

GEPPPO

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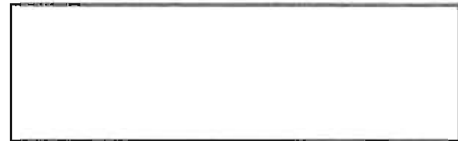
Special Dates to Remember

December 4 **Bodhi Date Evening Service**

December 5 BWA Potluck

December 13 Shotsuki Hoyo
BCSF General Meeting

*(Please see calendar for a complete listing of
services, events, and classes)*



December 2009

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji		7:00 pm: Bodhi Day Evening Service ~Refreshments to follow!	12:00 pm: BWA Potluck
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
-----NO SERVICES-----	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	7:00 pm: Board Meeting		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service (Shotsuki Hoyo) 11:00 am General Meeting 1:00 pm Sanbo no tsudo (Shotsuki Hoyo)	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji			
27	28	29	30	31	January 1, 2010	
9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service 1:00 pm Sanbo no tsudo	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	7:00 pm: Year End Service (Joya-E)	10:00 a.m. New Year's Day Service (Shusho-e)	

12月 予定行事			
12月	4日	午後 7:00	成道会法要
12月	5日	午後 12:00	婦人会ポットラクランチ
12月	13日	午前 11:00	BCSF 総会
		午後 1:00	三法の集い (祥月法要)
12月	27日	午後 1:00	三法の集い
12月	31日	午後 7:00	除夜会法要
2010—1月1日		午前 10:00	修正会

Kobata Sensei's Corner

Doing "Good" at Ft. Hood



The massacre at Ft. Hood perpetrated by a U.S. Army major and trained psychiatrist who identifies himself as a Muslim raises a number of questions about what led up to that tragedy. News reports, citing the accounts of victims, mention that the lone shooter shouted, Allah Akbar! (God is great!), as he began firing over one hundred rounds from two hand guns into a group of military personnel and civilians who were gathered in a personnel processing center. Since the gunman was apprehended there may be a possibility of his offering an explanation for his motives in committing such an insane act.

If and when Mr. Nidal Malik Hasan provides his justification for carrying out the mission to wantonly kill and injure as many as he could before being stopped, I don't imagine he'll have many sympathizers. However, as incomprehensible it may be the fact remains that the rampage was a premeditated act of violence presumably conducted with a mind-set of defending or promoting the major's sense of allegiance to a so-called "religious" cause.

Subsequent news reports are revealing that a number of people who had contact with the Major prior to the incident are acknowledging their concerns about his mental state. Given the possibility that he may be diagnosed with some mental disorder, we can conclude that his religious views were a projection of his basic insanity, which may have been the consequence of his role as a counselor to soldiers who were dealing with their own PTSD, and not a truly religious awareness.

This leads me to raise the question, what "good" is religion in general and (Jodo Shinshu) Buddhism in particular? What difference does and can a religious focus in life have in realizing value and meaning in our human existence?

As is my habit before responding, I would try and clarify, what is your understanding of the terms being used? In this case, what is meant by "good", and "religion"? In Major Hasan's mind he was justified in carrying out the attack for the sake of his religion. He was doing a good thing based upon his beliefs. The key word here is "beliefs". What he believed or thought was based upon a presumption of being right (righteous). This is what Buddhism in general and Jodo Shinshu in particular directs our attention to.

In the immeasurable Light of wisdom, that we call Amida, we are made aware of our shadow, the foolish self-righteous "I" that is the alienated, separate being, i.e. ego-centered self. It is this deluded self that is the focus of the boundless, Life as a Whole, another aspect of Amida, that prevents us from being aware of the Heart that is our True Being, together in the Oneness of, Namu (foolish "I"), and Amida (immeasurable Light/boundless Life) Butsu (Awakened to one's True Being). Thus the Heart of Namu AmidaButsu is dedicated to transforming ignorance to enlightenment, alienation to wholeness, conflict to peace. It is this Good, that is Great!

Namu AmidaButsu.

President's Message



At a special General Meeting held on Oct. 25, the membership unanimously approved a proposed revision of the By-Laws. One of the more important changes enacted is a reduction of the number of board seats to 15 from the present 24. Since each board term is three years, this opens up for election five seats every year. You have hopefully received a ballot with the candidates who are up for election for the 2010-2012 term. Please return the ballot by return mail, or bring your ballot to the BCSF Annual Membership meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2009. The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

On Friday, November 6, Rev. Ron Kobata, Mr. Noboru Hanyu, Ms. Julie Hatta and I traveled to Enmanji Buddhist Temple in Sebastopol to attend the Memorial Service for the late Rev. Giko Abiko. Rev. Abiko, the father of former BCSF resident minister Rev. Hiroshi Jokai Abiko, was 100 years old. Some of you may recall that about five years ago, the elder Rev. Abiko delivered a Japanese sermon at our temple. Regular churchgoers will recall that Rev. Hiroshi Abiko in his sermons often referred to the pivotal role his father played in his decision to enter the ministry. On behalf of the temple, I would like to extend our condolences to the Abiko family.

On Saturday, November 7 we bade farewell to Mr. Mitsunobu (Mits) Kojimoto at a well-attended Memorial Service held at the temple. Mits was a long-time, devoted member of our temple. He came of age during the difficult times occasioned by the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Born in San Francisco, Mits, who was tall for a Nisei, was a star basketball player at Commerce High in the 1930's. However, with the outbreak of the war, he and his family were sent away to the internment camp at Topaz, Utah. After a very short time there, Mits volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army and joined other young Japanese-Americans in the famous 442nd Regiment. He saw combat in Europe and, unlike many of his comrades, miraculously returned home unscathed. He spent much of his time afterwards documenting the lives of fellow Nisei soldiers who were killed in combat. With his return to San Francisco, he married Sadame at a ceremony held at the temple. He became a devoted family man; he and Sadame raised three children. But he also found time to help out at the temple. He served on the BCSF board and was Assistant Treasurer. He attended service regularly, and was always available to help out at church fundraisers and other functions when he could. In reminiscing, one long-time member said that as a youth, Mits was one of the big guys who was also a nice guy. I cannot think of better words to remember Mits – we will miss him.

