

# GEPPPO

Buddhist Church of San Francisco  
1881 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109-4421

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## Special Dates to Remember

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| February 7       | Scout Sunday, Service & Luncheon   |
| February 14      | Shotsuki Hoyo  |
| February 21      | Nirvana Day Service with Memorial<br>for former DS Teachers and Pets<br><b>Chicken Bento</b> |
| February 27 & 28 | <b>Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial</b>   |

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



February 2010

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	7:00 pm: MAP meeting		5:00-8:00 pm: Troop 29 Crab Feed
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service (Scout Sunday)  3:00 pm: Hiroshima Kenjinkai New Year Luncheon	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	6:30-9:00 pm: Board of Directors Meeting		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service (Shotsuki Hoyo)  1:00 pm Sanbo no tsudoï (Shotsuki Hoyo)	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 am: Nirvana Day Service (with memorial for past DS Teachers & Pets)  10:00 am – 2:00 pm: CHICKEN BENTO	7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class		7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji		BCA National Council & Ministers' Meeting	1:15 -5:30 pm @ Fairmont Hotel, San Jose: BCA 750 <sup>th</sup> Shinran Shonin Memorial Symposium
28						
---NO BCSF SERVICES---  9:30 @ Fairmont Hotel, San Jose BCA 750 <sup>th</sup> Shinran Shonin Memorial Service  <u>Bus for San Jose leaving BCSF @ 8:00 am sharp!</u>						

2010年2月 予定行事

14『日』 午後 1:00 三法の集い (祥月法要)

21『日』 午前 10:00-2:00 チケン弁当

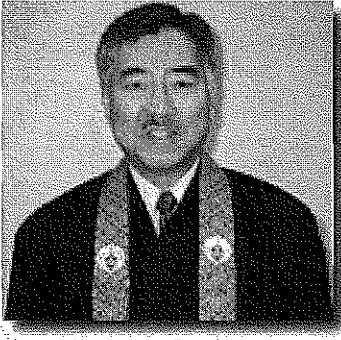
28『日』 午前 9:30 親鸞聖人750回忌記念法要

Fairmont Hotel-San Jose, CA

午前8:00 仏教開から バス出発

(三宝の集い 礼拝なし)

# Kobata Sensei's Corner



## Who are we?

*First of all I'd like to take this means to extend my gratitude to the BCSF for the very generous Oseibo gift that was presented to me by former board president Jeff Matsuoka and newly elected president, Dr. David Pating. I have been truly inspired by the expressions of support and encouragement that many members of the sangha have shared with me during my inaugural year as the resident minister of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco. This recent gift was really icing on the cake. I look forward to our continued efforts to work together in mindfully (Nen) living the boundless Light and Life (Amida) of awakening (Butsu) = Namu AmidaButsu.*

In my January 2010 *Geppo* column I suggested that in order to be on the "same page" in terms of realizing our Mission Statement we (all of us who identify with being a "part" of the legally incorporated 'religious', socio-cultural entity known as the Buddhist Church of San Francisco) could address a series of questions. The first one "Who are we?" can be generally defined by the preceding parenthetical insert. Beginning with this month's column I would like to offer my thoughts on each of the six questions: who, what, where, who are we serving, how are we doing, and why?

Sakyamuni Buddha's awakening to the Dharma (Truth) which was essentially seeing what was already there, or actually not there, is the basis of the life science that developed into what is referred to as the Buddhist religion. His realization that since all existence is in a constant state of change, flux, impermanence, and by natural extension of this fact, that no-thing exists, independent, unchanging unto itself. Therefore, we are all mutually inter-dependent on/with each other, no one lives alone. At the same time, or rather in the midst of conscious "time" we have our unique independent thoughts, perspectives, inter-actions with the "world" we both create through our thoughts, and are a part of.

Just as we cannot individually live/be without the support of everything that surrounds and sustains our finite, momentary existence, the organization named in our Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of California, Buddhist Church of San Francisco is not an isolated entity. **We "are"** who we are by virtue of any and all who choose to place themselves under the umbrella of the BCSF. The BCSF in turn is also a rib of the umbrella known as the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA), which is a part of the religious institutional umbrella named the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha (Nishi Hongwanji), based in Kyoto, Japan. **(See inserted chart).**

Organizationally speaking we have a system where individuals and families have placed their names on our membership roster, contribute annual pledges and donations on special occasions which help to maintain our church's operational budget, and participate in our religious and social activities. A percentage of the budget is also sent to help support the operation of the Buddhist Churches of American headquarters and various national and international programs.

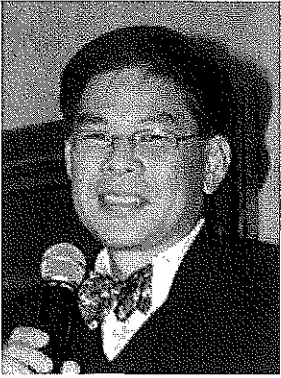
Administratively we have a democratically elected Board of Directors who in turn elect BCSF's Executive Officers who voluntarily assume the responsibilities for the overall operations of the church. Volunteer roles extend out into a variety of temple sponsored affiliates that provide religious, cultural, social, educational programs for a diverse group of people of various ages, genders, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, the common focus being a general identification with the BCSF umbrella. This is where our community/membership boundaries become less defined. Our membership records reported to the BCA headquarters are based upon the registered members. In practice we enjoy the support and involvement of the many people who devote their time, energy and resources to keep the BCSF sponsored programs functioning effectively for the benefit of the community at large. In support of the fact that the BCSF provides the venue for these affiliated programs the people involved provide invaluable assistance in carrying out activities that keeps center pole of the umbrella in place. Using this metaphor I would offer that the canopy and pole of our umbrella is the Jodo Shinshu tradition of Buddhism.

So to conclude, I offer that "Who we are as the BCSF(Sangha)" is a community where wisdom is its light and compassion its life, where people come to know each other, trust each other, ever mindful of the inter-relationship of all (Oneness), having things in common; and where there is a harmony of differences.

Ideally, our shared sense of identity as "members" of the BCSF community will be formalized in the form of being a registered member who identifies him/herself as a Buddhist of the Jodo Shinshu tradition.

Namu AmidaButsu

# President's Message



Greetings! I look forward to the opportunity to serve you--the members of our Sangha, the BCSF Board and our temple community--as your president during this important year leading up to the 750<sup>th</sup> celebration of the birth of Shinran. The 750 years of our tradition and 112 year history of our own temple speak to the profound legacy we have inherited—and the strength of our Sangha founded upon *shinjin* and Faith.

