



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**September 2003**

**BUDDHISM101: Following our Sangha Services at 10:30, we move downstairs for the Dharma (Buddhist Teachings) portion of the service. This is informal with a snack and coffee and tea. This month we are starting a book study, "Shin Buddhism, Bits of Rubble Turn into Gold" by Taitetsu Unno. This book will offer us an opportunity to learn Shin Buddhism at a beginners level. We have copies available in our bookstore now. Newcomers are welcome; join us any Sunday.**

### **HELP WANTED FOR NEWSLETTER**

**Christine Marr is stepping down as newsletter editor starting this month. Please welcome our new editor, Ed Parker. Ed has been a Temple member for 2 years and has generously offered to put the newsletter together. Lorie Taylor will continue with the calendar page. Christine will work with Ed to help in the transition.**

**We are looking for someone to help put together the announcement page. Interested in working on this newsletter? Email Ed at [Parkere99@msn.com](mailto:Parkere99@msn.com)**

**Our new website, [www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.com](http://www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.com) is complete thanks to the hard work of Sicco and Kristina Rood. The site has all our Temple information with an updated newsletter each month.**

## Temple News

August was hectic with a 3 day retreat by Kenji Akahoshi as well as Obon/Terao Memorial Service. (Looking back this August) Both events were highly successful.

**George Kawahara** was the driving force behind the Obon/Terao Memorial Service. This service brought together the Terao family including Rev. Unno, our retreat leader (and son-in-law to Mrs. Joyce Terao) Kenji Akahoshi. This Terao family is so special, I hope they will continue to visit and be a part of the Temple. After all, they started our Spokane Temple so many years ago, I loved meeting them and honoring the Terao brothers.

**The 2006 Northwest Buddhist Convention will be held here in Spokane.** We will be holding it at the Davenport Hotel. Their convention rates are competitive and the facilities large enough to host all of our events. There is a lot to do and we must begin early. So, in March, we will be forming committees to get this process started. The newsletter will give all the details. Everyones' help will be sorely needed.

**mark you calendars, The Oregon Idaho Temple will host the 2004 Northwest Buddhist Convention Feb. 13, 14 & 15.**

We are working to schedule a bus for those planning to attend the convention. We will let you know more as soon as information is available.

## Buddhism and Ecology

Rev Castro from the Seattle Betsuin will be giving a talk at the Temple on Buddhism and Ecology. "To be a Buddhist you are automatically an ecologist, in fact we are sometimes referred to as, "cosmic ecologists". Conservation becomes the issue." Rev. Castro has been involved in producing a video on this subject as well as a colorful illustration of the Earth Touching Buddha to have in your home. Saturday September 20 at 7 pm. We are asking for a \$7 donation to help cover costs.

## Introduction to **Buddhism**

This month our popular Introduction to Buddhism session will be held at 9:30am on September 21. This covers a brief overview of Buddhism into Shin Buddhism beginnings in Japan. This also covers what goes on in a service and what to expect. You are welcome to stay for our Ohigan Service with Rev. Castro at 10:30 am. Following the service, all are invited to share in a pot luck lunch with coffee and tea provided. Drop off your salad, main dish or dessert downstairs

prior to the service. Finally, I hear the construction on Perry Street should show more progress and less dust very soon. We will have a beautiful tree lined street and our new sign this fall.

Gassho, Christine Marr  
Spokane Buddhist Temple President

### **July Toban a Success!**

Nine sangha members showed up on Saturday July 26 for the mid-summer Toban. The Temple received a thorough cleaning inside and out and the shrubbery got a much needed pruning. Despite all the dust created by the city sidewalk construction, the Temple fairly sparkles! My sincere thanks to all those wonderful people who helped with this effort: **Melissa Griffith, Mike Cunningham, Bonell Mcleish, Kelly Clothier, Ann Heineman, Jefferson Workman, Karen Vielle and Ed Parker.** We did good work that day! Gassho.

