessories will also be available. We also encourage year-round donations of used Obutsudan in any condition as part of this ongoing and successful program.

Outreach to "Nearly Members": With the support of the Membership Committee, this Spring we will be sending out invitations to become a member to a few dozen of you who are reading this newsletter. That is, we have identified a number of you who are nearly members already. We know that you are Buddhist and you may come from a Buddhist family; you come to services often; you help at events; you support the temple financially...you are nearly a member even now!

Letters are expected to be mailed over the next several months. We will be discrete about the identity of our near members – some people think you have been a member all along! – but hope you will consider this year to join us. Our members keep the Temple strong at the core, and allow us to continue to share the Dharma.

2011 A Turning Point? Most of you know that over the decades, our member numbers have continued to decline slightly each year. With sadness we have seen beloved temple members pass away. New members have joined, but not as quickly as our losses.

However, 2011 marks the first year in many that we actually increased membership numbers. We are grateful to those of you joined us in 2011! Challenges remain in 2012 – four of our members in 2011 have moved from San Diego. But we hope all of you will continue to support the temple and find ways to reach out to potential members.

We want to remind a few of you to send in your membership dues for 2011. We still carry you on our roles as an active member – and as such pay your BCA dues for you. Your modest membership fee is past due.

LET'S PLAY BINGO!

By Tsune Hashiguchi

The first Bingo Night for 2012 was held Jan. 28 preceded by the BTSD Teriyaki Beef Skewers Benefit Dinner. We hope many of you stayed to play Bingo. Remember the Temple gets 50% of all game proceeds. Buy is \$10 per packet, and additional cards 50 cents. A raffle is always held. Bingo starts at 6 p.m.

If no benefit dinner is being held, the VFW will have their famous hot dog and chili dogs for sale beginning at 4:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!!

2012 MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Each year BTSD stages several major fundraisers. All fundraising events are important as net income streamlines the Temple's daily operations and an ever-increasing budget.

As we move forward in 2012, the Board of Directors encourages its members and friends to support the following major fundraising events:

50/50 Opportunity Drawing – Donation \$20 per ticket (April 8)

Parking Lot Furniture Sale (May 5)

Japanese Cultural Bazaar (June 3)

Bon Odori (August 4)

Two-day Rummage Sale (August 18 and 19)

Golf Tournament at Eastlake CC (August 26)

Asian Food & Craft Fair (October 7)

Mochitsuki (December 16)

Benefit dinners and Munch 'n' Movie days (Foovies!) are also being scheduled throughout the year.

The Temple looks forward to your participation and support.

BEC LECTURE DATES TO SAVE

Our Temple's Buddhist Education Committee (BEC) is sponsoring the following events later this year:

- Sat., Feb. 18, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. **Basics of Jodo Shinshu Seminar** by Rev. Yushi Mukojima.
- Sun., March 4, **Obutsudan Day**, following service.
- Sat., March 17, 6:30 p.m. **Special Dharma Lecture** by Rev. William Masuda.
- Sat., April 7, 2 p.m. **Special Dharma Lecture** by Rev. Kanya Okamoto, Emeritus.
- Sat., May 19, 6:30 p.m. **Special Dharma Lecture** by Rev. Carol Himaka.
- Sat., Aug. 25, **Onenju Crafts Day** (details to follow).
- Sat., Sept. 15, at 2 p.m. **Special Seminar** by Rev. Marvin Harada. Details will appear in future issues of this newsletter.

FREE ZENBU BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS CONTINUE

Mani Yamaguchi will continue to offer Ballroom Dance lessons two Sundays per month through the Spring for free. Cost is just \$2.50 for nonmembers.

The lessons are from 1:15 to 3:00 p.m. Here's the schedule:

- Jan. 29 - Sangha Hall
- Feb. 5 and 12 - Annex Hall
- Feb. 26 - Sangha Hall
- March 4 and 11 - Annex Hall

Featured dances will be the Waltz, Foxtrot, Cha Cha and, if time permits, Night Club 2, Step or Swing.

KIKU GARDENS FRIDAY LUNCH PROGRAM

BTSD will be the cooks for the luncheon on Friday, February 3 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Donation is \$3. Please support the luncheon and enjoy a delicious meal with temple members and community friends.

Kiku Gardens is located at 1260 Third Avenue in Chula Vista.

NATIONAL BCA MEETINGS

Two member delegates, along with Rev. Mukojima, will represent BTSD at the BCA Ministers and National Council Meeting, February 25-26, at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento. The Northern District will serve as host.