As we start this year together, I ask each of you to contemplate the meaning of our foundation of Faith. To start, let's ask ourselves some simple questions: Do we understand the concept of having Faith or Entrusting in the Wisdom and Compassion that we call Amida? Next, do we know why we say, "The Nembutsu is the Expression of Our Gratitude?" If these questions do not make sense to you, don't lament. Many of us are unsure. I urge you to speak with Kobata Sensei or any of the Minister's Assistants for explanations—and hurry, because the show is about to begin.

And what show is that? It's the [BCA Shinran Shonin 750<sup>th</sup> Memorial Observance](#), including conference and service, which will be held concurrently during the National Council meeting at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose on February 27 and 28<sup>th</sup>. For details, please go to the BCA link via our BCSF website: [www.bcsfweb.org](http://www.bcsfweb.org). This will be a great conference and opportunity to sing and worship. There will be lectures geared for all levels, newcomers, seniors and the rest. Please call the office (415-776-3158) if you want to join the Sunday bus ride down and let us know if you want to reserve lunch.

If you are unable to make the 750<sup>th</sup> memorial, we will return to the theme of our Jodo Shinshu roots throughout the year. In discussions with Sensei, we will expand opportunities to discuss and learn our tradition. One such opportunity will be our new ***Dharma Exchange*** discussion group that will begin 10 minutes after the end of service in the Lounge. Led by our Minister's Assistants and Rev. Kobata (when available) the Dharma Exchange is an informal way to meet with others to discuss, ask questions or present any topic you like about Buddhism. Our next ***Buddhism 101*** class will also start in March. And MA Jerry Bolick continues his review of the Monshu's new book, "The Buddha's Wish for the World" during his Monday night advanced ***Buddhist Study Class***. Please look for *Geppo* or web postings for start times.

As for other business matters, I'm sure you have seen our big water leak. Don't worry, we're on it! We think we can fix it! We think delays in returning to full gym usage will be minimal, but we will need to repair the gym floor and ceiling during the summer. Many thanks to Susan Sakuma, Dean Hedani, Jeff Matsuoka, Doug Dorn, Emi Euyehara and Elaine Donlin for all your help in responding to this crisis.

My deeper message to all is this--while building leaks come and go, we must remain focused on the vibrancy and health of our temple. We must nourish and grow our Faith. We must focus on being a church, not just "doing" church. For this reason, I wish to dedicate my term to our newest members Thomas and Akiko Arikawa, Stephanie Hagio, Robert Hazemoto, Ann Lopes, and their children Amy and Julia Hazemoto, Jeff and Sandy Mori, Tsuyumi Tanaka, and Gilles Tarquin. You are our future. I hope you—and all of us—find belonging to our Sangha to be a rich and meaningful experience!

In Gassho,  
David Pating

# BCSF Board News

## Buddhist Church of San Francisco Board of Directors Adopted December 10, 2009 Minutes

### CLOSED SESSION:

**Attendance: Board:** Leo Balambao, John Bansavich, Dean Hedani, Julie Hatta, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Jeff Matsuoka, Linda Ono, Teresa Ono, David Pating, Marcie Sada, Emi Uyehara, Yoshimitsu Shimazu. **Others:** Rev. Ronald Kobata

President Jeff Matsuoka called the closed session meeting to order at 6:40 pm and closed it at 7:25 pm. The Board discussed the status of legal and personnel matters.

### OPEN SESSION:

**Attendance: Board:** Leo Balambao, John Bansavich, Julie Hatta, Dean Hedani, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Jeff Matsuoka, Linda Ono, Teresa Ono, David Pating, Marcie Sada, Yoshimitsu Shimazu. **Affiliates and Others:** Rev. Ronald Kobata and Tara Mochizuki

President Jeff Matsuoka called the open session meeting to order at 7:29 pm.

### General Information and Status Reports:

- A. **November 12, 2009 Board meeting minutes:** MSC—Leo Balambao/Teresa Ono that the minutes be approved as submitted. The Board thanked Harumi Kishida for taking the November minutes due to the absence of Secretary, Emi Uyehara.
- B. **Treasurer's Report:** Dean Hedani presented the Treasurer's Report due to the absence of Elaine Donlin. The BCSF fiscal year begins on November 1. Dean will meet with David Pating as the incoming President and Jeff Matsuoka as the incoming Treasurer to help build the BCSF budget, a goal for the 2010 year. The Board discussed its various CDs and enhancing BCSF's passive income. Emi suggested opening liquid CDs at First Republic which permits withdrawals during the term of a CD while providing interest. MSC- Teresa Ono/ David Pating to adopt the Treasurer's report. Approved. Dean was not able to clarify the Tomohiro account but will plan to do so at the 12/13/09 General Membership Meeting.
- C. **BEC Report:** Elaine Donlin has resigned as Chair of BEC. The group will rotate this responsibility.
- D. **Minister's Report:** Rev. Ronald Kobata  
Rev. Kobata had the BCSF's book of funerals rebound. The Onajin refurbishment is now complete as the hanging lamps have been returned from Japan. A member of our Sangha, Mr. Hanyu, has been hospitalized and is able to receive visitors.
- E. **President's Report:** Jeff Matsuoka
  - The Merced Internment Camp is holding a reunion.
  - BCA will increase its dues modestly from \$85/member to \$87.50/member. This increase will partially fund CBE; employees will not be given any compensation increases. BCA and CBE was given a generous donation by Dr. Tonaguchi.
  - BCSF will be sending a written acknowledgement for all donations \$100 and above.
  - **Shinran Shonin's 750<sup>th</sup> Commemoration:** Yasuko Fukuda and Julie Hatta are coordinating this event.
  - **Hongwanji Commemoration in May 2011:** BCSF has notified the Hongwanji that it expects 20 members to attend.
  - **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.
  - Thank you to all those who attended the Bodhi Day Service and donated refreshments.
  - Joy\_E Service: Yuri Ito will supervise and Julie Hatta will Chair the soba noodles after the service.
  - New Year's Service- Socho Ogui will attend; it is also his birthday.
  - JARF Annual Meeting on 1/19/10 will take place at BCSF.
  - BCA Nat'l Council Meeting 2/26-27/10: David Pating will attend on behalf of BCSF.
- F. **Grateful Crane Fundraiser, May 8, 2010:** Tara Mochizuki and David Pating  
Letters have been sent to lead donors and community donors. Each Board member is asked to raise \$500.00 in ticket sales. The goal is to have 300 attendees. A planning committee meeting will take place on 1/5/10 at 7:00 p.m.

