

the Padma

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

March 2012

Web Edition



Step back into history and visit sites of the "Kakure Nembutsu" in Kagoshima.

Our Vision

A Community Where Our Spiritual Life And True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission

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

March 2012

the Padma

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2121 Channing Way, Berkeley, California 94704 (510) 841-1356

WEB EDITION

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
NOTE: For temple matters, please contact Rev. Matsumoto at (510) 841-1356, or leave a message on the temple answering machine. Temple web: www.berkeleysangha.org Temple e-mail: info@berkeleysangha.org				1	2 Techno Buddha Conference→ at JSC	3 Techno Buddha Conference→ at JSC Bay Dist. Jr. YBA 10am in Social Hall
4 9:30 am Dana Day Family Svc Gst Spkr: Rev. Ikuo Nishimura Obento luncheon following service →Techno Buddha Conference	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:30 am Dharma Family Svc 11:00 am BBWA Cabinet Mtg Sangha Singers practice after svc (3:00 pm Funeral Service)	12	13 Crafts 10 – 1 Temple Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	14	15	16	17
18 9:30 am Spring Ohigan Family Service with Sangha Singers Potluck luncheon following service	19	20 Padma Newsletter 6:30 pm	21	22	23	24
25 9:30 am Comb Dharma Family/ Shotsuki Hoyo Svc Sangha Singers practice after svc	26	27 Bazaar Meeting 7:00 pm	28	29	30	31

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 4 - Dana Day service with Guest Speaker
Rev. Ikuo Nishimura; BBWA Bento
luncheon**

March 18 - Spring O-Higan service; Potluck lunch

March 25 - DFS & Shotsuki Hoyo

March 27 - Bazaar meeting

April 1 - Hanamatsuri/Hatsumairi service

April 29 - DFS & Shotsuki Hoyo

The reason that I was born [2]

"WHY WAS I BORN?" "WHY AM I ALIVE?" Many of us ask these questions at various times and for various reasons throughout our lives. If we allow them to, these very questions can also lead us to realize a sense of appreciation and gratitude at the deepest levels of the human heart.

Jōdo Shinshū teaches us that Amida Buddha's Primal Vow represents the depth and breadth of the Buddha's heart. I take this to mean that life itself has a basic wish—that all living things may become themselves and give themselves freely to others so that they also might live. To rephrase it further, the Buddha's wish, I believe, is that all beings may be happy and realize limitless joy, together with all others. Shinran describes his encounter with this purposeful working of Amida's Vow in this way: His heart is rooted in the Buddha ground of the universal Vow. His thoughts flow within the inconceivable dharma ocean. As he awakens to the Buddha's wish, his joy grows ever fuller and his gratitude and indebtedness ever more compelling.

When we are able to awaken to the fulfillment of the Buddha's Vow, we can also realize a deep sense of appreciation. At the same time, our realization of deep appreciation is none other than the fulfillment of the Buddha's Vow. "*Why was I born?*" "*Why am I alive?*" I was born to receive this basic wish of life. That is the meaning of Amida Buddha's Primal Vow. I was born in order to be happy, to realize boundless and limitless joy, together with all other beings. I was born in order to give thanks—to live a life of awareness, authenticity and appreciation.

This is a universal human experience and a deeply human insight. It is not exclusive to Jōdo Shinshū. Sakamura Shinmin, a follower of the Pure Land school of Jishū, wrote this verse.

Shining. Shining Everything is shining.
Those without light shine by receiving the light of others.

Sada Masashi, a well-known singer and songwriter composed a stunningly beautiful song, entitled "Inochi no Wake," for Jōdoshū's 800th Year Memorial for Hōnen Shōnin. I would like to share some of that song, which reveals a deep insight into what we have been calling the purposeful working of Amida Buddha's Vow.

The reason that I was born ... was to meet my father and mother.
The reason that I was born ... was to meet my brothers and sisters.
The reason that I was born ... was to meet all of my friends.
The reason that I was born ... was to meet you, my love.

Just as flowers bloom naturally with the coming of spring ...
Just as leaves fall naturally with the coming of autumn ...
Everyone has been born in order to be happy!
Just as the fruit of joy is borne from the flowers of grief ...

The reason that I was born ... was to meet you, my love.
The reason that I was born ... was to care for you, my love.¹

"Why was I born?" I was born for this moment, to be with you and care for you. I was born to appreciate that all that is important in life comes from outside of myself, in spite of myself. I was born to realize that out of the depth of despair arises inconceivable happiness and joy. When we think about life in this way, we come to understand that the entirety of life is to give thanks. It is to give away what we have received, to teach what we have learned, and to share what we have created with everyone.

Namu Amida Butsu
Rev. D. Matsumoto
March 2012

¹ My translation of "いのちの理由 Inochi no Wake," by Sada Masashi, *Utsukushii Asa* (Universal Music LLC, 2009). I would like to express thanks to Rev. Zuikei Taniguchi of the Alameda Buddhist Temple for introducing me to this wonderful song.

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Dear Sangha Friends,

Some interesting questions and ideas were raised at our General Membership meeting held on February 12. Topics we discussed included the BCA National Council Meeting, our new BCA bishop, retrofitting the temple building, inviting guest speakers for Sunday Dharma talks, having periodic Q and A sessions, having open discussion groups, increasing temple membership, and a Dharma school for adults.

The notion of a Dharma school for adults is intriguing. How could this be achieved? It could involve some of the other ideas: question and answer sessions during open discussions. If successful, it might attract new members. Maybe the new bishop could be invited to share the expertise he gained as director of the Center for Buddhist Education (assuming he will have time to accept our invitation).