The National Council Meeting is the annual gathering of all the BCA temples, BCA affiliated organizations and ministers. Our representatives will summarize a report for the April *Bussei Script*.

NATIONAL CBE GRANTS AVAILABLE

Limited grants for Temple members are available to defray costs of attending upcoming events by the Center for Buddhist Education at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, California.

- Techno Buddha Conference: Who Am I? March 2-4.
- IHOPE Dharmathon Lecture. April 11, 7-9 pm.
- Crossing over to Shin Buddhism. May 4-6.

Interested BTSD Temple members should contact the Temple or BEC chair Bill Teague (BTLeague@BDKAmerica.org) to apply.

JFG CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

On Saturday, March 17, BTSD will be represented at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Balboa Park. This community event will take place at the Japanese Friendship Garden.

The Temple will participate as food vendors and by the Obon Again Shop. A portion of our proceeds will help the Garden's expansion fund.

Temple members will also perform the Bon Odori. Under the direction of dance instructor Junko Kajita, practices have begun and are being held on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Annex Hall (unless noted).

Here is the practice schedule: Jan. 29 (Sangha Hall), Feb. 5 and 12, March 4 and 11. There are no practices scheduled for Feb. 19 and 26. Please call the office for more information.

50/50 DRAWING TO BE HELD IN APRIL

The annual 50/50 Raffle Opportunity Drawing will be held during the luncheon following the Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 8. BOD members are currently selling tickets for the benefit drawing.

In this drawing, there is only one winner who will take home half of the total proceeds—potentially a \$5,000 prize—from ticket sales. The other half will help the temple fund its daily operations.

Donation for the drawing is \$20 per ticket. Only 500 tickets have been printed, so depending on total sales, each purchase has at least a one-in-500 chance of being the winning ticket!

Raffle chair is Ken Muraoka with the assistance of Steve Marx and Nancy Martinez.

MRS. CHIZUYE YAMAMOTO PASSES AWAY

On Sunday, January 1, Mrs. Chizuye Yamamoto, wife of the Buddhist Temple of San Diego's former resident minister, the late Rev. Giko Yamamoto, passed away at the age of 93 in Laguna Hills, Calif. A private family memorial service was conducted on January 6 at the Fukui Mortuary in Los Angeles.

During Rev. Yamamoto's assignment in San Diego (1953-1970), Mrs. Yamamoto taught Dharma School and played the organ for the weekly services.

Mrs. Yamamoto is survived by her nephews, Steven Kawa, Alan Kawa, Bruce Imada and David Imada, and nieces, Susan Davenport, Peggy, Magallon, Judy Petsas, Diane Yokoi, & Connie Lum, and brother-in-law Taro Kawa. Condolences may be sent to: 21015 Ponderosa Avenue, Mission Viejo, CA, 92692.

REV. TESSHI AOYAMA'S BOOKS AVAILABLE

Throughout February, as part of Membership Month, the BEC Bookstore will feature the books of our former resident minister, Rev. Teshi Aoyama, in a special display.

The books will be prominently placed on top of the display case in the foyer to the Main Hall and are available for sale. They include the titles, *You Are Not Alone*, *Reaching Out* and *Dharma Miscellany*. As many of you know, most of these books were made available through the gracious generosity of Rev. Aoyama and family, to benefit the Temple's General Fund.

BTSD SERVICE BOOK PROJECT COMPLETED

To commemorate the Temple's 85th Anniversary observance in October 2011, the Dharma School worked to complete a project begun a number of years ago: a service book just for the San Diego Sangha!

Though we weren't able to complete the project in time for the 85th Anniversary itself, the books were in place when we observed the 2012 Ho-Onko Service in January.

For many years, Dharma School students, Sangha members, and visitors had to switch between our "soft-covered" and "hard-covered" books to read the gathas, sutras and meditations used during our Family Service. Now we have a single book that truly reflects us—the familiar readings we recite, the sutras we chant, and the gathas we sing.

This new book includes a brief history of our temple, explains Buddhist terms, addresses temple etiquette as practiced at BTSD, and identifies significant Jodo Shinshu observances and teachers. Some of the included gathas may be new to us, but are well-loved by other Sanghas and are ones we hope to include in our Family Service repertoire.

Dharma School would like to thank our very generous donors who identified the need for such a publication and helped Dharma School see the project to completion.

