



June 2011

The other day I noticed the following words in the Buddhist daily calendar hung at the temple entrance: "Believe that great wisdom and compassion embrace everything."

Being in Canada as a Buddhist minister for over forty years, I am quite sensitive about the word "believe" in a Buddhist context. Strictly speaking, Buddhism uses "believe" only in a conventional sense to stress what we might hold without reason, for Buddhism is not a belief system. So sometime I jokingly say "Buddhists believe in the Dharma but they do not need to believe it!" The Dharma is the law of the universe. We do not need to believe the law of the universe. We do not need to grasp it so tightly. The historical Buddha says "just open your eyes and see things including self as they are." He was not a believer of something. He was a discoverer of the Law of Life. Therefore, he was called an awakened one, the Buddha.

The other day I met a gentleman of my age, originally from Japan like myself. Generally speaking, many people of my age do not go to temple, even in Japan. Why? It is because we who were born right after World War II did not receive a proper religious education. We weren't nurtured or brought up in a religious atmosphere. Therefore, we are not really accustomed to attending temple on a regular basis and to listen to the Dharma. At any rate, he happened to come to temple to attend a memorial service for a relative.

Just before the service started he hesitantly told me "I haven't been to a Buddhist temple in Japan. This is my first time at a Buddhist temple." Then he asked "What

is Buddhism? What do Buddhists believe?" I said, "Buddhism teaches us that 'man is born, gets sick and dies.' That is what Buddhism teaches us. We don't need to believe it."

He said "Well, it is natural. Everyone knows it." So I said "Yes, it is natural. Everyone knows it. As long as we are aware of it we have no problem."

In Buddha Dharma, we do not need to believe something. You might say, "Well, all religions have something you must believe in." In this sense, Buddhism may not even qualify as a religion. We do not need to believe that water in a river flows downstream or changes momentarily. We do not need to claim something unyieldingly and say I believe this. This is called "jiriki-no-kokoro" meaning a calculative mind by which we are not able to find peace of mind.

The Buddha tells us just open our eyes. We can see that life is interconnected and interdependent and thereby everything is changing momentarily. Man gets old, gets sick and dies. It is natural. The Buddha did not teach us things which are unusual. Each moment is precious and unique. A baby is beautiful. But an old and elderly man and a woman are also beautiful.

Amida Buddha is the Dharma in action and compassion. We do not need to believe this. Let's forget to grasp things, including ourselves, with our small self so firmly. Whether we believe or not, Amida is always and constantly there working for us. Amida Buddha calls on us, constantly shining, crushing our small ego self and bidding us to return to the realm of true awakening of Namu Amida Butsu.

Yasuo Izumi, Minister of BTSa

お金社会

「煩惱具足の凡夫、火宅無常の世界は、よろずのこと、みなもってそらごとたわごと、まことあることなきに、ただ念仏のみぞまことにておわします」。。。
嘆異抄 「意識。。。無常を無常とも知らず、煩惱にまみれた、火の燃えるような世界を自ら造っているこの世界には、すべてのことにおいて、まことなく、ただ仏様の働き(お念仏)のみが真実であります」
ラジオで、「社会全体が銀行のようになって来た」、というような意味のことを言っていました。つまり、お金社会です。それは、しかし、今に始まったことではありません。お金がたまると、とかく名誉が欲しい、権力が欲しいとなります。あるいは、名誉、権力のために、お金を求めます。そこに争いも生まれます。世の姿は今も昔も変わっていないのではないのでしょうか。それでは、聞法がどう役立つてきたのか、どう役立つのか、と問われそうです。役立つという考えには、とかく、わが身の損得感情が働いているようです。これが迷いの根源であります。教えを聞いても、何の役にもならぬと決めつけるのです。そうではなく、まず、仏願を聞く、ということです。自己を学ぶ、ということがいつの世にも大切なことではないのでしょうか。仏願とは、私たちの損得勘定、我執を超えた、清浄で、限りなく大きな世界に帰って来いという、真実の願い、呼びかけのことです。役立つとか、役に立たぬとかという損得勘定をしばらく横に置いて、仏願を、わが身に聞かせて頂くのです。人間の損得勘定、まよいの世界に仏願が働いていることを知らせていただくのです。「水清ければ魚すまず」と言われるように、人間のまよいは底なしで、清くない世界を住家に私たちは生きているのでしょうか。そのような世界を離れては生きていけないのが人間であるようです。清くなる見込みがないと知り抜いての仏願です。その願いを、私たちは、ただ聞いていくのです。わが身を知らせてもらいながら、仏願を仰ぎ、仏願に頭を下げていくのです。親鸞聖人は、お念仏だけがまこと、と言い切り、そこに安心されながら力強く生きられたのであります。合掌 泉康雄

