

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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VOLUME 77 NO. 4

APRIL 2017

A Cold Awakening



By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi

I've gotten a bad cold again. My third relapse in three months. Could this be a sign of old age as my resistance diminishes. I've experienced 2 out of the 3 concerns (old age and sickness) that prompted Shakyamuni Buddha to abandon his princely life. Ominously, the third concern, death,

awaits me. This is part of the reason I'm following Shinran's path of resolving our basic concerns. Buddhism and especially Shin Buddhism addresses all of my concerns. Lying in bed with this cold (*duhkha*) allows me to ponder the truth of the Dharma.

We all know the Dalai Lama to be a wonderful model for us as Buddhists. In an interview with John Oliver, he acknowledged that his compassionate attitude was a result of his practice of compassion. Although he was driven from his own country and labeled a demon by the Chinese government, he maintains a light, positive attitude about life. What a wonderful example of practicing and living a Buddhist life. In his popular talks, he rarely uses technical Buddhist words. Instead, he uses words and phrases familiar to most English-speaking people to describe the tenants of Buddhism. He simply practices what he preaches. And this is at the heart of Shinran's teachings.

As Shin Buddhists, there is nothing we have to achieve. There is no strict regimen of sitting meditation. Attending services and chanting are not requirements. We even are not required to be of high moral behavior, provide for those who are less fortunate, or donate to the temple. These activities are encouraged but not required for our awakening. These practices of rituals and being of service to others lead us to the realization that our own efforts are limited. We have received and continue to receive benefits far exceeding our personal contributions. So, as Shin Buddhists, what is required of us? We need only to wake up to the benefits received from others (Amida's compassion), voice appreciation in the recitation of the Nembutsu, and live a life of gratitude.

Why does this simple practice of voicing thank you, "Namo Amida Butsu," work as well as mastering the clear mind of silent meditation? How is it as effective as a dili-

gent practice of mindfulness in controlling our ego? Isn't it a positive thing to gain merit by doing virtuous deeds? Yes, all these actions are basically good. But Shinran realized that they all had limits. It takes tremendous effort, diligence, and practice to master. And they all have the tendency to enhance the sense of ego. **How does the ego work to reduce the ego?** It is like lifting oneself up by our own bootstraps. The result is that we would tip over.

Finding and becoming aware of the many things in life that support us, lead us to the awareness of the **true nature of life: that we are here because of the efforts of others.** Field workers bring us healthy food. Sanitation workers clear our refuse. Scientists seek healthier environments. Expressing sincere appreciation, "thank you," connects us with others. It puts us in a place of humility. Receiving is humbling. Achieving can be ego-building. We can still have a sense of ego, but Shinran's path places the ego in its proper place. We have been included as part of the whole. We can call these gifts the Compassion of Amida. We receive and are accepted, just as we are.

The practice of receiving or **realizing** that we have been receiving, has a special effect. It shifts our minds from the self-centered desire of the ego-self. I could be complaining more about my colds. There is always something to complain about. But with a practice of gratitude, I begin to see the benefits that surround me. I'm thankful for the many modern medications to reduce my symptoms. I'm grateful for the kind words and thoughts from others. The experience of suffering can open us up to our connection with others.

If we compare our lives with that of any other generation in history, we might appreciate the wonderful life that we enjoy. Yes, we can always work for the betterment of ourselves and others. We do this with the positive attitude of being fulfilled and not with a negative attitude of anger and scarcity. These frustrations with colds and challenges are part of a normal life. And they can give us a preview of how we assess our entire life.

If we have the opportunity of judging the value of our life near its end, how will we do it? Praying for an extension is limited. Our material wealth and social status won't help. But a life of gratitude indicates a fulfilled life. **Life is worthwhile if we can appreciate it.** Why wait until the end? We can appreciate life now. And with joy in our hearts, we can work to serve others toward this awakening.

Namo Amida Butsu

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10 am--Koto, SH SD Jr YBL Basketball
2 BTSD CLOSED 10 a.m.— Service at Vista Buddhist Temple	3 Office Closed	4	5 10 am--Crafts, DR 11 am — Social Welfare committee, CR 12 noon--Minyo, SH	6	7 12 noon — Garden Villa Senior Lunch program	8 Hanamatsuri 1 pm--Hanamido Prep 6 pm--BTSD/VFW Bingo
9 10 am -- HANAMATSURI (Guest speaker: Rev. Jon Turner, Orange County BC) Monthly Shotsuki Hoyo 12 noon--BWA Bake Sale 1 pm -- BEC Lecture	10 Office Closed 7 pm--Ways & Means Mtg, CR	11 SD Ministers Mtg at L.A. Betsuin	12 12 noon--Minyo, SH 1 pm--Shigin, CR 6:30 pm--Taiko, AH 7 pm--Buddhism 1,2,3	13 10 am--Memorial Day Community Planning Meeting, CR 6:45--BOD Mtg, CR	14	15 10 am--Koto, SH
16 10 am--DS/Family Service 11:45 am--DS Conference planning meeting, CR 12 noon-- Taiko, AH	17 Office Closed	18	19 10 am--Crafts, DR 12 noon--Minyo, SH 1 pm--Shigin, CR 6:30 pm--Taiko, AH	20	21	22 EARTH DAY
23 9 am--Intro to Buddhism 10 am--DS/Family Service BTSD Earth Day Dharma Talk EcoSangha, Balboa Park	24 Office Closed	25	26 12 noon--Minyo, SH 1 pm--Shigin, CR 6:30 pm--Taiko, AH 7 pm--Buddhism 1,2,3	27	28	29 SD Jr YBL Seminar II at San Fernando
30 10 am--DS/Family Service 12:30-2--Sangha Teens Walk to Feed Hungry, NTC Park	LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY ... 6—Spring Furniture and houseware sale 7—Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) 13—BTSD/VFW Bingo					