### For Discussion/ Action

- A. **BCSF Sponsorship of Transportation to Shinran Shonin's 750<sup>th</sup> Commemoration in San Jose on 2/28/10:** MSC- Julie Hatta/Dean Hedani to sponsor bus at an anticipated cost of \$900 to transport members. The bus company needs to be insured for \$5 million and name BCSF as co-insured. Motion carried.

**B. Blood-borne Pathogen Policy:** Harumi Kishida

As chair of the Safety and Health Committee, Harumi suggests that BCSF have a policy regulating blood-borne pathogens. She circulated a draft policy modeled after the State of Michigan's Department of Health and the State of Connecticut Department of Health and Education. Emi offered to look into the legal requirements since BCSF has only one employee, who has any potential for exposure to blood borne pathogens. Any comments or suggestions should be given to Harumi.

**C. Ho-onko Service:** Chair needed

**D. Dues Notices and Increase:** BCSF has not raised its dues in several years. The new rates and a survey will be sent out to all members. MSC:David Pating/John Bansavich to increase dues and conduct membership survey. Motion passed.

**E. Calendar:** David Pating

David will finalize the dates and distribute the 2010 calendar.

**F. How to Respond to Requests to Rent/Use BCSF Facilities from Non-Members**

BCSF has been approached by a number of individuals and groups regarding rental/use of the facilities. An outside choir group would like to use the Hondo for practice as the fees for use of the JCCCNC where they had been practicing had apparently been increased to \$12,000/year. A church member is part of the choir, but most are not church members.

Jeff contacted BCSF's insurance broker who stated that only those individuals or organizations that are sponsored by the church are covered by BCSF's insurance. Therefore our insurance broker recommended that all outside groups and individuals should carry their own insurance of at least \$1 million/incident and should name BCSF as an additional insured. Dean commented that BCSF should not be providing insurance to outside groups and non-members. Discussion ensued regarding the desire to be welcoming to potential members and the need to ensure that BCSF protects itself legally and financially as our costs continue to rise to maintain facilities and our operating deficit also continues to rise. MSC: Julie Hatta/John Bansavich to adopt policy on rental and use of BCSF facilities for specific times and terms that take into account church membership, fees charged, maintenance needs and church sponsorship. Motion carried 10-1-1. Emi will research the terms and conditions used by JCCCNC and draft an Assumption of Risk agreement for Board review and consideration if it agrees to waive the insurance requirements under specified conditions.

There was another request by an Ikebana teacher who would like to hold classes at BCSF and would pay a percentage of her class fees to the church. BWA will explore the situation and may consider sponsorship of the class.

MSC—David Kamita/John Bansavich that the meeting be adjourned at 10:05 pm. Rev. Kobata led closing *Gassho*.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emi Uyehara, BCSF Secretary

**Buddhist Church of San Francisco**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Highlights of the January 14, 2010 Board Meeting**  
*Emi Uyehara - Past Secretary*

The Board welcomed its new Board member, Gregg Sera and its returning Board member, Yuri Ito, who will be serving three-year terms. The Board also elected its new cabinet, David Pating, President, Emi Uyehara, Vice-President, Jeff Matsuoka, Treasurer, and Yuri Ito, Secretary. The Board meetings will commence at 6:30 p.m. every second Thursday of the month except for August.

Rev. Kobata shared that on Sunday, February 14, 2010, BCSF will be hosting 15-20 visitors from the San Fernando Buddhist Temple including Rev. Usuki. There will also be a commemoration of the Executive Order authorizing the internment "Day of Remembrance" on the afternoon of Sunday, February 21, 2010 at *Sundance Kabuki Cinemas* (located at 1881 Post St. at Fillmore St. in Japantown)

Susan Sakuma presented the options for repair of the Minister's parsonage which was last done over 20 years ago. No major or structural work will be undertaken. The Board agreed to approve the repairs (including repairs to plumbing, electricity, flooring, and repairs to the apartment used by Francisco with a ceiling of \$65,000. subject to review by the Finance committee to ensure that BCSF has the funds to do the necessary work.

The Board also approved repair of the gym which was subject to a second flooding in the month due to blockage from the upstairs church restroom. Insurance is expected to cover the cost of repair including replacement of the church carpeting, affected gym tiles, walls, ceiling and flooring, less the \$10,000 deductible. The Board is also investigating the cause of the floods which have been extremely costly and disruptive.

# BCSF Board News

## Surprise Potluck!

~by Emi Uyehara

### **Thank You! - Arigato!- Mahalo Jeff and Elaine!**



*Honorees Jeffery Matsuoka and Elaine Donlin holding their framed resolutions*

The Board of Directors of BCSF hosted a surprise potluck for outgoing Board President, Jeff Matsuoka, who served in 2006, 2007 and 2009 and outgoing Treasurer, Elaine Donlin, who served from 2006-2009 on January 14, 2010 immediately preceding the Board meeting. No restaurant or caterer could equal the culinary skills of the Board and Sangha members who were present. In addition to the great food and party, the Board presented the honorees with Board Resolutions recognizing their immense contributions. The resolutions were signed by the Board members, staff, affiliates and Sangha who were present.



*Outgoing President Jeff Matsuoka, arriving fashionably late for his own party!*



Photographs courtesy of Harumi Kishida

# BWA News

## BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO Buddhist Women's Association January 10, 2010

**ATTENDANCE:** Misaye Abiko, Elaine Donlin, Yasuko Fukuda, Harumi Kishida, Yuri Ito, Ibuki Lee, Ayako Nishimoto, Nell Noguchi, Linda Ono, Midori Otsuki, Betty Tsugawa, Helen Utsumi, Kiyoko Yamasaki, Yoshi Yao, Tami Yasuhara, Jeff Matsuoka, Rev. Kobata N=17

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

**APPROVAL OF 11/8/09 Minutes:** Y. Ito noted a correction under New Business, BWA Memorial Service, Shizue Miyasaki (not Kiyo) passed away in 2009. Minutes otherwise approved as printed in the November Geppo.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Two questions from the November report were clarified re \$150.00 income and \$425.83 expense. Yoshi will follow up re whether S. Kashiwagi was reimbursed for October conference expenses. Y. Fukuda submitted \$10.00 from sale of a bento at the October conference and \$99.00 from the Hoppo Fukuoka visitors. \$99.00 will be donated to the BDBWL Hoppo Fukuoka Exchange fund.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A. Nishimoto:

1. Note and donation received from Hatsumi Ishii for which an appreciation letter sent.
2. Invitations to BWA Year End Potluck sent to new members Julie Hatta and Noriko Takikawa, Rev. Kobata and Ministers Assistants, Outgoing Board President-Jeff Matsuoka, Incoming Board President-David Pating, Church Secretary-Elena Kastritsis, Church Custodian-Francisco Estrada.
3. Donation received from Kazue Kanegawa for Ginza Bazaar for which an appreciation letter was sent.
4. Letters of appreciation for donations received sent to 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday honorees: Miyako Kazama, Ruth Toriumi, and Helen Utsumi.
5. Cover letter enclosing our check to CBE for \$1,100 (5% of unrestricted funds) sent to Joyce Nakatsu, Treasurer, FBWA.
6. Note and donation received from Joyce Yamasaki in appreciation for our Get Well card.
7. Acknowledgement letter received from Hiroko Tsuda, FBWA President and Joyce Nakatsu, Treasurer, FBWA for our \$1,100 check to CBE.
8. Note and donation received from the Abiko Family for our expression of sympathy for which an appreciation letter was sent.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Y. Yao

1. Yoshi reported on the last Bay District BWA meeting where discussion centered around drafting a policy to address the BDBWA's potential liability should another visitor become ill and/or need hospitalization. San Mateo will look into this and will report back.
2. Marin will be hosting Bay District BWA Conference on October 16, 2010 and have asked for suggestions for a guest speaker. Yoshi will attend the next meeting on Jan 30 where she will also promote the BCSF Grateful Crane program to the other chapters.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- ESHINI SERVICE IN NOVEMBER** – The service went well thanks to E. Donlin and A. Yoshimoto for chairing, and the November Toban for refreshments.
- WINTER BOUTIQUE** – H. Kishida reported a record profit of \$701.21. She motioned that \$250 be given to the BWA Craft Committee, \$100 to the Jr. YBA, and the remaining \$401.21 to the church. Seconded by E. Donlin, and approved by majority vote.
- YEAR END POTLUCK** - Very enjoyable, good food and great slide show of E. Donlin's trip to India.
- BCSF ANNUAL REPORT** – The mission statement got omitted in the final version of the BWA report; it will be included next year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. NEW YEAR LUNCHEON 1/24/10** – Y. Fukuda

The Luncheon will be held at Hotel Kabuki. Menu items will include mixed green salad, grilled chicken or sea bass, chocolate mouse cake or tiramisu. \$25 for members younger than 79 years and \$20 for those over 80 years. A. Nishimoto has purchased prizes, there will be one grand prize for the raffle.

**B. WORLD FEDERATION CONFERENCE 2011** - Y. Fukuda is looking into the Palo Alto Itinerary.

**C. 750<sup>th</sup> SHINRAN SHONIN MEMORIAL 2/29/10 IN SAN JOSE** – Those interested in the Saturday symposium should register soon. On Sunday there will be bus transportation, seating is limited, sign up asap.

**D. HOONKO SERVICE AND LUNCHEON 1/17/10** – Chaired by Marcie Sada and Julie Hatta. B. Tsugawa to serve tea.

S. Yamada to help with flowers. N. Noguchi and A. Nishimoto to distribute lunches with help from Ed Nishimoto and Shinji Yao. E. Nishimoto to tend bar. Y. Fukuda to escort guests. Yasuko to make seafood dip. Yoshi to make artichoke dip,

Betty to bring Hickory Farm sausages, Ayako chips, Linda bread. Cake has been ordered from Sweet Stop. Rev. Kobata to confirm Zenzai (mochi and red bean) preparation with Dharma School Teachers.

**E. LADY KUJO SERVICE 3/7/10** – E. Donlin to see if Rev. Himaka is available to speak. A question re lunch or refreshments came up; last year sandwiches were served. One year there was a silent meal.

**F. SPONSOR IKEBANA LESSONS** – BWA was asked if they would sponsor ongoing Ikenobo lessons at BCSF. Sponsorship would include insurance coverage, opening/clean up/closing of the church. The instructor would charge \$20 per person per class of which \$5 would be donated back to the church. After some discussion of pros and cons, it was decided that BWA declined to take on sponsorship.

**G. HINAMATSURI DISPLAY** - The February Toban will set up the display the first weekend in March. Contact Francisco re the platform. The March Toban will take down the display at the end of March.

**H. FEBRUARY CHICKEN BENTO** - Because the ticket price was raised to \$10, members were encouraged make an effort to sell as many tickets as possible. In the past we have made as many as 1800 bentos, but recently we have prepared 1400. Yoshi asked for a volunteer to take over ticket distribution from Ayako, who has been doing it for the past several years. This entails writing a cover letter, counting out tickets, getting mailing labels from the office and mailing.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES:

**MEMBERSHIP** – J. Yamasaki is updating the cabinet, member roster and toban list which she will print for the luncheon. The Cabinet will stay the same for 2010. Elaine volunteered to help Suzanne as Co-Treasurer when she finishes as BCSF Treasurer.

**RELIGIOUS** – E. Donlin reported that Rev. Kobata and ministers assistants are conducting monthly services at Kokoro and Kimochi. She met with Paula Westhall, Buddhist Chaplain for California Pacific Medical Center and may develop hospital visitations.

**WELFARE** – T. Yasuhara

1) Y. Fukuda, H. Kishida, N. Noguchi and H. Utsumi visited Kokoro on Dec 2.

2) B. Tsugawa and T. Yasuhara visited Kimochi on Dec 15. Tami noted that Kimochi would like volunteers to help with Bingo on Tuesdays at 1:00.

3) Cards will be sent to members who have been ill recently. Note, it was advised that the names of sick or injured would be omitted from minutes to respect the privacy and confidentiality of health information.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) While cleaning out the storage area, a box of BCSF happi coats was found. It was suggested that some be kept for BWA members to wear during events and some be donated to the choir.

2) It was suggested than inventory behind the onajin be sorted out. Some items could be sold at Bazaar and/or donated to JSC.

3) BWA is responsible for chairing service every fourth Sunday. A volunteer is needed for April 25<sup>th</sup> as we will be in San Jose in February and there will be church clean up in March.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

**Next meeting Sunday, February 14, 2010** Closing *Gassho* by E. Donlin.

Respectfully submitted,  
L. Ono

### BWA TOBAN

#### FEBRUARY TOBAN

Noriko Takikawa  
Akemi Yoshimoto  
Miyuki Masada  
Kimiko Yaginuma  
Akiko Yamagishi

#### MARCH TOBAN

Hiroko Okawachi  
Kazuko Kobara  
Emi Kuruma  
Kay Maeyama  
Mickie Ochi

### BCA HAITI RELIEF FUND

The *Buddhist Churches of America* would like to extend its heartfelt condolences to the families of those who have lost love one in the catastrophic earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010.

