



BODHI MIND



Vancouver Buddhist Church
220 Jackson Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3
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vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca
November 2007
Issue 314

Buddha's Wish and My Wish

We hope and wish to live a life that is filled with happiness. These hopes vary from such things as wanting wealth, status, and good health. However, even if many of our wishes were to come true, there is no guarantee that we would be happy. In the Larger Sutra, it states, "...If they have a field, they worry about the field. If they have a house, they worry about the house..." and "If they have no field, they become anxious and wish to possess one. If they have no house, they become anxious and wish to possess one..." Just as this indicates, if we possess such things as property, a home, and assets, they cause us to worry, and conversely, if we do not possess them, it frustrates us.

If we think deeply on this, we can see that these hopes and wishes are nothing more than unstoppable, self-centred desires that are for our own benefit only. Our self-centeredness causes us to become unconcerned with the feelings of others and therefore, unable to see all the kindness and benefit we receive that supports our lives. As a result, we lose sight of the interconnectedness of our life with others, and are thereby unable to escape from delusion and suffering.

Conversely, if our wish is to become aware of our own self-centeredness and we are able to find a way to overcome this basic problem of humanity, it becomes a way or path to 'true' happiness.

For all of us ordinary people who continue to wallow in delusion and are unable to see our interconnectedness with all life because we possess this self-centred heart and mind, Amida's Primal Vow shines over us as the light of wisdom that guides us to the world of Truth.

Namo Amida Butsu
Tatsuya Aoki

Dharma School

Four Dharma School students from our temple were able to attend the BCJSBCF Convention in Kelowna on the October 13th weekend. You may read about their experiences below and elsewhere in this bulletin. Thank you to the Kelowna members for planning the wonderful weekend and to Mari Cameron for the thoughtful program designed for the youth who attended.

The Dharma School theme set out by Aoki Sensei for the months of October and November is "ECOLOGY AND INTERDEPENDENCE." We will be viewing a film on recycling after one of our services this month and hope to gain greater appreciation of the recycling process and what we can do individually to "reduce, reuse and recycle."

By the time of this newsletter, students will have enjoyed Halloween treats (and tricks?) on the 21st of October as well as the fun and busyness of the temple Fall Bazaar on the 28th.

- Molly Akune

Rev'ren Mark Unno
With all his Buddhist Teachings
He makes us all laugh.

Anthony Chor
(on the Convention)

Greetings from the Fraser Valley....

With harvesting under way, children back at school and the weather turning slightly cooler fall has come to the valley. The September shotsuki service was held on September 8th with Bishop Fujikawa officiating. Then, a group of our members traveled to the Steveston Buddhist Temple to listen to Reverend Laverne Sasaki show us with patience, wisdom and humor, a glimpse into the depth of the teachings of our Jodo Shinshu faith.

October brings the BCJSBCF convention in Kelowna on the 13th and 14th. The October shotsuki service will be held on October 20th, the week after the convention. Please join us as we plan our fall and winter programs.

In gassho,
FVBT

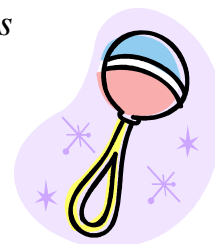
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Welcome Sakura Aoki!

Our congratulations to Rev. Aoki and his wife, Yukari and daughter, Sora.

Baby girl, Sakura was born on Thursday, October 18th.



Many Thanks....

To all Temple members & friends who volunteered their valued time and efforts into making our Annual Fall Bazaar such a great success once again. We hope you enjoyed working with your friends and neighbours. Your ongoing support and dedication is appreciated.

OUR APPRECIATION...

...to all the participants who come and support our events. Thank you. Without you, we would not have this Bazaar.

Howakai Senior's Club meets weekly at the Otera

Senior's Club meets every Thursday, commencing at 12:00 noon with Service spoken in Japanese. The afternoon begins with your selection of:

- card games
- ping pong
- chess
- bridge games & lessons if required
-

A variety of snacks are donated by the members and afternoon tea is served followed by bingo. This outing concludes at 3:30pm. Please come and join us for a relaxing, social gathering.