The BCA 750th Shinran Shonin Memorial service will be held on Sunday morning, Feb. 28, 2010 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose. We will not have a church service that day; instead we are planning to rent a bus and encourage our members to attend. Please leave that day open so that you can participate in this very special event. We are currently taking names for those who want to ride the bus down; please contact the BCSF office if you are interested.

In Gassho,

Jeff Matsuoka

President, Board of Directors

BCSF Board News

Buddhist Church of San Francisco Board of Directors

Adopted Minutes from the October 8, 2009 Meeting

OPEN SESSION:

Attendance:

- **Board:** Julie Hatta,, Dean Hedani, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Linda Ono, Teresa Ono, David Pating, Marcie Sada, Yoshimitsu Shimazu, Emi Uyehara, Yoshi Yao.
 - **Affiliates and Others:** Rev. Ronald Kobata and Tara Mochizuki
- Vice President David Pating called the open session portion of the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

General Information and Reports:

Approval of 9/10/09 Minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Elaine Donlin was not present so there was no discussion or action on the Treasurer's report.

Minister's Report:

- Rev. Kobata
- BCSF has discovered stock certificates which will be investigated to determine if they retain any present value.
 - 10/11- Rev. Kobata will meet with YAO parents to welcome them to participate in BCSF
 - 10/22 – Will attend the Bay District Council Meeting which will be hosted by the Berkeley Temple
 - 10/23 – Kumamoto Kenjinkai Memorial
 - 10/25 – Eitaikyo – Rev, Seigen Yamaoka will be our guest speaker

President's Report: David Pating gave the report as Jeff Matsuoka was on vacation.

- Board is responsible for chairing special services. Still need chair for Eitaikyo.
- BCSF representatives for temple leaders meeting at the JSC October 23-25, 2009 will be Linda Ono and John Bansavich. BCSF will cover registration fee.
- The Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Commemoration will be at the San Jose Fairmont February 27-28, 2010.
- The Hongwanji Commemoration will take place in May 2011, Julie Hatta is the contact person.
- 10/13-15, the Fujinkai from Hoppo Fukuoka will be visiting BCSF
- The chicken bento fundraiser will be on October 18th.
- BCSF needs to have a contact for YAO, Scouts and Soko Gakuen. David will work with Elena to identify the contacts.

Girl Scouts: Tara Mochizuki reported that Rev. Kobata attended the scout meeting and was very well received.

Soko Gakuen: Y. Shimazu reported that student enrollment increased from 33 to 54 and that there were over 300 adults now enrolled.

For Discussion and Action:

- **Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation:** Emi Uyehara/Teresa Ono

The Board reviewed for final action the Restated Articles of Incorporation. MSC by Yoshi Yao/ Marcie Sada to approve the Restated Articles of Incorporation. The Board voted to approve with no objections and 1 abstention.

The Board then discussed the proposed amendments to the Bylaws which reduce the number on the Board from 24 to 15 with 8 members constituting a quorum and all actions requiring at least 8 Board members in support. Emi stated that the Board may be able to reduce to 15 by the end of this year as there are a number of vacancies and if 4 current members resign and run again for another term.

MSC by Harumi Kishida/David Kamita to approve. The Board voted to approve with no objections and 1 abstention.

There will be a general meeting after service on October 25, 2009 for discussion and vote by the membership. Jeff will present the revisions. Teresa and Emi will be present to answer any questions.

David proposed that the following individuals form the Board nominating committee: Jeff Matsuoka, Suzanne Yamada, Marcie Sada and John Bansavich.

MSC by Y. Shimazu/Marcie Sada to hold the Annual Membership Meeting on December 13, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.

BCSF Board News (continued)

Grateful Crane Event:

The event to honor Nisei will take place on the Saturday before Mother's Day, May 8, 2010. Sponsorship levels will be solicited at the \$5,000/\$2,500/\$1,000 levels. MSC by Julie Hatta/David Kamita to use the proceeds to make the church safer and more accessible for seniors. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION:

Attendance:

- **Board:** Julie Hatta,, Dean Hedani, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Linda Ono, Teresa Ono, David Pating, Marcie Sada, Yoshimitsu Shimazu, Emi Uyehara, Yoshi Yao. **Also:** Rev. Ronald Kobata. Vice President David Pating called the closed session portion of the meeting to order at 8:40 pm. and closed it at 9:00 pm. The Board discussed the status of legal and personnel matters.

Closing *Gassho* was led by Rev. Kobata.

Respectfully submitted,
Emi Uyehara, BCSF Secretary

Buddhist Church of San Francisco Board of Directors

Highlights of the November 12, 2009 Board Meeting
Harumi Kishida, Acting Secretary

- The **Bodhi Day Service** is scheduled for December 4, 2009 at 7 pm.
- **The California Nisei Diploma Project** is recognizing students of Japanese ancestry and asking organizations to communicate with former students of the UC system, state colleges, and community colleges whose education was disrupted by being relocated in 1942. The project was initiated by Warren Furutani. If you know anyone who fits this description, please contact the BCSF office.
- Julie Hatta is our local temple contact for the **Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Commemoration** to be held at the San Jose Fairmont Hotel on February 27-28, 2010. Registration deadline is January 31, 2010. We will charter a bus for 50 people, first come/ first served.
- **Board Election and Candidates:** Per the new By-Laws, the Board has been reduced to 15 members and we need to elect 5 new Board members this year. We have the following confirmed candidates: Yuri Ito, David Pating, *Jeff Matsuoka, and *Emi Uyehara. *Per a new nomination scheme, both Jeff and Emi would resign and become candidates for a new term of 3 years.
- **Annual BCSF Meeting, 12/13/09:** Reports are due by 12/5/09. Affiliates who use the BCSF Tax ID No. should submit financial reports.
- **Downstairs Men's Restroom:** Tara Mochizuki was copied on an e-mail from Rev. Kobata that someone had presumably had a bloody nose and left a mess in the downstairs men's restroom. She stressed that there are strict handling procedures in the clean-up of blood and body fluids and requested Harumi Kishida of the Safety Committee to establish a church policy and furnish supplies for cleanup. Harumi agreed to review guidelines and establish a church policy.
- **Replacing Lights in the Gym:** Dean Hedani
The light bulbs in the gym have a 3-5 year life. Dean would like to replace all light bulbs at an estimated cost of \$3,500.00 during winter break. Funds are available. MSC—David Pating/ Leo Balambao to replace all light bulbs in the gym.

