

the Padma

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

July 2013

Web Edition



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

July 2013

the Padma

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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

WEB EDITION

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Obon Practice 7:30 – 9 pm	3	4	5	6 Gagaku Practice 11 am - 1 pm
7 No Service	8	9 Crafts 10 am - 1pm Obon Practice 7:30 – 9 pm Temple Bd Mtg 7:30 pm	10	11 Obon Practice 7:30 – 9 pm	12	13 Ohakamairi Services Sunset View 9:30am Chapel of the Chimes 12 Noon Obon Odori 6:30 pm
14 9:30 am Obon/Hatsubon Service Guest Speaker: Rev. Wm. Masuda 11:00 am BBWA Meeting Coffee Social following service	15	16 Padma Newsletter 6:30 pm	17 Gagaku Practice 6 - 7:30 pm	18	19	20
21 9:30 am Dharma Family Service	22	23 Crafts 10 am - 1pm	24	25	26	27
28 9:30 am Combined Dharma Family/ Shotsuki Hoyo Service	29	30	31	NOTE: For temple matters, please contact Rev. Matsumoto at (510) 841-1356, or leave a message on the temple's answering machine. Temple web: www.berkeleysangha.org Temple e-mail: info@berkeleysangha.org		

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

July 7 - No service

July 13 - **Bon Odori at BBT; Ohakamairi**
(Sunset View and Chapel of the Chimes
visitations)

July 14 - **Obon/Hatsubon service**
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. William Masuda

July 28 - **DFS & Shotsuki Hoyo**

August 4, 11 & 18 - **No services**

August 25 - **DFS & Shotsuki Hoyo**

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TELEPHONE COORDINATORS: SUSAN GABRIEL & LENA YIN

JULY TOBAN: Chmn: Emiko Katsumoto
Cochairs: Russell Ware, Kathleen Yee

Bruce Buchholz & Doreen Sakamoto, Doug Clough & Erin Uesugi, Kiyo & Yasuko Harano*, Nora Hataye*, Kuniko Imazumi*, Arthur & Betsy Ishida*, Florence Jeong, Richard & Nancy Kakigi, Dean & Denise Kaneshiro, Emiko & Kiyoshi Katsumoto, Shigeru & Michiko Kubota*, Aiko Kurokawa, Mary Kurokawa*, Mike & Pat, Art Nishimura, Lisa Park, Amy & Russell Ware, Arthur Yamagata*, Dennis & Kathleen Yee, Ken Yoshii, Helen Yoshimura*

AUGUST TOBAN: Chmn: Lena Yin
Cochairs: Miri Nikaidoh, Yuki Otake, Hiroko Okano

Kim Leo, Eric & Mary Lindquist, Jeff & Robin McGuire, Takashi & Miri Nikaidoh, Nobuko Nishikado*, John Oishi, Ann Okahara & David Sakurai, Tsutomu Okahara*, Joanne Okano & Aaron Escalante, Sachiko Okano, Gary Otake & Lisa Cougar, Gene & Yuki Otake, Marie Shiromoto*, Satoshi & Elaine Steimetz, Toshio & Elaine Tsuda, Grace Ueda*, George & Lena Yin.

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

* * * * *
PADMA STAFF: Rev. Matsumoto, Gene Chin, 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, and Yae Yedlosky.

Ku E Issho

Sariputra, sentient beings who hear of that land should aspire to be born there, for in that one place they will be able to meet such excellent persons of supreme virtue.

OBON IS THE MOST SPECIAL OF OCCASIONS. It is a time to remember our loved ones who have passed away before us with deepest love, respect and gratitude. For Shin Buddhists, this gathering in joy is an opportunity for us to hear the *nembutsu* and flow within the current of Amida Buddha's Primal Vow which brings the activity of the Pure Land to this life and carries us to birth in the Pure Land after our death.

In recent years, I have come to feel keenly the loss of a great many friends with whom I have been able to meet and share the experience of life. Thus, with the arrival of each Obon season, I find myself reflecting more and more on the words of the Buddha, "*Ku E Issho*." These words, taken from the *Amida Sutra*, literally mean, "together-meet-one place." In the *Sutra*, they appear in the phrase we see above.