A special thank you to a special friend who cared so much that visitors are welcomed and have easy access to the service books by donating funds for additional book holders now mounted in the center of the pews.

Dharma School would like to thank Rev. Yushi Mukojima for his guidance throughout this project as well as our hard-working committee volunteers.

Thank you to Ken Muraoka, Karen Okuhara, Jamie Shimizu, Avis Honda, Ann Ong, Amy Masuda, Joyce Teague, Bill Teague, Robert Irie, Gale Kaneshiro, Keiko Negoro, Sue Moribe, Junko Kajita, Tim Kajita, Sharyn Kang, Ralph Honda, Ricky Cheeks, Roy Okuhara, and Sharon Sasaki. At various stages and over several years of this project, these volunteers put in many hours to research and collect materials, consult with other temples, create content, design, edit, proofread, and assist with the challenging formatting.

Thank you also to Michael Kinoshita, Tim Kajita, Trevor Kinoshita and Ann Ong who assisted with the installation of the new book holders.

We hope the BTSD Service Book will be useful to our members and visitors for many years to come.

In Gassho,

Nancy Martinez, Service Book Committee Chair

DALAI LAMA TO SPEAK IN SAN DIEGO

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the most recognizable practitioner of Buddhism today, will be making his first speaking visit to San Diego this April. We urge you to take advantage of this rare visit to the USD, SDSU and UCSD campuses for a series of talks titled "Compassion Without Borders."

- **April 18, 9:30 a.m.:** "The Global Impact of Climate Change: Balance Through Universal Responsibility, Compassion and Human Consciousness," panel discussion with climate change scientists Richard Somerville and Veerabhadran Ramanathan, RIMAC Arena, UC San Diego.
- **April 18, 1:30 p.m.:** "Cultivating Peace and Justice," Jenny Craig Pavilion, University of San Diego.
- **April 19, 9:30 a.m.:** "Upholding Universal Ethics and Compassion in Challenging Times," Viejas Arena, San Diego State University.

Tickets to each event will be \$10 for students of the host campuses, \$25 for others. Ticket sales will begin Feb. 22 at <http://dalailamasandiego.org/>. Despite the size of these venues, it is likely they will eventually be sold-out events.

At its February meeting, the BTSD Board will discuss how to encourage the Sangha to attend one of these meaningful talks. While it will be the responsibility of individual members to purchase their own tickets, Zenbu may assist by arranging carpools for those requiring a ride to one of the venues. Details to be posted at www.btsd.net and our Facebook page.

MOCHI FOR SALE

The Temple has frozen ko-mochi for sale. Donation is \$4.50 per bag (approximately one pound).

Call the office to arrange pick-up of your mochi, or purchase on Sundays after the service. The supply is from the Mochitsuki held on December 11.

BTSD SCRIP PROGRAM

Even though the holiday season is over, you can still order gift cards and gift certificates for any occasion through BTSD's easy Scrip Program! You can find hundreds of merchants and brand name stores for every type of product and service imaginable!

There is a complete list at the temple so if you don't attend regularly, call the office and ask that one be mailed to you. You'll be amazed at the choices! Then just fill out one of our order forms and mail it with your payment, ATTN: SCRIP ORDER, to the Temple. You can phone or e-mail your order, too. *Orders made Monday arrive by the end of the week.*

The Scrip Program is just about the simplest way to benefit the Temple. Just by making purchases you would anyway, BTSD automatically gets a percentage—sometimes as much as 10%! Buy gift cards from BTSD to give as gifts or use them yourself.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: KIKU GARDENS SEEKS NIGHT MANAGER/ASSISTANT MANAGER

Duties:

1 week on, 1 week off, 7 days starting Monday morning.

- Each day

7:30 a.m. - Open the laundry room.

8:00 a.m. - Open vehicle gate.

Approx. 10:30 a.m. - Check for rooster door knob signs for each apartment for resident safety.

5:00 p.m. - Close vehicle gates.

Approx. 6:00 p.m. - Check facility.

7:30 p.m. - Close laundry room.

- Wednesdays & Fridays, approx. 8:00 a.m. - Receive bread donation.

- Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. To 1:00 p.m. - Office duty

- Fridays, 10:00 a.m. To 1:00 p.m. - Office duty

General:

- Carry Kiku Gardens cell phone when office is closed or when requested or away.

- Learn alarm and safety procedures.

- Help tenants when needed.

- Report all unusual events.

Compensation:

Use of apartment and salary.

