



Announcements:

Introduction to Buddhism
Held at 9:30 am to 10:30 am on
Sunday November 28. This is an informal way to see what goes on at our temple. We cover what to expect when attending a Jodo Shinshu Service. We then give a brief overview of Buddhism with a question and answer session as time allows.

November Sangha Services
 Our Sangha Services (Sangha is a Sanscrit word for Buddhist community). The Sangha service is a traditional Jodo Shinshu service with chanting led by a Doshi, (a lay member from the Sangha).

The Ko service is every Wednesday night at 6:30 service and dharma discussion, (Questions/No answers)

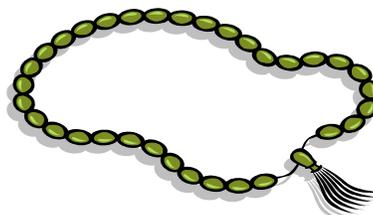
Temple Food Bazaar workers
November 6, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Preparing chicken Teriyaki
November 7, 11:00 to 2:00 am
8:00 am Prepare Benito Boxes
10:00 am Bake sale items

November 20, 9:00 to 11 am is
Toban (Clean the Temple)

November 21, Sangha Council
meets after Service

Starting November 23.
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Christine Marr
will be teaching Mindful Knitting at
the Temple. And each Tuesday
night thereafter.

November 28, Reverend Service
with Reverend Gibbs from Portland.



Temple News

I first want to thanks all the hard workers who helped make senbei on Oct. 16. We had a great turnout of help; Bonell McLeish assembled a great list including "the kitchen gods" who did the hot, hard cooking jobs. We had plenty of cutters and baggers making 275 bags of senbei.

Our Fall Food Bazaar is coming up fast. Please sell tickets and help make this a success! Contact Janet Tamura 534-9280 for pre-sales by phone and Liat Parker at the temple for printed tickets to sell. Chicken Teriyaki lunch is \$8.50 plus there will be Sushi, Senbei and yummy Bake Sale items.

This sale brings me to the 2005 Budget Fumi Uyeji and Liat Parker are working on. Our doors stay open with funds from our twice yearly food bazaars, dues from members and weekly donations made at services.

We have tried to increase our food bazaars by adding the Perry Street Faire in July. However, the board concluded that doing that many fundraisers was amounting to burnout by those involved. It seemed we were going from fundraiser to retreat, to fundraiser to fundraiser to convention. No time to catch our breath and exhausting to us all. As we set our budget for 2005 we are looking to set dollar goals for 2 fundraisers and allow more time and energy for temple religious activities like retreats and extra Guest Reverend Visits. This should result in a growing membership and happier, less cranky temple members.

Our last guest, Bhante Seelawimala, from IBS was a very successful. We had a wonderful service followed by a very well attended talk at 3 pm on "Being in the Moment" Our costs was covered with donations at the door. Bhante gave ideas and concepts about how important it is to stay focused and not get lost in the future or the past. We create our reality and karma with our thoughts and it's a constant practice to be present. He ended with the comforting words, May you be well, May you be happy. Thanks to Jefferson Workman and his Spokesman Review ads, "Experience the Dharma" many new people are finding us.

There has been discussion about taping talks like Bhante's and updating the lower podium to accommodate new equipment and look better. Sam has offered to look into new equipment. Now we need a good carpenter to paint and fix up the dark brown podium. Contact me at

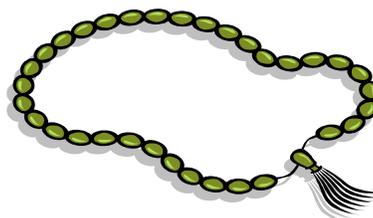
Christi96@aol.com or 747-6136 or Fumi Uyeji if you can help.

For our members, there is a new book available as a gift from the BCA Headquarters. **JODO SHINSHU - A GUIDE** this is a re-published book, the intention is one book per family please. They are located in the minister's office.

We are very proud to have Paul Vielle spending a semester at the IBS in Berkeley to train for the minister's assistant program. This new program is one way to deal with the minister shortage and we will be one of the first temples to implement this program. Paul will have gained much knowledge of Jodo Shinshu traditions, chanting and various ceremonies to share with us. He will be assisting Rev. Don Castro serving in Spokane. Details of his duties are being worked out; it should bring much needed guidance and help out with our services.

Mark you calendars for the **Northwest Buddhist Convention in Tacoma. This will be held in Feb.18 – 20, 2005.** Registration forms should be available soon! Below are the top 10 reasons to attend the conference. (My favorite is #3...makes me feel better as we plan ours!)