BWA News

Buddhist Church of San Francisco Buddhist Women's Association *Minutes from the November 8, 2009 Meeting*

ATTENDANCE: Yasuko Fukuda, Yuri Ito, Ayako Nishimoto, Yaeko Noda, Nell Noguchi, Yukiko Oka, Linda Ono, Midori Otsuki, Noriko Takikawa, Betty Tsugawa, Kiyoko Yamasaki, Yoshi Yao, Tami Yasuhara, Jeff Matsuoka, Rev. Kobata N=15

Co-President Yoshi Yao called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. Rev. Kobata led the opening Gassho.

APPROVAL OF 10/4/09 Minutes: Minutes approved as printed in the November Geppo.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Please submit receipts for the Hoppo Fukuoka visit for payment. Approval of the report pending clarification of \$150.00 income and \$425.83 expense.

CORRESPONDENCE: A. Nishimoto:

1. Sent thank you letter to Dr. Chip Nakamura for building microwave stand in downstairs kitchen.
2. Sent invitation letters for 88th birthday celebration to honorees, M. Kazama, R. Toriumi & H. Utsumi.
3. Received letter from Co-chairpersons of Tabemasho, Allan Okamoto & Teresa Ono, thanking us for our participation in the fundraiser.
4. Received thank you card, with donation enclosed, from Hatsumi Ishii.
5. Received thank you note from the Kojimoto family for helping with the otoki.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Y. Yao

Yoshi Yao asked members to read Sadako's article about the FBWA Conference published in the BCSF November Geppo. Yoshi commented that she was impressed with the talk by Rev. Diane Johnson, formerly of Anchorage, Alaska, regarding how she started small Jodo Shin discussion groups in her apartment, expanded to coffee shops and then to rented spaces. Another conference highlight was the Breakfast for Presidents sponsored by Mrs. Mayumi Ogui for ministers' wives, widows, and chapter presidents. Mrs. Kyoko Matsubayashi and Mrs. Patti Oshita talked about their experiences as Okusama. A very nice article describing the breakfast written by Joanne Tohei appears in the November Wheel of Dharma.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. FBWA CONFERENCE – Yasuko Fukuda reported that the Japanese speaker, Rev. Maruko Nishiyama of Maui, Hawaii, was also very good. She added that the delegates were taught a new Obon dance called the Song of Nisei Week, choreographed to a poem written by Rev. Gyosei Nagafuji in 1960. The Nagafuji family hopes that the memory of their father will live on through his song and ondo at BCA temple annual Bon Odori. Yasuko added that the train ride to and from Sacramento was very pleasant.

B. RESOLUTIONS – The Bay District's resolution to petition the BCA National Council to provide a permanent funding stream for the Center for Buddhist Education passed. The resolution and amendment by the Eastern District requesting financial support for publication and marketing Monshu Ohtani's book were not accepted.

C. HOPPO-FUKUOKA EXCHANGE VISIT AND FAREWELL DINNER - Yoshi thanked Akemi, Ayako, Harumi, Nell, Tami, Yasuko, Yukiko, Yuri, Rev. Kobata, and Elena for their help with the visit and dinner. She asked members to read the article by Harumi in the BCSF November Geppo. Yoshi acknowledged Nell's daughter, Ellen, for her handmade centerpieces which she wished to donate. Thanks were extended to the 20 BCSF BWA members who also attended the dinner.

D. CHICKEN BENTO – The Committee felt that the last few Bentos have gone well, but felt we might be able to hold one per year if we could increase sales. Net profit is pending final figures. Note that we are looking for a replacement for the fortune cookies that were stale this time and not individually wrapped last time. Thanks

BWA News (continued)

to Mrs. Nakao who advised soaking the oke in hot water to repair the leak. All shifts will be asked to make more efforts to compost.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. WORLD FEDERATION CONFERENCE IN KYOTO MAY 2011 - Yasuko reported that Alameda and Oakland Chapters are deciding on tours with JTB; there will be optional tours for those who don't attend the conference. Members were asked to indicate interest by December 2009. May is a popular tourist season in Kyoto, rooms have to be reserved early. All agreed to Jeff's suggestion that the tours be opened up to other BCSF members. Harumi, Kiyoko, Noriko, Yasuko, Yuki, and Jeff would like to attend.

B. ESHINNI AND MEMBER MEMORIAL SERVICE - Combined English-Japanese service, November 15th, Rev. Kobata will be the speaker. Three members passed away in 2009, Mary Toki, Kiyoko Miyasaki, and Kiyoko Kuroda. Yasuko is maintaining the list which now numbers 286.

C. SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH POTLUCK – Invitations will be sent to New Members, Rev. Kobata, Board President, Church Secretary, Custodian, and Ministerial Assistants. There will be special entertainment and also Bingo, games, and a raffle. Toban chairs to call their list of members.

D. CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL FOOD BOOTH? – Linda Ono asked whether the BWA would like to participate in the CFBF in April 2010. In order to make a profit, cover fees, food and supplies, we would have to participate for two weekends. Approximately 4-5 members would be needed each day to prepare a food item and we would have to partner with a youth group(s) for help to set up and work in the booth. Those present felt it would be too much work for too little return.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- 1) Membership – Received renewal from Louise Koike and new membership from Julie Yumi Hatta.
- 2) Welfare - Get well cards to be sent to Midori Satow and Joyce Yamasaki. Tami Yasuhara asked that members call her regarding the dates they could make visitations, she will select the day that most members can attend.

