



BODHI MIND



Vancouver Buddhist Church
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vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca
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Issue 314

Buddhist Churches of Canada—102 Years

As we commemorate 102nd BCC Day in 2007, first of all I wish to join all the Nembutsu Friends across Canada to pay tribute to the past ministers and members who made a great commitment in the formation of our organization.

I recall an old Issei gentleman saying that he was totally overwhelmed with many memories at the time of passing through the Rocky Mountains second time in 1980s.

At the end of the World War 2 those pioneers and their families were given a choice, either staying in Canada or going back to Japan. This gentleman chose to stay and passed through the Rockies with his family to start all over again in 1946.

Apparently he was active in the Buddhist Sangha in the west coast and continued to play his active role in starting the new Sangha in Ontario. He was quite old man close to ninety, but he kept participating in the temple programs.

Whenever I pass the Rockies, I am simply awed to see the great natural beauty, but for those Issei pioneers the Rockies must have been a very symbolic in their choice between their home country and Canada.

Today we enjoy very comfortable and peaceful life, which, I believe, has been the result of all the works and sacrifices of our pioneers to whom we owe what we have.

Under the theme, Encounter the Dharma, let us continue to learn from the Teaching of Namoamidabutsu which has been passed on to us by the pioneers.

In gassho, orai fujikawa

As we celebrate the achievements of the past year, I would like to thank you, our ministers, members and friends for your extraordinary support of the Buddhist Churches of Canada (BCC).

At the 2007 BCC Annual General Meeting in Calgary, a commitment of \$55 per member assessment fee was ratified by the member temples. These commitments are essential for the sustained health of our organization to support many of the programs which otherwise would become the responsibility of individual temples. However, the temple assessment fees are usually not sufficient to meet the demands of today's rising costs and inflation. Each year, BCC is faced with a deficit.

The Buddhist Churches of Canada established the BCC Day with the hope that all temples would observe the day with a service. It was felt that a Sunday in October would be the most appropriate as it commemorates the founding of Jodo Shinshu in Canada in 1905. Envelopes for the BCC Day konshi are distributed to temple members preferably through the monthly newsletters or at the temple itself.

This unrestricted fund enables the BCC to assign funding to areas essential for the propagation of Jodo Shinshu in Canada. This important fund offers BCC the flexibility to address its most pressing needs, while at the same time allows for the chance to participate in unscheduled opportunities as they arise.

In the year 2006, the fund received \$11,170.94 and we are most grateful to the many donors who contributed to our success. In 2007, we can top the \$15,000 or even more if all of our ministers, members and friends participate with the BCC Service Day konshi.

Continued—page 2

Life becomes broader and deeper through listening to the Dharma

One ought to listen to the Dharma in the same manner as one partakes of food during a meal. First of all, eating food is something that one does everyday. Listening to the Dharma should be done that same way; listening over and over again. In this way, it then continues and will become our own habit or custom. Even though we may say we are continuously listening to the Dharma, it is likely that our listening is interrupted. However, Amida's concern for me is unceasing and continuous, twenty-four hours a day throughout my whole life.

Second, as with the act of eating, no matter how many times we may have eaten, we never get tired of eating. Whenever the occasion arises, we are able to enjoy eating a delicious meal. Listening to the Dharma is the same. We never get tired of listening. We are able to listen as if it were the first time we were hearing the Dharma. This is what it means to listen to the Dharma.

Third, we are able to relish and savor both of them. Through eating and listening, the things we take in we savor, feel, process, and make them a part of ourselves. Through listening to the Dharma, it can be said that we become permeated with the Amida Tathagata's sense of value. However, the things that we take in do not remain and stay idle. When we eat, our bodies must rid itself of waste material. It is the same for listening to the Dharma; there is no need to store the words and wisdom we have acquired. Just listening and nodding in agreement is good enough.

Our quickly forgetting is something that these two things have in common. I wonder how many people are able to recall right away what they had for dinner three nights ago. It is not necessary to remember the exact content of a talk when listening to the Dharma. Even without remembering it, if we listen the essence of the Dharma becomes a part of us, our flesh and blood.

In this way, continuously listening to the Dharma enables me to become permeated with the great, profound heart of the Amida Tathagata, break out of the shell in which I have enclosed myself, and see myself and the whole world through the Amida's eyes.

Namo Amida Butsu
Tatsuya Aoki.