Of course, to create a Dharma school for adults, the essential questions – who, what, when, where and how – will need to be answered. Who will teach? What will be taught? When will we meet? Where will we meet? How do we get started?

Any feedback about this or any other suggestions is welcomed and encouraged.

We offer as inspiration to get the ball rolling what Rev. Dr. Taitetsu Unno wrote about "spiritual benefits" in his book *Shin Buddhism: Bits of Rubble Turn into Gold* :

In the world of interdependence and interconnectedness, self-benefit is benefiting others, and benefiting others is self-benefit. The goal . . . is to realize that the two are interrelated and that simultaneous fulfillment is none other than supreme enlightenment.

Involved and Evolving Gassho,

Art Nishimura and Willie Fernandez
BBT Co-presidents

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

March 25, 2012
9:30 am

Shotsuki Hoyo Service - March 25, 2012, 9:30 AM

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for March.

Thomas Arima	Kimiyo Sakurai Bloom	Satoru T. Fujikawa
Masao Handa	James E. Hansen	Jinichi Hashizu
Kiyoshi Hataye	Toki Hataye	Tom T. Hataye
Sumi Irikin	Mitsue Ishizue	Thomas T. Kimura
Henry H. Kuwada	Chiyo Kuwai	Naoya Matoba
Shizuo Matoba	Yutaka Matoba	Frank T. Matsui
Glenn Matsunaga	Yoichiro Matsunaga	Seizo Mayeda
Aiko Miike	Dean M. Muranishi	Yukito R. Nagahisa, Sr
Denji Nakabayashi	William Nakatani	Frank T. Nishikai
Tokuo Nitta	Hayaji Oda	Kazuko Oda
Masami Oda	Minoru Oki	Akira Okita
Chiyome Sakamoto	Etsu Sato	Judd M. Sato
Tokutaro Sato	Fusao Tagumi	Fujiye Takaha
Tametaro Takahashi	Wataru Takahashi	Haruko Takemori
Tsuneyo Tanaka	Hisayo Tasaki	Yukino Terazawa
Tomeko Tsuchihashi	Gregory Unno	Katsumi Unoki
Naoki Wakaye	Waki Wakaye	Kyo Waki
Kyujiro Waki	Mary Chiseko Wakida	Tomo Watamura
Michizo Yokota	Bill Kiyoji Yokoyama	Hatsuyo Yokoyama
Takashi Yoshimura		

Note: If there are any additions, corrections or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at 510-841-1356.

The Uncertainty of Life: The Digestive System

by Diane Ames

“So I told the advice nurse there was blood in my vomit, and she told me to go to the emergency room,” I was telling another advice nurse by telephone at 3 a.m. “Then I started getting dressed, felt faint, and had to lie down.”

“Call an ambulance NOW!” she said. “We have to make sure it isn’t ... your heart.”

The ambulance arrived with commendable speed. As the crew pasted on me more electrodes than I would have believed possible, I told them that no, I had not swallowed any alcohol in more than a week and do not drink much of it. Any new medications, they asked. “Well, I took two ibuprofen tablets for arthritis pain. The arthritis in my left hand had suddenly flared up. I didn’t take any more than the recommended dose,” I added as they rushed me into the ambulance on a gurney.

“If it isn’t ... my heart, can stomach bleeding kill me?” I asked somewhat anxiously.

“Only in the worst cases,” said the paramedic.

“So how bad is my case?”

“We don’t know yet. But let’s try to stay upbeat as I find a vein for your I-V.”

“But how can this be happening to me?” I said. “My stomach felt fine at bedtime. I read the label like I’m supposed to, and it said I could take two tablets. And I’ve never had any trouble with ibuprofen before.”

“You weren’t sixty-five years old before. All conditioned dharmas decay over time, including your stomach. Besides, you just never know about NSAIDs. You may be fine taking them today, and tomorrow be rushed to the hospital because you took two tablets.”

“True,” said the ambulance driver as he dodged a bus. “Even so a person may be hale and hearty in the morning and in the evening be white ashes—or in the intensive care unit. We of all people know this. Our profession only exists because of the uncertainty of life.”

“Yes,” said the paramedic. “In this burning house, this ever transient bubble world, all things are deceptive, vain, and unreal. The only thing we can depend on is the nembutsu.”

After four hours of EEGs and blood tests, the emergency room doctor told me that my heart was fine and I had stopped bleeding. And my family doctor told me to take no more NSAIDs as long as I live.

DANA DAY SERVICE

March 4, 2012

9:30 AM

Guest speaker
Rev. Ikuo Nishimura
Retired BCA Minister

Sponsored by Berkeley Buddhist Women's Association
Obento luncheon following service.

SPRING O-HIGAN SERVICE

MARCH 18, 2012

9:30 AM

Potluck luncheon following service

POTLUCK LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

January and February toban months – Salads

March toban month – Onigiri or Rice Dishes

All other toban months should bring Main Dishes

Please check your 2012 Directory for your toban month.

SATSUKI BAZAAR MEETING

WITH BAZAAR CHAIRPERSON, RON HIRAGA

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

7 PM

in the Old Temple

All chairpersons and interested persons are invited to attend this meeting.

Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To the family of
Mrs. Ruth Uchiumi
Shaku Hō Rin

February 12, 1920 - February 3, 2012

Namu Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu



The following is a list of special service years. If you have a dear departed relative who passed away in any of the listed years, and would like to make arrangements for a memorial service, please contact Rev. Matsumoto at (510) 841-1356.