Kimochi – Tuesday at 2:00 p.m., Dec 1, or 8, or 15

Kokoro – Wednesday at 3:00 p.m., Dec 2, or 9, or 16

Members who can attend are asked to donate a food item such as cookies, manju, tangerines, etc.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) As previously decided by the church calendar committee, the Joya-e Service/Toshi-Koshi Soba will be a BCSF Board and members event rather than a BWA Toban.
- 2) Two dates were suggested for the annual BWA New Year Luncheon, January 24th or February 14th, to be decided at the next meeting.

Ayako and Nell m/s/c the meeting be adjourned. Adjournment at 12:50 p.m.

Next meeting Sunday, January 10, 2010 Closing Gassho by Rev. Kobata.

Respectfully submitted,
L. Ono

BWA TOBAN

Dec 2009 Toban

Linda Ono
Fusako Kamita
Haruko Nakamoto
Nell Noguchi
Aileen Yamate

Jan 2010 Toban

Sadako Kashiwagi
Setsuko Katsuyama
Janis Sera
Kiyoko Yamasaki



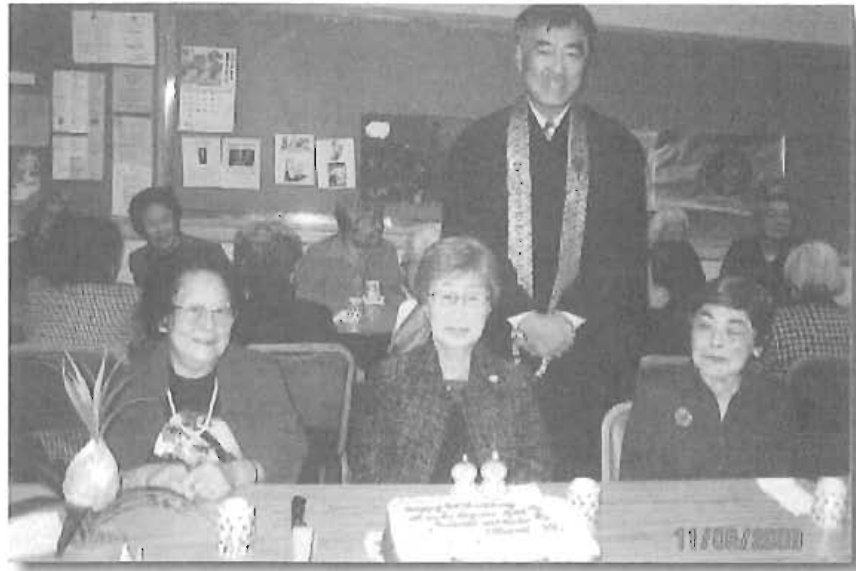
Temple News and Announcements

BWA 88th Birthday Celebration

~ by Ayako Nishimoto

On Sunday, November 8, following the afternoon Shotsuki Hoyo service, the BWA honored three of its members who celebrated the milestone of their 88th birthday in 2009. The honorees were Miyako Kazama, Ruth Toriumi, and Helen Utsumi.

Bouquets of fall flowers were presented to the ladies, and a special *88th Birthday* cake was enjoyed by all in attendance.



Ruth Toriumi, Miyako Kazama, Rev. Ron Kobata, and Helen Utsumi



米寿誕生日おめでとう!
Happy 88th Birthday!

Calling All BCSF Members!!!

~ by Linda Ono



Jodo Shin Buddhism has been in America for 110 years. Did your grandparents attend a Buddhist Temple? Are your adult children continuing to attend? If you are new to Jodo Shin, what attracted you? These are some of the questions asked in the survey attached to the membership form that will be mailed out this month. The form and survey will also be available at <http://bcsfweb.org>.

Please take a few moments to renew or apply for membership and reflect on how belonging to the temple has affected your lives. While our numbers are

smaller than in previous years, the benefits of membership in our spiritual community are untarnished. When remitting your dues, consider how we can promote growth and plan for the future.

Be sure to update your contact information and let us know if you would prefer to read the Geppo online to save printing and mailing costs. Please return your membership and survey as soon as possible, but no later than January 31, 2010.

Arigato!

Temple News and Announcements (continued)

Jr. YBA - Central California Conference ~by Megumi Hatta-Wong (a.k.a. "The Gumes")



The San Francisco Jr. Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA) journeyed down to Fresno on Friday, November 13th. The Sera's were in charge of this activity and rented out an 11-seat van to transport all of the Jr. YBA members to the conference.