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(BCC Message—continued from page 1)

Your support in this initiative plays a major role in sustaining a healthy and vibrant religious institution. Each one of you makes a lasting difference. On behalf of the Ministers and Directors of BCC, thank you for your confidence and continual support.

In gassho,
Jim Hisanaga

Members: A BCC donation envelope has been included with this issue of the Bodhi Mind. If you do not find an envelope and would like to make a donation, please send your cheque, payable to the Buddhist Churches of Canada and send your donation to the VBC office. Thank you very much for your support of our national organization.

Dharma School News

There was a very good turnout of young and old (er) to the first Dharma School service for the new term which began on the 9th of September. Before the 10:30 a.m. service, most partook of the scrumptuous offerings on the table for a leisurely breakfast and talk of summer activities. It was a happy reunion of students and adults. Thank you to all the teachers and parents who provided the goodies.

The service was led by Roy Akune Sensei in the absence of our Aoki Sensei who was in Japan. Akune Sensei gave a timely talk on goal setting aimed toward school age children. On reflection, however, it is a life strategy useful for any age and many situations.

We look forward to a year of learning and enjoyable activities.

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

My First Trip to Japan

- by Thomas Renovich

I went to Japan for the first time this summer. It was a fun trip to Thomas Land (in Yamanashi) and I liked the Rock n' Roll Duncan (roller coaster). I also liked the Blue Train and the sleeping car. We went to Hokkaido and we saw mommy's friends. I gave grass to their sheep. We went back to Tokyo and went to ohakamairi (Takuma family cemetery). I saw the Big Buddha and went in his tummy! I rode on the Enoden train and daddy videotaped the ride. I hope we can go to Japan again sometime! :-)

BCJSBCF Raffle Tickets

Draw at the Kelowna Convention on October 13, 2007

Thank you to all who participated in the British Columbia Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Churches Federation Raffle. As this is a licensed lottery event, all books must be accounted for. Proceeds of this lottery will endeavour towards supporting Jodo Shinshu education and related projects.

Please drop by or mail **sold** and **unsold** books to Gina Chor at the Vancouver Buddhist Church office at your earliest convenience. The winning tickets will be drawn **October 13, 2007** Convention Banquet hosted by the Kelowna Buddhist Temple, 1089 Borden Avenue, Kelowna. Winners will be determined by a manual draw from a raffle barrel and notified in writing. The names of the winners will be announced and may be published in the Greater Vancouver J.C.C.A. Bulletin and/or other local Japanese newspaper(s) after the draw. Winners are requested to produce proof of identification to claim the respective prizes.

Thank you for all your support in making this a successful event.

-Gina Chor

NIAGATA-KEN EARTHQUAKE
TASUKEI CAMPAIGN (Helping each other)

Background

On July 16, 2007, a powerful earthquake magnitude 6.8 struck the northwest Niigata region of Japan. There were several deaths and numerous injuries as well as 342 buildings that were totally destroyed.

The earthquake created havoc to large manufacturing facilities such as Toyota, Mazda and Honda and caused minor damage to the electrical transformer at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant.

The earthquake affected 80 Jodo Shinshu Temples in this region since these temples are of an older wooden structure.

Tasukei Campaign

Hongwanji has asked oversea temples to assist these affected temples by contributing to the Tasukei Campaign. This is our opportunity to assist the Jodo Shinshu Temples in the Niigata regions. Your support to the Tasukei Campaign will make a tremendous difference and your gift will be wisely spent to rebuild the affected temples.

Donations

Members and friends should make their donation to their local temples. The local temples can issue charitable receipts. The temples should forward their donations to BCC in Richmond BC no later than October 16, 2007.

Your support for this worthy cause is greatly appreciated.

Jim Hisanaga
Buddhist Churches of Canada

**AN INVITATION TO JOIN IN AND HELP
AT OUR ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR
Vancouver Buddhist Church
220 Jackson Ave—Vancouver—(604) 253-7033**

Many volunteers are needed to help prepare for this annual event.

Advance Preparation Dates:

Saturday, Oct 20 (9:00 am—2:00 pm) - Manju making
Friday, Oct 26 (9:00 am—2:00 pm) - Advance food preparation
Saturday, Oct 27 (9:00 am—2:00 pm) - Advance food preparation

Bazaar Day—October 28th

6:00 am— 5:00 pm
Doors open to the public at 12:00 noon

Please call your Toban Captain or the VBC office for more information.
Thank you for your ongoing support!