The *Sutra* teaches us that one who entrusts in the Buddha's Vow receives the assurance of being born in the Pure Land. In that Land one will meet the Buddha, bodhisattvas, and other excellent persons of supreme virtue. This Pure Land is not a physical place somewhere out in the universe; nor is it a heaven far removed from our present day lives. Rather, it expresses the unlimited breadth and depth of the Buddha's compassionate heart which reaches out, as the Primal Vow, to all beings whose hearts are confused and filled with deluded passions.

Recently, I have come to sense, through these words, that the Buddha knew exactly the longing that is in our hearts today. Could it be that such "excellent persons" also include our loved ones who have passed away before us and whom we long to meet again? As we savor the essence of this teaching, do we not sense that it is in that one "place"—in the oneness of the Buddha's heart—we will meet them once again in the truest, most authentic way?

What does it mean to meet another person truly? For many of us, it is both a rare and a risky experience, for we must be willing to face ourselves and expose ourselves to another being. This involves risk. We must dare to experience the fullness of life, no longer isolated or alone, but together with another. Yet, it also promises unsurpassed rewards. We find ourselves able to grow and share with another and participate together in the poignant wonder of human life.

These are simple thoughts. I suppose that most of us assume that we already understand them well. Yet, upon deeper reflection, don't we find that our assumptions often hide from us the very truth we seek? We want to believe that we will always be together with our loved ones or our friends. We assume that we will awake in the morning to see the faces of our spouse and children. When we part from our friends we use words ("See you later!") that assume that we will certainly see them again.

Yet, our assumptions hide from us a simple truth: This meeting could well be our last. Who knows if or when we will be able to meet again? Who really knows where our lives will take us or when they will end? Will an illness, accident, or some other event suddenly pull us apart? Could we lose the ones we love the most? Could we find ourselves lost and alone once again?

(Continued on the next page.)

Our assumptions also come with a belief that there will always be time to do those things that we know we ought to do. The words we mean to say to a loved one or the act of friendship we mean to offer—we somehow feel that they can wait until later. Until we meet again. There will always be time, we feel, to say the things that need to be said, or to do the things that need to be done.

Yet, in this transient and uncertain life, is it not foolish to assume that we will always have another chance to be together again? Are we not losing, in our assumptions, the very essence of what it means to "truly meet another?" When I assume that we will meet again, this meeting which you and I are now sharing loses its value. The significance of this one encounter is overlooked; it ceases to be of utmost importance. This moment of life that we are now sharing loses its vitality; it becomes simply another premise, un-lived and unfulfilled.

In the tradition of the Japanese tea ceremony, there is a famous phrase, *ichigo ichie* (一期一会) literally, "one-lifetime-one-meeting." It is said that these words capture the spirit of tea, in which the participants treat each gathering as if it were the first and only time that they will be able to drink tea together. They are to treat each person and aspect of the ceremony with utmost respect, care and attention. There is only this gathering; there is only this one chance.

It is also said that the spirit of the tea ceremony has its origins in the Buddhist path. We learn therein that the wheel of life and death is an infinite movement of currents—a constant interfusion of changing events. I am myself—this self—only at this particular place and time. You are you—this person—only here and now. In the next moment, the infinite possibilities of change begin again. We—these two people—can truly meet only once, at this time and at this place. This encounter can never to be repeated; it is never to be relived. Like a snowflake or delicate nectar, it must be savored and treasured right now.

If we are able to realize that this is the only time that we—this you, this me—will meet in this way and under these circumstances, then everything changes. Within this one encounter, we find something of utmost value. Within this one opportunity to meet one another, we are able to know each other truly, for the first and only time. We discover a lifetime within this one meeting; in this fragile instant, two endless paths cross for the first and only time within the eternal flow of the universe. Each meeting is a new life; each moment is a new encounter with life. And in this true, single encounter with life itself, we come face to face with its infinite wonder and depth—the face and heart of the Buddha of Infinite Life.

Ku E Issho. The *Amida Sutra* teaches us that the person of *shinjin* will certainly meet the excellent persons of the Pure Land. As we entrust in the compassionate Vow of the Buddha, we encounter its powerful activity and hear its voice, "*Namu Amida Butsu*." This Vow brings us together—here and now—within the oneness of the Buddha's heart and the Buddha's land.