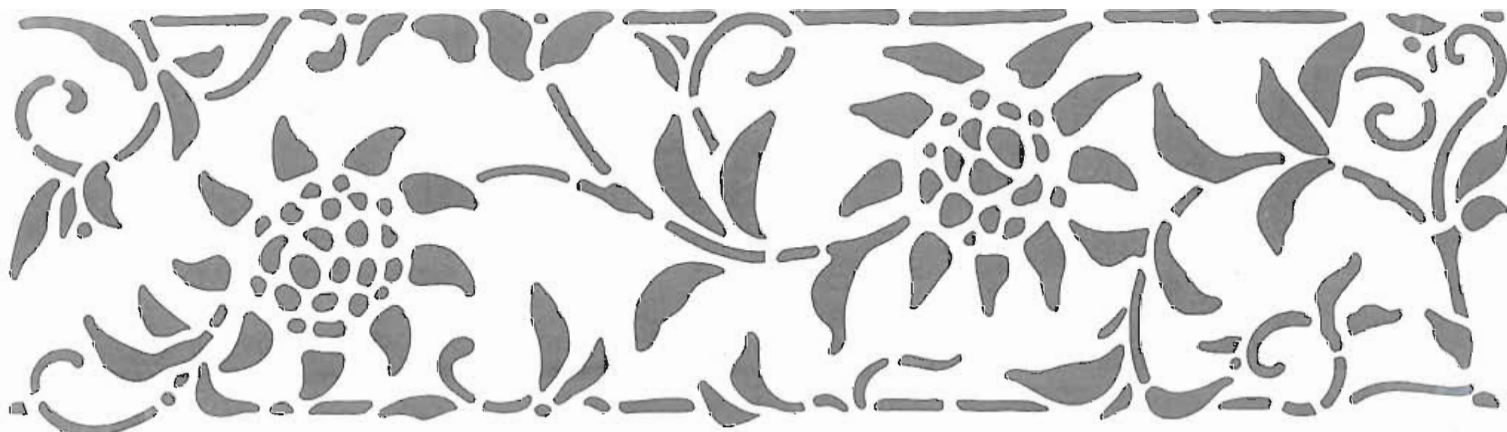
First everyone checked in, and then there was an icebreaker. Many agreed that this was very effective. There were over a hundred teens participating, and it was basically an extreme version musical chairs. Sitting on people is definitely a way to bond and remember people. Following this somewhat painful exercise, people split into groups to run through a few workshops. One particular activity was racing to put together the Gold Chain of Love; it built teamwork and was exhilarating.

This year was the last that Hitomi Silver could attend the conference and she had fun participating in games such as "Who Wants to Be a Bodhisattva," and comfortably lounging on the couch during the dance. The new members of the San Francisco chapter seemed to enjoy themselves. They were friends prior to this activity but it seemed like their friendships were reinforced by sharing a room with each other. Megumi Hatta-Wong danced rather

crazily with fellow Jr. YBA members. Eventually after tiring from the frantic flailing on the dance floor she ventured out to seek Hitomi. Over the course of the night, Megumi lost her cell phone. Many people helped her try and find it, turning the couch inside out and making announcements on the loudspeaker- to no avail. At long last, when all hope was lost, Gregg Sera, Michael Sera's father turned the entire couch upside down and found it. Everyone was elated at the unexpected find. Overall, this was a good conclusion to the first activity of this Jr. YBA season. Hopefully the ski trip will prove to be as exciting as it has been in past years.

Just for props here is a list of all this year's participants: Hitomi Silver, Michael Sera, Megumi Hatta-Wong, Chiemi Silver, Elizabeth Chu, Kara Glapion, and Anna Pating.

Special Thanks to the advisors who accompanied Jr. YBA to Fresno: Gregg Sera, Janis Sera, and Tara Mochizuki.



Temple News (continued)

Buddhist Educational Committee

~ by Elaine Donlin

SPECIAL SERVICES

~Friday Dec. 4th 7 p.m. – Bodhi Day Service (7 pm)

Join us for our annual candlelight service in remembrance of the historical Buddha's (Siddhartha Gotauma) Enlightenment/Awakening.

~Thursday Dec. 31st, 7 p.m. – Year End (Joya-E) Service (7 pm)

Close out 2009 with contemplation and gratitude. This year end service is a time to reflect upon the interdependence of the life we live and to express gratitude for all the causes and conditions of this past year. The temple bell is rung 108 times (Joya no Kane – Last Night Bell) – signifying the 108 passions that make up our human existence.

A light traditional meal of soba noodles follow the service.

BCSF CLASSES

~Our 6 week "Intro To Buddhism" course concluded on Nov. 7th. Thank you to Minister Assistant Matt Stimson for leading the course. We're planning on presenting an Intro class each season.

~Minister Assistant Jerry Bolick's Monday night book discussion is continuing. The class is discussing the Monshu's new book, "The Buddha's Wish ForThe World". Discussion starts at 7 pm and everyone is welcome!

OUTREACH

~In an effort to share the Jodo Shinshu Dharma, Minister Assistants Jerry Bolick and Eric Burkett have begun offering monthly services to our Sangha at the Kokoro Assisted Living facility. If you know of other facilities that might be interested in services /dharma talks, please let me know.

~Rev. Kobata will be attending the SF Interfaith Council's Thanksgiving Service and breakfast. For over 20 years, the SF Interfaith Council has brought people of different traditions together, bringing spiritual comfort to San Franciscans at times of crisis, as well as, building understanding among various religious traditions.



Acknowledgments for October

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco thanks our members and friends for your thoughtful and generous donations during the month of October. This list covers those contributions recorded as of October 31, 2009. If there are any errors please contact the church office at (415) 776-3158.

Memorials

Ichikawa Family	200	Ochi, Mickie	300	Iwasaki, Kojiro and Eiko	10
Iwasaki, Kojiro and Eiko	100	Okazaki, George	100	Iwase, Masako	10
Minami, Atsumi	300	Ono, Mitsue	50	Kajiyama, Aiko	50
Mitsuda, Shigeo and family	200	Otsuki, Midori	100	Kazama, Miyako	20
Nakai, Hiroshi	200	Otsuki, Midori	50	Kobayashi, Sally	20
Okazaki Family	300	Peterson, Wayne	100	Kunihara, Fumiko	25
		Sakamoto, Hiroshi	30	Lee, Miyoko	200
		Tada, Yoshimi and Tsutako	20	Matsuoka, Wayne and Kiyoka	30
		Toriumi, Ruth Reiko	50	Mizutani, Chiyoko	30

Funerals

Sakoda Family	625	Wong, Joann	100	Nakamoto, Haruko	20
Shintaku, Yasuko	300	Yamada, Kahn	100	Nakao, Shizue	25
		Yamashita, Hisako	25	Nishimoto, Clara	25
		Yasuda, A. Ken	50	Nishimura, Masako	10
		Yasuda, Jane	50	Noguchi, Nellie	10