BCA has initiated a fundraising drive in response to the immense needs of the Haitian people. **If you wish to contribute, please write a check payable to Buddhist Church of San Francisco, write "Haiti Relief" in the memo line and on the envelope, and REMIT BY FEBRUARY 15.** Our temple will then write one check to BCA, which will be forwarded to the appropriate agency or agencies to assist with the relief efforts for the people of Haiti.

Thank you very much for your contribution to this important relief effort.

# Temple News & Announcements

## A Happy New Year Greeting from Belize!

~by Sandy Yamakishi,  
former BCSF President

It's hard to believe we are entering a new decade - 2010 sounds so futuristic, especially for us old timers who've been around on this planet for many decades.

I send New Year's greetings to everyone at the temple for I dearly miss all the activities and friendships I experienced during my time there. I try to carry the Dharma teachings with me every day while I live and work in Belize. The mindfulness of Buddha's teachings and meditations have helped me adjust to this new environment and culture. Although many of you may think of Belize as a wonderful destination for vacationing at the exotic resorts and beautiful coral reefs, the reality of this country is quite different. More than half the people live in rural villages and at poverty level. Many still live with outside latrines, potable water is not the norm, let alone the luxury of hot water for washing, cooking, and bathing. Many of the villagers have only a primary

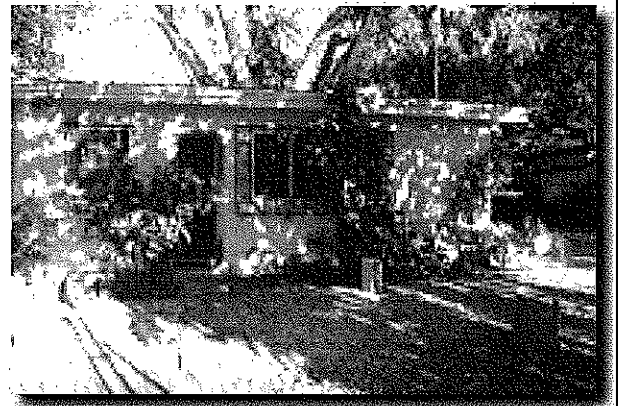


Sandy at the ancient Mayan city of Caracol

level of education and very few resources to better their lives. In spite of their harsh way of life, I have found that people here accept existence as it is and can find a level of happiness and contentment through family and church. Yes, religion is a big part of their daily lives. I have experienced their kindness and have been warmly welcomed as a Peace Corps volunteer. I hope that, in turn, I can demonstrate the same and help them strengthen the country through my work with the government both at the local and national level, and that by the end of my two years I can see that I made a difference in their lives.

Elena at the BCSF office has been helpful in keeping me in the Sangha and updating me with all the activities and events of the temple. I find that staying connected to BCSF friends and to the Dharma teachings have helped me through this transition and I want to thank everyone.

Gassho,  
Sandy Yamakishi



Sandy's home away from home in Belmopan, Belize

## Chicken Bento

The Chicken Bento fundraising event will take place on **February 21st, 2010**. This year the price of Chicken Bentos will increase to \$10.00.

A signup sheet is now available online at [www.bcsfweb.org](http://www.bcsfweb.org). Please volunteer if you can.

Tickets are available for purchase from the office. Please call 415-776-3158 to reserve a ticket and arrange for payment.



## A Heartfelt Thank You! Elena Kastritsis, BCSF Office

January marks a year since I started working full-time at the Buddhist Church of San Francisco. I would like to take the opportunity of this anniversary to thank all the people who have made my transition here easier, and my daily life more pleasant.

Many thanks to:

**Nanayo Silver**, for gently easing me into the very complex operations of this office during the many months we spent working together. Without this long training period, I would have been lost.

**All the volunteers** who help me around the office, thus lightening my daily workload and cheering me up. I won't mention names as there are so many of you and anyway, you know who you are!

**Rev. Kobata and Francisco Estrada** for being patient and helpful and a couple of the most collegial colleagues I've ever had.

**The BCSF Board** for their guidance and approachability.

**The entire BCSF Sangha** for welcoming me so warmly into your community. It means a lot.

GASSHO!

# Temple Announcements

## Nikkei Hit Parade

Dear Sangha,

You are cordially invited to attend a special BCSF fundraiser including

**silent auction, dinner, and a premier performance by the Grateful Crane Ensemble, Inc.,** singing popular songs by favorite singers from the 1940's, like Koko ni Sachi Ari by Misora Hibari.

### **The Nikkei Hit Parade: A Tribute to the Nisei Generation**

will be held Mother's Day weekend on:

**Saturday, May 8, 2010, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

Please purchase tickets early, **before February 28<sup>th</sup>**, as seats are limited. Invitations to BCA temples and community organizations will go out on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Don't wait, you won't want to miss these swinging, sweet memories of younger days and historic times!

Gassho,

BCSF Nikkei Hit Parade Planning Committee

**BCSF NIKKEI HIT PARADE  
TICKET ORDER FORM  
\$60 PER PERSON  
\$600 Table for Ten**

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$60 = \_\_\_\_\_

Table Reservation @ \$600.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Return form and payment to BCSF Office before February 28<sup>th</sup> to ensure your seats.

You may also purchase by phone using a major credit card.

Call 415-776-3158 M-F between 2-5 pm

**HOW YOU CAN HELP BCSF  
NIKKEI HIT PARADE FUNDRAISER**

Donate an item for the silent auction:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase an ad for the program by 4/1  
Layout ready black & white photo,  
OR text of favorite family memory.

Business card size \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

¼ Page \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

½ Page \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Full Page \$200.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Help the Committee:

Solicit donations or ads \_\_\_\_\_

Help with Publicity \_\_\_\_\_

Set up or Clean-up \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Call 415-776-3158, M-F between 2-5pm