.With Gassho,
Christine Marr SBT President



From the Tacoma Buddhist Temple:

Ten reasons why you should meet us in Tacoma in the middle of winter

10. We left 62 degrees and sunshine and arrived to 19 degrees and snow in Ontario in 2004. We predict warmer weather in 2005!

9. You will get to visit the Most Stressed City in the USA (And I'm sure this convention will add a few more points to our total . . .)

8. You will have an opportunity to take a 4 – to 10-hour bus ride, playing cards, eating, sleeping, eating, talking, and—did I mention eating? Isn't there always just a ton of food? And good food, too!

7. As we organize our workshops, you will learn sumi-e, see some beautiful scenery, and possibly . . . gamble!

6. You can listen to and revisit with the tallest former minister of the BCA (Who's that, you say??)

5. You can stay at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel - and . . . you'll even get mints on your pillow!

4. We have great meals planned and 'oishi tsumami mono' in the Hospitality Room! We may even have little decorated petit fours!

3. You will hear BCA Bishop Ogui as our banquet speaker. (He doesn't know this yet! He isn't even Bishop yet!! He hasn't even been invited yet!!!)

2. You will hear 'profound' messages from Rev. Masao Kodani from the Senshin Buddhist Temple. If you've never heard Mas Sensei, you are in for a treat!

1. As with every convention, you can rekindle old friendships and make new acquaintances! (It's always fun to laugh and reminisce!)

So join us next year —

Sonomamade Oide Nasai

Come Just As You Are

58th Annual Northwest Buddhist Convention, Feb.18-20, 2005

Life is impermanent, Rinban Doei Fujii reminds us to write our personal history for our funeral service.

Looking back upon last 26 years as a minister in this country, I probably have taken part in 600 funeral services or more. It was interesting for me to listen to personal histories: Some were very long and I got tired of listening; others were humorous or concise. However, I have never heard a personal history written by a person who passed away.

I know that family members commonly write it for the service. But I would like to ask you to make your own for your own funeral service. I am sure yours would be different and interesting.

Conditions are as follows:

1. Maximum length: One and half page
2. Renew it every year
3. Save it for your funeral or mail it to me

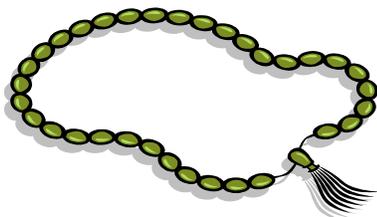
I am quite interested in what you would write for your own funeral service.

In Gassho, Rinban Doei Fujii

Note: If you would like help writing your personal history, please contact Ed Parker.

October Toban

The Temple would like to thank Ann Heineman and Jefferson Workman for coming in and giving the Hondo and Dining room a good cleaning prior to Bhante Seelawimala's visit. Toban is the day we honor the place where we gather together to practice, by giving it a good scrubbing. So a plea is being sent out to the Sangha for more volunteers when we gather again for Toban on Nov. 20th. In Gassho,



Jefferson.

Your Board in Action

The board of directors meets monthly, and recently it was decided that someone write a summary of the highlights from each meeting. This way our members can stay current on temple business. Also as a side note, members are always welcome to sit in during the meetings.

There were many topics on the agenda, this is just an overview of some key issues from the October 4th meeting:

- Budget: This is the first year in many that we have had a budget prepared in order to track our income and expenses. While we are operating in the red (over budget) we are actually doing better than projected. The board will be preparing the 2005 budget at the next meeting in November.
- Ann Heineman has stepped up to manage our bookstore and has been

busy conducting inventories and ordering new items. Thanks Ann!

- You may notice some additions to the newsletter for instance: Rinban Fuji will be contributing a monthly article. We'll have a convention update and a president's message.

The next board meeting will be November 1st., at 5:30 p.m.

Northwest District Conference 2006 Update by Leslie Green

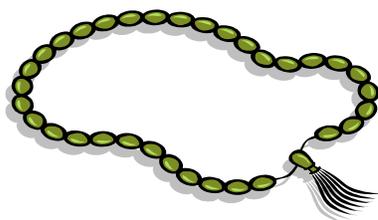
Wow! We had a great turnout for the conference planning meeting which followed the service on October 17th, thank you all for staying. Not only that, but we finalized a theme for the Spokane hosted event which will take place on February 10, 11, and 12th 2006 at the Davenport Hotel.

The theme chosen was: "Where the Flower and the Rock Meet - Buddhism in America". This idea was inspired from an essay by Sakyong Mipham who states that "The flower represents the potential for compassion and wisdom, clarity and joy to blossom in our life. The rock represents the solidity of a bewildered mind." He goes on to say an "enlightened society is where the rock and the flower will meet." There will be so much we can do with this topic for the workshops and as a keynote address. I am very excited to finally have a beginning, now we can focus on the task of planning events and workshops to tie this all together.