To apply, contact:

Steve Sato, General Manager: (619) 422-4951

2012 NEW YEAR GREETING

Thank you for your warm regard and assistance in 2011.

Wishing each of you the very best in 2012.

Let us continue walking in the light of Amida's
Compassion.

Namo Amida Butsu,

Rev. A. Hata & Uchiyama Family

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO Membership Pledge for 2012

Renewal New Member* Change of Address
 Mr. Mrs. Ms. NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE _____
 Mr. Mrs. SPOUSE NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE :(_____) _____ - _____ CELL PHONE :(_____) _____ - _____
 WORK PHONE :(_____) _____ - _____
 E-MAIL: _____ OCCUPATION _____

Membership Pledge: The temple has an annual campaign to raise funds that go towards the Operating Budget. This budget pays for ministerial salary, part-time staff, programs, utilities, maintenance and the day-to-day expenses of running the temple. This tiered membership offers members the opportunity to choose their level of donation.

	Sustaining Member	Dana Member	Wisteria Member	Bodhi Member
Individual/Senior/Youth (All Ages)	\$275	\$375	\$500	\$
Couple / Family	\$450	\$650	\$1000	\$
Optional: Senior Reduced Cost (75 yrs and older)	\$125			
	\$150			
Optional: Youth Reduced Cost (30 yrs and younger)				\$

Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40) \$
 The fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the Onaijin (Central Altar).
GENERAL MAINTENANCE FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40) \$
 The fund helps provide upkeep of the Temple properties.
SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$20) \$
 The fund rewards members' deserving high school graduates and college students.
DHARMA SCHOOL (Suggested annual donation of \$20) \$
 Dharma School does not conduct fundraisers. Your annual donation helps sustain its activities.
TOTAL AMOUNT \$
AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

Please indicate payment schedule:

_____ Annually _____ Semi annually _____ Quarterly _____ Monthly

To use credit card:

_____ Visa _____ MasterCard Acct # _____ Expires (MM/YY) _____
 Authorized signature (if charging): _____
 Billing address if different from above: _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. A percentage of your dues supports the Buddhist Churches of America and is remitted annually to the BCA via the Temple. Benefits include a year's subscription to the BCA publication Wheel of Dharma and our own monthly newsletter. **THANK YOU!**

Mailing Address to send your pledges: **Buddhist Temple of San Diego**
2929 Market Street, San Diego, California 92102

For any questions about membership, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896 or send inquires to the Membership Chair at info@btsd.net.

*For New Members, proration is available

二〇一二年 二月 会報
サンディエゴ仏教会

生起本末

— おじいちゃんの匂い —

住職 向嶋 謙史

最近 娘の何気ない一言がずっと気になって落ち込むことがありました。

実は、訳あって、ここ数週間前から妻に代わって三歳の娘と二人で寝るようになったのですが、ある朝、目を覚ました娘が私に向かって「ダディの匂いはミンと違うね」と言っています。どう違うのか聞いてみますと、「ミンイはシャンプーの匂いがするけど、ダディはおじいちゃん

の匂いがする」と満面の笑みで答えたのです。私の両親が昨年八月にサンディエゴに遊びに来た際、父と娘が毎晩一緒に寝ていたので、娘は祖父の匂いを覚えていたのでしょう。何かほのぼのとするような話に聞こえますが、私と父の匂いが同じだという娘の言葉は私にとって大問題です。私も昔から父親の匂いには敏感で、子供の頃、寒い冬の朝方には、両親の温かい布団に潜り込んで二度寝を楽しむのが恒例だったのですが、勢いよく布団に入るなり、母親の石鹸の匂いと父親の独特な匂いがりまじって

たまに咳き込むことがありました。子供心に何故父の匂いほこも強烈なんだろうと疑問を持っていたのですが、今思うと、その匂いは加齢臭というもので、中高年特有の体臭だったのです。決して毛嫌いするような臭いではないのですが、私とは全く無縁な臭いだと思っていました。しかし、先日、娘から私と父親の匂いが全く同じだという事を聞かされた時、その予想外の言葉に大変衝撃を受けました。私にも中高年特有の加齢臭が出てきたという事なのです。これほど辛いことはありません。

その事を妻に告げますと、妻も「最近、起こしに行く度に、私のお父さんと同じ臭いがするからすこく懐かしく思っていた」と、これまた悲しい言葉が返ってきました。妻曰く「今年で四十なんだから、ごく自然のことじゃない」と簡単に言うのですが、娘にはおじいちゃんの匂いと言われ、更には妻から義父の匂いと同じだと言われた私はあまりの衝撃に老いという現実を受け止めることができませんでした。