Shotsuki Hoyo

Anonymous	20			Okamoto, Kumi	30
Anonymous	50			Ono, Teresa	20
Arakawa, Atlas and Janet	100			Osada, William and Louise	50
Asaoka, Grace	25			Oshita, Yuriko	10
Fukushima, Yoshitomi	10			Otsuki, Midori	100
Hanyu, Noboru	50			Sada, Gary	20
Hatano, Kimie	50			Satoda, Yone	100
Inouye, Alice	20			Shimazu, Y.M. Ed.D.	25
Kawasaki, Kiyoko	100			Stewart, Pablo, M.D.	25
Lee, Ibuki	30			Tarquín, Gilles	30
Lee, Miyoko	100			Yamasaki, Kiyoko	25
McIrvin, Hope F.	50			Yokoyama, Namiko	20
Mizota, Asaye	25			Yonekura, Alice	50
Murakami, Shirley	100			Yoshimoto, Akemi	20
Nanjo, Ben	50				
Nishihara, Julie & Patti Hirasawa	100				

Special Contributions

Fukuoka					
Kenjinkai	100				
Malasri, Somya	100				
Marchand, Steven and Valerie	25				
SF Fukuoka Kenjin Kai	100				

Eitaikyō

Anonymous	25				
Eguchi, Mae	20				
Fukuda, Yasuko	25				
Fukushima, Yoshitomi	10				
Hanyu, Noboru	50				
Hirota, Mitsuko	20				
Ito, Yuriye	100				

Ohigan

Judge, Atsuko	20
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Sustaining Donors

Aoki, Eiko	Kojimoto, Mits	Ono, Linda Saruwatari
Arakawa, Janet	Kunihara, Fumiko	Oshita, Yuriko
Ashizawa, Masao & Yuki	Kurata, Joseph & Shirley	Otsuki, Midori
Balambao, Leo Jr.	Kuruma, Emiko	Pating, David & Camille
Bansavich, John &	Lee, Miyoko	Saiki, Kinko
Stimson, Matthew	Lewis, Barbara & Hollins,	Sato, Hideo & Fumi
Durst, Thomas & Shinta, Diane	Lyman	Stowers, Brenda
Fletcher, Marjorie	Lum, Dwight	Sumida, Tatsuo & Yoko
Hamada, Miles & Lorraine	Maeyama, Jun & Kay	Suzuki, Harry & Lorraine
Hamada, Wallace & Mildred	Masada, Miyuki	Takeoka, Nora
Hatakeyama, Glen & Reiko	Matsuda, Kent	Tanaka, Isago
Hedani, Dean and Melainie	Matsuoka, Jeffery & Akemi	Tanaka, Setsuko J.
Higashi, Jitsuo & Sakaye	Mizonon, John	Tanaka, Violet M.
Ikuma, Masahiko & Kazuye	Mochizuki, Tara & Chu, Jeff	Tani, Kiyo
Inouye, Alice	Mori, Kazumi & Arris	Tomita, Art & Tomie
Ishii, Hatsumi	Nagai, Brian & Daroff, Robert	Tsugawa, Robert & Betty
Ishisaki, Ben & Mary	Nakamura, Harry	Utsumi, Takeo & Helen
Ito, Yuriye	Nakasu, Hitomi	Uyehara, Emi & Stewart, Pablo
Iwasaki, Shigetoshi	Nakata, Evelyn	Yamagishi, Edward & Akiko
Kagehiro, Satoru & Setsuko	Nishimoto, Ed & Ayako	Yamamoto, Dick & Elaine
Kakiuchi, Chizuko	Noguchi, Kei	Yamamoto, Takeo & Yasuko
Kashiwagi, Hiroshi & Sadako	Ochi, Alice	Yamasaki, Joyce
Katsuyama, Minoru & Setsuko	Ochi, Mickie	Yao, Shinji & Yoshi
Kimata, Arlene & Kitahata, Gary	Ogawa, Mieko	Yasuhara, Tamiko
Kishida, Russell & Harumi	Oka, Yukiko	Yasumoto, John & Chitose
Kobara, Kazuko	Okamura, Ricky & Glenda	Yonemoto, Lois
Kobata, Ronald & Sayoko	Okazaki, George	

Shotsuki Hoyo

The memorial service for your loved ones who passed away in December will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2009. You are most welcome to attend.