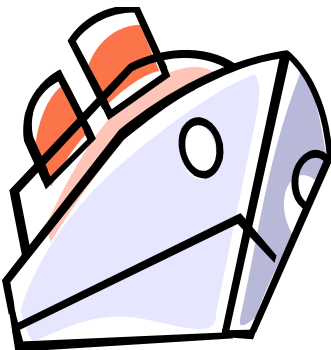
LAS VEGAS and CRUISE May 4-10, 2008

Price Includes Flight, Las Vegas Accommodation & Cruise
- From \$679* Cdn + taxes per person based on double occupancy

- 04 May Fly from Vancouver Airport to Las Vegas
- 05 May Las Vegas –Excalibur Hotel & Casino
- 06 May Las Vegas –Excalibur Hotel & Casino
- 07 May Depart Vegas to LA - 4:00 Board & Sail
- 08 May at Sea on the Diamond Princess
- 09 May at Sea on the Diamond Princess
- 10 May Arrive Vancouver Port at 7:30am



Please call as soon as possible for additional information.
Please contact: Nori Sugimoto @ 604-730-2684 or Gina Chor at Vancouver Buddhist Church @ 604-253-7033



Book early for guaranteed accommodation
A \$200.00 non-refundable deposit is required 48 hours from confirmation.
Full payment due Jan. 31, 2008

Call Ron or Sharon at Cruises Abroad at 604-266-0008
To reserve with our group booking code: VBC

* inside room category rate

BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Churches Annual Raffle

Thank you to everyone who supported the BCJSBCF Annual Raffle. The draw was held in Kelowna at the Federation's Annual Convention.

The winners are:

1 st Prize	\$1,500	A LaBar	Winfield, BC
2 nd Prize	\$1,000	Kuni Ikuta	Richmond, BC
3 rd Prize	\$ 500	Don Pettman	Kelowna, BC
4 th Prize	\$ 300	Yosh Terada	Kelowna, BC
5 th Prize	\$ 300	M Tanizawa	Vancouver, BC
6 th Prize	\$ 200	Ed Hori	Kamloops, BC
7 th Prize	\$ 200	Gord Lacey	Kelowna, BC
8 th Prize	\$ 200	Derek Mayeda	Kelowna, BC
9 th Prize	\$ 200	T Nishikawa	Kamloops, BC

For more information on the activities of the BCJSBCF or the individual temples, please contact:

BCJSBCF	Lori North	lori.north@gmail.com
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple		yoshioka_lucy@hotmail.com
Kamloops Buddhist Church		rbinouye@telus.net
Kelowna Buddhist Temple		kbtemple@telus.net
Steveston Buddhist Temple		sbt@shawlink.ca
Vancouver Buddhist Church		vbc.admin@gmail.com

“Coming Home to the Nembutsu”



The Seattle Betsuin is hosting the
NorthWest District Convention

On: February 15-17, 2008

At: Double Tree Guest Suites, Tukwila

- Guest Speakers will be: Rev. Midori Kondo & Rev. Dean Koyama
- Special workshops being planned are: Calligraphy & Okesa-making
- Along with sessions by: Rev. Don Castro, Rev. Gregory Gibbs, Rev. Dennis Fujimoto, Rinban Matsubayashi, Rev. Nakagawa, Rev. Fukuma & Rev. Kondo.
- A full program for Junior & Senior YBA members are planned.
- Registration deadline to VBC is **December 23, 2007**

A bus may be available if there are enough participants attending.

As seats are limited, please call at your earliest convenience.

Please contact Gina Chor at Vancouver Buddhist Church **604 253-7033**

Or e-mail: vbc.admin@gmail.com for additional information.

Update from the Office of Bishop Oct 4, 2007

Buddhist Churches of Canada
11786 Fentiman Pl. Richmond, B.C. V7E 6M6

May this update find you in good health and spirit enjoying fall season in the Light of Compassion of Amida Buddha.