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

At the beginning of March, I attended the National Council Meeting in San Jose with Smitty and Kenji Sensei. It was filled with services, meetings, workshops and a banquet. It was a time to catch up with friends from other temples and a time to meet new people. We exchanged ideas and concerns during the meetings and at the workshops.

One of the main topics of the meetings was the increase in BCA dues.

BCA DUES INCREASE

The BTSD board voted against the initial proposal to raise the dues to \$24 per person. Because of the push back of many temples, BCA was able to find other ways to fund a few of the expenses. In the end, the assessment ended up to be a little over \$19 per person. Even though I realized that the items on the budget for BCA are important and that a few of our members benefit from the Jodo Shinshu Center and BCA programs, I voted no. I felt the increase was just too much for our current budget situation. The vote was taken and the motion passed. So, we will pay about \$4,800 additional this year. I have come to terms with this decision and need to remind myself of all the things that the BCA has done for us in the past and will continue to do in the future.

Three things that can possibly help with the assessment going up drastically in the next few years are to support the BCA Bookstore (not competitors like Amazon – BCA has to pay Amazon a fee for selling items through them), donate to the Dana Program (you can designate some of the donation to San Diego Buddhist Temple and the 1000 x 1000 x 4 Wishes (Idea by Reverend Harada – 1000 members out of 14,000 donate \$1000 for 4 years and the BCA will be able to pay off the Jodo Shinshu loan). More information is available in the temple office on all three options.

TEMPLE FINANCIAL SHORTFALLS ADDRESSED

With this news, we are addressing these financial shortfalls with the Ways and Means, Activities and Membership committees and will ask that all affiliated groups, members and friends of the temple join us as we look for ways to balance our budget. We are fortunate to have many members and friends of the temple donate generously and we hope that we can count on more of you to donate when possible.

Fundraising activities like the Cherry Blossom that we had on March 11 and 12th are so important for all of us to support whether it is by volunteering, purchasing goods or underwriting expenses. Thank you to Michael Kinoshita for heading up this event and appreciation to all that helped with the prep, purchasing, preparing, selling and supporting us.

As I sat listening to the talk by Reverend Kobata at the BEC lecture, he reminded me that we are all interconnected. We are not alone in dealing with these issues and I'm encouraged that we will work together towards a solution.

I look forward to seeing you around the temple and please feel free to give ideas or concerns to me, Sensei or any of the board members.

In Gassho

BWA NEWS

Thank you to the BWA members who turned out to prepare salads, tofu, sauces etc. for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. We hope you had the opportunity to see the trees decked out in shades of pink. It was truly a spectacular sight.

Looking to spice up your week? Check out the **Craft Group** on the first and third Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Crafting experience not necessary. Learning and sharing a big plus! The next gathering is April 5. Give it a try.

In April, we celebrate the birth of Buddha. **Hanamatsuri** will be observed on the 9th and we will help Dharma School decorate the Hondo on the 8th, at 1:30 p.m. Rev. Jon Turner from the Orange County Buddhist Church will be the guest speaker. Members are encouraged to share their favorite side dish, rice dish or salad for the luncheon following the service.

Please support our traditional Hanamatsuri **Bake Sale**. There will be a lot of delicious treats to purchase!

- ◆ **The April meeting was cancelled due BTSD's joint service gathering at Vista. BTSD will be closed on April 2.**
- ◆ Thank you to Group A for providing lunch for the March 5 meeting.
- ◆ Group A will serve at Hospitality on April 30th.
- ◆ Group B will host meeting lunch May 7th.
- ◆ Gotan E Service on May 21 otoki of Chirashi. Toban group B and D will chair the Chirashi prep.
 - ◆ Volunteers will be needed on:
 - ◆ Saturday, 5/20 at 9:30 for food prep
 - ◆ Sunday, 5/21 rice cookers at 6 a.m., others at 7 a.m.
- ◆ The next craft sale will be at the temple's Japanese Cultural Bazaar on June 4 (No meeting in June).

Members are urged to sign up for the Southern District Conference and BWA Conference on June 10. Details in article on Page 6.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Highlights from the March 9 meeting:

1. The Board ratified the approval of costs for updating the security alarm system at the Minister's residence and with going with a new vendor. The Board thanked the Akahoshi's for their generous donation to cover the one-time capital cost of the new system.
2. Fencing damaged by a falling tree was replaced at the Minister's residence. Thank you to Ken Muraoka for coordinating the tree removal and fence work.
3. The Board agreed that the temple sponsor a reading of "Growing Up Sansei" at the terms presented and at a date to be determined. A committee will work on facilitating the presentation and working with other community groups.
4. A presentation was made on work by an ad-hoc committee to increase membership and Sangha involvement in temple activities.
5. The Board was updated on the planning for the Japanese Friendship Garden's Cherry Blossom Festival, EcoSangha committee participation in the City of San Diego's Earth Day Fair and June's Japanese Cultural Bazaar.
6. The Board approved the temple's co-sponsorship of the Karaoke Reunion scheduled in the annex, April 2.
7. The Board approved the temple's co-sponsorship of the Japanese Coordinating Council's Keiro Kai.- April 30th
8. The Board approved Patty Nakamura continuing as the temple's representative on the JAACL scholarship committee.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

We would like to thank Rev. Ron Kobata from the Buddhist Church of San Francisco providing the message to the Dharma School on Aloha and the Golden Chain at the temple's O Higan service on March 19.