This brings me to the next topic.....that of recruiting volunteers. I have created a "job description" list for each committee needed to help with the planning. I also have a sign up sheet which has two columns, one for a chairperson, the other for helpers. There are still plenty of openings for

both positions so don't be shy, sign up for a committee because you won't want to be left out! I keep the list of jobs on the bulletin board downstairs at the temple, and will have the sign up sheet each Sunday.

Our next scheduled meeting will be December 12th, but don't wait until then to sign up. If you have any questions or want to know what positions are still available, you can call me at 458-6183.



Dealing with Rain

Oct 16. Went to the Berkeley Buddhist Temple this morning for service. On the way there it was drizzling enough I had to use the umbrella. By the time the service was over the rain had stopped. On the way home, I ran into *Lone Wolf*, the homeless guy with no legs I told you about. We chatted a bit. He looked tired. In fact he was asleep in his chair when I walked up. He said it had been real noisy in town last night because of the Homecoming crowd (UC Berkeley beat UCLA 23-17). After the game, the fans came downtown to celebrate. "Lot's of crazy people in the park last night. I didn't get much sleep." As we were talking, the wind picked-up and the sky grew increasingly overcast. I asked him where he went when it rained. He frowned. "Well, that's a good question. Everybody tries to squeeze-

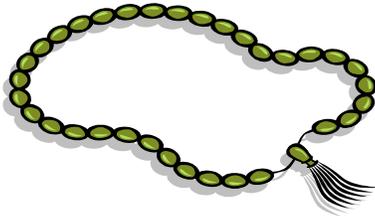
in wherever they can find a roof. It gets real tight sometimes. Then you always gotta watch that someone doesn't try to steal your stuff. Sometimes it's easier to just stay outside and throw a big garbage bag over yourself. Staying warm is the main thing. Cause if you get wet, you get cold. If you get cold, you start to shiver and if you start shivering, you get hungry, real fast. All's you need is a little common sense, that's all."

Tired as he was, he wanted to talk. But there's not a whole lot of shared experience you can talk about with a homeless person. He started telling me about the different kinds of cardboard and which kinds give the best insulation when sleeping on the ground. As he spoke, I thought of the gulf between us in our life circumstances. Here, I'm thinking about heading back to my warm, cozy little room, where I can sit quietly and read and nobody will bother me. He's probably thinking, Jeez, it's gonna rain. Gotta find a spot to stay dry where nobody will hassle me.

We didn't speak for a while. Finally he shrugged, as if to say, I'll deal with it as it comes. I have to respect this guy. I've talked with him 4 or 5 times now and not once has he complained or blamed anyone for his situation. I don't know how he does it, but this homeless man with no legs (he lost them to diabetes 5 years ago) always seems composed. If you slip a few bucks in his cup he's appreciative, but he never asks for it. What comes through is his dignity; his humanity. Looking at him, I understood I have nothing to complain about. In another time, in another place our situations could

well be reversed. Would I hold up as well?

Two guys talking; more alike than different. At that moment anyway, our differences didn't matter. Later that night I heard the rain pelting the roof. Laying in bed, I thought about *Lone Wolf* and hoped he found his warm spot for the night.



Why good people don't need glasses by Ed Parker

I was about eight years old playing with my cousins outside, one of them pointed toward the sky and said, "Look, a hawk". All I saw was blue sky. Shortly after that I got my first pair of glasses. One of life's mysteries is how glasses were invented. Glass was more common in history than you might think. Maybe, someone noticed that when glass is curved, it bends light in strange ways. Maybe some apprentice glass maker scratched a piece of glass and tried to buff out the scratch.

"Whoa, that's weird. Hey Raphael, want to make your eyes hurt, look through this". Anyway, next thing you know, glasses.

Shin Buddhism is a lot like glasses. People with good eyes don't need glasses. Good people don't need Shin Buddhism. Righteous people who are satisfied with who they are, what they know, don't need Shin Buddhism. Still, if you live long enough, you will need glasses. If you live long enough you will need Shin Buddhism. It helps corrects a problem

people have seeing life. It's all about focus. Shin allows us to see through our delusions. But first we have to realize we have a problem. It takes something to make us aware that we see life through our delusions, delusions that keep us from seeing. At some point we have to ask, "Why do I keep doing these things that cause me and those I love, pain?" It is about looking up and asking, "What hawk?"