It is said that Buddha Dharma has two important functions; to get rid of pains and sufferings and to give peace, joy, and tranquility. In order to get rid of pains, Buddha uses the wisdom with a lot of thinking and understanding. However, it is important for each individual to be honest to oneself and prepare to accept the teaching as a guiding light. In another word, as long as you cling to the stubborn ego and close your hard shell, there is no chance of liberation. And therefore there will be no peace, joy, and tranquility taking place.

Shinran Shonin wrote a poem, saying
When we say, Namo-Amida-Butsu,
Which surpasses all virtues in the world,
Our heavy obstructions of evil—past, present, and future---
Are all unfailingly transformed, becoming small and light.

Thanks to the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha with deep contemplation, the Name of Namoamidabutsu has been completed and given to each one of us. Let us accept the Oyagokoro, the great mind of wisdom and compassion of our spiritual Parent of Amida Buddha.

With gassho, namoamidabutsu
orai fujikawa

Coming events

- Oct 12-14 BC Buddhist Conference in Kelowna
- 27-29 Visitation to Manitoba and Saskatchewan
- Nov 6-8 Oversea Ministers and Members' seminar in Kyoto
(Grant Ikuta Sensei, Bob Akune and Ben Shikaze from BC)
- 10-11 Alberta Buddhist Convention in Lethbridge
- Dec 4-13 Kyoshi Seminar in Kyoto (James Martin, Calgary)

Congratulations Kelsey!

Kelsey Chan of Vancouver Buddhist Church is the winner of this year's BCJSBCF Post Secondary Entrance Scholarship. Kelsey will receive a \$500 scholarship payment in each of her four years of undergraduate studies at Simon Fraser University.

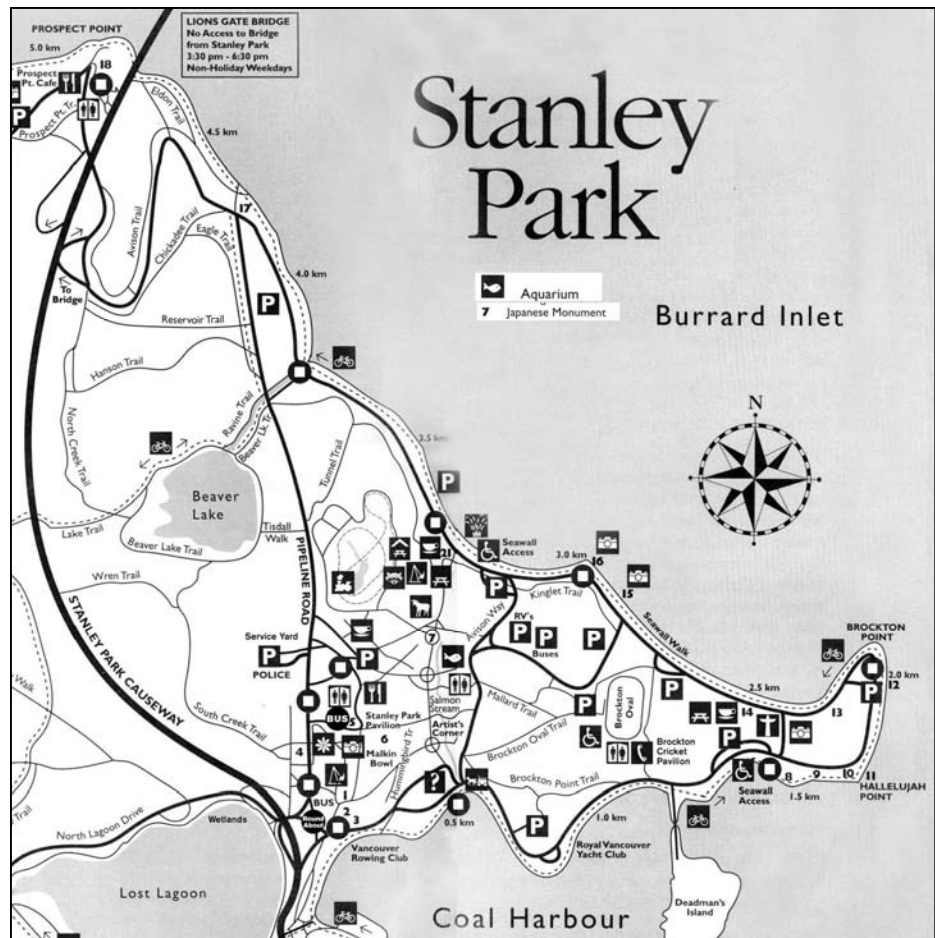
Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Japanese Cenotaph in Stanley Park