On April 2, Dharma School families and Sangha members will visit the **Vista Buddhist Temple** for our annual exchange. We will attend their 10 a.m. service and classes. Lunch will be provided by the Vista Sangha.

Dharma School students, families and friends are encouraged to decorate **the hanamido** on Saturday, April 8 at 1:30 p.m. in the dining room. Sangha members are also welcome to help with the floral arranging. You may bring your floral donations on April 8 or make a monetary donation for the purchase of flowers.

The Central California District Dharma School Teachers League will be hosting the **Federation Dharma School Teachers League Conference** in Fresno, April 22-23. The theme is Music: and Buddhism. The keynote speaker will Rev. Peter Hata, Higashi Hongwanji, Los Angeles Betsuin.

The Sangha Teens will sponsor a **Walk to Feed the Hungry/Buddhist Global Relief** activity at Liberty Station Park on Sunday, April 30 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Walking spots are limited. You can also purchase a t-shirt to support the cause. If you would like to participate or make a monetary donation, please see Sharon Sasaki for more information. There is also a flyer on the Sangha Teen white board.

This year's annual **camping trip** will be at William Heise Park in Julian, May 26-28. For San Diego Dharma School families, it will cost \$40 and for non San Diego Dharma School families, it will cost \$50. Please sign up on the Dharma School white board.

Please let me know if there are any high school or college students graduating this year that have been associated with our Dharma School program.

Happy April Birthday wishes to: Zenden Hutchins, Juliana Kruse, and Claire Matsumoto

The next **teacher-staff meeting** will be on Sunday, May 7, at 9 a.m.

Gassho,

Avis Honda, Superintendent

HELP SUPPORT THE JUNE BAZAAR EARLY!

Many of you know that the annual Japanese Cultural Bazaar in June is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and funds go directly to the maintenance and improvement of our Temple. It takes a lot of small repairs and upgrades to make the temple look so nice!

Gregg Yonekura and Bill Teague help solicit prizes for the benefit drawing each year, and they are asking for your help either for the raffle or (especially for higher end items) for their Dharma friends who organize the Silent Auction.

If you have a special item you would like to donate, or are able to make a cash donation to support the grand cash prize, please let Gregg and Bill know via the Temple. Thank you so much!

JR. YBA NEWS

We wish to thank those who supported our Udon Luncheon Fundraiser on March 19 following the Spring O Higan Service. We hoped you enjoyed the yummy bowl of udon noodles with chicken chashu. Thank you to Trevor Muraoka and Clayton Matsumoto for co-chairing the event. Nice job! And thank you to the parents and members who made the luncheon a success.

For the O Higan service, the Jr. YBA provided the osonae manju and fruit offering for the onaijin.

San Diego provided koden (monetary offering) to the family of the late Mr. Chuck Matsumoto. A memorial service for Chuck, who served as Southern District advisor, was held on March 11 in Phoenix. Myself, along with Jill Yamanishi and advisors Ralph and Avis Honda attended the service.

A BUSY APRIL: Kicks off with a few members attending the Southern District Basketball tournament on April 1 at Nishi. On the next day, the members will head to Vista, along with the Dharma School and Sangha, to attend the Vista temple service, in the annual exchange of our two temples.

During Hanamatsuri, members will help decorate the hanamido on April 8 and participate in the service on April 9.

On April 29, we will be traveling to San Fernando to attend Seminar 2 co-hosted by San Fernando and Pasadena chapters. The theme "SUPER BUDDHAS." We will attend with a super hero mind and have a good time!

CONFERENCE UPDATE: Planning for this year's Southern District Jr. YBL Conference continues. San Diego and Vista met on March 12 to develop workshops and icebreakers. Our conference theme is "Finding the Path Out of Chaos." The guest speaker will be Rev. Matt Hamasaki from the Fresno Buddhist Temple. The Southern District Jr. YBL has allowed us to open the conference to YBA high school groups from throughout California. Our committee has extended a "Save the date" announcement. We hope they can participate in the conference activities. Our next meeting will be on April 16 at the temple starting at 1:30 p.m.

RECYCLING: Don't forget, we are having our on-going recycling program and are accepting CRV (California Redemption Value) Plastic Bottles, Aluminum Cans and Glass Bottles. Monies received from the program will benefit the many activities our group is involved in. We are also helping promote EcoSangha awareness. Please drop off your recyclables in room 4 on your next visit.

LOOKING AHEAD: In May, all mothers are invited to attend the annual Mother's Day Breakfast on May 14. Tickets will be available from any Jr. YBA member beginning April 9. All mothers are free. Donation for non-mothers is \$5.

Also in May, the group plans to attend the Gardena "Olympics Day" social on May 13 and Seminar 3 on May 20 at Orange County.