BTSA Minister: REV. YASUO IZUMI
403.382.7024 • yasuo123@shaw.ca
470 - 40th Street South
Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Z5
403.327.1260
www.theBTSA.com

BTSA NOTES

Sangha cohesion and energy were evident everywhere during the spring chow mein supper on May 14, with members and non-member friends alike working and cooperating to fill 2000 orders. A beautiful spring day, with a hint of an east wind, added to the sweet smell of success that's become associated with the efficient drive-through system. Thanks to the indefatigable chair, Judy Takaguchi, the supper committee, all the volunteers, and those who bought tickets for this major fund-raiser.

Temple events in June are another movie night on the 3rd (Friday), with a Japanese film featured, "Firefly Dreams", and the annual picnic on the 19th (third Sunday) at the new Rotary Picnic Shelter located in the Lethbridge Sports Park at 28th Street and 30th Av. N. The facility is a fully-serviced, fenced outdoor picnic area with numerous amenities and seating for 200. Mark the date on the calendar and join the festivities after the regular Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. It's a pot-luck, so please bring a favorite dish to share with others.

Not too long thereafter, Obon season begins July 3 with Izumi sensei visiting the Brooks cemetery at 11 a.m., followed by a service at the Heritage Inn. Please refer elsewhere in this issue for the area visitation schedule. Related to Obon is the odori (dance) scheduled for July 16 at Galt Gardens, Lethbridge. In preparation, practices will be held Mondays at 6:30 p.m., beginning on June 6. Everyone is welcome to attend and learn the dances which will be featured at the Bon Odori.

About a temple bookkeeper discussed in last month's Hikari, the Finance Committee decided to forego that option for the time being. John Dubbelboer and Trent Takeyasu have agreed to serve as co-treasurers, with help from the Finance Committee. After considerable discussion, it was decided that a bookkeeper would duplicate what the treasurers would be doing. Thanks to John and Trent for agreeing to the arrangement. Please see elsewhere for changes in the financial operations under this new regime.

Besides agreeing to the foregoing at its May meeting, the board also:

- voted to donate the Japan disaster relief fund, amounting to \$32,461.73, to the Canadian Red Cross and to keep the account open for any further donations;
- received reports of the annual general meeting of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada and its Women's Federation from Sylvia Oishi and Donna Dubbelboer (see items elsewhere);
- completed application forms for the temple's turn at the casino in September;
- approved a parking request from the Nikkei Cultural Society for its second annual trip to British Columbia ghost towns on

June 20 through 24; and

- was told the ABC Committee has been meeting to flesh out the program for the event on Oct. 28, 29 and 30. Don Castro sensei of the Seattle Buddhist Betsuin Temple has been confirmed as speaker, but a theme still has not been selected.

Please refer to other board items in separate articles elsewhere.

Akira Ichikawa

TOBAN UPDATE

Toban Schedule

Please help out anytime you are available but especially when your Toban is scheduled.

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| June | Toban 3 |
| July | Toban 1 |
| August | Toban 2 |

Toban 4 prepared a Parents Day lunch, joined by the Dharma class handing out mementos.

Toban 3 Lila Takeda has agreed to coordinate for the month with assistance from several members. Major event in June is the Annual Potluck Picnic, June 19 at the Rotary Picnic Shelter, Lethbridge Sports Park As it is a POTLUCK, Toban 3 will bring rice, takuan and tea as well as each member's potluck contribution. Contact: Lila or Pat Sassa.