それ以来、二人の言葉が気になって、何をやるにしても気が散ってしまい、ため息が出る日々が続いていたのですが、ある日、私の落ち込みようを見かねた妻から「日頃はお説教でありのままを受け止めなさいなんて偉そうに言っているのに、あなたが一番受け入れていないじゃないの？ 仏教は生命を燃やし尽くしながら今を大切に生きる教えたといつも聞いていますよ」と一喝されました。

生きていく限り、誰もが老いていくという事は人一倍理解していたように思っていた私がいざ自分

とは無関係に思っていた加齢臭が出てきたといわれて、その老害を素直に受け止めるのではなく、ため息をつきながら一日一日を無駄に過ごすというような醜態を晒してしまいました。何とも情けない限りです。

確かに、妻の言う通り、生命を生きるという事は、今を大切にするといいことです。生きるとは、何も明日や一年後のことをらうわけではなく、今を生きているのであつても、もし将来に夢を持っているのであれば、それこそ夢に向かって今何をすべきかと、真剣に考えなくてはならないのです。ですから、仏教は正に今を生きる教えなのです。

この最も大切な教えを一番分かっていいたように思っていた私ですが、この度の一件で、今を大事に生きていくことの難しさを改めて気づかされました。そこで、今月は、一休禅師にまつわる大変面白いお話を紹介してみたいと思います。一休禅師は京都の大徳寺というお寺の住職で、大変有名な禅宗のお坊さんです。

ある日、一休禅師が檀家さんの家へ法事にてかけられた時のこと、一人のお弟子さんが師匠の荷物を大切に抱えて後をついて歩いておりました。すると、前方に鰻屋が見えてきて、そこから鰻を焼く香ばしい匂いが漂ってきました。

そして、二人が鰻屋さんの前を通りかかった瞬間、一休禅師が「うん、うまそうじゃ」と言われました。禅宗のお坊さんは、決して鰻のような生臭いものを口にしませんから、お弟子さんはそんな師匠の言葉を聞いて驚きを隠せませんでした。仏様に使える身として不謹慎な言葉にもかかわら

ず、心より慕つ、師匠が私に聞かせるように、「うまそうじや」と言われたのは、「お前後でござり買つてござり」といふ合図なのだろうか…。しかし、それがもし自分の勘違いで鰻を買つて帰つたりしたら、間違ひなく叱られてしまふ。一体どうしたらいいのだろうか」と困り果ててしまつた。

その後、お弟子さんは師匠のお供はしているけれども、頭の中は鰻のことばかりで、檀家さんの家に着いてお勤めを始めてからも、師匠のお説教を聞いている間も、鰻を買つた方がいいのか、買わない方がいいのか、ずっと考えていました。

その日の夕方、お弟子さんは、一休禪師の夕食の支度をしている時に、思ひ切つて訊ねてみました。「お師匠さん、お尋ねしたいことがござります。今日、法事に行く途中、鰻屋の前を通る際、お師匠さんは独り言をおつしやいましたか、覚えていらつしやいますか」と。

すると「何か言つたかな？」とどう返つてきたので、「で」「は、うん、うまそうじや」とはつきりおつしやいました。私は、あれからずっと考えているんですが、どういつ意味が分かりません。あれは買つていいという意味なのか、買わなくてもいいという事なのか、ずっと悩んでおるのです」とどう打ち明けました。すると、「一休禪師は「お前はまた鰻のことを考えていたのか。そんなものは、わたしは鰻屋の前に控つてきたぞ」と一喝した後、「お前は、今日一日考えすぎて相違されたじやろうな」とおつしやつたぞうです。

これは、一休禪師にまつわるお話で私の一番好きな逸話なのですが、皆さんは、何故、一休禪師がこのようにお弟子さんを戒められたかお分かりでしょうか。

お弟子さんは、鰻屋の前で、師匠の「うまそうじや」といふ言葉を聞いてから、一日中ずっと鰻のことばかり考えていました。私もよくあるのですが、「門徒さんや友人の何気ない一言が気になつて、一日中そのことばかり考えて、他のことに全く集中できない」といふことがあります。ましてや最近では、加齢臭がすると娘と妻に言われたため息をつく日々が続いていました。しかし、そんなつまらないことを考えたり、くよくよ悩んでいるうちに大切な一日があつたという間に終わつてしまいます。もし、そのような生き方を繰り返して、年を取つてしまつたら、人生取り返しがつかないよと、一休禪師は教えて下さつています。