Thank you for your continued support to the Jr. YBA in our 66th year!

In Gassho,

Breven Honda, Co-President

JCC KEIRO KAI IS APRIL 30 AT BTSD

The Japanese Coordinating Council (JCC) will host its annual Keiro Kai (Pioneer Group) luncheon on Sunday, April 30 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the temple. Temple members, 80-years-young and above, will receive an invitation letter from JCC announcing the luncheon.

Activity during the party will include receiving a bento (box) lunch, entertainment from community organizations and more.

The temple also has tickets on sale for the event. Donation is \$25 for the under-80 attendees. Deadline to purchase tickets is April 9.

Members who are of this exclusive age group, and have not received a letter of invitation, are urged to contact the temple.

BTSD is proud to be a co-sponsor with this annual community event.



SCRIP NEWS

It's not too early to think about Mother's Day, Father's Day, and graduation. They are all just around the corner. Great Lakes Scrip Center has gift cards for restaurants and department stores for mom. For Dad, they carry gift cards to home improvement stores and sporting goods stores. For graduates, they have gift cards for movie theaters, bookstores, and many other things.

Spring break is also just around the corner. If you're planning a vacation, you can order gift cards for hotels and restaurants that you might visit while traveling. Take a look at the list of retailers on the list.

Scrip is an easy way to support the temple. Just remember to buy it and use it! Thanks to everyone who is buying scrip!

BINGO is April 8

Make plans to spend an enjoyable evening with family and friends next BINGO Night on Saturday, April 8. The session begins at 6 p.m. Buy-in is \$10 for the 12-game session. There is a chance to win cash prizes for each game, including consolation. Door prizes are also awarded throughout the evening. Extra cards and pull tabs are available for purchase.

Before BINGO begins, fill your stomachs with the VFW's world famous hot dogs! Sweeten your pallet with donuts and quench your thirst with coffee or sodas. All on sale!

Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Net proceeds from BINGO are shared equally between the temple and Asian Pacific Post 4851.

Give it a try and have a chance to win by yelling BINGO!



Sunday, April 23, 2017

Hear the EcoSangha Dharma at the temple
Then, stop by our booth in Balboa Park
10 a.m.—5 p.m.

"To be a Buddhist is to be an ecologist."
~ Rev. Don Don Castro

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL THANK YOU

We participated at the Japanese Friendship Garden Cherry Blossom Festival on March 11th and 12th. We sold chicken skewers, rice, tofu salad and daifuku. I would like to thank everyone who helped make this fundraising event a success! Many individuals helped in the week prior in preparing for this event from making the daifuku, tofu salad and washing rice, getting the material from the Temple to JFG, during the event and bringing everything back to the Temple for clean-up after the event. This is rough summary of what we accomplished: (1200) 4 oz. chicken skewers grilled on BBQ on Saturday, (94) tofu salads sold on Saturday, (350) daifuku sold on Saturday (we sold all that we made on Saturday), (300) servings of rice sold on Saturday (75 lbs), (600) 4 oz. servings of chicken teriyaki grilled on BBQ on Sunday (we sold all of our skewers on Saturday so we spent Saturday night cutting chicken so we would have something to sell on Sunday), (55) tofu salads sold on Sunday, (300) servings of rice sold on Sunday (75 lbs).

I greatly appreciate everyone's commitment to the Temple. We grossed \$7,184.00 which is a few hundred dollars more than last year. We hope to net about the same we did last year which will be around \$4,500.00.

Again, I thank everyone who helped to make this event a success.

Gassho
Michael Kinoshita

BTSD TO HOST FRIDAY SENIOR LUNCH AT GARDEN VILLAS ON APRIL 7

The temple will host the Senior Lunch program on Friday, April 7 at Garden Villas (1260 3rd Ave., 91911) in Chula Vista. Donation for a nice hot meal is \$3. The lunch runs from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon with friends, along with a nice lunch, at the Friday Senior Lunch program.



JODO SHINSHU FOR THE AVERAGE JOE IS THEME FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT AND BWA CONFERENCE

Have you ever wondered how the Jodo Shinshu teaching works in your everyday life? How does one face life's challenges, whether trivial or major, and make sense of it all? How can you improve the quality of life by adjusting your perspective?

Be a part of "Jodo Shinshu for the Average Joe" by making plans to attend the annual Southern District and BWA Conference on Saturday, June 10 at the Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills.

The conference will be hosted by the San Fernando Hongwanji Buddhist Temple under the guidance of resident minister Rev. Patricia Usuki and her Sangha.

Keynote speakers will be Rev. Koyo S. Kubose (English) and Rev. Kazuaki Nakata (Japanese). Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America will also be featured as a speaker.

Rev. Kubose is founder of the Bright Dawn Center of One-ness Buddhism – universal teachings for everyday living.

Rev. Nakata is minister at the Los Angeles Betsuin. For the Sangha members who attended BTSD's Nirvana Day service and BEC presentation in February, Rev. Nakata provided wonderful messages in both English and Japanese.

Those interested in attending may sign up on the registration sheet located in the office. Or, email or call the temple to get your name on the list. BWA members are encouraged to sign up with President Kikue Graeber.