2012 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2011	1 st Year
2010	3 rd Year
2006	7 th Year
2000	13 th Year
1996	17 th Year
1988	25 th Year
1980	33 rd Year
1963	50 th Year
1913	100 th Year

*Time to fall is
time to float
for a lotus blossom.*

*Chiru toki ga
Ukabu toki nari
Hasu no hana.*

~ Rev. Zuiken Inagaki

TEL: (510) 841-1356

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

February 21, 2012

Dear Sangha Members,

We hope this letter finds you abiding peacefully and well within the Amida Buddha's Compassion-Wisdom Light.

In the month of March we will be observing the traditional celebration of Spring O-Higan. At our temple we will have a special O-Higan service on Sunday, March 18, 2012 beginning at 9:30 AM. A potluck luncheon in the social hall will follow the service. Please come and join us in celebrating this auspicious occasion.

For this special observation an envelope has been enclosed for your thoughtful donation. The Temple greatly appreciates your kind generosity.

In Gassho,

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Silent Auction at the Satsuki Bazaar May 19-20

Dear Sangha friends,

It's that time again! We've sent out around 300 letters to past donors requesting silent auction items and need your help to think of your neighborhood businesses, physicians, and other people who might be able to donate something this year. Please take a look at this list of past donors (we've removed most of the individuals) and email Grant Din at grant@tonaidin.net with the names and ideally addresses of businesses that you think we should ask. We'll use your name as someone who referred us unless you want us not to. Thanks a lot!

Grant Din and Miki Adachi - Silent Auction Committee

7th Heaven Yoga	Color Me Mine
A & G Home Garden	Darling Flower Shop
Acme Bread Co.	Destination Wilderness
Albany Bowl	Dog's Best Friend & the Cat's Meow
Albany Twin Theatre	Downtown Restaurant
Albany YMCA	Edward Matsuishi, DDS
Alta Bates Summit Foundation	Eshima Photography
American Conservatory Theatre (ACT)	Exploratorium
Amici's Pizzeria	Floor Dimensions
Anzu Japanese Restaurant	Folkmanis Inc.
Aquarium of the Bay	For Your Dogs Only
Asian Art Museum	Franklin Canyon Golf Course
Atlantis Casino Resort	Fujii Melons
Barry Evans Studio	Garibaldi's
Barry Kami, DDS	Gary Holt
Bay Area Discovery Museum	Genki Japanese Restaurant
BCA Bookstore	Giovanni Bar & Grill
Berkeley Bowl Marketplace	Gisele Pohan
Berkeley City Ballet	Golden Gate Hotel & Casino
Berkeley Cuong Nhu Karate	Grady White Fishing (Doug Kyono Sportsfishing Charter)
Berkeley Ironworks	Great Western Power Co.
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	Green Apple Books & Music
Berkeley Touchless Car Wash	Grgich Hills Estate
Bette's Diner	Grocery Outlet
Blackhawk Museum	Ho Chow Restaurant
Blue Waters Kayaking	Hosada Bros.
Boomers!	Hui Hula o na Pu'u i ka Noe
Bread Workshop Cafe	Hunza Graphics
Bridal Image of San Francisco	Infineon Raceway
Bridges Rock Gym	IN-N-OUT Burger
Brushstrokes Studio	Jamba Juice Co.
Builders Booksources	JFC International Inc.
Byington Winery & Vineyard	Jon Kawamoto
California Academy of Sciences	Julia Morgan Center - Berkeley Playhouse
California Bank & Trust	K & S Company Inc.
Canyon Pool Swim School	K. Sakai Company
C'era Una Volta	Kabuki Springs and Spa
Cha Am Thai Restaurant	Kaplan Education Center
Chabot Space & Science Center	Katana-ya Restaurant
Charles M. Schulz Museum & Research Center	Kathy Morioka, O.D.
Cha-Ya Vegetarian Japanese Cuisine	Kenneth Mizono, DDS
Chicks & Frogs	Kids 'N' Clay Pottery Studio
Christian Goetze and Denny Arar	Kikkoman International Inc.
Cliff House Restaurant	Kinokuniya Bookstores