Isayo Abe	Joe Hatsuta Imamoto	Mae Itsuko Mizono	Masao Sakumoto
Moto Abe	Tatsuji Imanaka	Matsuyo Mizono	Hidetsugu Sasaki
Amy Emiko Adam	Teruko Inouye	Makoto Mizuki	Kunihiko Sato
Frank Fumio Ando	Harry Takashi Ishii	Kiku Morino	Tsutako Sato
Tome Amishima	Russell Taro Ito	Take Moriyama	Yoshio Serizawa
Kohei Asada	Will Ito	Aiichi Mukai	Mary H Shimamoto
Tsumako Benken	Arline Fusae Iwafuchi	Yoshio Mukai	Ken Corby Shinomiya
Victor Lee Blackson	Aki Iwamasa	Louise Kirie Murata	Seisuke Shiozaki
Masato Mike Deguchi	Paul Patrick Judge	Kishino Nakagiri	Kameyo Sone
Yoshiaki Deguchi	Junichi Kakebe	Shimayo Nakahigashi	Haruno Suenaga
Tom Tamio Doami	Yukino Kamimae	Yoshio Nakai	Kazuto Suenaga
Naoe Ehara	Tomekichi Kato	Katsumi Nakamoto	Kohachi Suenaga
Hidezo Enomoto	Annie Masami Kawabata	Bonnie Yuriko Nakamura	Toshiko Sueyasu
Kisa Fuji	Joe Kawaguchi	Haruye Nakamura	Michiyo Sumiyama
Mikio Fujimoto	Toi Kawakami	James Masaaki Nakamura	Fusa Suyehiro
Kichijiro Fukui	Chizuko Kawasaki	Saikichi Nakamura	Hiroyuki Takeoka
Tatsu Fukui	Tsuyako "Sox"	Kosei Nakashima	Irvin Shuichi Tamura
Chikashi Furuya	Kitashima	Iwao Namekawa	Minotsuchi Tanaka
Jessie Gould	Rui Kiwata	Kazuo Nii	Mitsuyo Tanabe
James Takeo Hamada	Rev. Seiji Kobara	Masako Nii	Yukino Tashiro
Yoneo Hamada	Fusao Kobayagawa	Taka Nishimoto	Jean Shieko Toda
Ailene Hamamoto	Asa Kobayakawa	Frank Toyokichi Nishimura	Mayumi Tekawa
Calvin Kenichi Harada	Miyokichi Kodama	Fuki Nishimura	Jason Tetsuo Terusaki
Kisao Hashimoto	Toyo Kodama	Tetsuo Noda	Oine Tokugawa
Shuichi Hashimoto	Heitaro Kono	Moriaki Noguchi	Kimiko Toyooka
Hirokichi Hata	Yukino Kozaki	Yuriko Noma	Arleen Honda Tsuchiya
Hatsue Hattori	Teruko Kuwahara	Fui Ogasawara	Masamitsu Tsuda
Mitsu Hattori	Yukiko Masuoka	Henry Ogawa	Torakichi Tsuchida
Maki Hieda	Jerry Toshio Masuda	Mari Ohura	Masaji Tsujisaka
Mayumi Hirai	Fumiko Matsuhara	Tadahisa Ohtani	Chuhei Udo
Natsuko Hirakawa	Kita Matsuhara	Howard Toshio Oka	Shizuyo Uyeda
Suzuye Hirakawa	Kiyoko Matsuhara	Kathleen Kazuko	Kiwa Uyeno
Mikuni Tom Hirayama	Tane Matsui	Okamoto	Helen Yaeko Yamaguchi
Haruco Setoguchi Hirose	Isano Matsuo	Grace Omi	Fujino Yamamoto
Ryoko Arima Hong	Bobby Minoru	Kame Oshima	James Yamamoto
Tendoji Horibe	Matsumura	Eiichi Ota	Kijyu Yamamoto
Zenya Horibe	Takuzo Matsumura	Mary Sachiye Ota	Henry T. Yamamoto
Mitsu Horikoshi	Shime Matsuzaki	Misaku Ouye	Nanae Yamamoto
Ichi Ichinohe	George McClendon	Matsuyo Sakita	Hisae Yanase
Yoshinobu Ikeda	Yoshitaro Mihara	Ryoko Sakita	Shizuyo Yoshida
Duncan Kazuma Ikezoe	Shime Miho	Ito Sako	Kane Yoshikawa
Misao Mary Imai	Kita Minamoto	Stanley Shouji Sakuda	Eiji Yoshimura

Sympathy

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the late:

Toshiko Nakai, who passed away on September 18, 2009.

Fred Minoru Ichikawa, who passed away on September 26, 2009.

Mitsunobu Kojimoto, who passed away on October 25, 2009.

今月亡くなられた方達の祥月法要は日曜日12月13日午後1時より行います。
もし名前がリストからもれていましたらオフィスまで連絡して下さい。

阿部いさよ	熊・有馬涼子	桑原照子	滑川 巖	末永はるの
阿部もと	堀部善弥	益岡幸子	仁井和夫	末永一登
アダム・エイミー・エミコ	堀部テンドウジ	増田敏夫ジェリー	仁井正子	末永小八
網島とめ	堀越みつ	益岡幸子	西本タカ	隅山三千代
安藤文雄フランク	一戸イチ	松原文子	西村ふき	末広フサ
朝田幸平	池田義信	松原キタ	西村豊吉フランク	末安年子
ピンケン・つま子	池添一馬	松原きよ子	野口盛明	竹岡浩之
ブラックスン・リー	今井みさお	松井たね	野田哲雄	田村修一アービン
出口正登	今中辰治	松村ボビー、ミノル	野間百合子	田辺みつよ
出口好明	今本初太	松村沢増	小川ヘンリー	田中己之植
土網民雄タム	井上照子	松尾いさの	小笠原ふい	田代雪乃
得原ナヲエ	石井孝ハリー	松崎しめ	大島かめ	戸田シエ子ジーン
榎本秀三	伊藤太郎ラソル	マクレンドン・ジョージ	大浦マリー	天川まゆみ
藤 きさ	伊藤ウィル	三原芳太郎	太田メリー幸恵	照崎哲雄
藤本幹雄	伊藤勝一	三保七五三	大谷ただひさ	徳川おいね
古屋ちか志	岩淵アーリン・フサエ	南本きた	岡 年夫	登世岡君子
グワードジェシ	岩政あき	溝野松代	岡本和子	津田正光
福井吉次郎	ジャッジ・ポール	溝野メイ	近江グレース	槌田寅吉
福井たつ	掛部淳一	水城 誠	大田栄一	辻坂政治
浜本アイリン	神前ゆきの	森野さく	大上実作	有働忠平
浜田武雄・ジェームス	加藤 留吉	森山たけ	崎田松代	上田静代
浜田米夫	川端アニー正美	向井愛一	崎田量子	上野きわ
原田健一	川口ジョー	向井義男	作田正次スタンリー	山口八重子ヘレン
橋本きさを	北島ツヤ子ソックス	村田桐枝	作本正雄	山本フジノ
橋本周一	川上とい	中桐岸野	迫 いと	山本ジェームス
畑 広吉	川崎千鶴子	中東シマヨ	佐々木秀継	山本キジユ
服部初江	木綿るい	中井芳雄	佐藤邦彦	山本七重
服部みつ	小原静爾	中本克美	佐藤ツタ子	山本亨ヘンリー
檜枝真喜	小早川あさ	中村ボニーユリコ	島本初江メリー	柳瀬久枝
平山三国タム	小早川房雄	中村正昭ジェームス	四宮健コービー	吉田シズヨ
広瀬・瀬戸口春子	児玉三代吉	中村ユリコ	芹沢義雄	吉川カネ
平井真由美	児玉とよ	中村春江	塩崎清助	吉村栄治
平川なつ子	小野平太郎	中村才吉	曾根かめよ	
	神前ゆきの	仲島光生		

COLMA CEMETERY JIKEIKAI NEWS



加州日系人慈恵会
JAPANESE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA



- A new website has been designed <http://www.japanbenevolent.org>. Address, directions, photos and historical information are now available online. Obituaries may be posted on this site.
- Plans are underway to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the arrival of KANIN MARU in San Francisco. Groups from Japan will visit in April and August 2010 to conduct memorial services for three Kanin Maru sailors buried there.
- 2009 Sonkei Campaign Raffle winners to be posted soon.