Registration fee is \$65. Deadline to register for BTSD Sangha and BWA members is Sunday, May 7. Please make your check payable to BTSD. If paying by credit card, please provide the appropriate information. Late registration fee is \$85 and is due no later than May 28.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Thanks for Your Membership Renewal

Since the March issue of the Bussei Script reported our first 59 members in 2017, we can report 27 more renewals! A big thank you to: Cody Gless & Sara Scharton; Ruby Hara; Hiroko Hendrix; Jan & Setsuo Iwashita; David & Katie Iwashita; Gail & Yukio Iwashita; Noriko Kawai; Hiroshi Kubota; Howard Kanji & Kaneko Kuwada; Nancy Martinez; Fred and Nancy Nakatani; Toyo Nishii; Janet Ochi-Fontanott; Karen & Roy Okuhara; Bill & Akemi Sannwald; Gary Tanizaki; Yuriko Terusaki; Masako Tsuji; Miyoko Yamanishi.

Now It's Your Turn. If you are not yet a member, or a 2016 member who has not renewed for 2017, please join us now! See the application in this issue.

Renewals Are Easy. Just call or email or bring or mail a form with just your name and we'll fill in the rest of the blanks on your contact information, if still current.

What Does BCA Do For ME?

At the beginning of last month, I attended the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) National Council Meetings (NCM) in San Jose, CA, for my first time as an official delegate representing BTSD. Participating in the business meetings, listening attentively, and discussing BCA issues even during our breaks, I started to understand the questions that many temple members ask (although sometimes under our breath or only to ourselves), "What does BCA do for me?" or "Why does BCA always want money from us?"

These questions are similar to other questions that come up this time of year, during tax season. We often want to know "Why does the federal (or state) government need so much of my hard-earned money?" These questions are all essentially the same – they query "What am I getting in return?" After all, we all want to know what's in this for **ME**, don't we?

If you don't attend seminars and classes at the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) in Berkeley or participate in the Center for Buddhist Education's (CBE) events in Southern District, it might be easy to overlook the benefits each of us receive as members of a BCA temple. This is like the person who questions why they should pay taxes to fund local schools when they themselves have no kids attending those schools. It can be hard to see how we, as individuals, benefit from BCA. After all, we work so hard to raise funds to keep our own temple functioning, so why does BCA have to tax us so much?

In addition to operating the JSC and staffing the CBE, BCA operates the BCA Bookstore, oversees the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course, and administers the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS), which is the graduate school for BCA ministerial aspirants. If it weren't for BCA and its subordinate organizations, we wouldn't have ABA, YABA, Jr. YBA, BWA, Taiko, Sangha Teens, or Dharma School at BTSD. We wouldn't have a resident minister, minister assistants, or guest speakers for special services. We wouldn't even have Sunday services, Wednesday Buddhism 1-2-3, memorial services, or funeral services. We probably wouldn't even have BTSD as we currently know it. It's very difficult for an independent Buddhist temple to survive, let alone thrive, in America. BCA is the umbrella organization that makes our temple, our sangha, and all of our associated activities possible.

We all know about interdependence, but during tax season we seem to forget about this truth. The same is true when BCA assesses us as a temple within that organization. As a recent BCA National Council delegate, I had the opportunity to peek behind the curtain and see how the sausage is made. No, it isn't always pleasant or pretty. Not everybody agrees on the process, product, or recipe. But as Buddhists, living within the truth of interbeing, we should all be more aware of what BCA does for each of us.

In Gassho, Maribeth "Smitty" Smith

Buddhist Education Opportunities in April

Bill Teague, Buddhist Education Committee

Two Men and Two Women:

Four of Buddha's Great Disciples

To extend our Hanamatsuri observances, please join us for a special seminar with our guest speaker **Rev. Jon Turner of the Orange County Buddhist Church.**

Following service, on **Sunday, April 9**, Turner Sensei will be offering a seminar from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Buddha's Great Disciples. The Buddha had many great disciples and Turner Sensei will focus on these four:

1. Ananda
2. Mahaprajapati
3. Angulimala
4. Kisa Gotami

You may recognize some of these names, but do you know them all? These four very different individuals, including two men and two women, each made Buddhist history, and their stories have much to teach us today.

Fourth (Not Last) Sunday in April on Sunday, April 23, at 9 a.m., Kaytee Sumida hosts an informal one-hour overview of Buddhism, Jodo Shinshu, and our own Temple. Often the class is attended by as many of our own members as college students or others getting interested in Buddhism. Friendly and informal, this is a great place for a brush up reminder of the basics of Buddhism and our tradition, as well as getting basic questions answered. We will meet in the small one-story building, our Sangha Hall, off our parking lot.

Following the one hour class, we encourage you all to come upstairs and attend the service.

Some months have five Sundays, so if you're interested in attending, please join us on **April 23**, even though April 30 sometimes seems like it should be a better option.

Buddhism 1-2-3

We are meeting every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the Sangha Hall for chanting, meditation, and dharma discussion. Typically, we have great presenters, about half the time our resident minister Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi. Other sessions are led by one of our three ministerial assistants – Laverne Imori, Noriko Kawai, and Maribeth "Smitty" Smith—or other members of the Buddhist Education Committee.

Sessions last some 90 minutes, are free and open to the public; light refreshments are provided.