Present and Past Donors continued

Kirala Restaurant
Kodo Athletic Institute/Kodo Muscle Relaxation
Kuwada Realty
La Note Restaurant
Lake Chabot Golf Course
Lalime's Restaurant
Landmark Theatres San Francisco Office
Las Positas Golf Course
Lawrence Hall of Science
Lighting Studio
Lilly's Restaurant
Lindsay Wildlife Museum
Little River Inn Resort & Spa
Louie Mendoza DDS-Kensington Dental Care
Masumoto Family Farm
Matsu Custom Indoor Fountains
Max's Restaurants
McDonald's of Berkeley
Mechanics Bank
Michael Nolan Painting
Mira Vista Country Club
Mitama Japanese Restaurant
Miyuki Japanese Restaurant
Moe's Books
Monarch Bay Golf Course
Montclair Bistro
Montclair Cleaners
Monterey Bay Clothing Co.
Monterey Market
Nation's Foodservice Inc.
Neishi Brothers Nursery
New Harbinger Publications
Nippon Company
Nomura & Company
Oakland Athletics Baseball Co.
Oakland Museum of California
Oakland Zoo
OCSC Sailing
Pacific Coast Brewing Co.
Pacific Coast Restaurants, Inc.
Pacifica Hotel Company
Pakvilai (Pak) Sudhaswin
Paper Source
Pave Fine Jewelry
Pelican Inn
Peppermill Hotel Casino
Performance Bicycles
Pill Hill Podiatry Group
Post Street Theatre
Punch Line
Renaissance Rialto
Richmond Country Club
Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum
Rocco's Ristorante & Pizzeria
Roddy Ranch Golf Club
Royal Ground Coffee House
Sacramento Tofu Co.
Sam and Norma Yamauchi
San Francisco Bay Club
San Francisco Giants
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Sangha Basketball E & C Teams
Sangha Work Party
Scandia Family Center
Schurman Art Gallery
Scoma's Restaurant
Scrapbook Territory
Sea Ranch Golf Course
See's Candies, Inc.
Semifreddi's Bakery
Serra Bowl
Shiro Designs Glass Art
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
Six Flags Magic Mountain Theme Park
Skin Solutions
Sleep Train Pavilion at Concord
Snippety Crickets Cuts 4 Kids
Soko Hardware Co.
Speakeasy Theater
Stained Glass Garden
Stephanie Yue
Steve Silver Productions
Stonehouse California Olive Oil
Stonehouse Inn
Sugata Japanese Restaurant
Sumito's Floral Design
Sunset View Cemetery Association
Suruki's
Sweet Stop Bakery
Sybil Shane Studio
Takara Sake USA Inc.
Temari Japanese Restaurant
Ten Speed Press
TerraNova
The Kingsford Co.
The Pelican Inn
Thousand Cranes Futon Shop
Tokyo Fish Market
Total Health Chiropractic
Trader Joe's
Trader Vic's
Truitt & White Lumber
Tue Nam Ton Photography
Vessel
Waterworld California
Westbrae Nursery
Whitewater Voyages
Winchester Mystery House
Yabusaki's Dwight Way Nursery
Yaoyo-san Market
Yoga Tree

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Attendance: Rev. David Matsumoto, Willie Fernandez, Art Nishimura, Judy Fujimoto, Lucy Hamai, Kiyoshi Katsumoto, Emiko Katsumoto, Jon Kawamoto, Judy Kono, Dii Lewis, Takashi Nikaidoh, Emi Nakao, Gary Oda, Yosh Tokiwa, David Ushijima, Russell Ware, Marrie Yamashita, Yuki Otake. Proxy: Susan Gabriel. Guests: Wayne Sugihara, Joanie Hamasaki.

Pres. Art Nishimura called the meeting to order at 7:38PM with opening gassho led by Rev. Matsumoto.

Minutes: Judy Kono moved to accept the November minutes; seconded by Lucy Hamai and passed.

Minister's Report: Rev. Matsumoto issued a written report which included 10 meetings, 3 memorial services, 1 funeral, 1 home visitation, 2 consultations, 11/13 DFS&BBWA interfaith Panel Discussion on "The Changing Role of Women in Religion", 11/20 BBT Hoonko Service w/ guest speaker Rev. Harry Gyokyo Bridge, 11/27 and 12/11 BBT DFS& Shotsuki Memorial services, 12/4 BBT Bodhi Day Service, 12/4 JSC 5th Anniversary Service, 12/6 workshop for ministerial students @ BBT& JSC. Upcoming events and activities: 12/15 BDMA mtgs. & Bonenkai @ Alameda BT, 12/18 BBT Temple clean-up; 12/31 BBT Joya-e service, 1/1/12 New Year's (Shusho-e) service @ BBT, 1/8 BBT DFS & New Year's Party. Rev. Matsumoto also presented a tentative 2012 guest speakers schedule. He is looking for speakers for 3/18 Spring Ohigan and 9/16 Fall Ohigan.

Treasurer's Report: Satoshi Steimetz issued a written report from 11/1-11/30/11. Kiyoshi Katsumoto reported that funds have been transferred to the Schwab Reserve Fund Acct.

Correspondence: Rev. Matsumoto noted that the Hongwanji sent a receipt for the Centennial orei presented to the Gomonsu. The DRPC sent a thank you for the Temple's donation of the old social hall TV and its wooden stand.

REPORTS BY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS BBWA: Yuki Otake reported that the BBWA will prepare soba for the New Year's Eve (Joya-e) service but requests help with serving; New Year's greetings card were sent to Temple seniors as well as gifts given to 20 senior shut-ins; BBWA will sponsor a canned food drive in January and February with donations going to the Alameda County Food Bank; there will be an obento sale on Dana Day (3/4/12). The 2012 BBWA cabinet is as follows Co-presidents Yuki Otake and Carolyn Fernandez. Vice-president Diane Ames, Treasurer Maya Murashima-Yonemura, Recording Secretary Judy Nakaso, Corresponding Secretary Denise Gervais, Auditor Takashi Nikaidoh.

DHARMA SCHOOL: Rev. Matsumoto reported that DS staff will meet on 12/18 to plan for upcoming themes of the next few months. Emiko Katsumoto commended DS teachers and students on the Bodhi Day play.

JR. YBA: no report.

J-SEI: Scott Takeda and Amy Shinsako issued a written report from the 11/3 J-Sei Advisory Board Meeting @BMUC which included the following—1) J-Sei is exploring the possibility of monetizing its interest in the Eden Issei Terrace to ensure that the original donations for EIT will be reinvested in the Nikkei community; 2) with ridership at a low level, the Board made the difficult decision to end the current transportation program and explore alternative service models; 3) short term goal to create an additional signature event for the agency; 4) short/medium term goals to develop a sustainable financial model in the era of reduced govt. funding and a difficult economy and to continue to broaden programming that appeals to a multi-generational and multi-cultural community; 4) medium/long term goal to consolidate operations (non-housing) of the agency in one location. Upcoming events include 11/9 Calendar Mailing Party 7-9PM; 2/12/12 Crab Feed; 5/14/12 J-Sei Golf Invitational.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE: Art Nishimura presented a written report, noting that the Temple General Meeting will take place on 2/12/12 after service. Marrie Yamashita plans to return as co-chair of this committee in January.