In this timeless moment—this encounter with Amida's Vow—we encounter our true selves and learn that we can live authentic lives together with all others. Entering into the Buddha's compassionate heart, we come to understand the unsurpassed value of the lives of all persons who have passed away before us, as well as of those still living, within infinite life. We are allowed to meet all of those excellent persons—not at some other place or at some future time, but **in this one place, at this one moment**—now and forever.

Within the *nembutsu* we experience this one true meeting, this precious and joyful moment of eternal life.

Namu Amida Butsu
Rev. D. Matsumoto
July 2013

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Congratulations to our high school graduates, Michael Adachi, Ariana Bandoc, Maya Kato, and Mali McGuire, who were acknowledged at the Graduation Service on June 2. All will be continuing with their education at various colleges. BBT was fortunate to have them participating in our Dharma School and other activities. Good luck to all of you!

At our last Taige-kai Rev. Matsumoto led the discussion on B.L.E.N.D. and diversity. Rev. Matsumoto in the past had spoken on B.L.E.N.D. which stands for Buddhists Living in Equality and Non-Discrimination. At this latest Taige-Kai he brought in Diversity which goes hand-in-hand with B.L.E.N.D. Both topics were a good reflection of our Sangha which is composed of diverse ethnic groups. A variety of good comments were brought up and shared by the audience. We all came away with deeper understanding and thinking on B.L.E.N.D. and Diversity.

On July 13 and 14 we will be observing Obon and Hatsubon at our temple. We hope you will come out to dance or observe the Bon Odori on Saturday. Let's make this year's Bon Odori the best, festive occasion with a crowd of dancers and observers. To further entice you, the BBWA will be having a Sushi Sale as a fundraiser for their 100th Anniversary in 2014. This is a pre-sale event so fill out the forms in your Padma and send them to the Temple by July 1st, lest you lose out on BBWA's delicious inarizushi, makizushi, and barazushi.

Obon/Hatsubon Service will take place on Sunday the 14th, with a special guest speaker, Rev. Dr. William Masuda, who recently retired from the BCA ministry. We hope you will attend this special service and hear the Dharma talk given by Rev. Masuda.

Gassho,

Ron Hiraga and Lucy Hamai,
BBT Co-Presidents

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

July 28, 2013
9:30 am

Shotsuki Hoyo Service - July 28, 2013, 9:30 AM

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

Motoharu Doi	Walter A. Doi	Yumiko Fujii
Miyoko Fukunaga	Yasuko U. Goto	Hisao Hamachi
Seijiro Hamamoto	Shigeo Haraguchi	Denichi Hiraoka
Naoichi Hirofuji	Noe Hirofuji	Yasuyo T. Hoki
Ayako Honda	Kawaya Imada	Masanobu Iwaihara
Inokichi Kaneko	George Katayama	Albert S. Kosakura
Helen C. Kurakazu	Ishizo Matsubara	Suematsu Matsubara
Akie Matsui	Shinobu Matsuura	Toshiko Miyamoto
Keiji Morita	Masaru Morita	Tsuyoshi Morita
Tsuya Mukai	Pearl T. Nagafuji	William J. Nagareda
Ruby N. Nakano	Yoshiko M. Nakao	Miyeko Nehira
Leroy Nitta	Grace Oki	Heizo Oshima
James Pankey	Hideo B. Sasaki	Etsuko Steimetz
Tomoe Sugawara	John S. Sugihara	Masami Takano
Yotaro Tominaga	Hitoshi Tsufura	Larry S. Tsuyuki
Setsuko Uchiumi	Toshio Yamasaki	Carolyn Y. Yoshii

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

Diversity and the B.C.A.

By Diane Ames

Apropos of an interesting discussion last Sunday on how to make the B.C.A. more diverse (and one might add, how to get more members, for although the B.C.A. has many dedicated members, it needs more and has for some time), I thought I would express some of the observations I have made during my thirty-five years in the organization. In particular, I would like to address some largely unspoken myths that, in my opinion at least, often paralyze any outreach efforts:

(1) That if we don't watch out, a marauding horde of Caucasians will take over and dispossess the current membership.