SHOTSUKI (Memorial) List—October

October Shotsuki/monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2007

1958—50th year	jiro	OMOTO, Kunijiro	1997
TSUMURA, Chonosuke	1973	1983—25th year	MIYASAKI, Mitsuye
1959	YOSHIDA, Toyozo	HORIO, Kunio	TERASHITA, Satoru
KISHIUCHI, Shigeichi	TAMAI, Hideo	1985	TAKASAKI, Yoshino
1961	1974	HIRANO, Wataru	MORISHITA, Shika
HAMAGUCHI, Minoru	KOHARA, Yokio	ISHIKAWA, Tomoe	1998
1963	1975—33rd year	Pearl	MIYASHITA, M Joe
NISHIMURA, Masao	HAYASHI, Rinnosuke	AMANO, Teiichi	NOMURA, Akio
1964	HANAZAWA, Takezo	1986	OYE, Shigeyuki
CHIBA, Zenashichi	1976	EDAMURA, Shige	NAGAMATSU, Sakuo
1966	TAKAOKA, Shoji	URABE, Kiku	1999
HAMAGISHI, Fujie	1977	1987	NISHI, Toshiko
TAKATA, Minoru	SUGIE, Yoshi	KARIATSUMARI, Teru	TAMAKI, Yoshio
1967	TAKAI, Nobukichi	IMADA, Ito	IKARI, Masao
HAMAGUCHI, Takeshi	1978	1988	KAGAWA, Masayeki
1968	TOKITO, Takeo	HAMAGAMI, Natsu	2000
FUKUHARA, Takakazu	1979	UYENO, Sato	HIGEMATSU, Kiyoko
MORI, Yasomatsu	NODA, Fukuya	TAZAWA, Kazuo	2001—7th year
NAGANO, Hideo	ASANO, Kyosuke	1989	ISAMU, Isamu
HOMMA, Joe	ITAYA, Wakaichi	RAE, Fred	TAMAI, Isamu
1969	KOBAYASHI, Ryoichi	KAMO, Yasuhiko	2002
WAKITA, Uno	1980	1990	IMAMURA, Kojiro
ARAKI, Toku	TSUJI, Tokichi	SHIOZAKI, Kiyomi	HAMAGUCHI, Tamae
NISHI, Tetsuo	TANAKA, Eiichi	UCHINAMI, Fujimi	ITO, Sokichi
1970	1981	1991—17th year	NAKANO, Miyuki
YAMASHITA, Shintaro	USUI, Kohei	EBATA, Tayo	IHARA, Masako
1971	SAKIYAMA, Sakiyama, Fujino	1992	STEVENS, Howard
MIZUNO, Shinichiro	SHISHIDO, Ginichi	MORITA, Yukio	2003
1972	1982	TANAKA, Tokutaro	NOMURA, Daniel
TANAKA, Shirosuke	NISHIMURA, Gengo	HAGANE, Sumiko	SHIMOZAWA, Walter
HAYASHI, Yu	HIKIDA, Shio	1993	2004
MOTOKADO, Kichi-	NISHI, Tora	KOYANAGI, Haruko	HONKAWA, Fumiye
		SASAKI, Toshi	2005—3rd year
		HOMMA, Shingo	NARITA, Noriaki
		1994	TSUJI, Mitsue
		YAMAMOTO, Kenkichi	YOSHIMURA, Kazuhira
		TAHARA, Hiroyoshi	
		INOUE, Juichiro	
		1996	
		KAWABATA, Kazuyo	

With deepest sympathies...

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

*Takako Kuno - August 22 (76 years)
Lily Sachiko Tanabe—September 4 (82 years)*

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10:30 am Family Service	1	2	3	4 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	5	6
7 10:30 am Family Service	8	9	10	11 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	12 BCJSBCF Golf Tournament in Kelowna	13 BCJSBCF Convention in Kelowna
14 BCJSBCF Convention in Kelowna (No service in Vancouver)	15	16	17 11:00 am Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Aoki)	18 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	19	20 9:00 am Manju making 2:00 pm FVBT BCC Day & October Shotsuki
21 10:30 am BCC Day & October Shotsuki	22	23	24	25 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	26 9:00 am Bazaar preparations	27 9:00 am Bazaar preparations
28 6:00 am Bazaar Preparations 12:00 noon VBC FALL BAZAAR	29	30	31	1 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Seniors Club	2	3

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