PLEDGE/MEMBERSHIP: Mimi and Ron Kagehiro sent in a written report. For 2011, there were 264 individual pledged members from 181 families. To date, thirteen members have passed away with nine of those having been current paid pledge members. The Board decided that 2012 pledge amounts will remain the same. Kiyoshi Katsumoto will inform Ron and Mimi, so that they may prepare the 2012 pledge letters.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE: Craig Griffin and Mike Nagamoto sent in a written report stating that a plan has not yet been finalized to repair the stairway lighting between the lobby and the classrooms; heater filters will be changed during the 54th annual Temple clean-up; new mochi-pounding sticks will be ready for the Temple mochi-tsuki with the project coming in under budget. Kiyoshi Katsumoto reported on the need to update the alarm company's Temple contact list. David Ushijima volunteered to be first contact. Don Hamasaki will be contacted to see if he will also be an initial contact. Kiyoshi informed the Board that a smoke detection system can be added to the existing alarm system at a cost of \$16 more to the monthly bill and \$130 per installed unit. The Board advised Kiyoshi to consult with the alarm company to facilitate this improvement.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE: no report.

APARTMENTS: Art Nishimura reported that work on sound-proofing tenant John's apartment is completed and awaiting inspection by the City; there is no reimbursement this month as rent account money was used to pay for the repairs; the City conducted its biannual inspection of the Fulton St. apartments and requested that smoke detectors be replaced and that in two units the gas heaters be repaired; all units are occupied.

OTHER REPORTS

BOARD ELECTIONS: Takashi Nikaidoh reported on the election results for the Directors serving the term 2012-2014. They are Judy Kono, Jon Kawamoto, Emi Nakao, Takashi Nikaidoh, Wayne Sugihara, David Ushijima, and George Yin.

TEMPLE SECURITY: Rev. Matsumoto contacted an archivist who recommended against using any synthetic adhesive on the Gohonzon. Instead, the archivist suggested that an archival-grade paper be glued to the wood surface with a rice paste and then the security magnet be affixed to the paper. Rev. M will get a second opinion from another archivist. Gary Oda noted that once the correct adhesive is found then the alarm company can be contacted to complete the security procedure for the Gohonzon.

CENTENNIAL: Emiko Katsumoto reported that the Centennial Committee returned to the Temple its original loan of seed money and that there are sufficient Centennial funds left to cover all outstanding projects, including the commemorative book. Emiko thanked the BBWA for its Centennial donation of \$2400 from the quilt raffle.

E-SCRIP: Emiko Katsumoto reported that as of June 2012 Safeway will have a new requirement which stipulates that 20% of their donation must go to a fitness or nutrition program. Emiko will consult with Maya Murashima-Yoneyama as to how the BBT will meet this new requirement.

BCA NATIONAL BOARD REPORT: Lucy Hamai reported the following 1) Rev. Umezu has been elected Bishop with his Ascension Service on 6/2/12, 4PM, @ SFBC; 2) BCA dues per temple member for 2011-2012 are \$94.90 and for 2011-2012 to be \$99.38; 3) the on-going Debt Relief Program will continue to April 2012, with the first \$500,000 raised already applied to paying down the JSC mortgage ; 4) a new donation program Dharma Offering begins in June 2012, which will combine all annual giving requests into one yearly appeal; 5) BCA Council considering the establishment of a centralized retirement gift fund for ministers; BCA has trade-marked the wisteria for the continental USA .

BODHI SEALS: Lucy Hamai reported that for 2011 Bodhi Seals were sent to the entire Padma mailing list and asked if she should do the same for 2012. Kiyoshi Katsumoto moved that in 2012 Bodhi Seals be mailed only to Temple members and Dharma School families; seconded by Russell Ware and passed.

FAC: Lucy Hamai passed out the Temple facilities usage binders to all FAC members, noting that there is also a copy for reference in the Temple office. She thanked all those serving on the FAC for their hard work in creating this guide.

NEW YEAR'S PARTY/MOCHITSUKI/INSTALLATION: Susan Gabriel issued a written report on this 1/8/12 event which included the following—a volunteer committee will help with the mochi-tsuki; the Nakaos will provide the usu; Aki Nakao and Bill Fujimoto will supervise the pounding in the courtyard; the Kagehiros, the Lapiduses and Gabriels will loan their mochi machines; Yuki Otake will donate the lima bean an; the Gabriels will donate the rice, azuki an, daikon , and mochiko; Emi Nakao and Susan Gabriel will be in charge of steaming rice. The BBWA will donate \$200 to the New Year's Party, and the Board members are each reminded to donate a door prize for the raffle.

NEW BUSINESS

Yosh Tokiwa noted to the secretary a clarification to the November minutes regarding the recent honoring of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Washington, DC. The Congressional Gold Medal was awarded to the 100th Battalion and the MIS as well as the 442nd and 45 Bronze Stars were awarded to veterans of these units who should have received the honors earlier.

The Board thanked Yosh Tokiwa for his service to the Temple and Sangha, having served on the Board from 1983 to the end of his term in 2011.