Anyone harboring this fear can relax. It isn't going to happen in the foreseeable future. Most Caucasians in this country are brought up as either Christians or Jews, and most people more or less identify with their natal religion for many reasons, including sentimental attachment. (In Germany I met many Germans who did not believe in God but who nonetheless read the Christmas story in the Bible to their families every Christmas Eve, shedding tears.) Conversion to another faith generally follows some kind of personal or spiritual crisis leading to a spiritual search, something that does not happen to everybody, or even to most people.

(2) That no non-nikkei would be interested in Shin Buddhism, a surprisingly widespread idea even though it contradicts myth (1).

A significant minority of people of all races do experience some kind of personal and/or spiritual crisis and do embark on a spiritual search. When that happens, many find Buddhism a very attractive religion. Of course, some new Buddhists want to engage in intensive practice, meditating for days or weeks on end, doing a hundred thousand prostrations followed by a hundred thousand hundred syllable mantras, etc. But I have observed that many are more comfortable with Amida's easy way.

(3) That non-nikkei members will necessarily be Caucasians.

A lot of Americans are neither. At least one B.C.A. minister that I know of had some success getting Asian-Americans from other ethnic groups to join his temple, particularly people who were at least slightly acquainted with Buddhism because their parents or grandparents or great-aunts by marriage were Buddhists. And of course, there are a lot of other groups out there.

Finally: this is an exceptionally open temple, for which Amida be praised.

TEL: (510) 841-1356

FAX: (510) 841-1435

Berkeley Buddhist Temple
2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

June 18, 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

We sincerely hope that this letter finds you and your family in good health and spirits in the Light of Compassion and Wisdom of Amida Buddha. This letter is to inform you that the temple will be observing O-Bon on July 13 and 14.

As a long established tradition, cemetery services will be held at Sunset View Cemetery and Chapel of the Chimes on July 13. If you plan to attend Sunset View Cemetery, please meet at Heian Garden at Sunset View Cemetery at 9:30 AM. If you plan to attend Chapel of the Chimes, please meet outside of Chapel of the Chimes at 12:30 PM. Rev. David Matsumoto will conduct short services at both cemeteries, and flowers will be provided to place on gravesites and niches.

Bon Odori will take place this year at Berkeley Buddhist Temple on 2121 Channing Way at 6:30 PM on Saturday, July 13.

O-Bon and Hatsubon service will be observed at our temple on July 14 at 9:30 AM. The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. William Masuda, newly retired BCA minister. A coffee social will follow after service. Please join us.

From the time of the Buddha, it has been the custom to make an offering at O-Bon. Enclosed is an envelope for your convenience.

In Gassho,

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

OBON/HATSUBON SERVICE

July 14, 2013

9:30 AM

Guest Speaker

Rev. Dr. William Masuda

Coffee social following service.

*Bon Odori at Berkeley Buddhist Temple
Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 6:30 pm*

Bon Odori practice will take place this year at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. Telephone: (510) 841-1356. Practice will be led by the Hanayagi Dance School from 7:30 pm until 9 pm. Everyone is welcome to participate. Bon Odori will take place on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 6:30 pm. Dancers should come early.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 25 and Thursday, June 27

Tuesday, July 2, Tuesday, July 9, and Thursday July 11

All practices begin at 7:30 and end at 9:00 pm.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 Satsuki Bazaar Raffle!

First Prize: Denise Lapidus - \$1,500

Second Prize: Abby Kaneko - \$300

Third Prize: Jeff Adachi - \$200

The Lapidus family donated their winning prize to the BBT!

Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To Mrs. Kuniko Imazumi
on the loss of her son,
Mr. Edward Imazumi
Shaku Jo Shin
March 26, 1958 - May 15, 2013

Namu Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu



The following is a list of special service years. If you have a departed relative who has 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.

2013 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2012	1 st Year
2011	3 rd Year
2007	7 th Year
2001	13 th Year
1997	17 th Year
1989	25 th Year
1981	33 rd Year
1964	50 th Year
1914	100 th Year

BBWA RUMMAGE SALE

To benefit the Berkeley Buddhist Women's Association's Centennial in 2014!