おシャカさまの教え

この一連の記事は築地本願寺新報より
著者は上山 大峻先生

第六章 自らを灯明とし、法を灯明とせよ

〔弟子たちの集まり〕

おシャカさまは、煩惱に支配されることなく、智慧をもって幸せに生きていく道を、人々の理解力や経験、問題意識などに合わせて、分かりやすく説いて歩かれました。おシャカさまの指導を受けながら悟りをめざして修行するお弟子たちがだんだん増えてきて、僧伽 (=samgha、教団) ができてきました。僧伽は四種から成り立っています。男女の出家の修行者 (比丘と比丘尼) と男女の在家の信者 (優婆塞と優婆夷) です。出家者は家庭生活を捨て、生産に従事せず、ひたすら修行に励みます。在家の信者は、決められた基本的な五つの戒め (=五戒 ①不殺生戒 [生きものを殺さない]、不偷盜戒 [盗まない]、不邪淫戒 [みだらな性行為をしない]、不妄語戒 [嘘をつかない]、不飲酒戒 [酒を飲まない]) を守りながら、出家の修行者に日常の必要品を布施 (=施す) することによって仏教教団の援助を行いました。

〔自灯明、法灯明の教え〕

お元気で各地を行脚しながら、人々に法を説いておられたおシャカさまも、八十歳になられて病気がちになられ、見る眼にも老いてこられました。師の余命が少ないことを感じた弟子たちは二つの事で心配しはじめました。一つは、おシャカさまが言い残されたことはないかということ。二つめは、おシャカさま亡き後、だれを指導者としたらいいのかということ。

弟子たちが心配していることを察知されたおシャカさまは、第一の疑問に対しては「私は弟子たちに平等にすべての法を説いた、決して惜しんだり隠したりはしていない」と言われ、第二の疑問については、「私は修行僧を導くであろうとか、修行僧は私を頼っているとか思ったことがない」と言われて、おシャカさま自身が指導者としての意識をもたず、同じく法 (=真理) に学ぶ修行僧であると言われ、次の教団の統率者を指名することはされませんでした。

しかし、教えを受ける人物がないとすれば、いったい何に頼って学ばばいいのか。それに対して、述べられたのが次の言葉です。

自らを灯明とし、他をたより とせず、法を灯明とし、
他をたよりとせずにあれ。

私たちは、とにかく自分自身で考え、自分の足で立ち上がることをせず、偉い人や権威ある人や強い人に安易に従いがちです。いつもおシャカさまに頼っていて、自分自身が努力して目覚めた人となることを忘れがちな弟子たちへの痛烈な警鐘がこの言葉に伺えます。しかし、自分自身で考え自立せよといっても、それが自分勝手であってはなりません。法の真理こそが真に頼りにすべき「依りどころ」だと言われるのです。ご生涯の最後におシャカさまが総括された「自灯明、法灯明」の教え、ここにこそ、すぐに神という超越者に頼りがちな他の宗教と違い、あくまでも法を基準として体系づけられた仏教の特質が、いかに発揮されていると言えましょう。



"May there be peace in the world and
may the Buddha's teaching spread!"

- Shinran Shonin

Buddhist Churches of America

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance, Symposium & Banquet Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, CA

Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010 - Symposium & Banquet

1:15pm – 9:30pm

Symposium Speakers

Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka Rev. Harry Bridge
Prof. James Dobbins Jacqueline Kramer

Shinran Expo

Banquet

Banquet Speaker – Pieper Toyama

(Symposium & Banquet registration fee: \$110)

Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010 - Family Service

9:30am – 12pm

Shinran Shonin Memorial Service and Musical Program
Open to all at no charge

For more information contact your temple or go to
www.ingassho.com

Join us at the SJ Fairmont Hotel: Feb. 27-28, 2010!

*National BCA Shinran Shonin 750th Commemoration
Fairmont Hotel, San Jose*

*Below are some BCSF details regarding the 750th event flyer -
Also visit www.ingassho.com*

***Preliminary Sign Up requested for a BCSF headcount -by
12/6***

*Please email: office@bcسفweb.org (Subject: 750th Sign Up/ Your name)
Or, inform Yasuko Fukuda or Julie Yumi Hatta if you are interested
in attending:
Or, use Sign Up Sheet on the Social Hall bulletin board.
Please indicate as follows;*

- 1) I plan to attend: a) Saturday b) Sunday event
- 2) I am interested in BCSF Bus for Sunday
- 3) Names of individuals and contact info (phone and/or email)

Saturday Symposium and Banquet (\$110 registration)

Registration and payment due to BCSF by Jan. 20th

The Saturday symposium and banquet requires registration (\$110)
(Make check payable to "BCSF") BCSF will collect and forward to
MVBT.

Hotel reservations for those interested, should be made directly
with the Fairmont Hotel, SJ.

Sunday Family Service & Musical Celebration is FREE

Sign up for BCSF Charter bus (optional) to Sunday Service & Music Program

We are arranging for a charter bus from BCSF to encourage
those interested in attending Sunday events. Tentatively, the
bus will leave BCSF at 8 am and return to BCSF by 3 pm. *Bus
and lunch costs are still being set, but are expected to range from \$15 - 35
total. Limited seating.*