Thank you to Judy Kono for organizing the evening's bento dinners, to Yuki Otake for her prize-winning tsukemono, and to Joanie Hamasaki for holiday treats. Next month's refreshments=Willie and Caroline Fernandez.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM with closing gassho led by Rev. Matsumoto.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fujimoto

Please contact a Board member if further clarification of these minutes is required.

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE
Board of Directors Meeting
January 10, 2012

Attendance: Willie Fernandez, Art Nishimura, Judy Fujimoto, Susan Gabriel, Don Hamasaki, Ron Hiraga, Jon Kawamoto, Dii Lewis, Takashi Nikaidoh, Wayne Sugihara, Marrie Yamashita, Lena Yin, Carolyn Fernandez, Yuki Otake. Proxies: Lucy Hamai, Kiyoshi Katsumoto, Emiko Katsumoto, Judy Kono, Emi Nakao.

Co-President Willie Fernandez called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM with opening gassho led by Marrie Yamashita.

Minutes: Don Hamasaki moved to approve the December 2012 minutes; seconded by Ron Hiraga and passed.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Matsumoto sent in a written report for the period 12/13/11 to 1/10/12, which included 6 mtgs; 4 visitations; 5 consultations; 2 Makuragyo; 3 FAC mtgs; 1/4 Memorial service rehearsal; 1/7 Memorial service; 12/18 BBT Temple clean-up; 12/31 BBT Joya-e service; 1/1 BBT Shusho-e service; 1/8 BBT DFS & New Year Party. Upcoming events and activities: 1/13 JSC Hoonko service; 1/15 BBT DFS & Town Hall mtg; 1/20 IBS Trustees mtg @JSC; 1/ 22 BBT DF/High School service (Rev. Matsumoto @ SF Buddhist Church); 1/26-1/27 IBS intensive course, "On Shinjin", @ OBC; 1/27 Winter Pacific Seminar, evening discussion, @ Gardena BT; 1/28 Winter Pacific Seminar, "A Life of Shinjin", @ LA Betsuin; 1/29 BBT DF & Shotsuki Memorial service w/ guest speaker/officiant Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara; 2/5 BBT Nirvana Day service w/ guest speaker Rev. Dr. Ronald Nakasone; 2/12 Pet Memorial service.

TREASURER'S REPORT: no report.

CORRESPONDENCE: Art Nishimura reviewed the BCA Update noting that Rev. Ogui will retire at the National Council Meeting with his retirement party scheduled for 2/25/12. Also, the BBT received a year-end donation from the BDK Numata Center.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

BBWA: Caroline Fernandez issued a written report, which included the following 1) Diane Ames is soliciting topics for the 2012 Interfaith Panel Discussion; 2) proceeds from the 11/20/11 Hoonko fund raiser are earmarked for the Ministerial Scholarship Fund; 3) 2012 Cabinet elected; 4) year-end Oseibo given to Rev. Matsumoto, Rev. Yamashita, Rev. Kuwahara, Diane Thompson, Edythe Vassall, Matthew Hamasaki, JSC, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Wheel of Dharma, BBT Dharma School & Jr. YBA, Sakura Kai, Berkeley Nikkei Senior Center; 4) New Year's cards sent to Temple seniors and small gift delivered by Yuki Otake to "shut-ins" and those 90 years of age and older; New Year's Eve soba prepared and served by Yuki Otake, Junko Kamimura, Karen Sugiyama, Caroline Fernandez; 4) BBWA will sponsor the 3/4 Dana Day service & obento luncheon and a canned food drive, with donations to be given to the Alameda County Community Food Bank; 5) considering a Super Bowl Party for Temple members and friends as a fund raiser for the BBWA 2014 Centennial Celebration.

DHARMA SCHOOL: no report.

JR. YBA: no report.

J-SEI: no report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE: Art Nishimura presented the updated calendar noting that the Town Hall meeting is 2/12. Susan Gabriel clarified that there is NO coffee social on 2/26. Takashi Nikaidoh noted that DS starts on 9/9 not 9/2. Marrie Yamashita requested that Dana Day in 2013 return to February.

PLEDGE/MEMBERSHIP: Mimi Kagehiro texted a report dated 12/31/11, noting that there were 275 members from 187 families.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE: no report.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE: no report.

APARTMENTS: Ron Hiraga presented a year-end summary for the apartments, noting the furnaces at the Fulton Street have been repaired and the noise abatement work at Channing Way completed.

OTHER REPORTS

TEMPLE SECURITY: Art Nishimura reported that Rev. and Mrs. Matsumoto are experimenting with different organic adhesives for the Gohonzon's alarm system.

NEW YEAR'S PARTY: Lena Yin reported that 190 bentos were ordered, including 15 vegetarian and 50 children's, with extras given away as raffle prizes. The BBWA was thanked for the \$200 it donated toward raffle prizes. Lena also thanked the Board for donating raffle prizes and the mochi-tsuki committee.

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING: Co-President Nishimura encouraged Board members to attend the 2/22-2/25 meeting in Sacramento to observe how the BCA functions.

ABC "7 LIVE": Jon Kawamoto reported that KGO Channel 7 extended an invitation to non-profit organizations to be a part of the live audience in exchange for publicity about the non-profit's events. Since the invitation was for the period January 17-20, the Board felt the Temple should inquire about later dates when there are Temple events that could be publicized such as the Bazaar.