# Acknowledgments for December

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

## Memorials

Harada, Sharon Y	100.00	Ishisaki, Ben and Mary	50.00	Shimada, Chizu	20.00
Kojimoto Family	300.00	Judge, Atsuko	25.00	Shimamoto, Hiko and Susan	50.00
Mitani, Shigeto	50.00	Kagami, Akiko	50.00	Shiozaki, Eddie and Margie	50.00
Suyeyasu, Family	200.00	Kitashima, Alan	50.00	Suyeyasu, Marumi	100.00
Tomita, Tomie	200.00	Kodama, Barbara	20.00	Takeoka, Yoshiko	30.00
		Marubayashi, Stanley H	30.00	Tohei, Joanne Kiyoko	15.00
		Masuda, James and Michiko	60.00	Tong, Dorothy	20.00
		Mihara, Etsumi	20.00	Yamaguchi, Shinya and Helen	100.00
		Minemoto, Toshio	15.00	Yamakawa, Satoshi and Kayoko	30.00
		Mizono, John	500.00	Yamamura, Hisashi Jay	20.00
		Murata, Teru	20.00	Yasuhara, Tamiko	25.00
		Murata, Yukio	20.00	Yoshimura, Yoneo	300.00
		Nakai, Ruriko	100.00		
		Nakamura, Harry	100.00	<b>Special Contributions</b>	
		Nakamura, Tetsuo	50.00	Abiko Family	200.00
		Nakata, Evelyn	50.00	Abiko, Rev. Hiroshi & Misaye	100.00
		Nishimura, Masako and Ronald	20.00	Anonymous	5.00
		Nishimura, Sumiko	50.00	Aoki, Eiko	10.00
		Noguchi, Nellie	100.00	Aoki, Eiko	10.00
		Nonaka, John	25.00	Galant, Milton and Michelle	25.00
		Nonaka, Victor	20.00	Kurihara, Marie M	25.00
		Ogawa, Mieko	200.00	Kuruma, Emiko	300.00
		Oka, Yoshi	100.00	Nagai, Brian Kaoru	100.00
		Omori, Shigeko	20.00	Osada, William and Louise	1,000.00
		Osaki, Hisao and Henry	25.00	San Jose Betsuin Dharma School	75.00
		Oshima, George	20.00	San Jose Betsuin Dharma School	75.00
		Ota, S. John	20.00	Seiki, Sim & Sue	100.00
		Sako, Joe and Takaye	30.00	Yamagishi, R.R.	300.00
		Sakumoto, Yurimi	30.00		
		Serran, Joanne	10.00		

## Funerals

Fukuhara, Kazuaki 300.00  
Takeuchi, Kazuko 500.00

## Nokotsudo

Yamashita, Masao and Saeko 100.00

## Shotsuki Hoyo

Abe Family 40.00  
Ando, Eiko 20.00  
Anonymous 10.00  
Anonymous 20.00  
Anonymous 10.00  
Arita, Hideko 25.00  
Harada, Chiyeko 25.00  
Harada, Margaret and Ryan 100.00  
Hattori, Masako 50.00  
Hayashi, Shigeo and Sumie 30.00  
Higashi, Jitsuo and Sakaye 100.00

# Sustaining Donors

Thank you for being one of our sustaining donors and for keeping the doors to the Buddhist Church of San Francisco open! You can become a sustaining member by paying the higher membership dues. Donation envelopes for the major services are not sent to sustaining members. *Please note that this list does not yet include those who became Sustaining Members in 2010, as membership payments for 2010 have not yet been fully processed. The list will hopefully be updated in time for the following edition of the Geppo. Thank you for your understanding!*

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

## (Acknowledgments, continued)

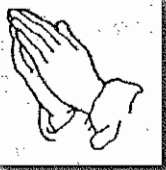
## OSEIBO

Anonymous	Kazama, Miyako	Osada, William and Louise
Anonymous	Kishida, Russell and Harumi	Oshita, Yuriko
Aoki, Eiko	Kitahata, Gary & Arlene	Otsuki, Midori
Arakawa, Atlas and Janet	Kotabe, Sharonlee	Sada, Marcie and Gary
Arita, Hideko	Kunihara, Daniel and Janet	Sako, Joe A
Cash	Kunihara, Fumiko	Sano, Elsie
Chizuko Kakiuchi	Kurata, Joseph	Sato, Hideo
Mochizuki, Tara and Jeffrey Chu	Lee, Ibuki	Satoda, Yone
Doi, George	Lee, Miyoko	Satow, Midori
Donlin, Elaine	Maeyama, Jun and Kay	Sekino, Kikuyo
Eguchi, Mae	Masada, Miyuki	Shida, Hiroko
Fletcher, Marjorie	Matoi, Helen	Shigio, Matao
Fukumoto, Allan	Matsuda, Kent	Shimoda, Adele
Fukunaga, Bob	Matsumoto, Sachio	Shintaku, Yone
Fukunaga, Jean Y	Matsuoka, Jeffery	Stewart, Pablo, M.D.
Fukushima, Yoshitomi	Matsuoka, Wayne and Kiyoka	Sumida, Tatsuo and Yoko
Furuya, Yas and Emiko	Mizono, Gary and Lisa	Suzuki, Harry and Lorraine
Hagio, Stephanie	Mizota, Asaye	Taguchi, Michiko and Jiro
Hamai, Tak and Bernice	Mizuri, Masami & Toshiko	Takeoka, Nora
Harada, Chiyeko	Mizutani, Chiyoko	Takeoka, Yoshiko
Harada, Margaret and Ryan	Munekawa, Satoru and Anna	Tanaka, Isago
Hatakeyama, Glen & Reiko	Murakami Yukiye	Tanaka, Setsuko J
Hatta-Wong, Julie and Francis Wong	Murakami, Shirley	Tanaka, Violet
Hayashi, Shigeo	Nagai, Brian Kaoru	Tarquin, Gilles
Hedani, Dean and Melainie	Naito, Kiyoshi	Tomita, Art and Tomie
Higashi, Jitsuo and Sakaye	Nakai, Ruriko	Tong, Kayo
Hirota, Mitsuko	Nakamoto, Haruko	Toriumi, Ruth Reiko
Hirota, Yoshikazu	Nakano, Diane	Tsugawa, Robert and Betty
Horita, Rosie	Nakao, Shizue	Tsujimoto, Sumiko
Ichimoto, Setsuko	Nakata, Evelyn	Utsumi, Takeo and Helen
Ikuma, Masahiko and Kazuye	Narahara, M and Mary U.	Uyemoto, Terry and Sachiye
Inouye, Alice	Nerio, Tokie	Yaginuma Kimiko
Inouye, George	Nishimoto, Clara	Yamada, Minoru and Suzanne
Inouye, Robert and Kyoko	Nishimoto, Edward and Ayako	Yamagishi, Edward and Akiko
Ishii, Charles	Nishimura, Masako and Ronald	Yamamoto, Dick and Elaine
Ishii, Hatsumi	Noda, Yaeko	Yamamoto, Takeo and Yasuko
Ishisaki, Ben and Mary	Nonaka, Takeo	Yamamoto, Takiko
Ito, Yuriye	Ochi, Mickie	Yamasaki, Joyce
Iwasaki, Kojiro and Eiko	Oka, Yoshi	Yamasaki, Kiyoko
Iwasaki, Shigetoshi	Oka, Yukiko	Yamashita, Mitsuo
Iwase, Masako	Okamoto, Kumi	Yao, Shinji and Carolee Yoshi
Judge, Atsuko	Okamura, Ricky	Yao, Yutaka
Kagehiro, Satoko and Setsuko	Okiuye, Richard J	Yasuda, Jane
Kajiyama, Aiko	Omori, Shigeo	Yasuhara, Tamiko
Kamishita, Toshiko	Ono, Junko	Yasumoto, John & Chitose
Kanegawa, Kazue	Ono, Linda S.	Yokoyama, Namiko
Kashiwagi Hiroshi and Sadako	Ono, Mitsue	Yonemoto, Lois
Katsuyama, Minoru and Setsuko	Ono, Teresa	Yoshikawa, Benji and Miyeko
		Yoshimoto, Akemi

Thank you!