August 17-18, 2013

Saturday: 10-3; Sunday: 10-2

YOU MAY DROP OFF ITEMS FROM SUNDAY, JULY 20 (no earlier please)

Monday – Friday from 10 am to 1 pm during office hours (call 841-1356 first)

Sundays, 10-12

FURNITURE ITEMS CANNOT BE DROPPED OFF UNTIL AUGUST 11. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT ADULT CLOTHING, TVs, COMPUTERS, ELECTRONICS, MATTRESSES, LARGE APPLIANCES

JAPANESE ITEMS

KNICK-KNACKS

Collectibles, antiques, memorabilia
Artwork, handicrafts

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Dishes, cups, flatware, bowls
Kitchen accessories and appliances
Microwaves, rice cookers
Gardening equipment, tools
Baskets, vases, lamps, linen (good condition)
Books, DVD's, fans, room heaters

CHILDREN'S ITEMS

Toys, games, puzzles, books, CDs
Strollers, high chairs, furniture, swings
CLEAN clothes, costumes, stuffed animals
Tricycles, bicycles

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

FURNITURE

Bookcases, lamps, chairs, tables
Desks, small sofas, bedframes

OFFICE SUPPLIES

WANTED: RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS!

The Berkeley Buddhist Women's Association would like to ask everyone for their help in this year's rummage sale, which they are sponsoring for the first time. Proceeds will benefit BBWA's 100th anniversary in 2014. It's a large-scale event, and it will take a lot of volunteers to organize and staff it. We need help with setting up, sorting, pricing, cashiering, etc. If you can help, please contact **Caroline Fernandez** or **Yuki Otake** (510.841.1356) or email info@berkeleysangha.org to volunteer. Doumo arigatou!

BERKELEY BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

SUSHI SALE Following Obon Service July 13, 2013

OSUSHI COMBO **\$5.00**
(Inari, makizushi)

BARAZUSHI **\$5.00**

Proceed will be used for the Berkeley Buddhist Women's Association
100th Anniversary in 2014

Deadline: July 1, 2013

Contact: Yuki Otake or Caroline Fernandez
(510) 841-1356

PRE-ORDER FORM

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Sushi Combo _____ Quantity

Amount \$ _____

To go _____ Quantity

Amount \$ _____

Barazushi \$5.00 _____ Quantity

Amount \$ _____

To go _____ Quantity

Amount \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make check payable to Berkeley BWA
Mail to: Berkeley BWA
Attn: Maya Murashima Yonemura
2121 Channing Way
Berkeley CA 94704



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

BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE
Board of Directors Meeting
May 14, 2013

Attendance: Rev. David Matsumoto, Lucy Hamai, Ron Hiraga, Don Hamasaki, Emiko Katsumoto, Kiyoshi Katsumoto, Miri Nikaidoh, Takashi Nikaidoh, Emi Nakao, Gary Oda, Wayne Sugihara, David Ushijima, Russell Ware, Judy Fujimoto. Proxies: Susan Gabriel, Judy Kono, Denise Lapidus, Lena Yin.

Co-president Ron Hiraga called the meeting to order at 7:30PM with opening gassho led by Rev. Matsumoto.

APRIL MINUTES: Kiyoshi Katsumoto moved to approve the April minutes; seconded by Russell Ware and passed.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Matsumoto presented a written report for the period April 9-May 14, 2013, which included the following: 6 meetings; 2 consultations; 2 family memorial services; 4/13 IBS symposium @ JSC; 4/414 BBT DFS & Taigekai, "Kennyo Shonin & the Nishi/Higashi Separation"; 4/18 Dinner for and Lecture by Rev. Umezu, Stanford University; 4/21 BBT DFS; 4/26-4/27 FDSTL Conference, San Mateo; 5/3-5/4 IBS Chaplaincy & MInistry Symposium @ JSC; 5/12 BBT Gotanye & Parents Day Service; 5/13 Bazaar Preparation. Upcoming Events & Activities include: 5/16 IBS Commencement @ JSC; 5/16 BCAMA Special Committee Meeting, JSC; 5/17 IBS Trustees Meeting, JSC; 5/18 BCA Endowment Foundation Meeting, JSC; 5/18-5/19 BBT Satsuki Bazaar; 5/21 Bazaar Clean-up; 5/23 BDMA Meeting, BCO; 5/24 BCA Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, JSC; 5/26 BBT DF & Shotsuki Memorial Service; 6/1 BCA National Board Meeting, JSC; 6/2 BBT DF & Graduation Service (last day of DS); 6/9 BBT DFS & Taigekai, "BLEND".