Buddhist Churches of America BCA Bookstore

Buddhist books from beginner's guides
to translations of sutras

Pure Land, Zen, Tibetan, Theravada, and other Buddhist traditions

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**Wednesday-Saturday
11:00am-7:00pm**

www.bcabookstore.com

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2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 – 510-809-1435 – sales@bcabookstore.com

SUPPORT THE BCA BOOKSTORE

Have you been looking for materials to broaden your knowledge of Jodo Shinshu, Pure Land and other schools of Buddhism? Looking for children's books and lesson/activity plans for Dharma School? Need some accessories for your home obutsudan?

Check out the Buddhist Churches of America Bookstore -- BCA's wealth of treasures at your fingertips.

Each month, in the BCA Wheel of Dharma, store manager Gayle Noguchi features newly received books and accessories that the bookstore has for sale.

When visiting Berkeley, stop by the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) and visit the bookstore. The store is located at 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 94704. Its business hours are Wednesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. You can order books either by phone (510) 809-1435 or email: sales@bcabookstore.com

If the temple does not have what you are looking for, please contact the BCA Bookstore.



**Furniture/Houseware
Sale May 6, 8 am - 12 pm**
Traditional Japanese
Wares are Needed

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO Membership Pledge for **2017**

Renewal-List Name Only New Member* Sponsorship* 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.

Sponsorship Pledge: Individuals are invited to sponsor a new or existing member under the current membership program.

Sustaining Member	Dana Member	Wisteria Member	Bodhi Member
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Individual / Senior / Youth (All Ages)
 Couple / Family
Optional: Senior Reduced Cost
 (75 years and older)
Optional: Youth Reduced Cost
 (30 years and younger)

\$300	\$375	\$500	\$
\$500	\$650	\$1000	\$
\$150			
\$175			

\$

(Membership Amount)

Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40).....

\$

This fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the Onajin (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 checks payable to the BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO. A percentage of your dues support 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 a printed copy of our monthly newsletter, the "Bussei Script." **THANK YOU!**

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

For 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 and SPONSORSHIPS, proration is available.**



APRIL SHOTSUKI (MONTHLY MEMORIAL) LIST

The April Shotsuki Hoyo (MEMORIAL SERVICE) will be held **Sunday, April 9, 2017** at 10 a.m. in conjunction with the **Hanamatsuri Service**. Families and friends of anyone who passed away during the month of April are urged to attend and offer incense. If there are any errors in the list, please notify the temple at (619) 239-0896 or e-mail info@btsd.net.

4月の祥月法要は17月9日(日)、午前10時より行います。先亡者のご遺族の方々はずい、仏教会へご参詣下さい。
尚、名簿に間違いがある場合、お手数ですが、仏教会までご連絡下さい。(619) 239-0896. または、info@btsd.net
へメールを送ってください。

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Toyosaburo Yanagihara (4-23-1930).....	Tom Yanagihara
Saburo Sugiyama (4-10-1936).....	Hideo Sugiyama
Seihachi Tsurudome (4-2-1943).....	Tamio Tsurudome
Shizuko Kasubuchi (4-27-1947).....	Naoye Kasubuchi
Masaichi Kuroda (4-30-1948).....	Toshio Kuroda
Toyojiro Yamashita (4-23-1949).....	Mildred Kawasaki
Yoshitaro Matsumoto (4-19-1952).....	Eiji Matsumoto
Yukichi Okuma (4-16-1953).....	Okuma Family
Yohichiro Torio (4-24-1954).....	Betty Torio
Hiroshi Moribe (4-26-1954).....	Lee Moribe
Mansaku Shinohara (4-6-1956).....	Shinohara Family
Yoshiko Haseyama (4-5-1958).....	Noboru Haseyama
Saburo Oyama (4-5-1963).....	Rodney Oyama
George Kozuma (4-9-1966).....	Tomiko Kozuma
Shinzaemon Fujii (4-28-1967).....	Katsumi Kida
Shizuyo Izumo (4-1-1970).....	Tom Yanagihara
Ume Inouye (4-10-1970).....	Inouye Family
Iwaguma Tsuneyoshi (4-9-1973).....	Motoo Tsuneyoshi
Buheiji Tanaka (4-12-1975).....	Yoko Ozawa
Hajime Kyutoku (4-10-1978).....	Tamio Tsurudome
Ryohei Tsujimura (4-5-1980).....	Roy Tsujimura
Kuzo Sugiyama (4-23-1980).....	Hideo Sugiyama
Magoichi Hamano (4-3-1983).....	Toru Hamano
Isao Imaizumi (4-27-1983).....	Imaizumi Family
Kazumi Sugioka (4-29-1985).....	Sugioka Family
George Yukio Kodama (4-19-1986).....	Vivianne Jones
Chiyo Yamagata (4-27-1987).....	Harold Yamagata
Mike Hagio (4-7-1988).....	Quimico Hagio
Frank Tachiki (4-6-1989).....	Les Tachiki
Terry T. Doi (4-28-1989).....	Patrick Doi
Mine Takeshita (4-27-1991).....	Akira Takeshita
Zenbei Iwashita (4-11-1992).....	Iwashta Family