Soup Kitchen on May 24 was coordinated by **Toban 1**. Hamburger stew with rice was prepared and served to 110 guests by toban members and friends.

Toban 1 is up for the month of **July** when the major contribution, barring unforeseen circumstances, will be the O Bon supper following service on July 17.



Toban 1 and Friends helped out May 24 at the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen, serving a delicious hamburger stew over hot rice. In front, from left, Shirley Higa, Mae Ohno, Aya Terashima, Jan Hinatsu, Dorothy Tomita, Eiko Aoki, and Izumi sensei. In back, from left, Jeff Coffman, Peter Savage, Lilly Oishi, Tak Tsujita, Carol Sekiya, Sam Kounosu and Akira Ichikawa.

BTSA Donates \$32,461.73 for Japan Disaster Relief

The BTSA donated the \$32,461.73 raised for the Japan Disaster Relief Fund to the Canadian Red Cross. The Board decided at its May meeting to make the donation now, leaving the account open for further donations. We continue to receive monies for the relief fund. The funds were raised through the memorial service on March 27, the udon/movie night receipts and donations on April 2, numerous mail-in envelopes and a bake sale on April 30 that was co-sponsored with five other organizations, representatives of which are pictured with Izumi sensei. Proceeds from the bake sale exceeded \$6,200. To the right of Sensei are Sharon Tamura, representing the Japanese United Church; Yuki Nagoya, Southern Alberta New Japanese Immigrants Association; Marlene McCaughey, Okinawa Cultural Society; Derrick Smithson, Red Cross staffer; Pat Sassa, Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge and Area; and Noriko Goji, with baby Mizuki, Japanese Language School. Our thanks to everyone who helped raise funds, participants, purchasers and people within the community who donated generously.



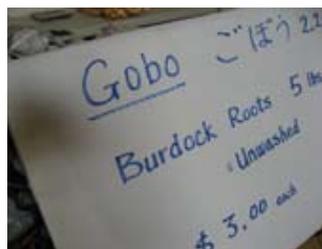
BTSA Joins with Community

Having successfully completed what we can call the first phase of fundraising for the Japan Disaster Relief Fund, what stands out for many of us are two events, worth describing. Our memories have little to do with the monies raised, but rather are for the tremendous excitement and benefits of working together with other community groups and individuals. Speaking on behalf of the Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir, we were more than thrilled to join with Janet Youngdahl and the University Singers to sing “May Peace Prevail” as part of Music to Heal the Heart and Soul, a concert for the victims of the Japan earthquake and tsunami. This event held at the Southminster United Church, led by

music professors Deanna Oye, and Janet Youngdahl, University of Lethbridge and sponsored by the Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge and Area involved music, poetry, readings and dance. Izumi Sensei, chanting San Bujo and reading White Ashes, joined other ministers, students and musicians, including the temple choir and Andrew Ichikawa with David Renter and his U of L student combo. Donations went to Salvation Army to benefit Japan’s victims. Significant for us was that this was the first public performance in Canada of the gatha “May Peace Prevail,” written for the 750th Shinran Shonin Memorial, with the original poem by Carrie Kawamoto printed in the program. Our thanks to Pat Sassa, David Tanaka and NCS for their part in the excellent organization of and participation in the event.

The Community Bake Sale to benefit the BTSA Japan Disaster Relief Fund, held earlier that same day was the culmination of a partnership and working together of a number of like-minded participants, including the many donors, working together for the benefit of others to guarantee its success. The participating groups (see photo and description), I might say, joyfully, worked together to accomplish their contributions. In addition to the participating groups, there were many donors who gave. Of those we are aware of, thanks to SANJIA for t-shirt donations, Ken Nakagama for two cases of packaged arare, and St. Michael’s, and St. Teresa’s Villa staff and residents who donated baking. The overall community response was overwhelming and is greatly appreciated. Once again Pat Sassa initiated the organizing and I was grateful to work with her and other committee representatives. Thanks to Maya Ichikawa for the striking poster and to Renae Barlow for help with the media promotion.

