



BODHI MIND



Vancouver Buddhist Church
220 Jackson Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3
(604) 253-7033

vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca
May 2007
Issue 310

Ikkyu

Ikkyu (1394-1481) was a famous Zen monk and poet and was a contemporary with Rennyu, the 8th patriarch of Jodo Shin Buddhism. Ikkyu had been quick in his thinking, and the quickness came in handy for him in a well-known story from his youth.

As a young monk, Ikkyu got himself in trouble one day when he accidentally dropped his master's tea cup. This was serious because the tea cup was the master's favorite. It was a rare treasure and beautifully crafted from precious material. Of all of the master's possessions, it was probably the one thing he cherished the most.

Ikkyu felt guilty, but before he could formulate a plan to get away, he heard footsteps approaching. He swept the broken pieces together and blocking them from view with his body. He turned to face the door just as the master entered.

When they were within speaking distance, Ikkyu asked, "Master, why must people die?"

The master replied, "It is perfectly natural. Everything in the world experiences both life and death."

"Everything?"

"Everything."

"So it is not something we should feel upset about?"

"Definitely not."

At that point, Ikkyu moved aside to present the broken pieces and said, "Master...your cup has experienced its inevitable death..."

In gassho,

Tatsuya Aoki

Congratulations to the winners of our Spring Bazaar Door Prizes!

1st Prize—\$50.00 to Harry Mizuta, 2nd Prize—\$35.00 to John Harada, 3rd Prize—\$25.00 to Monica Ohori

Greetings everyone,

For the month of March and April, it surely has been an extremely active place. The new two year terms of the executive officers and the Board of Directors has been elected. These positions require a lot of patience, dedication and commitment. Thank-you to the past executives and the Board of Directors for your guidance and leadership. For the newly elected executives and Board Members, our temple really appreciates your acceptance in being a guiding light for the Temple for the next two years.

On March 25, our temple had our annual Spring Bazaar. The weather finally cleared up with breaks of sunshine. Buddha must of been saving this great weather for our event. This requires an enormous amount of volunteer help to make this event a success. With all the manju making days and the preparations before and during the event, our Temple managed to have a gross income of \$15,000.00. You can't imagine the frenzy and unity this event has on our members. Thank-you to all our members and our suppliers Amano Foods, Angel Seafood, Fujiya, Kay's Seafood, Shinbo Tofu, Sunrise Soy Products and Yamato Trading. Our Temple really appreciates your support and your kind generosity for this event. Finally our committee chairpersons Bob Akune and Frank Hamanishi for coordinating this finally tuned event. Domo arigato gozaimashi ta !!!

On March 29, our Temple had the honour in hosting the Asahikawa High School Band from Japan. This band consists of 115 musicians. The Temple was filled beautiful array of assorted musical pieces. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by our seniors and members of our Temple. Thank-you to the Asahikawa High School Band and our Toban for creating a beautiful lunch after the concert.

On April 8, our temple had our Hanamatsuri, Hatsumairi, and Keirokai. Once again the day was full of sunshine. Thank-you to Fraser Valley Temple for donating the beautiful daffodils. These flowers really

makes you feel spring is in the air. During the service, we had the pleasure to have the McGarth and Kojyima family in participating in our Hatsumairi. It's sure great to see young Buddhists coming to our Temple. Thank-you to Rev. Kikuchi from the Steveston Buddhist Temple and Bishop Fujikawa from the Buddhist Churches of Canada for attending our service. Our guest minister was Rev. Kyojo Ikuta from Calgary Buddhist Temple. His Dharma talk was really enjoyed by all of our members. Thank-you Rev. Ikuta for taking the time from your busy schedule to attend our Hanamatsuri service. Being such a special occasion our Toban made a delicious roast beef lunch. This lunch was awesome !!!! Following the lunch our Temple celebrated our Keirokai Party for all of our special senior members. The event really put a smile on everyone's face.

In Gassho,
Dave Ohori

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Dharma School News - Hanamatsuri 2007

Dharma School students followed Aoki Sensei and guest ministers down the centre isle of the VBC Hondo on Sunday, April 8th, each holding a fresh daffodil to place into a vase set beside the Hanamido where a statue of Baby Buddha stood in a bath of sweet tea. Each student also bowed before the statue of Baby Buddha and poured sweet tea over it, symbolizing the sweet rain that was said to fall after His birth in Lumbini Garden over 2500 years ago.

