



Spokane Buddhist Temple

NOVEMBER 2007

VOLUME 53 ISSUE 11

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Announcements

November Sangha



Services

Our Sangha Service (Sangha is the Sanskrit word for Buddhist community) is a traditional Jodo Shinshu service with chanting led by a Doshi. We meet after service for refreshments and discussion.

Volunteer Custodian Sought

We are looking for a responsible person to take over the custodial and maintenance duties at the Spokane Buddhist Temple. It would involve light

housekeeping once a week, scheduling *Toban* (temple cleaning days), changing the furnace filters, snow removal, arranging for the fire inspections and sprinkler blow-outs...stuff like that. Paul Vielle has been doing this and now would like to pass it on to someone else. Here's an opportunity to get to know temple operations inside and out. If anyone is interested, please talk with Paul after any service or send an e-mail. Thanks.

Sangha Club

Activities

Nov 16th

Let's make holiday

wreaths

Bring your own Styrofoam form or cardboard or whatever. I'll bring my glue guns and lots of stuff to add. Bring anything you think would go on a wreath. More info: Call Mary: 570-6876

Nov 25th

1st Annual Ed Parker Memorial Poker Tournament

Please bring cards and poker chips. If you aren't into poker bring another favorite game. We'll have popcorn and peanuts and enjoy each other's company.

Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

Supervising Minister:
Rev. Don Castro
Seattle Betsuin
Minister's Assistant:
Paul Vielle

Board of Directors

Christine Marr, President
Leslie Green, Vice President
Ann Heineman, Secretary
Liat Parker, Treasurer
Fumi Uyeji, Auditor
Janet Tamura, Board Member
Jefferson Workman, Board Member
Bonell McLeish, Board Member
Jun Yugawa, Board Member

Newsletter Editor

Leslie Green

Dues and Donations

The Spokane Buddhist Temple gratefully acknowledges the following dues and donations. Please notify Fumi Uyeji or Liat Parker of any omissions or errors. Dues are acknowledged when received and are often time for a few months or paid yearly.

August 21—October 25

Dues

Mary Naber
Tina Rodeen
Jefferson Workman
Hyacinth Dezenobia
Jun Yugawa
Marcelline Burdett
Rachel Scrudder
Celeste Sterrett
Yoshiko Kozen
Greg & Leanne Sapp
Paul & Karen Vielle
Tom Lande
Kam & Fumi Uyeji
Leslie Green
Hisako Oki

Kazuko Kuwada
Michael Regan
Leo & Yuriko Kiyohiro
Todd & Ellicia Milne
Jeremy Phillips

Donations

Paul & Karen Vielle
Tom Lande
Jenifer Johnston
Tina Rodeen
Ann Heineman
Becker
Jim & Shirley Bennett
Mary Naber
Val Wahl
Suzi Dasilva

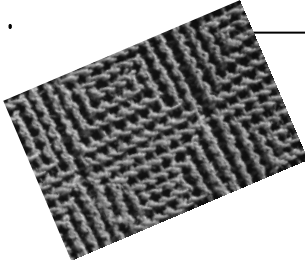
In Memory

Janet Tamura in memory of
George Nomura & Sue Shimizu
Jefferson Workman in
memory of
Joseph P Workman
Tosh Kirihara in memory of
Amy Kirihara
Martena Peterson in
memory of
David R Taylor
Paul Vielle in memory of
Andrew Vielle

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Dr. Nobuo Haneda speaks at MAP Quest Seminar

Last month (October 11-14) students in the Minister's Assistant Program (first wave) gathered at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, California to attend the seventh Minister's Assistant Training Seminar. I look forward to these twice-a-year events as they are wonderful opportunities to improve chanting skills, review the subtleties of Naijin etiquette, and...well — hang out with great teachers like Socho Koshin Ogui (current Bishop of the BCA), Rev. Kodo Umezu (Director of the Jodo Shinshu Center) and Rev. Bob Oshita (Rimban at the Sacramento Betsuin).

guidance to people in crises. Before one can truly help others, ministers need to be comfortable with themselves—as just ordinary people with certain strengths and many foibles. During her session, Iko took us through several exercises to illustrate the benefits of self-acceptance.