In gassho,
Lorita Ichikawa



Community Bake Sale to benefit the BTSA Japan Disaster Relief Fund

2011 Membership Form

- Full Membership (\$100 for each member) Student Membership

Last Name: _____ First Names(s): _____

Last Name: _____ First Names(s): _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province, Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

- Check to receive The Hikari newsletter by Email only.

Please send this form and your remittance to:
Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta Treasurer
470 40th Street South
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 3Z5

LET'S EXPAND THE CIRCLE OF THE DHARMA!

Memorial Donations

May 2011
Bob & Molly Akune
Martha Akune
Roy & Itoko Akune
Shizuka Akune
Ted & Rose Akune
Rita Ritsuko & John M Aoki
Merv & Daisy Araki
Sunao & Kaye Ayukawa
Daren & Carrie Baher
William & Jeanne Boer
Jo Ann Dragland
Ruth E Erickson
Mitsuyo Fujimoto
Judy Fukushima
Bob & Misaye Hamamura
Lori Henry
Sadako Higo
Janet Hinatsu
Jim & Aya Hironaka
Barry Hisaoka
Neil & Livia Hisaoka
Tim Hisaoka
Tomi Hisaoka
Rumiko Ibuki
Toshimi & Marian Ibuki

Akira & Lorita Ichikawa
Helen Ikebuchi
Yoshiye Ikebuchi
Susumu & Teruko Ikuta
Ayako Imahashi
Bob & Sharon Imahashi
Brian & Judy Jackson
Tom & Lily Kaga
Akiko Kamitakahara
Richard & Suyeko Kanegawa
Sadae Kanegawa
Isamu & Sharon Kawade
Toyo Kawamura
Tadao & Michie Kawasaki
Misao Kinoshita
Hiroshi Kitagawa
Takeshi & Sue Koyata
Ken & Amy Kurio
Katoye Maruno
Irene Sadako Masuda
Allan Matsuda
Don Matsuda
Edward Matsuda
Kay K. Matsuda
Ray Matsuda
Yutaka & Chiyomi Matsuno
David & Marion McClung
Linda Mimura
Kiyoshi & Marion Mori

Sets D.Mori
Kiyo & Kay Moriyama
Ayako Murakami
Ken & Vickie Nakagama
Jim Nakagawa
Shig & Katie Nakagawa
Tosh Nakahama
Kazuo & Nancy Nakamura
Kei & Margo Nishida
May Nishikawa
Sway & Toshiko Nishimura
Mac & Reyko Nishiyama
Mrs. Alice Ohashi
Kaz & Setsuko Ohno
Heidi Oishi
David & Wanda Okamura
Hiroshi & Sets Okamura
Ken & Evelyn Okamura
Mas & Ruby Okamura
Tak & Jan Okamura,
Kay Y. Okugawa
Setsuko Okuma
Kay Osaka
Yumiko Osaka
Joanne Planidin
Raymond & Susan Poelt
George & Thelma Saito
Hideo & Margaret Sakamoto
Jiro & Mae Sasaki,
Florence Senda
Aige Shigehiro
Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro
Noboru & Kazuko Sugimoto
Tomiko Sugimoto
Miyo Sunada
Noris & Sachiko Taguchi
Kazuko Takaguchi
Robert & Judy Takaguchi
Dell S. Takahashi
Fugi Takeda
Toshiko Takeda
Reiko Takeyasu
Elaine Tanaka
Jane Tanaka
Bob & Shirley Taniguchi
Masaru & Ayako Taniguchi
Sam & Betty Taniguchi
Masae Taniwa
Jim & Alice Tateishi
Bill & June Terakita
Carolyn Terakita
Kay Terakita
Mas Terakita
Masaji & Shirley Terakita
Tami Terakita
Yosh Terakita
Akira Terashima
Margaret & Bob Thole
Neil & Karen Thomas
Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita

Aki & Takaye Tomiyama
Raymond & Lena Tsuji
Keiko Kay Tsukishima
Brian & Marjene Turnbull
Keith & Kathleen Turnbull
Total \$9,170.00