Self power is like a candle struggling with drafts and an uncertain future, its light flickers and throws shadows behind all it touches. Other power is like going outside into a warm, bright, spring morning. Both ways allows you to see. One leaves you in smoky shadows, the other sets you free. It's not about right or wrong, good or evil. It's simply taking the next step, asking the next question. It's about coming to terms with your imperfect self, accepting your limitations without surrendering to them. The light of Amida is always there, but you have to realize you are sitting in the dark. Namu Amida Butsu



DONATIONS

The Spokane Buddhist Temple gratefully acknowledges the following dues and donations received from September 19 through October 16, 2004. Please notify Fumi Uyeji or Liat Parker of any omissions or corrections.

Dues listed are those received during this period, often times dues are paid for a few months or a year at a time and are acknowledged once when received

Dues

Fumiko Heyamoto
Chris/Christine Marr
Mary Nabor
Lovejoy/Dansereua
Kenna Latwesen

Jeffrey Workman
Kessler/Gordon
Marcelline Burdett
Leo/Yuriko Kiyohiro
Hisaki Oki
Kengo Yorioka
Leslie Green
Paul/Karen Vielle
Bonell McLeish
Ann Heineman
Jim/Janet Tamura
Rachel Scudder
Jun Yugawa
Fumi/Kam Uyeji

Dana

Chris/Christine Marr	40
Anonymous	30
T. Lande	20
M. Peterson	10
A. Heineman	25
Jim/Shirley Bennett	25
Paul/Karen Vielle	30
J. Johnston	20

Mrs. H. Yamagiwa 50

In memory of Bob Yamagiwa

Jeffrey Workman 10

In memory of Joseph P. Workman

Aisei Shimuzu & Amy Bragdon 100

In memory of their mother, Sue Shimizu

Correction with my humble apologies:

Horiuchi Family 50

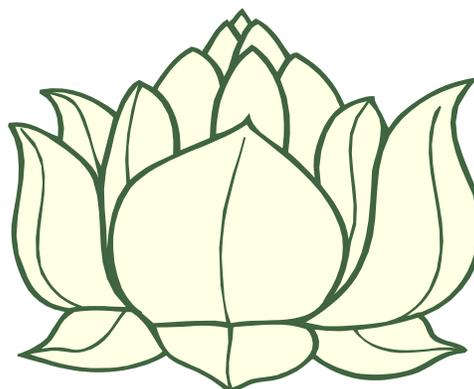
In memory of Takeo Horiuchi

Obon/Hatsu Bon

10 Fumi Heyamoto

Ohigan

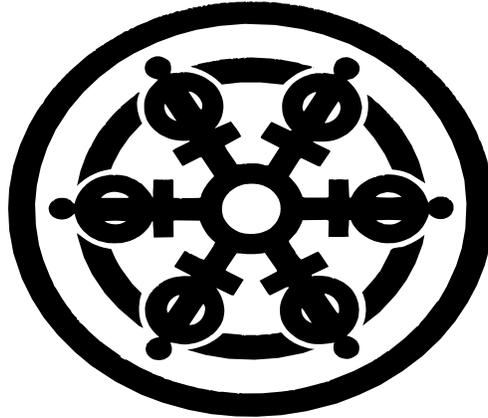
**Fumiko Heyamoto
Kenna Latwesen
Leslie Green
Kazuo & Kazuko Kuwada
Kam & Fumi Uyeji
Marcelline Burdett
Hyacinth Dezenobia
Anonymous
Jim & Janet Tamura
Leo & Yuri Kiyohiro
Lovejoy & Dansereau
Nobuko Kasai
Satoshi & Mary Terao**



Calendar of Observances

New Year's Day Service (Shusho-e)	January 1
Memorial Service for Shinran Shonin (Goshoki Hoonko)	January 9-16
Nirvana Day death of Sakyamuni	February 15
Spring Equinox (Higan'e)	March 17-23
Establishment of Jodo Shinshu (Rikkyo Kaishu Kinen Hoyo)	April 13-15
Hanamatsuri Day Birth of Siddhartha Gautauma	April 15
Birthday of Shinran Shonin (Gotan'e)	May 20-21
Ilambana/Obon (Urabon'e)	August 14-15
Memorial for All Who Perished in War (Zensenbotsusha tsuito hoyo)	September 18
Autumn Equinox (Higan'e)	September 20-26
Memorial for Shinran Shonin at Otani Mausoleum (Ryukoku'e)	October 15-16
Perpetual Memorial at Hongwanji (Eitaikyo)	November 22-23
Bodhi Day enlightenment of Siddhartha	December 8
Annual Cleaning of Temple (Osusuharai)	December 20
New Year's Eve Service (Joya'e)	December 31

Jodo Shinshu



BUDDHISM

**November 7 Fall Food Bazaar
Senbei, Sushi, & Bake Sale 11am - 2 pm
Tickets for Chicken
Teriyaki to go are \$8.50**