### **Dputy Fire Marshall inspects Temple**

On July 23, the Temple was inspected by Deputy Fire Marshal Kris Eastman. She declared the temple to be in good working order with a few modifications: fix those Exit signs, move that coat rack. After carefull measuring, she determined that the maximum seating capacity should be lowered to 90, which should not pose a problem most Sundays.

### **Paul Vielle, Maintenance Guy**

### **Long Awaited Scrapbook a Reality**

**Our thanks to Sherry McCauley who has prepared a beautiful scrapbook of the history of the Spokane Buddhist Temple.** The story is told in photos and newsclippings, some going back to 1942. Most of the early members are unknown to us today, so Sherry asks the senior Japanese members to look through the pages to identify these individuals for us. Also, a volunteer with good handwriting skills is needed to provide the written commentary. Have a look next time you're downstairs. The book is on the counter.

Gassho, Paul Vielle

### **Looking back this August**

Life is impermanent and all beings must pass through it, leaving behind only memories. It is these memories we celebrate in Obon. The memory of Reverend Terao is a living presence in the Spokane community: in the Jodo Shin Buddhist temple he founded and in the hearts of those he touched. Obon is a time of celebration and looking forward. Many of us know Reverend Terao only through this temple and for the example he left for others to follow. Those who

knew him point out that it is important to understand that his temple began in the internment camps and in his commitment to his faith long before he began digging a basement to house its physical presence. We must remember that the first temple he built was in the hearts of those whose lives he changed with his guidance and strength. His presence is in what they do today. The physical presence of this temple today is only a shadow of his true work. In Obon we celebrate his real work and with gratitude continue what he started. As shared by those who knew him  
Gassho Ed Parker

## Buddhist Retreat Praised

The weekend Buddhist retreat taught by Rev Kenji Akahoshi took place August 1-3 at the Mukogawa Institute. In all, 14 people attended this event. In well-illustrated short lectures, small-group discussions, journal writing, and group sharing, participants learned how to apply ancient Shin teachings to the problems of daily living. Attendees took turns chopping vegetables, setting tables and cleaning up. The Sunday morning breakfast, served and eaten in total silence, gave each of us the experience of “just eating breakfast.” It brought home that we seldom take time to truly appreciate the food we eat or how interdependent we are on all those who bring the food to our table. Rev. Akahoshi is an excellent instructor with a warm, sensitive and engaging personality. All agreed the retreat was a most rewarding learning experience and urge the Board to plan another retreat for early next year. All of us extend our deep appreciation to Leslie Green for purchasing the food, Kathy Marshall for preparing our meals and to Christine Marr & Liat Parker for coordinating this event.

In gassho, Paul Vielle

**Temple Treasurer Fumi Uyeji reports:** we took in more money than we spent in July. The bad news is that the Perry Street Faire was our big fund raising event and won't keep us in the black for long. The Temple needs your support. Ed

## July contributions to the Temple

Ann Heineman	\$20.00 Dana
David Weibel	\$25.00 Dana
Jundokan International	\$1500
Jim & Janet Tamura	\$25.00 <b>in memory of Sho Higashi</b>
Mary Naber	\$50.00 in re Michiko Tsuchida/ F. Tsuchida

**Dues**

**\$495.00**

Mary Nabor, Ann Heineman, Ed/Liat Parker, Hisako Oki, Fumi Heyamoto, Ken Yorioko, Bonell McLeish, James Lea/Judi Davis, Jason/Sherry McCauley, Jefferson Workman

**Shinran's Corner** (having once again awaken to our ignorance and folly)

How we forgot to add Herman Sugimura and Taylor Marr to the illustrious list of the Perry Street Survivors is simply embarrassing. There is no excuse for forgetting Taylor. True, Taylor worked in the front and Jefferson and I saw little of him, being in the back, working with Herman. But there's the rub, how could we forget Herman, our senbei deep fryer. Without Herman, there would be no senbei. Besides, he kept us busy and laughing, which isn't an easy thing to do for six hours or so in a hot kitchen.

Gassho Jefferson and Ed