SATSUKI BAZAAR: Ron Hiraga reported that May 19-20 are the dates of the 2012 bazaar and that raffle tickets have been printed early and are available for distribution. Yuki Otake noted that the 2012 annual bazaar gift will go to the Alzheimer's Services of the East Bay

NEW BUSINESS

FUND RAISER: Lena Yin presented a suggestion from Bob Matsueda that the BBT consider organizing a concert by Hiroshima for Sunday afternoon, Sept. 30. Hiroshima is scheduled to perform for the Palo Alto BT on Saturday, Sept. 29. The Board concluded that further research must be done before such a fund raiser could be considered.

Thank you to Willie and Carolyn Fernandez and Yuki Otake for the meeting's refreshments. Next month's refreshments - Marrie Yamashita and Emiko and Kiyoshi Katsumoto.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM with closing gassho by Willie Fernandez.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fujimoto

Please contact a Board member if further clarification of these minutes is required.

BERKELEY BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
January 15, 2012 Meeting

PRESENT: Caroline Fernandez, Emi Matsunaga, Maya Murashima - Yonemura, Fumi Matsubara, Diane Ames, Denise Gervais and Yukiko Otake

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: President Caroline Fernandez opened the meeting with gassho at 11:20 a.m.

PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES: November's meeting minutes to be reviewed by Yuki Otake and presented at the next meeting. January meeting minutes moved and accepted (D. Ames/M. Murashima-Yonemura)

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's report submitted by treasurer, Maya Murashima-Yonemura and approved.
2. Correspondence – Thank you notes from Diana Thompson (year-end gift), Edythe Vassall (year-end gift), Berkeley Buddhist Temple Dharma School (year end gift), Rev. Seishin Yamashita (year end gift), Sakura Kai (year end gift), BCA Wheel of Dharma (donation), Institute of Buddhist Studies (donation), J-Sei Hayward Cypress House (fruit basket), and Jodo Shinshu Center (donation).
Additional correspondence received from Drapes by Susan (greeting card) and Alameda County Community Food Bank.
3. Donations received from Rev. Seishin Yamashita, Ms. Hide Oshima, Ron and Mimi Kagehiro and Edythe Vassall.
4. Interfaith panel (Diane Ames) date to be discussed with Rev. Matsumoto. Suggestions for panel discussion included problems of our youth and changing of the nuclei family

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Canned Food Drive for the Alameda County Community Food Bank will be held during January and February. Dana Day Osaisen (offering) to be discussed at the February meeting.
2. Dana Day Luncheon guests will include guest Speaker Rev. and Mrs. Nishimura, Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto and family, Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara and family, Diana Thompson (minister's assistant) and Serenity, Edythe Vassal (minister's assistant), Mathew Hamasaki (minister's assistant), IBS students, Berkeley Buddhist Temple co-president Willie Fernandez, BBT co-president Art Nishimura and family.
Dana Day entertainment -- to contact Dharma School.
3. Fund Raiser for BBWA Centennial Celebration – sponsor 'Super Bowl Party' if the 49ers win. \$20.00 per person. Includes activity for children. Minimum attendees 35.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:20 p.m. with President Fernandez closing with gassho

NEXT MEETING: February 12, 2012

Respectfully submitted by

Yukiko Otake
Acting Recording Secretary



BCA Center for Buddhist Education Upcoming Events

at the Jodo Shinshu Center, 2140 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

BCA Center for Buddhist Education presents:

Crossing Over to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism May 4-6, 2012

A seminar for seekers from non-Jodo Shinshu Buddhist traditions

**Jodo Shinshu 101: An introduction to
the foundations of Buddhism and the
Shin Buddhist approach to life.**

Registration donation: \$75 per person

Deadline: April 10, 2012

Registration information at

www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org

or call 510-809-1460 or email admin@cbe-bca.org

*Institute of Buddhist Studies and Center for Buddhist Education present
Pacific Seminar 21st Century*

Shinran's Quest: Understanding Himself to Understand the Human Condition

Dr. Mark Blum

Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Albany, State University of New York

July 6-8, 2012

at the Jodo Shinshu Center, 2140 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, California

Registration donation: \$125 due by June 1

Early Registration: \$100 due by May 1

Student Rate: \$50 with Student ID

For more details and online registration, visit

www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org

or call 510-809-1460 or email admin@cbe-bca.org



FUNDRAISER

Help raise money for the Temple when shopping at Safeway. Safeway will contribute a percentage of your grocery preferred savings card purchase to the Temple, at no cost to you.



IT'S EASY!

Just register your grocery loyalty card at eScrip.com and designate Berkeley Buddhist Temple or group #155954856 as the recipient organization.

**More information at www.berkeleysangha.org or contact
Maya Murashima Yonemura 510-528-6994/mmyonemura@comcast.net**

www.escrip.com

J-SEI SPECIAL EVENT:

An Evening with LAWSON INADA and JUDITH KAJIWARA

Friday, February 24, 2012, 6PM-9PM

1710 Carleton Street, Berkeley, CA 94703

(site of J-SEI Senior Center, Berkeley United Methodist Church)

We are fortunate and excited to have an opportunity to meet and listen to Lawson Inada, named Oregon's fifth poet laureate in 2006. His book, *Legends from the Camp*, won the American Book Award in 1994. He is well-known throughout the country for his poetry and is a major voice in contemporary letters. He is a leading figure in the field of education and serves as a multi-cultural consultant for schools and agencies throughout the nation.

A \$5 donation is appreciated, however, no one will be turned away. Attendees may pre-order (deadline 2/22/12) a "J-Sei" sushi bento box for \$9 by directly contacting Musashi Restaurant at 510-843-2017. Only pre-paid bento boxes will be distributed at the event beginning at 6pm. RSVP for event: jseievents@gmail.com or call 510-848-3560.