Shotsuki Hoyo

May 2011
Martha Akune
Richard & Valerie Boras
Dorene Gordon
Chiduka Hamabata
Toshiko Hase
Randy Higa
Shinako (Sheila) Higa
Shirley Higa
Janet Hinatsu
Marie Y. Hirashima
Ayako Imahashi
Bob & Sharon Imahashi
Ray & Donna Journoud
Sadae Kanegawa
Shigeru Kounosu
Irene Sadako Masuda
Tosh Nakahama
Mac & Reyko Nishiyama
Mitsuko Oga
Kaz & Setsuko Ohno
May Ohno
Joyce H. Oishi
Lilly Oishi
Darcee Richardson
Tosh & Joyce Saruwatari
Peter & Terrie Savage
Fumi Sugimoto
Hajime Harry Sugimoto
Noboru & Kazuko Sugimoto
Miyo Sunada
Noris & Sachiko Taguchi
Tom & Tsuyako Tajiri
Robert & Judy Takaguchi
Toshiko Takeda
David & Linda Tanaka
Eichi & Betty Tanaka
Masaye Tanaka
Toshiko Tanaka
Bob & Shirley Taniguchi
Brenda & Lester Tanner
Jean Tatebe
Keiko Kay Tsukishima
Total \$1,950.00

Anyone wishing his/her name not be acknowledged in print in the donation lists, please inform us so it may be omitted. Thank you.

REGULAR EVENTS

Morning Chanting & Discourse 9:40am Sundays (except first Sunday of the month, please note calendar)

Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir

Members will participate at the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden on July 1, Canada Day. Anyone interested is welcome to join us for practice in June. After this event, choir will resume in the fall. Please contact Katie Nakagawa 403.327.4296 or katieinak@shaw.ca

Tonari Gumi Tuesdays 12 – 3pm, last day will be June 21

Taiko Class Tuesdays 7 - 8:30pm

Please contact David Tanaka 403.330.1548
or david@eyesquared.com

The Lethbridge Karaoke Club is on break for the summer.

Bon Odori Practice

Will commence Monday, June 6 at 6:30 and meet weekly until the Bon Odori, July 16. Practice dates are June 6, June 13, June 20, June 27, July 4 and July 11. Everyone welcome! Please bring friends and children.

Contact: Aya Hironaka at 403.752.4065

PROGRAMS

Gentle Yoga for Seniors will commence again in September. Thanks to Val Kunimoto for her energetic leadership.

Aiki Breathing Class "Breathing, Stretching, Moving"

Spring session will run through June 13 with leader, Lincoln Chew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta expresses heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost loved ones.

Mary Osaka (93) May 1, 2011

Hideo Hector Hinatsu (88) May 5, 2011

Temple Scheduling Reminder

To avoid disappointments and conflicts in scheduling events at the temple, please insure that you check with Fudge Takeda beforehand and ask her to reserve the appropriate facility.
403.394.9789 or ktakeda@telusplanet.net

Flowers or fruit basket will be delivered to those in hospital. If you know of someone who is in hospital for at least one week please contact Sumi & Joe Tomiyama,
403.327.3110 or sumi.tomiyama@gmail.com

Annual BTSA Picnic June 19, 10:30am Service
Rotary Picnic Shelter, Lethbridge Sports Park • POTLUCK!
Thank you to Mr. Terry Horii for the donation of 8 dozen water bottles.

Movie Night at the Temple Saturday June 3, 7pm
FIREFLY DREAMS, Rated PG, Snacks served after the movie

CEMETERY VISITATION DURING OBON SEASON

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| July 3 (Sun) | 11am Brooks Cemetery Obon Service at Heritage Motel |
| July 10 (Sun) | 10 am Magrath • 11am Temple Hill |
| July 17 (Sun) | 1 pm Mt. View Cemetery 2:30 pm Obon Service at BTSA |
| July 24 (Sun) | 1 pm Taber Cemetery |

BUDDHIST Q & A

What is "Koden"?

"Koden" literally means "to offer (in lieu of) incense". This is a monetary offering taken to the funeral service at a Buddhist temple. Originally, it was meant to reduce the financial burden of the bereaved family together with sympathy. In recent years, many families in this area decline koden for a variety reasons. A beautiful Buddhist custom to assist one another in difficult times is gradually changing, partly because it may be viewed as an imposition or an obligation that cannot be repaid. (Y.I.)