Sunday, November 11, 2007

10:30 am

Members are encouraged to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Stanley Park Where Japanese Canadians will be gathering to remember those who had given their lives in past conflicts. The Ceremony will be held at the Japanese Cenotaph (see #7 on the map) starting at 10:30 am and a wreath from the 6 BC Jodo Shinshu temples will be laid. Following the ceremony, the public is invited to view displays and enjoy some light refreshments, compliments of the Japanese Canadian Memorial Committee.

The regular Sunday morning service at the VBC temple is cancelled on this day so that members may participate in the ceremony.



November Observances—Eitaikyo and Esshini

This month, the Shotsuki Memorial service will be combined with observing Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial) and Esshini (remembering Esshini the wife of Shinran Shonin)

Eitaikyo—Perpetual Memorial Service

Eitaikyo is a Japanese Buddhist observance. Each temple has an Eitaikyo Book which is kept on the altar. It is a calendar book in which the names of deceased persons are entered on the day of their death. Donors to a special Eitaikyo Fund have the names entered in the Eitaikyo book. The morning service is dedicated to the memory of those persons entered on the page for that day. Thus sutras were chanted yearly for those names entered in the Eitaikyo Book in perpetuity. The Eitaikyo Fund is a special fund that is to be used for the support of the temple only when it is in extreme circumstances.

In addition, a special memorial service is held in memory of all those listed in the Eitaikyo Book once a year, usually in November. The relatives and friends of the deceased are notified of the special service. Again, in Jodoshinshu, the observance of Eitaikyo is not for the benefit of the dead, but indeed for the benefit of the living.

From Traditions of Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-ha by M. Kodani and R Hamada

The Perpetual Memorial Service, or Eitaikyo, is a Japanese Buddhist observance. It is a memorial service to pay tribute to predecessors. This service is dedicated to all who lived and died as Buddhists in due respect of their contribution to the growth of the local sangha. It is an opportunity to express gratitude to the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha.

From Jodo Shinshu: A Guide, published by Hongwanji

Esshini

Esshini was the wife of our founder, Shinran Shonin. Born in Niigata Prefecture in 1182, she supported Shinran throughout his life, especially during his exile. Much of what we know about Esshini is through the letters she wrote to her daughter, Kakushinni, after Shinran's death. The letters described Shinran's struggle with his shinjin, his motive for listening to Honen's teaching, and gave detailed accounts of his everyday words and actions.