ありがとう!

Arigato!



*Many thanks to all those who kindly made Oseibo donations. We are humbled by your generosity and hope that we can continue to serve the Buddhist Church of San Francisco and the BCSF Sangha to the best of our abilities.*

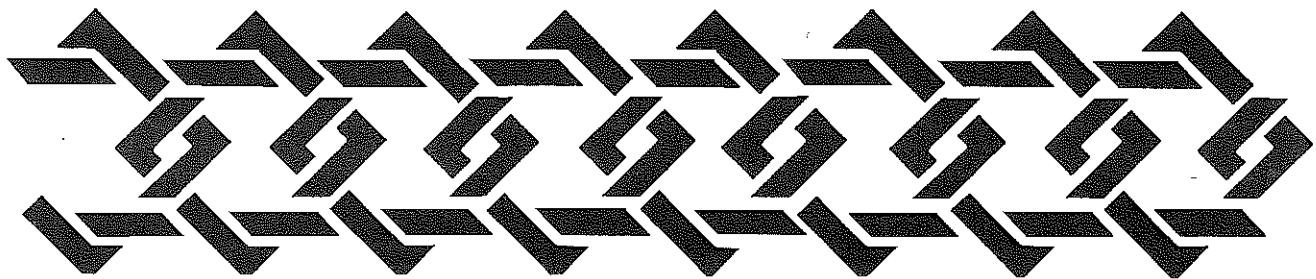
*Gassho,*

*Reverend Ronald K. Kobata, Minister  
Francisco Estrada and Elena Kastritsis, Staff*

# Shotsuki Hoyo

The memorial service for your loved ones who passed away in February will be held on Sunday, February 14, 2010. You are most welcome to attend.

Vivian Kiyoshi Akashi	Suketaro Kabumoto	William Y. Mitsuda	Hirofumi Okamura	Tomiko Suyehiro
Satoko Akiya	Kenjiro Kachu	Yoshiko Mitsuda	Masako Onishi	Haruko Taga
Robin Akemi Arakawa	Robert Takahiro Kai	Saizo Mizota	Kanemi Ono	Masao Takahashi
Kiyoko Aihara Barnes	Uta Kamatani	Tomotaro Miyamoto	Sukeichi Oto	Saburo Takamatsu
Mitsue Curameng	Mikazu Kami	Shizue Miyasaki	Junko Owaki	Natsuko Takenaka
Minekichi Enomoto	Hiroki Kan	Yoshio Miyazaki	Hikoshiro Ozaki	Hoover Yoshisuke Takeoka
Sadako Enomoto	Yuku Kanegawa	Yoshio Mizutani	Takashi Ozawa	Hatsuye Takesaki
Kazuichi Fujisada	Yoshihei Katsumoto	Fem Mori	Yoji Sakaguchi	Moto Tanabe
Masao Fujisada	Kankuro Kawaguchi	Kinjiro Moriguchi	Clifford Roy Sakai	Tadao Tanaka
Miyako Fujiwara	Takao Kimura	Kenneth Seiji Morioka	Kinichi Sakai	Masao Tateiwa
Kango Fukuhara	Natsue Kitagawa	Setsuo Morishita	Sumio Sakita	Akiko Terada
Kazuye Fukunaga	Mitsu Kojimoto	Yoshiko Mukai	Ichisuke Sako	Mabel Takeko Tokugawa
Jinzaburo Furukawa	Jean Hiroko Koga	Masaji "Buffy" Murai	Henry S. Sano	Shiteyo Tono
Yakichi Futatsuki	Atsuzo Komada	Baby Murakami	Gennosuke Sato	Sadako Toriumi
Walter Wataru Hashimoto	Emiko Komatsu	Sadako Murakami	Irving Katsumi Sato	Kimie Toshiyuki
Kazuyoshi Hasui	Tomoye Kuroda	Gail Murata	Harry Minoru Sawasaki	Tomokichi Tsuchihira
Kimiko Higaki	Keiko Kurotori	Teruyo Nagahisa	Hiroshi Shibata	Masame Tsuda
Denuemon Higashi	Yasuko Kusano	Rika Nagayama	Seikichi Shibuta	Jessie Tsurumoto
Shuichi Hirakawa	Jitsukusu Kusumine	Yoshio Nakahigashi	Hichitaro Shigyo	Sueki Uemura
Nobuo Hiramoto	Klara Mieko Ma	Seijiro Nakai	Hikoharu Shimamoto	Hajime Wada
Kakuzo Ichimaru	Itoe Masuda	George Joji Nakano	Kurouemon Shimizu	Masako Washimi
Frank Iga	Tsuneo Masuda	Kazuma Nakao	Sachi Shimizu	Masako Yamagishi
Sadakichiro Ihara	Jiyo Matsuba	Satoyo Nakao	Yoshizo Shimosaka	Grace Takako Yamamoto
Ono Imada	Anabel W. Matsuhara	Hatsue Narahara	Chiyuko Shinagawa	Yoshiye Yamamoto
Yoshinobu Imada	Iwakichi Matsuhara	Yoshi Nekoba	Shoso Frank Shintaku	Tsui Yamasaki
Alice Fumiko Imamoto	Yoshitetsu Matsuoka	Shizuko Nimura	Chiyo Shiozaki	Sueko Yamashita
Aiko Ino	Molly Kotoko Michida	Shigeichi Nishimoto	Yoshitaro Sonoda	Tomiko Yamashita
Katao Ishii	Kenji Mihara	Masano Nonaka	Masami Sugaya	Yoshio Yao
Kimie Ishisaki	Kikue Minamoto	Jack Shoji Nosaka	Sada Sugiura	Chieno Yoshii
Masakichi Iwasaki	Terumi Minato	Koshi Ohtake	Kenji Sumi	Ted M. Yoshikawa
Masaichi George Izuno	Wai Minato	Sono Okada	Otozo Suyehiro	Haru Yoshimura
				Saburo Yoshino