Minister's Assistants: Rev. M requested that the Board grant another scholarship to Matthew Hamasaki to acknowledge and support his studies at IBS in preparation for the ministry, citing that the Board last granted Matthew a scholarship at the 7/8/11 Board meeting. Lucy Hamai moved that the BBT allocate \$20,000 for Matthew Hamasaki's IBS education for the calendar year 2013; seconded by Emiko Katsumoto. Russell Ware made an amendment to Lucy's motion that the funds come from the Yamashita Ministerial Scholarship Fund: seconded by Wayne Sugihara. A vote on the amended motion was taken and passed. A vote on the original motion was taken and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Satoshi Steimetz sent in a report for the period 4/1/13 through 4/30/13. Kiyoshi Katsumoto informed the Board that donation checks have been sent to the IBS and BCA from the koden received for Rev. Kusada's memorial service.

CORRESPONDENCE: Co-president Lucy Hamai passed around the correspondence binder.

REPORTS BY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

BBWA: no report.

DHARMA SCHOOL: Rev. Matsumoto reported on the FDSTL conference with its theme of Diversity. Rev. Bridge gave the keynote address, and the workshops were meaningful and engaging, including those presented by the BBT Dharma School staff. At the Parents' Day Service, three graduating high school seniors gave moving tributes to their parents.

JR.YBA: Mali McGuire sent in a written report which noted the following: 1) Events attended-4/6/13 BD Jr. YBA meeting in SF (Mali McGuire; advisor Robin McGuire); 2) Bazaar Game Booths will be Skee Ball, Goldfish Bowl Ping Pong Toss and Bean Bag Toss, Water Gun Race, and the Duck Pond/Lollipop Tree/Ticket Booth; 3) Future events-nomination of BBT and BD Officers, 6/29/13 BD End of Year Picnic, 7/5-7/7/13 BD San Luis Obispo Retreat, BD Conference (date TBD); 4) Fundraising- BBT members purchased 32 bags from the BD Jr. YBA Canvas Bag Sale for the Benefit Action Against Hunger program and the BBT Jr. YBA Boba Drink Fundraiser is being considered for the Obon rather than the Bazaar; 5) Next BBT Jr. YBA Meeting 5/12/13.

J-SEI: no report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE: Rev. Matsumoto announced the following updates on service speakers: 1) 9/22 Fall Ohigan DS speaker Tara Umemoto and Adult service speaker Edythe Vassall; 2) 10/20 Eitaikyō speaker Sensei Matthew Hamasaki; 3) 11/3 Esshini/Kakushinni speaker Haruka Beppu; 4) 11/7 Hoonko speaker IMOP ministers.

PLEDGE/MEMBERSHIP: no report
BUILDING MAINTENANCE: no report.
GARDEN MAINTENANCE: no report.

APARTMENTS: Ron Hiraga reported that a Fulton Street tenant will be vacating at the end of June, and there was a reimbursement check from Channing Way.

OTHER REPORTS

PADMA DISTRIBUTION: Lucy Hamai presented a written report following the 4/21/13 meeting of the Ad Hoc committee (David Ushijima, Wayne Sugihara, and herself) to assess continuation of mailing the Padma. The committee found no disadvantage in mailing the Padma at bulk mail rates as opposed to reducing a significant number of those who receive hard copies or only sending the Padma via email. Other benefits of having hard copies of the Padma include the convenience of having a reference at hand, the inclusion of donation envelopes with the mailings, the ability to keep interested non-member parties informed of Temple activities, and keeping the Padma printing and collating as a volunteer activity and community for members. The Board thanked the committee for their research and recommendations.

OUR ASPIRATION: Rev. Matsumoto presented to the Board a draft of a proposed aspiration statement inspired in part by the recent FDSTL Conference on "Diversity". Rev. M sees the statement as a reminder and a guide for the Sangha. He will discuss this aspiration during the 6/9 Taigekai and ask for input from Temple members.

HONDO SOUND: Tabled for the next Board meeting.

BAZAAR: Russell Ware reported that all seems to be going well. Kiyoshi Katsumoto noted he has applied for all necessary permits. Susan Gabriel sent an email noting that approximately 60 people came to help on Construction Day (20 more than 2012), people contributed a lot of food, and all left by 2:30PM. She thanked the May Toban for providing meals and all the volunteers who came to help.