Possibly, the highlight of the service for the students was the presentation of Hanamatsuri gifts which in some cases were almost the size of the students themselves.

Dharma School students helped to distribute a few stems of daffodils to each person attending the Keirokai Lunch which followed the Hanamatsuri service. It was a delightful offering marking the celebration of a happy occasion.



VANCOUVER BUDDHIST CHURCH

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY JUNE 9, 2007

MUSQUEAM GOLF COURSE

3904 W. 51st. VANCOUVER, B.C.

TEE OFF STARTING AT 12:00 NOON

\$70.00 ENTRY FEE - INCLUDES GOLF,
DINNER AND PRIZES.

EVERYONE COME OUT AND JOIN IN THE FUN,
ENJOY A GAME OF GOLF, A SUPER DINNER
AND WIN A PRIZE.

Please contact FRANK HAMANISHI AT 298-9285
or MIN KOYANAGI AT 433-3119
or Church Office at 253-7033



Greetings from the Valley!!

Writing this just after our Hanamatsuri service made us realize how lucky we are. The weather held and gave us a clear day with only a sprinkling of rain – like in Lumbini Garden. We were so grateful to see Kyojokuta sensei again. His warmth and sense of being “with us” is so touching, it is easy to understand why he is so loved by the sangha. With sadness we shared the news of Socho Fujikawa’s loss, but at the same time we rejoiced to hear of Aoki sensei’s upcoming blessed event. It was such a truly Buddhist day!

One correction must be made regarding our temple AGM news from last month. Marilyn Fujita’s name was omitted from the board of directors list. She has kindly agreed to continue on the board. We also wish to thank Ruth and Ross Honkawa for all their generous mentoring during the last four years on the board and we hope that they will continue to advise us.

The coming weeks hold much in store. The BCC AGM in Calgary on April 27th through 29th, the Kelowna 75th anniversary on May 27th, and of course our next Gotan – e and Shotski service on May 12th. Please join us for services on May 12th at 2:00 at the Fraser Valley Buddhist temple on Haverman Road in the Valley.

In gassho
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Gotan-e (Birthday of Shinran Shonin)

Gotan-e celebrates the birthday of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu, the True Pure Land Sect. Shinran was born in Hino near Kyoto to Lord and Lady Arinori Hino and was named Matsuwakamaro. Matsuwakamaro lost both his parents at an early age and it is said that because of this, he decided to become a priest. At the age of 9, young Matsuwakamaro was ordained at Shoren-in Temple in Kyoto. He studied for 20 years on Mt. Hiei, enduring the most difficult of study and practice, but he found it impossible to attain Perfect Enlightenment through his own efforts. At the age of 29, he was led to the Way of the Nembutsu by Honen Shonin and found the true path to the attainment of Buddhahood through the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha. He spent many years in exile, spreading the Nembutsu teaching in the distant provinces. In his later years, he was pardoned and eventually returned to Kyoto where he spent his days writing and communicating with his many disciples near and far. Until he died at the age of 90, Shinran’s life was lived simply and humbly – a life of profound spiritual depth.

In November 1877, the Emperor Meiji honored Shinran Shonin with the title of Kenshin Daishi (Seer-of-Truth, Great-Master)

(from Traditions of Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-ha by Masao Kodani and Russell Hamada)

Note – Hongwanji will be celebrating the 750th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin in 2012. Celebration plans are already underway.





SENIOR'S SPRING FLING 2007
at HARRISON HOT SPRINGS



Monday June 4
to
Wednesday June 6, 2007

Cost: \$221.50 per person based on double occupancy for Vancouver Buddhist Church members and includes:

- Bus Transportation
 - Minter Gardens Admission
 - 2 nights accommodation
 - Upon arrival at 4:00pm-5:00pm - served "Harrison Afternoon Tea"
 - Buffet Breakfast each morning 8:00am-9:00am
 - One Dinner in the Copper Room* featuring a special 5 course meal 6:00pm-8:00pm**
 - Special addition-chef cooking demonstration (minimum 20 people)
- Use of the Hot Spring's Pools within the Resort