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Benso Tsuji (4-6-1993).....	Laura Katsue Tsuji
Setsugo Taniguchi (4-14-1993).....	Sumiko Taniguchi
Yoshiko Sueyoshi (4-2-1995).....	Sueyoshi Family
Shizuko Yanagihara (4-30-1995).....	Tom Yanagihara
Ai Yamada (4-27-1996).....	Keisuke Yamada
James Kasubuchi (4-12-1998).....	Naoye Kasubuchi
Muneo Torimaru (4-30-1998).....	Ricky Torimaru
Hazel Ito (4-13-2000).....	Ito Family
Shigenori Tsurudome (4-30-2000).....	Tsurudome Family
Taro Matsui (4-29-2001).....	Jack Matsui
Kenshi Tachiki (4-30-2001).....	Lewis Tachiki
Haruko Muraoka (4-13-2002).....	Takenori Muraoka
Yoshiko Takashima (4-21-2002).....	Wilbur Takashima
Shinichi Okuyama (4-07-2003).....	Mai Kawaguchi
Kosaburo Ochi (4-27-2004).....	Emi Ochi
Toshio Hayakawa (4-11-2005).....	Emiko Hayakawa
Yoshiko Miyazaki (4-29-2005).....	Madoko M. Miyazaki
Kaneko Houdek (4-09-2006).....	John Houdek
Kikuo Uyeji (4-21-2006).....	Chieko Takeguchi
Kattie Magotsugu Uyeji (4-15-2007).....	Masako Uyeji
Hidetoshi Akiyama (4-25-2007).....	Terry Akiyama
Masao Santohigashi (4-06-2008).....	Kikue Graeber
Judi Shigeko Shinohara (4-18-2009).....	Janice Shinohara
Shimako Uda (4-26-2009).....	Georgiana Uda
Setsuko Himaka (4-24-2011).....	Lynn Fuchigami
Earl Isoki Osaki (4-21-2013).....	Gail Furuya
Robert C. McDonald.....	Bruce McDonald
Kazuo Kiyono (4-6-2014).....	Normanh Kiyono
James Noboru Nakashima (4-7-2014).....	Sumiyee Nakashima
George Tachiki (4-22-2014).....	Miyako Tachiki
Hiro Tsurudome (4-19-2015).....	Joanne Tsurudome Garcia
Mildred Pocock (4-2016).....	Claudia Poquoc

M E M O R I A L S E R V I C E S

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2017 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2016	13th Year Memorial	2005	27th Year Memorial	1991
3rd Year Memorial	2015	17th Year Memorial	2001	33rd Year Memorial	1985
7th Year Memorial	2011	25th Year Memorial	1993	50th Year Memorial	1968

DONATIONS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their recent donations to the Temple and its affiliated organizations. "IMO" means "In memory of." For a correction, please inform our secretary at (619) 239-0896 or info@btstd.net.

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Moriyama, Chieko
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Akahoshi, Glenn
Hayashi, Kay
Yamaguchi, Laura
Tsuneyoshi, Motoo
Redenbaugh, Linda
Nimura, Sabura
Wood, Carolyn
Hara, Ruby
Tachiki, Leslie
Teague, Bill

BODHI GIVING TREE

Hashiguchi, Tsune

BWA

Fuchigami, Stephen & Lynn
IMO Setsu Himaka
Uda, Jill
IMO Fuji Nakamura
IMO Oto Date
Monji, Kiyoshi & Yoshiko
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko
Benson, Agnes
Kitano, Margie
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Hill, Ed & Miyo

DHARMA SCHOOL

Yanagihara, Tom
Sannwald, Bill
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Tanizaki, Gary
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Yukio
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Nishii, Toyo
Tsuji, Masako
Nakatani, Fred
Kawasaki, Trace

FLORAL FUND

Yanagihara, Tom
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Tanizaki, Gary
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Yukio
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Hara, Ruby
Nishii, Toyo
Tsuji, Masako
Nakatani, Fred
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Okuhara, Roy

Kawasaki, Trace

GEN. MAINTENANCE

Yanagihara, Tom
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Tanizaki, Gary
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Yukio
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Hara, Ruby
Nishii, Toyo
Tsuji, Masako
Nakatani, Fred
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Okuhara, Roy
Kawasaki, Trace

KITCHEN COMPLIANCE

Iwashita, Yukio

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGES

We thank the following individuals / families for their recent renewals:

Yanagihara, Tom
Sannwald, Bill
Taira, Yuriko
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Nakashima, Sumiye
Yamada, Jean
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Tanizaki, Gary
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Yukio
Kubota, Hiroshi
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Martinez, Nancy
Henschen, Laura
Hara, Ruby
Nishii, Toyo
Hendrix, Hiroko
Tsuji, Masako
Nakatani, Fred
Kawai, Noriko
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Gless, Francis
Okuhara, Roy
Kawasaki, Trace

NIRVANA DAY SERVICE

Monji, Yoshiko

O HIGAN SERVICE

Benson, Agnes
Tanaka, Kelvin
Schraeder, Susan
Jones, Mikako
Moriyama, Chieko

Yamamoto, Kengo
Kiyono, Norman
Ohara, Ann
Ohara, Kisae
Otsuji, Dennis
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Kubota, Hiroshi
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko
Oto, June