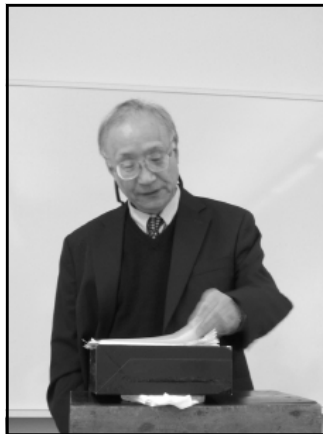
Then on the last day, Rev. Umezu taught us a new chant the *Juniko-san* and explained its meaning. It was written by T'an-Luan (or Donran as he is known in Japanese). T'an-Luan was Chinese Buddhist monk of the 5th century CE). The words of his chant describe the twelve attributes of Amida Buddha's Light. Light is a symbol for wisdom. The Buddha's light is described in many ways. For example, it is said to be: immeasurable, boundless, unhindered, incomparable, ceaseless and unimaginable. Rev. Umezu explained that nearly 800 years later, Shinran Shonin was so deeply impressed with Donran's writings that he based his *Shoshinge* and *Wasan* (a chant we often do in our temple) on Donran's *Juniko-san*. It is indeed a beautiful piece and is chanted to the melody of the *Junirai*.

All things considered, it was a satisfying and informative seminar. Special thanks to Socho Ogui, Reverends Umezu and Oshita, and Michael Endo for their efforts in organizing these training workshops for Minister's Assistants.

Paul Vielle
Minister's Assistant

"Dr. Haneda spoke on the doctrinal basis underlying Shinran's unique interpretation of Amida's 18th vow."

A highlight of the seminar was a lecture by Dr. Nobuo Haneda, Director of the Maida Center of Buddhism in Berkeley. He is perhaps the leading scholar on the Larger Sutra in America today. Dr. Haneda spoke on the doctrinal basis underlying Shinran's unique interpretation of Amida's 18th vow. He went on to clarify the doctrinal differences between Shinran and his teacher Honen. I think we all came away from his lecture with new insights into Shinran's thinking.



(As it happens, Dr. Haneda is coming to the Spokane Buddhist Temple this month, on November 17 & 18. He will speak on the topic "What is a Buddhist". This is just one of several interesting topics covered in his new book *Dharma Breeze*, available in our bookstore.)

Another speaker was Iko Miyazaki, a family therapist and counselor in private practice. Her topic was on the importance of self-acceptance. A minister is in a "helping" profession and is often called upon to give spiritual comfort or



Map Quest Seminar Participants & Speakers

Japanese Sculpted Paper Doll Now on Display

Recently, a member of the Sangha purchased a sculpted paper doll from local artist Patti Reiko Osebold. The do-



Taiko Drummer Sculpted Doll

nor has loaned it to the temple as a "long term" loan and it has been placed on the landing in the basement stairwell at the temple. We are very fortunate to have this beautiful artwork adorn our temple. According to Patti's website, "the making of paper dolls is based on a traditional method done in Japan years ago. Some of my dolls are com-

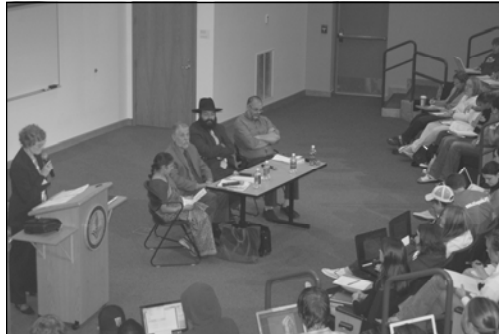
pletely made of paper, both the body and the clothing. More recently, I have sculpted the body out of soft clay from Japan with paper continuing to be the clothing. Different kinds of paper are utilized such as rice paper, chiyogami (traditionally patterned paper), and washi (hand-made, very strong paper) that has been crinkled to make it almost cloth-like." For more information about her artwork please visit her website at www.pattiosebold.com.