*Dress code in Copper Room: long pants/dress, collared shirt and dress shoes

**please choose your entrée: Chicken Breast, Roast Beef, Salmon or Grilled Vegetables

Single occupancy rate \$327.50 per person for Vancouver Buddhist Church member

NON-MEMBERS price includes all of the above: **\$252.50** per person

June 04-Bus Departing VBC 12:00noon*** - June 06-Return VBC approximately 1:00pm

***please bring a packed lunch for yourself to eat on the bus en route to Harrison

Noriko Sugimoto – Coordinator

If you would like to attend the Spring Fling please submit your reservation and payment to:

Vancouver Buddhist Church 220 Jackson Avenue, Vancouver B.C. V6A 3B3
Phone: 604 253-7033

*******limited seating to the first 46 registrants*******

May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	4	5 10:00 am Toban Meeting
6 10:30 am Family Service	7	8	9	10 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club 7:30 pm VBC Board meeting	11	12 2:00 pm FVBT Gotan-e and Monthly Memorial ser- vice
13 10:30 am Gotan-e and Monthly Memo- rial Service	14	15	16 11:00 am Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Kikuchi)	17 10:30 am Japanese ser- vice followed by Taisho Koto concert from Japan	18	19
20 10:30 am Family Service	21	22	23	24 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	25	26
27 10:30 am Morning Ser- vice 1:00 pm Dharma School Service fol- lowed by Com- munity Service Activity	28	29	30	31 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club		

For more information on coming events, please go to www.vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca or phone the Vancouver Buddhist Church during regular business hours at (604) 253-7033

SHOTSUKI (Memorial) List—May

May Shotsuki/monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, May 13, 2007

1958—50th Year	Isono Suzuki	Denshin Nagamatsu	1994
Shichisaburo Sugihara	1972	1984	Shige Matsuba
Tsuneshige Nakamura's daughter	Tsurukichi Mishima	Hiroshi Sakiyama	1995—13th Year
1959	1973	Hidehiro Okegami	Nabe Shimabukuro
Kunimatsu Saimoto	Haru Tanaka	Yoshio Hanada	Takaichi Yamada
Eikichi Nakashima	1974	Matsuyo Takemoto	Shigeo Uyeno
Masu Ohta	Suye Inamasu	Fuji Teranishi	1996
Yuno Ohashi	Sumiye Horii	1985	Masaye Itaya
1960	1975—33rd Year	Yukio Yamada	1997
Mitsugu Nakanishi	Ei Uyeno	Imiko Kawahira	Tadashi Shoji
Yoshigoro Hamade	Toyohisa Koyanagi	1986	Akiko Takemori
1961	Shigetaro Kitano	Hikotaro Egami	Masao Tanaka
Hidehiko Shirakawa	Kiyokazu Mayeda	Toyo Hamade	1998
1962	1976	Hiroshi Nishimura	Kazuye Yamada
Usaburo Nishikawa	Fumio Hamaguchi	Tazo Nose	Bill Maruyama
1964	Iwao Takeda	Nobuo Mori	1999
Kamen Marumoto	1977	1987	Hiroshi Hamaguchi
Sutekichi Yabuno	Yoshio Kondo	Mika Hori	Akiko Kunimoto
Choichiro Yurugi	1979	Moto Yurugi	Hiroshi Yamada
1965	Genzaburo Nakamura	Naka Kitagawa	2000
Norman Nakata	Aiko Nishimura	1988	Yukio Nishi
Kandayu Inouye	1980	Gen Tsuji	Kiyoshi Kakutani
1966	Yoshi Yoshida	1989	Eichi Imai
Nagashige Matsushita	Hajime Wakita	Suino Kuromi	Toshio Yamashita
1967	1981	Kaoru Miura	2001—7th Year
Isamu Yoshida	Kazuo Takahashi	1990	Tomohiko Wakahara
Hiroye Madokoro	(baby) Yabe	Jordan Green	2002
1968	Shotaro Yamakami	Ken Hirai	Miki Nakamura
Yoshinobu Shikaze	Kaoru Ayukawa	Mitsuye Nishikawa	Hisako Fukui
1969	Miki Tanaka	1991—17th Year	Hiromi Watanabe
Suekichi Honkawa	1982	Kazuko Okada	Tadayuki Sameshima
Matsu Ono	Takezo Ohta	Haruko Haya	2003
Chozo Ogino	Yoshio Kawaguchi	Ito Miyagawa	Toyoko Nakatsui
1970	Ichijiro Tanaka	1992	2004
Hisa Tanaka	1983—25th Year	Yoichi Ono	Noboru Omoto
	Yaeko Kitade	Zenya Soga	Chie Oya
		Fumio Uyesugi	Shizuko Kitamura
		Misaho Noda	2006—1st Year
			SATO, Yoshiaki

With deepest sympathies...