Kasubuchi, Naoye
Monji, Yoshiko
Nogata, Yuriko
Sugiyama, Yukiko
Hendrix, Hiroko
Tsuji, Masako
Morikawa, Kazuhiko
Gladso, Julie
Tomiyama, Steve
Teague, Bill
Spears, Margo
Ryan, Mani & Ed
Jensen, Richard
Hidinger, Holly
Baker, Carol
Seymour, Leslie
Torio, Glenn
Sumida, Floyd
Okuhara, Roy
Hashiguchi, John
Honda, Ralph
Hill, Miyo
Aoyama, Rev Tesshi
Graeber, Kikue
Torio, Betty
Kawasaki, Trace
Kawamoto, Yukio and Mitsu
Ohara, Fumiko
Kiyono, Norman
Kida, Katsumi
Ogasawara, Arikazu
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Voorhies, Ruth
Himaka, Michio
Matsumoto, Akiko & Ken
Yanagihara, Tom
Sasaki, Brian
Negoro, Glenn
Honda, Mikiye
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Yagi, Chiyeko

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Yanagihara, Tom
Taira, Yuriko
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Tanizaki, Gary

Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, Yukio
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Nishii, Toyo
Tsuji, Masako
Nakatani, Fred
Okuhara, Roy
Kawasaki, Trace

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Teague, Bill
IMO Shimeno Nabeta
IMO Fred Nabeta
Yonekura, Roy
IMO Tommy Yonekura
Benson, Agnes
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko
Kawasaki, Trace
IMO Kiyoko Kawasaki
Kawamoto, Yukio
IMO Michael Kawamoto
Inouye, Jeanne M.
IMO Fred Nabeta
IMO Shimeno Nabeta
Torio, Betty
Yanagihara, Tom
Nakatani, Nancy
IMO Yoshiko Kawato
IMO Susumu Kawato
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Tsukamoto, Wayne
IMO Shizuko Tsukamoto
Moriyama, Chieko
IMO Bruce R. Moriyama
Martinez, Nancy
IMO Shimeno Nabeta
IMO Fred Nabeta
Ohara, Fumiko
Sugiyama, Hideo
IMO Mark Kasubuchi
Estes, Toshiye
IMO Fred Nabeta
Kasubuchi, Naoye
IMO Mark Kasubuchi
Honda, Mikiye
Oto, June
IMO Motono Oto
Amano, Takeko
IMO San Amano
Yagura, Ronald
IMO Mary Yagura
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko

HANAMATSURI: COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF SAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

Hanamatsuri, or flower festival, commemorates the birth of the historical Buddha, Sakyamuni.

During the weekend of April 8 and 9, the temple will celebrate this occasion with the following activities:

Saturday, April 8 (1:30 p.m.)

Dharma School sponsored flower decoration of the Hanamido for the baby Buddha. Everyone is welcome to help with decorating the hanamido and hondo with beautiful flowers. Dharma School welcomes floral and monetary donations.

Sunday, April 9

9:00 a.m. -- The hondo will be open for the Sangha to offer Kambutsu (sweet tea offering). The sweet tea offering symbolizes sweet rain that fell on the baby Buddha when he was born.

10:00 a.m. – Hanamatsuri Service and April Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial). The guest speaker will be **Rev. Jon Turner** from the Orange County Buddhist Church. Rev. Turner will provide English messages to the Dharma School and adult Sangha. Families of loved ones who passed away in the month of April are encouraged to attend the service and burn incense in remembrance.

12:00 p.m. – Following the service, everyone is invited to share their favorite side dish, rice dish or salad for the Hanamatsuri potluck luncheon. The Board of Directors will provide main dishes. Support the **BWA Bake Sale** and have dessert with your lunch! Don't be left out on the many tasty treats that will be on sale.

1:00 p.m. – BEC-sponsored lecture with **Rev. Jon Turner**. Rev. Turner will conduct a seminar titled "Four Great Buddhist Disciples" in the conference room (more information on page 7). The presentation will last approximately 90 minutes.

An envelope is provided with this month's issue of the Bussei Script for your Hanamatsuri donation.

Please contact the temple for more information regarding Hanamatsuri activities. *Gassho*



2017 BTSD DHARMA SCHOOL CAMPOUT

When: Memorial Day Weekend, **Friday May 26**

evening to **Sunday May 28** morning

Where: William Heise County Park, Julian

Cost: \$40 per BTSD Dharma School family, \$50 for non-BTSD families, includes site and food

Interested? Contact: Leslie Seymour or Sharon Sasaki sharonhsasaki@yahoo.com

APRIL REMINDERS...

- ◇ **BTSD CLOSED** on April 2. Join us for the annual Sangha gathering with our North County neighbors at the Vista Buddhist Temple (150 Cedar Road, Vista, 92083). Service begins at 10 a.m.
- ◇ **MONTHLY SHOTSUKI (Memorial)** will be held in conjunction with the Hanamatsuri Service on April 9.
- ◇ **HANAMATSURI** Celebrating the birth of Sakyamuni Buddha (See information above)
- ◇ **BINGO** on April 8 at 6 p.m.
- ◇ **EARTH DAY** on April 23. Begin the day by gathering at the temple at 10 a.m and engage in the Dharma. Then, join the EcoSangha group at Balboa Park for Earth Day activities from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ◇ **WALK TO FEED THE HUNGRY** on April 30 at NTC Park, sponsored by Sangha Teens. Participation for the walk is limited. Sign up today!
- ◇ **JCC KEIRO KAI (Pioneer Group)** luncheon on April 30 at 1 p.m. Appreciation and recognition to all of the community seniors 80-year-old and above.