## Sympathy

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

**Masako Asaoka**, who passed away on January 4, 2010  
**Bob Fukunaga**, who passed away on January 18, 2010

今月亡くなられた方達の祥月法要は日曜日2月14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。

赤司ビビアン潔	釜谷うた	溝田才蔵	小沢タカシ	田辺もと
秋谷さと子	賀美ミカズ	水城弥一郎	坂口与二	田中忠夫
荒川明美ロビン	菅 浩樹	水谷善夫	栄クリフォード	立岩正男
バーンズ京子相原	金川ゆく	森 すみえ	酒井金一	寺田秋子
榎本峰吉	且元好平	森口謹次郎	崎田寿男	徳川メーブル竹子
榎本貞子	川口勘九郎	森岡清ニケネス	迫 一助	東野してよ
藤貞和一	木村高雄リ・ドウクン	森下節夫	佐野ヘンリー新三郎	鳥海貞子
藤貞政雄	北川夏枝	向井よしこ	佐藤源之助	利行君江
藤原みや子	クラメング光江	村井バッフィ政治	佐藤ア-ピング	土平友吉
福原貫吾	古賀広子ジーン	村上ベビー	沢崎ハリ-実	津田まさめ
福永カズエ	柑本みつ	村上定子	柴田 鑛	鶴本ジェシー雪子
古川甚三郎	小松恵美子	村田ゲイル	渋田清吉	上村末喜
二木弥吉	駒田篤三	長久輝代	執行七太郎	和田 朔
橋本ウオルター渡	黒田ともえ	永山りか	島本彦晴	鷺見政子
蓮井一良	畔取恵子	中東義雄	清水九郎右衛門	山岸政子
檜垣喜美子	草野泰子	中井清次郎	清水 幸	山本良枝
東 伝右衛門	楠峰実楠	中尾かずま	下坂吉蔵	山本孝子グレース
平川衆一	馬 みえ子 クララ	中尾里代	品川智優子	山崎ツイ
平本信夫	増田イトエ	中野ジョージ	親宅省三フランク	山下富子
一丸嘉久蔵	増田恒雄	榎原初枝	塩崎チヨ	山下スエコ
伊賀フランク	松葉ジヨ	猫葉よし	園田芳太郎	矢尾嘉夫
井原定吉郎	松原アナベル ワカコ	仁村しず子	菅谷正己	吉井ちえの
今田おの	松原岩吉	西本繁一	杉浦左田	吉川正治
今田義信	松岡正徹	野中まさの	角 健二	吉村ハル
今本アリスふみこ	道田モーリことこ	野坂ジャック正治	鷺見政子	芳野三郎
猪野愛子	南本キクエ	岡田その	末広音蔵	
石井堅生	湊 てるみ	岡村博文	末広とみこ	
石崎君枝	湊 わい	大竹孝志	多賀春子	
伊津野政一	三原賢司	大西まさ子	高橋正雄	
岩崎政吉	光田良子	小野金美	高松三郎	
株本助太郎	光田悦之助	大藤助一	竹中奈津子	
賀中見次郎	宮崎静枝	大脇純子	竹岡フ-バ喜助	
甲斐ロバート	宮本友太郎	尾崎彦四郎	竹崎初江	

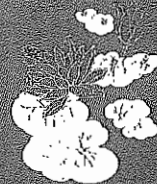
## COLMA CEMETERY JIKEIKAI NEWS



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.



## おしゃかさまの教え ⑧

上山大峻

### 第八章 菩薩たちの願い

〔自分も大切(自利)だが、人も大切(利他)〕

もちろん自分が悟って仏さまになっていくことは大切です。しかし、それだけでは自分の幸せだけを求める利己的な人格となり、人々の幸せを無視する生き方になっていきます。大乘仏教の主眼は、むしろ人々の幸せこそが第一であるということにあります。私の命が多くの他の命に支えられていることを思えば、自分一人だけがよければよいという考え方は基本的に成り立ちません。自と他は「依りあっている」のです。それこそがおしゃかさまの「縁起の教え」にほかなりません。このように他の

人々の幸せを目標にし、自分の能力はそのために磨いていくのだという考え方が大乘仏教の精神です。そしてそのような人間像を目指して努力していく人を「菩薩(Bodhisattva)」と言います。普賢菩薩、弥勒菩薩、観音菩薩、地藏菩薩など、多くの大乘経典は、そういう菩薩たちの願いと実践を紹介しながら、私たちの自己中心的な生き方の誤りに気づかせ、本当に自由で安楽な世界(浄土)をめざすように導きます。

#### 〔法蔵菩薩の願いとその実現〕

それぞれに菩薩たちが登場する多くの大乘経典のなかで、法然聖人や親鸞聖人が特に注目されたのが「仏説無量寿経」という経典です。なぜ法然聖人がこの

経典に着目され、親鸞聖人が「真実の教」とまで評価されたのでしょうか。

上記のように、大乘仏教の主眼は、自利・利他の実現(自利利他円満)です。仏はそれを完成した覚体で、すべてのもの(一切衆生)を悟らせ救う能力が備わっています。たしかに智慧と慈悲を得て、成仏を実現する道はつけられてはいます。

しかし、現実には、その道も私たち煩惱多き愚かな凡夫には、とても難しく実現できるものではありません。それでは、一切のものを仏にするといいながら、実際は閉ざされていることにはならないのか。このことこそ、法然聖人や親鸞聖人の前に立ちふさがった疑問ではなかったでしょうか。凡夫もまた一切衆生の中にある、それが成仏する道はないのか。法然聖人が「大蔵経」を五回も読み通されたというのも、その道を見いだすためではなかったかと思いま

す。そして見つけられたのが「仏説無量寿経」です。

このお経を説かれるとき、おしゃかさまのお顔は輝いていて(光顔巍巍)いつもとは違っていたと言います。なぜ、とお弟子の阿難尊者が尋ねたら、今から、私の生涯でもっとも大切なこと(出世本懐)を説こうとしているからだ、と答えられたと言います。そして語られたのが、阿弥陀如来が仏に成ろうとされた動機とその経過についてでした。もともと法蔵菩薩という修行者が長いながい修行の後、阿弥陀如来として成仏され安楽浄土を建立されるのですが、その目的は「如来」世に興するゆえは、道教(仏道)を光闡(明かにする)して群萌を拯ひ、恵むに真実の利をもつてせんと欲してなり」ということにありました。まさに阿弥陀如来の目的だったのです。