"the making of paper dolls is based on a traditional method done in Japan years ago."

Interfaith Panel Discussion

Last September, our Minister's Assistant Paul Vielle participated in an Interfaith Panel Discussion at Whitworth University. Joining representatives from the Hindu, Jewish and Muslim faiths, Paul presented highlights of Buddhist teachings to an audience of over 200 students. Events like these help to propagate Bud-

dhism in our region.



Interfaith Panel Group



Meditation Practice Through Shakyou

On Saturday, November 10, we'll be having our 3rd Shakyou 写経 meeting in the downstairs

area between 10:30 and noon. For those of you who haven't tried this yet, it is an ancient practice in Japan and elsewhere to copy sutras as a meditation. Each person is provided with their choice of dip-pens, oriental brushes or even reeds to write with, a box with ink, grinding stone, water etc., a copy of the nembutsu (or the heart sutra)

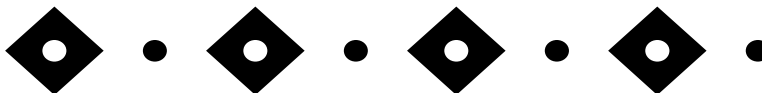
and a blank piece of tracing paper. We begin with a short introduction to the method of writing for those that haven't done this before then each of us recites the nembutsu to ourselves and relaxes into a quiet meditative state. It takes about an hour and many of us find it a pleasant and unique way to "hear" the dharma. Please join us on Saturday morning on November the 10th and give it a try.

Jeff Zahir

Regarding shakyou:

"Each of us recites the nembutsu to ourselves and relaxes into a quiet meditative state."





Haiku

They end their flight
one by one—
crows at dusk

Blown from the west,
fallen leaves gather
in the east

Autumn evening—
there's joy also
in loneliness.

Yosa Buson (1716-1783)

Senbei Making a Smooth Operation

On Saturday, October 20, members of the Spokane Sangha rolled up their sleeves, rolled out the rice flower and got to work making *Senbei*. In the end, we made over 250 bags of this tasty Japanese rice cracker. These will be on sale at our Fall Food Bazaar on Sunday, November 4. Our thanks to Jefferson Workman who coordinated this event and special thanks to all the volunteers who helped make it a stellar success:

Hyacinth Dezenobia
Barb Braden
Jun Yugawa
Janet Tamura
Kosuke Imamura
Janet Holmberg
Anne Paulin
Celeste Sterrett
Ann Heineman
Jeff & Janet Zahir
Dylan Black'
Lorie Taylor
Paul & Karen Vielle
Herman Sugimura
Mary Lynn Bernard
Tyr & Elijah Bernard
Don Ferris
Christine Marr
Martena Peterson
Bonell McLeish
Charlotte Trebilcock

Donations

(continued from page 1)

In Memory

Paul & Karen Vielle in memory of
Van Omine

Karen Vielle in memory of
Hazel Sanders

Ho Onko

Kam & Fumi Uyeji
Nobuko Kasi
Janet Tamura
Ann Heineman
Anonymous

Shotsuki-Hoyo

Shotsuki-Hoyo (the remembrance service for deceased loved ones) will be held Sunday, November 18, 2007. According to temple records and other sources, a total of 13 people passed away during the month of November. They are:

(Mrs) Ine Furumasu

Hideo Ekinaka

Chiyoko Kiyabu

George Kubota

(Mrs) Haruyo Oba

Dick Shimizu

(Mrs) Reiko Shimizu

Roy Soejima

James "Jim" Tamura

Rev. Eiyu Terao (Founder of SBT)

Harold Tokunaga

Hidejiro Yamagiwa

Michio Yamagiwa