一休禪師曰く「わたしは、鰻屋の前を通つたら、鰻がおいしそうやなあと思つて匂いを楽しむ。花屋の前を通つたら、この花も綺麗やなあと感動しながら花の美しさを楽しむ。琴の音がもれてくる家の前を通つたら、何と見事な音色なんじやと心を静める。このように、その時、その時を精一杯あるがまま楽しんで、この人生を生きておるんじや。今日はたまたま鰻屋の前を通つたから、「うまそうじや」と言つたまでのこと。それにもかかわらず、お前はわたしの言葉に惑わされて、他の事を疎かにして一日を過ごしてしまつたのなら、お前は今日一日を生きたことにはならんぞ」とお説教されたぞうです。

何とも尊いお言葉です。確かに、何かの事にとらわれて、その事ばかり考えていたら、何をしても、心ここにあらずで、無駄な時間を過ごしているにすぎません。ですから、仏教でいう「生きる」といふ

うことは、頂いた生命に感謝しながら、今、現在、その時その時を、精一杯、心から楽しみ、学び、そして感動して行くことなのです。

しかし、そんな偉そうなことを言ひながらも、この私が今を大切に生きていないのです。何をしても、ついで余計なことを考えてしまひます。勉強している時や仕事をしている時はつい遊びのことを考へて、その反対に、遊んでいる時には日曜礼拝の法話の準備や勉強会の事がいつも気になつてしまふのです。今を楽しむ事に徹することができない生き方は本當につまらないものです。

数年前、小松校長との何気ない会話の中で「遊びの時は、日曜礼拝のことは忘れて、精一杯遊びなさい。そして勉強する時は、精一杯それに集中しなさい。サンディエゴは美しい海があるんだから、浜辺に寝そべつて何もかも忘れて広大な空を眺めて見なさい。ふとした所から法話のヒントが生まれてきたりするものだよ」と有難いお言葉を頂いたのを今でも覚えておるんだ、中途半端が一番悪い」といふお言葉が改めて心に深く染みてきます。

何かにとらわれて、一日一日を大切に生きるということができないといふことは誰もが経験するところでしょうが、そんなことを繰り返して人生が過ぎていくようなら、私達はただ空しい人生を歩んでいるといふことになりなす。過去の栄光にしがみついたり、過去の失敗や嫌な思い出を引きずつたり、将来の自分の姿を憂へていても仕方がありません。今、生かされている輝かしい生命を精一杯に燃やし尽くして、今日といふ日を

Bussei Script

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

2929 Market Street

San Diego, California 92102

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"If one keeps one's eyes open, the teaching can be found in all things.

Thus, one's opportunities for Enlightenment are endless." ~Dhammapada

FEBRUARY: NIRVANA DAY, MEMBERSHIP MONTH

February is the shortest month of the year, but the Temple calendar is full of events and activities for its members and friends. **Shotsuki Hoyo**, our monthly memorial service, will be observed **February 5** in conjunction with the 10 a.m. Family Service. Shotsuki is an opportunity to remember family members and friends who passed away during February.

The Temple cordially invites you to **Nirvana Day Service (Nehan-E)** on **Sunday, February 12, at 10 a.m.** It will be held in conjunction with the **Fujinkai Memorial Service** sponsored by the Buddhist Womens Association. Nirvana Day commemorates the death of Shakyamuni, the historical Buddha, at age 80. Our guest speaker will be **Rev. Tesshi Aoyama** of the Placer Buddhist Temple. The 2012 BTSD Board of Directors will be installed during the service.

This year's **Membership Month** will offer two special events. A seminar presented by Mukojim Sensei, "**Basics of Jodo Shinshu**," will be offered **Saturday, February 18**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Sangha Hall. It is free and presented as a primer for new and potential members and a refresher for all others. The annual **Butsudan Sale and Altar Dedication** will be held **March 4** following the Family Service and March Memorial Service. Please see the related articles in this issue for more information, or call Bill Teague at (619) 527-7855.

An envelope is enclosed if you would like to make a Nirvana Day offering. For those who subscribe to the *Bussei Script* online, we invite your Nirvana Day donation. As always, the Temple looks forward to your participation and is very grateful for your support