CHAIR SCHEDULE June & July 2011

Jun 05 Shotsuki

Chair: Robert Takaguchi
Audio: Tak Okamura

Jun 12 Regular

Chair: Renae Barlow
Audio: Brenda Ikuta

Jun 19 BTSA Picnic

Chair: Roland Ikuta
Audio: Roy Sassa

Jun 26 Regular

Chair: Joyce Shigehiro
Audio: Tak Okamura

MC designates: if you're unable to chair on your assigned date or have made other arrangements on your own, please inform Sway Nishimura, religious chairman. Thank you.

Jul 03

Brooks Cemetary
No BTSA Service

Jul 10

Magrath Cemetary/visit
No BTSA Service

Jul 17 Obon 2:30pm

Chair: Brenda Ikuta
Audio: Sway Nishimura

Jul 24

Taber Cemetary
No BTSA Service

Jul 31 Regular

(Rev. Izumi is away)
Chair: Robert Takaguchi
Audio: Roland Ikuta

RELIGIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND ANSWER BOX

Sway Nishimura, Religious Committee chair, invites suggestions to revive a study group to discuss Jodo Shinshu and topics related to it. Please offer any comments you may have about such a group, its make-up and format, possible topics, directions, etc. Please let Sway know, or consider dropping a note into the "BTSA Answer Box" which has been placed in the front foyer for any ideas.

The receptacle also is designed for anyone with questions about Jodo Shinshu matters. Responses to questions will be posted in the Hikari.

Please consider the Answer Box as a feedback mechanism respecting other matters at the temple as well.

Highlights of the JSBTC/WF AGM 2011 Toronto, April 30 - May 1

BTSA delegates: Eichi Tanaka & Sylvia Oishi

WF delegates: Donna Dubbelboer & Sumie Tsukishima

- We welcomed our new Bishop (Socho) Grant Ikuta of Steveston, who replaces our Interim Bishop Tatsuya Aoki.
- The Living Dharma Centre is in a state of transition given the recent passing of Dr. Leslie Kawamura, who was the program director.
- The JSBTC website is being managed by Robert Miyai, who also manages the Manitoba Temple website. He would welcome additional content and ideas for the national website from any members across Canada.
- The JSBTC by-laws require change in order to comply with new Federal legislation relating to not-for-profit corporations. Draft by-laws were presented to the delegates at the AGM and approved in principle. Once they have been approved by Industry Canada, they will be returned to the 2012 AGM for final approval.
- JSBTC will begin to draft an updated policies and procedures manual for approval at the 2012 AGM. One of the topics of interest for such a manual would be the definition of individual "membership". Since there is no standardized definition used by all Temples, JSBTC has requested that all Temples submit their current description/criteria of membership for JSBTC consideration. Another matter to be addressed in the policies and procedures review will include the Bishop selection process.
- David Major, member of BTSA, was elected for another term on the JSBTC Board.
- The next JSBTC AGM will be held the last week of April 2012 in Winnipeg, MB

(Submitted by Sylvia Oishi, May 20, 2011)

JSBTC WF

- Membership dues were paid for 85 members and in addition, \$500 was donated to the WF Dana Day Fund.
 - WF continues to collect stamps for Save the Children and Oxfam. Last year, funds from the sale of used postage stamps went to the Bolivian project. The amount was matched with a grant of 4 to 1 so the money raised from the sale was over \$1,000.
 - Foreign coins will be collected for American UNICEF. The funds raised this year are being used to assist the children affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan.
 - Sustaining Funds for 2011 are being considered for Christina Yanko who is studying Buddhism in Japan and hoping to become a minister.
 - Shop & Support has raised \$7,655 of which BTSA earned \$2,167.
 - T-shirts sold: 171 across Canada
 - Dana Day Funds – \$10,000 donated to the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund.
 - Rev. Aoki will be leading the Youth Tour July 30 to Aug 7. So far we have six applicants and encourage anyone else who is interested in applying for assistance from the JSBTC WF.
 - 2011 - The 14th WBW Convention Kyoto in conjunction with the 750th Memorial for Shinran Shonin is May 12th - 18th. 48 people are going to Japan, 22 women and four men are going to the Convention.
 - A formal request will be made to Hongwanji to decline hosting the 2015 WBWC.
 - New Board of the JSBTCWF Susan Huntley (President), Kim Wakabayashi (Vice-President), Amy Nagamatsu (Secretary), Myra Takasaki (Treasurer).
- (Submitted by Donna Dubbelboer, May 3, 2011)