The Vancouver Buddhist Church offers its condolences to the family of Matsuko Kazuta who passed away on April 14, 2007 at the age of 94.

Namo Amida Butsu

Summer Memorial Services—book now!

The weekend dates for July, August, and September are filling fast. If you wish Sensei to hold a family memorial service (Hoji) during these months, please contact him as soon as possible.

Giving to the Community

In the Golden Chain, we recite “I will be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect those who are weaker than myself”. **On Sunday, May 27th**, members of the Vancouver Buddhist Church are invited to help do just that by preparing and serving a meal to the members of the Living Room Drop-In Centre located at 528 Powell Street. The LivingRoom provides programs to men and women in the area who are suffering from mental illness.

Dharma School families will be attending a special service that day starting at 1:00 pm. Immediately following the afternoon service they, with other volunteers from the Vancouver Buddhist Church will be preparing a meal and will be serving it to the 100 to 150 Living Room members for dinner that night.

Your participation in this community service event is welcome. Please contact the office for more information.

Morning service will be held at the usual time for those who prefer to come to service in the morning.

Taisho Koto Performance

Vancouver Buddhist Church

Thursday, May 17, 2007

10:30 am

Admission is free. Open to all members. Please contact the VBC office for more information



Do you have a family Butsudān (family shrine) in your home?

The Vancouver Buddhist Church has some used butsudāns available for members. If you are interested in obtaining one, please contact the VBC Office.

2007 HSBC ChildRun Sunday, June 3rd 2007

Support the Vancouver Buddhist Church in this annual fundraising event. Join the team and participate in a 5k walk/run (1 km route also available) or make a donation to support the team. All monies raised go to the BC Children's Hospital foundation that supports research and treatment of BC's sick children. The run starts at 8:30 am with warm-ups.

Following the run, join the VBC members in an outdoor service at the top of Queen Elizabeth Park. Service starts at approximately 11:00 am.

For more information, please contact Lori North, Team Captain, at (604) 939-3451. To join the team or make a donation, you can also go to the ChildRun website at www.childrun.com and follow the links to the Vancouver Buddhist Church page. Deadline for joining the team is May 17th.

BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

Mrs. Akemi Komori and her daughter Miwa will be sharing their talents in dedicating their time to teach the traditional Japanese Bon Odori dances in preparation for the Obon Service. An invitation is extended to anyone who is interested in joining.

Where: Vancouver Buddhist Church Social Hall

Dates: June 12, June 15, June 19, June 22, June 26, June 28 and July 6

Time: 7:30 pm – 9:00pm

The **Obon Service** is held at the Vancouver Buddhist Church on **July 8, 2007 at 2:00pm**

The **Bon Odori Dances** will commence at **4:00pm** outside the Church



Dharma School students receive gifts in celebration of Buddha Birthday (Hanamatsuri)



Installation of VBC officers for 2007/2008. (left to right) Dave Ohoi—President, Frank Hamanishi (Vice-President), Henry Low (Treasurer), Reverend Tatsuya Aoki. (Missing—John Harada—2nd Vice President)



Rev Aoki welcomes Rayden James McGrath (parents Megumi and Colin McGrath) and Hiromi Kojima (parents Teru and Miwa Kojima) in the Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation) Ceremony.



Rev. Ikuta from Calgary receives a special gift from the VBC at the Keirokai Party.

The BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Churches Federation
Presents a

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

**THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BENEFITS
OF
THE BUDDHIST TEACHINGS AND PRACTICE**

**Saturday, June 16, 2007
9:30 am to 3:30 pm**

**Speaker: Dr. Ryo Imamura
Professor, Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington**

**Location: Vancouver Buddhist Church
220 Jackson Ave., Vancouver
Telephone: (604) 253-7033**

***Pre-order a Japanese Obento lunch for \$10.00
by calling the Vancouver Buddhist Church.***

Dr. Ryo Imamura is a professor of Counseling Psychology at the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. His teaching and research focus is on Buddhist thought and practice in East-West Psychology. He received his Doctorate degree in Counseling/Educational Psychology for the University of San Francisco. He received his Jodo Shinshu ministerial ordinations in Japan in 1972 after which he was a minister in Hawaii and California for 16 years.

BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Churches Federation

2007 OBON TOUR
of
VANCOUVER ISLAND
(by chartered bus)

AUGUST 10 - 12, 2007

- Cemetery visitations to the Duncan Cemetery, Chemainus Cemetery, Cumberland Cemetery and Port Alberni Cemetery.
- See the Totem Poles in Duncan, the famous murals in Chemainus
- Visit Cathedral Grove in the MacMillan Provincial Park
- Visit the Coombs Market (see the goats on the roof)
- Visit the Malls in the Shopping Centre Capital of BC (Nanaimo) and/or visit the Casino
- Join Cumberland as they celebrate their 119th year of Celebrations -- have lunch with them at the Legion Hall, and dinner with them in the Rec Hall. Tour Cumberland, visit the sites where the Japanese lived, visit their Museum.

- Cost per person for the three-day, two night tour, including bus cost, ferry cost, two nights accommodation (in Nanaimo and Courtenay), and lunch and dinner in Cumberland, is just \$441. on a two-sharing basis. Rates are also available for single, three sharing, four sharing and children accompanying parents.
 - Further information is available from Roy Inouye, Obon Tour Chairperson. Phone (250) 376-3506, E-mail <rbinouye@telus.net> , or write to 1724 Clifford Avenue, Kamloops, BC V2B 4G6. Application forms are available from our travel agent Hans Steen of K. Iwata Travel, 774 Thurlow Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 3V5, or E-mail: <travelbyhans@iwata-travel.ca> Application forms through K. Iwata Travel Services..
 - Buddhist and non-Buddhists from across Canada and elsewhere are invited to join in this unique tour as we learn a part of our early history and pay our respects to our ancestors. If at all interested, please contact us soon, preferably by April 30, and we will keep you informed as plans progress. Don't procrastinate, or it may be too late!
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BCC Update May 2007 From the Office of Bishop

*A monthly update from the national headquarters of the Buddhist Churches of Canada.
11786 Fentiman Place, Richmond, BC, V7E 6M6. Ph: 604-272-3330, office@bcc.ca
www.bcc.ca*

Probably because of global warming, I hear all kinds of irregular spring weather forecast. But I am sure we will welcome sudden burst of summer soon. I hope you enjoy good health and spirit in the light of compassion of Amida Buddha

After commemorating the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha in April, we have another happy occasion to observe the birth of Shinran Shonin (May 21) called Gotanye or Fuji Matsuri (Wisteria Festival), as wisteria flower is used as Ohtani family crest.

I believe the most outstanding contribution of Shinran Shonin in the Mahayana Buddhism is the interpretation of Shinjin experience. Before his time the shinjin was something that you would raise in your mind before reciting the name of Amida Buddha, but he pioneered in saying that shinjin is directed and given to you by the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Take bowing for example. You bow your head before the shrine of the Buddha. The question is whether you bow your head because everyone does or you are moved to bow your head by the awesome working of Compassion.

The difficulty of Jodo Shinshu, however, is the fact that you must listen to the cause and condition of the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha until your head bows down.

Further there are three mottoes when it comes to listening. 1) When you listen, you consider this is the first time you listen in your life. 2) When you listen, you consider this may be the last time in your life. 3) This Buddha Dharma is only for you, not anyone else.

Continue to have a good listening as a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist. In gassho

Coming events

April 25-26 BCC MA Meeting in Calgary

27 BCC Board Meeting

28 BCC Annual General Meeting in Calgary

May 9-11 World Jodo Shinshu Coordinating Council in Kyoto

27 Kelowna Buddhist Temple 75th Anniversary

July 16-30 Hongwanji Youth Tour led by Fujii Sensei

20-August 9 Ryukoku Summer School in Steveston

August 1-3 MA Seminar and meeting in Calgary

October 12-14 BC Buddhist Convention in Kelowna

November 10-11 Alberta Buddhist Convention

“Everyday in Texas, Texans drive over 180 million miles or to the Sun and back simply to accomplish their daily tasks and recreational activities.”

Michael J. Osbourne, 2001

Ever want to know what is happening in Japan at the Mother Temple? Check out their English website at www2.hongwanji.or.jp/english/