*Extracted from Jodo Shinshu: A Guide,
published by Hongwanji*



SHOTSUKI (Memorial) List—November

November Shotsuki/monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2007

1959 FURUKAWA, Shinnosuke HASEBE, Aizo KAKUTANI, Genichi NAGANO, Saburo	1972 ISHIGURO, Shigesaburo IWATA, Kinichi UCHIYAMA, Kenroku YADA, Kiyoshi	1983 YAMANOUCI, Sada	1996 HAMAZAKI, Hiroshi
1960 AOMOTO, Ichiji IWAASA, Yoshi SAKAI, Susumu	1973 FUKAWA, Toki KAJIRO, Fumio NAKAGAWA, Shio	1984 MITSUI, Masao SHIKAZE, Noriko	KAZUTA, Kathy NITSUI, Yoshio
1961 KATAYAMA, Isao	1974 MORITA, Emi SHIMIZU, Yoshiharu	1985 SHINTANI, Kohatsu	1997 LEE, Shirley SAKAI, Yaeko
1962 YANAGIMOTO, Katsujiro	1975—33rd Year SAKAI, Fuji TANAKA, Hatsuye	1986 DEGUCHI, Haruye	SAWADA, Katsuko SHOJI, Inosuke
1963 TAKEBAYASHI, Tadasuke	1976 YAMADA, Shohei	1988 HAMAKAWA, Yosaburo HIGUCHI, Kiyokazu	1999 CHIBA, Fukuyo
1964 EDAMURA, Sowa IMADA, Mitsugu OTSUJI, Yaeko	1977 EBATA, Shinkichi MINAGAWA, Katsuo MURATA, Tadao	KIMURA, Mitsuo MAEDA, Genzo NAKATA, Chiyo OIKAWA, Kengo	2000 IKARI, Chiyoko SAKAMOTO, Hideo
1967 ANDO, Yoshi HAMAGUCHI, Masu	1978 KASUYA, Moto NAKATANI, Tomiye	1989 ITO, Toshio OHARA, Tsuru TANAKA, Zenno	2001—7th Year MIZUTA, Tane YADA, Frank G
1968 SHINTANI, Sadasuke	1979 ARATAKE, Shigeru SHOJI, Ayako	1990 FURUKAWA, Matsuo WAKABAYASHI, Gentaro	2002 HAMAGUCHI, Tatsuko TANAKA, Sonoko YOSHIDA, Umeyo
1969 HINATSU, Ito KAWASHIMA, Fumiko MATSUTANI, Inosuke	1980 ENJO, Denzo TAKASAKI, Sakiye	1991—17th Year KURAMOTO, Masaaki SAWARA, Noburo	2003 HAYASHI, Hisae MOCHIZUKI, Fumiye NISHIKIHAMA, Teruo TAKIMOTO, Takie
1970 KURAMITSU, Yoshiko	1981 HIRAI, Heishiro TABATA, Shizu	1992 IKEDA, Teruhiko MIZUYABU, Tokuichi	2004 SHIBATA, Takeo YOSHIDA, Yoshiye
1971 YAMAMOTO, Fujino	1982 OKABE, Sueko	1993 HAMAKAWA, Yoshio KOYANAGI, Tad	2005—3rd Year ARITA, Hajime KUROYAMA, Tsutomu
		1994 BANNO, Masakazu KUMAMOTO, Toshiko TANOUE, Koichi	2006—1st year OKAMURA, Yukiko SAITO, Fuyuko
		1995—13th Year FUJINO, Yoshio MIYASHITA, Ichiji MURAO, Jean SAKATA, Ayame	

With deepest sympathies...

The Vancouver Buddhist Church offers its condolences to the families of the following:

Mrs. Ayaka Kagawa (88 yrs) Sept 20

Mrs. Yae Harada (69 yrs) Oct 9

Mrs. Yukie Tateyama (94 yrs) Oct 9

November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	2	3 10:00 am Toban Mgt
4 10:30 am Family Service	5	6	7	8 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	9	10
11 10:30 am Remembrance Day Service at Stanley Park *	12	13	14	15 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	16	17 2:00 pm FVBT Eitaikyo and Shotsuki Service
18 10:30 am VBC Eitaikyo, Eshinni, and Shotsuki	19	20	21 11:00 am Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Kikuchii)	22 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	23	24
25 10:30 am Family Service	26	27	28	29 12:00 pm Seniors Club	30	

- November 11th—Regular service at VBC will not be held this day. Instead, everyone is invited to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Japanese Canadian Memorial Cenotaph at Stanley Park. The Ceremony starts at 10:30 am.
- Rev. Aoki will be out of office attending meetings in Toronto from Thursday, November 29th to Sunday, December 2nd. If you require a minister's immediate service, please call Rev. Masumi Kikuchi of the Steveston Temple (Steveston Temple - 604-277-2323 or Rev. Kikuchi's cell—604-908-4140).

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

December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 11:00 am FVBT Bodhi Day/Shotsuki and Year End Party
2 10:30 am Family Service	3	4	5	6 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	7	8
9 10:30 am VBC Bodhi Day & Shotsuki	10	11	12	13 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	14	15
16 9:00 am Motchisuki 10:30 am Dharma Service	17	18	19 11:00 am Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Aoki)	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 10:00 pm New Year's Eve Service at VBC 11:30 pm Bell Ringing Service at UBC	Last Dharma School service is on December 16th. Dharma School will re- sume again on January 6th.				

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