NEW BUSINESS

TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIPS: Wayne Sugihara reported that the closing date for applications is 5/14/13 and that the Scholarship Committee has waived the requirement for a letter of recommendation from a Sangha member for this year.

Thank you to Miri and Takashi Nikaidoh for providing refreshments for tonight's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 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 needed.

BCA Center for Buddhist Education Upcoming Events

at the Jodo Shinshu Center, 2140 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704

The Institute of Buddhist Studies & BCA Center
for Buddhist Education present:

Summer Pacific Seminar 21st Century

SHINRAN &

AJATASATRU

Understanding the Human Condition

An exploration of Shinran and the Nirvana
Sutra, particularly the parable of Ajatasatru.

July 5 - 7, 2013

• **General Registration: \$135 by June 30th**

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Mark Blum**

Department of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley

Guest Presenter: **Professor Keiko Toro**

Jin-ai University, Fukui, Japan

Experimental Buddhism:

**Innovation and Activism Among
Shinshu Priests in Contemporary Japan**

Professor John K. Nelson

Department of Theology and Religious Studies,
University of San Francisco

Saturday, August 3, 2013 @ 1:00 pm

This talk will emphasize how a growing
number of progressive Shinshu priests in Japan
are exploring new approaches and affiliations
that apply Pure Land teachings to pressing
social and political concerns.

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE: Donations appreciated

Presented by BCA Center for Buddhist Education
in conjunction with the Jodo Shinshu
Correspondence Course August Workshop

SAVE THESE DATES:

“Make the Dharma Connection” October 18-20, 2013

A Dharma School Teachers’ Continuing Education Seminar

With Guest Speaker: **Kiyo Masuda**, Educational Resource Specialist

The 7th Annual Baby Boomers’ Seminar November 2, 2013

WAKE UP & BE ALIVE!

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Masao Kodani, Senshin Buddhist Temple

To register online for these events, visit www.bcasites.net

For more information on CBE programs, email: admin@cbe-bca.org or call: 510.809.1460

Looking for OBON SCHEDULES? Visit <http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/obon-calendar>



FAMILY FESTIVAL



Save the Date

Sunday, September 8 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

El Cerrito Community Center
7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito, CA 94530

In celebration of Grandparents' Day, please join us for the 2nd Annual J-Sei Family Festival. Japanese cultural activities, demonstrations, and food for all ages will be featured. Planned indoor and outdoor activities include:

- ◆ Musical Performances
- ◆ Food Booths
- ◆ Hands-On Cooking Demonstrations
- ◆ Japanese Wood Joinery Daiko Dojo
- ◆ Children's Games in the Kid's Corner
- ◆ More

Entrance is **FREE**.



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 3	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March 17	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April 7	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May 12	Gotan-e	Birthday of Shinran
July 14	Kangi-e	Obon
September 15	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November 17	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin Memorial
December 1	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.

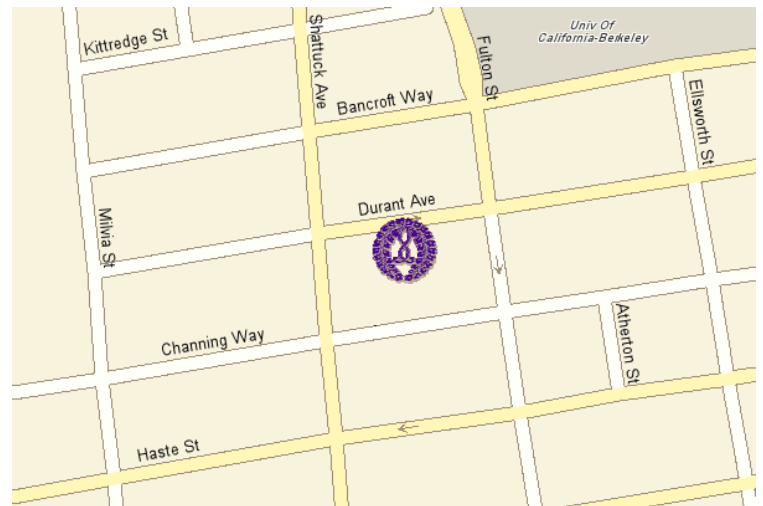
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

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