

What Do You Say When...

Awkward Moments In The Life Of A Buddhist Teen

Helen Tagawa and the High School class presented a series of skits based on these themes and offered interesting insight for today's youth.

Performances by:

Michael Adachi , Chloe Tagawa, Kevin Honda
Ariana Bondoc , Mali McGuire, Maya Kato, Laura Kim Yee
Scott Yamada, Tyler Tagawa , Lauren Low
Kai Wilmsen, Kaz Lewis, Spencer Wakida, Kyle Honda
Tyler Yin, Steven Jin, Sangay Dorgee, Christopher Yee, Zoe Tamaki



I Pledge Allegiance,
But Why Do I Have To Say God?



What Do You Say When...
You're Faced With An Awkward Misconception



The Gift



More Awkward Moments



Karma?! Really?

A Night's Lodging Denied

Our Minister's Assistants and IBS students also presented a sketch about a true story in Shinran Shonin's life. This was part of Edythe Vassall's adult Dharma message on "Peace and Tranquility vs. Anger." The story illustrated Shinran's compassionate reaction to a man who refused him shelter during a snowstorm. It made the point that it is not so easy to determine who is right and who is wrong in any given situation.

Performed by:

David Fujimoto, Takashi Miyaji, Diana Thompson, Edythe Vassall, Christina Yanko

Happy Birthday

to Rev. Yamashita and Rev. Matsumoto who celebrated birthdays in February.

President's Message

We were happy to see and hear from everyone that attended the General Meeting last month. Our goals and activities for the year will include:

- 2010 edition of the Sangha Album
- Formation of new Sangama/groups
- Adopting a motto and mission statement
The proposed motto and mission statement are at the bottom of this page.
- Video system for the Hondo

The success of our Temple depends upon everyone's involvement in the planning and implementation of ideas. If you have a suggestion, please feel free to email or speak with me. I am always open to trying new things and offer the following...

There are seven methods to be followed if the Sangha is to be a success¹:

- They should gather together frequently to listen to the teachings and to discuss them.
- Members of different social classes should mingle freely and respect each other.
- Revere the teachings and respect the rules.
- Elders and younger members are to treat each other with courtesy.
- Let sincerity and reverence mark their spirit.
- Purify the mind in a quiet place and offer the place to another before it is taken for oneself.
- Be sympathetic with all people, treat visitors cordially, console sickness with kindness.

Gassho,
Scott Takeda

¹Buddha, Truth and Brotherhood
Published by Dwight Goddard, Santa Barbara, CA 1934
Thank you again to Donna Inouye at Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple for her research and inspiration

Namu Amida Butsu

to everyone for their support of the Marrow Registration drive. These drives help make a difference in someone's life.

More than a Thank You, Namu Amida Butsu expresses our compassion for the patients and the deep sense of gratitude extended by the families.

Sangama²

Movie Time

The first meeting of the Movie Time group was held at the Sony Metreon IMAX auditorium for the 3D showing of Avatar.

Avatar is one of the most visually impressive films I've seen – better than the Matrix (my favorite movie) and Jurassic Park. The IMAX 3D show is worth the extra five. The plot and storyline are also outstanding, and is comparable to Dances With Wolves in a future galaxy.

Studio: 20th Century Fox

Genre: Action/Adventure

Rated: PG-13

Director: James Cameron

Review by Scott Takeda

Book Club

Suggested reading:

Children's Books

The Flower And The Raindrop by Diana Thompson
Featured during the January 17 Dharma talk by the author

Three Cups Of Tea (Young Reader's edition) by Greg Mortensen

General

Hotel On The Corner Of Bitter And Sweet by Jamie Ford

Color Of The Sea by John Hanamura of Oakland

Molokai by Alan Brennert

Summer Of The Big Bachi by former Rafu Shimpō editor Naomi Hirahara

Inspiration Circle

Invitation to meet with a Tibetan Buddhist group of the Dzogchen Meditation And Retreat Center.

Ikebana

We are currently seeking an instructor for the group.

If you missed the sign-ups and are interested in joining these groups, please email Scott Takeda at info@berkeleysangha.org.

² Sangama is a Pali word loosely translated as group
Thank you to Bhante Seelawimala and Edythe Vassall for the encouragement

Our Temple

The Place Where Our Spiritual Life And True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission

To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share It With Others