6 PM Social hour, bring your own bento box or pre-order from Musashi Restaurant

7 PM Lawson Inada-story teller, poet, author, lecturer, professor, jazz aficionado—
Talking and reading poetry

8 PM Judith Kajiwara - Artist in residence at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center. Performing butoh dances based on Lawson's poems.

The Stand

By Lawson Inada

I am somewhere
where I have decided to stand.

There has been long
maneuvering,

having been staked to a land,
sowing in the heat,

moving huge tools
in an absurdity of moon.

Chanting, I find the chanting soothes.
That sweet voice is ruined.

I move now,
sifting pavements through my feet,

sweat in the eyes, a horizon.
Sun turns the wheat.

Braced to my spine,
I resume the chanting—

utterances in a sound
octaves older than my own.



Judith Kajiwara, Performing Artist

TELEPHONE COORDINATORS: SUSAN GABRIEL & LENA YIN

MARCH TOBAN: Chmn: Emi Nakao
Cochairs: Emi Matsunaga, Lorene Nakagiri, Helen Tagawa

Pauline Fong, George & Emi Matsunaga, Catherine Nagareda, Gary & Lorene Nakagiri, Aki & Emi Nakao, Karen Sugiyama, Craig & Helen Tagawa, Stan & Kathy Meyer Tamaki, Yasuyo Wolfe, Yae Yedlosky, Kusuo Inadomi*, Mary Iyama*, Hisako Masunaga*, Yoshiko Morishita*, Kimiye Nakao*, George Okano*, Joanna Sakai*, Elaine Sato*, Abe & Terry Watamura*

APRIL TOBAN: Chmn: Mimi Kagehiro
Cochairs: Denise Lapidus, Pam Matsuoka, Susan Kajiwara

Grant & Rosalyn Tonai Din, Janey Egawa, Sady & Amy Hayashida, Alan Hirahara, Dina Honda, Nikki Lethridge, Ron & Mimi Kagehiro, Shige & Susan Kajiwara, Cary & Denise Lapidus, Pam Matsuoka, Molly Momii, Masako Hayashida*, Yo Hiraoka*, Shigeo Hoki*, Masayo Oda*, Tamiye Umawatari*, Suenobu & Shizuye Yamasaki*, Liane Yasumoto*, Gary & Barbara Kitagawa

*Denotes disabled and/or elderly – Toban duties optional.

* * * * *

PADMA STAFF: Rev. Matsumoto, Pauline Fong, Susan & Al Gabriel, Lucy Hamai, Yo Hiraoka, Norman Hirose, Ellen Jorgensen, Keiko Kawakami, Emi Matsunaga, Yuki Otake, Mae Takeda, Scott Takeda, Edythe Vassall, Yasuyo Wolfe and Yae Yedlosky.

Services

Our regular Sunday program begins with a Family Service at 9:30am. A Dharma talk is available after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

Special Services

January 1	Shusho-e	New Year's Day Service
February 5	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March 18	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April 8	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May 6	Gotan-e	Parent's Day
July 8	Kangi-e	Obon
September 16	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November 11	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin Memorial
December 2	Jodo-e	Bodhi Day
December 31	Joya-e	Year End Service

A Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) Service is held the last Sunday of each month.

Dharma School

Our Dharma School (Sunday School) has classes from preschool through high school. Our teachers are happy to discuss the appropriate level of spiritual enrichment for your child.

Monthly Discussions

In our discussions, we strive to experience the Buddha-Dharma with our entire selves – with our bodies (quiet sitting and other forms of meditation), voices (chanting and other liturgy) and minds (study and discussion).

Our sessions focus on ways in which Buddhist teaching and practice can impact our everyday lives. Each session will take up a different topic and so you are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

All interested persons are welcome to attend. Please invite your friends! We hope to see you!

Visitor Information

Please feel free to ask any of our greeters for information. We are here to assist you with whatever level of participation you may be seeking.

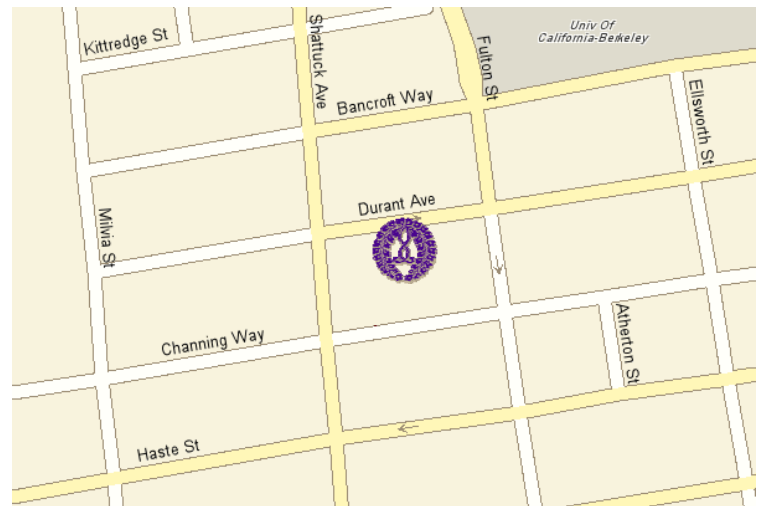
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

Membership Information

Membership is open to all who view our Temple as their religious home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

To join, complete a membership form, have your name entered on the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

To inquire about becoming a member, please speak with our Membership Chair or Minister.



Berkeley Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
10:00am – 1:00pm

Phone: 510-841-1356

email: info@berkeleysangha.org

web: www.berkeleysangha.org