Notes on New Temple Financial Procedures

Looking after temple finances has become a major job and it's hoped our attempts to streamline it with amended procedures will simplify the process. John Dubbelboer and Trent Takeyasu have agreed to look after temple finances until the next annual general meeting in March, 2012.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we go through the transition from our former co-treasurers, Robert Takaguchi and Gord Saruwatari, to whom we are grateful for their service since BTSA's establishment in 2006.

Henceforth, transactions will be recorded onto a computer dedicated to the treasurers and cross-checked by them.

The aim is:

- to pay bills and reimburse individuals for monies spent on behalf of the temple on a monthly basis;
- to issue tax receipts within the federally-prescribed time period of two months after the end of the calendar year;
- to maintain requesting donations be made by cheque (not cash);
- to continue counting and depositing donations on the first and third Sunday monthly and acknowledging them in the Hikari; any donations received after the third Sunday will be noted in the following month's Hikari.

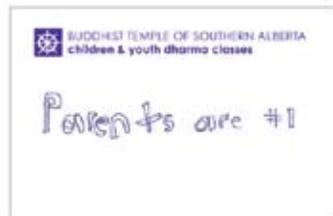
The Finance Committee is comprised of the co-treasurers, Roy Sassa and Akira Ichikawa.



May 8, Mother's Day: The Dharma students handed out carnations.



May 29 the Temple celebrated Parents' Day with a delicious lunch. The students made collages about gratitude and family, and handed out magnets to show their appreciation.



DHARMA KIDS REMINDER

June 19 is the BTSA picnic. There will be activities, games and prizes.

June 26 the class plans to prepare Dharma Dogs for lunch. **We welcome any volunteers** interested in serving this item at the Bon Odori in July to come and learn the process.



BTSA thanks the following who made donations to the Spring Chow Mein Supper:

- R. Nakagama Co. • Ken and Vicki Nakagama
- Regent Restaurant • Wayne Kwan
- Glen Tanaka
- Taber Safeway • Rod Yokoyama
- Gouw's Quality Onions
- Taber Transport • Kei Nishida
- Westbridge, Construction
- Harwood Distributors • Jim Wallace
- Joe & Sumi Tomiyama and daughter, Wanda

June & July 2011 Schedule 六月と七月の予定表

Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service 祥月法要 Please bring Homyo (Buddhist Name) of your loved one. 法名をご持参ください。
July 17 Obon Service together with July & August Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service 七月、八月祥月法要も併せて厳修されます。
There will be informal services at 10:30am every Sunday during August. Everyone Welcome!

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| JUNE | | | | | No Choir | 7pm Movie Night at the Temple | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | 10:30am Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service 5 | 11am Aiki Breathing class 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 6 | 12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 7 | 7pm BTSA Board Meeting 8 | 7pm SAB Choir 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | 9:40am Chanting 10:30am Regular Service 12 | 11am Aiki Breathing class 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 13 | 12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 14 | 15 | 7pm SAB Choir 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | 10:30am Regular Service at BTSA Picnic, Leth Sports Park 19 | 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 20 | 12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 21 | 22 | 7pm SAB Choir 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 9:40am Chanting 10:30am Regular Service 26 | 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 27 | 7pm Taiko 28 | 7pm SAB Choir 29 | 30 | | | |

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------|---|
| JULY | | | 7pm Taiko | | | | |
| | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | 11am Brooks Cemetery Visitation No service @BTSA 3 | 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 4 | 7pm Taiko 5 | 7pm BTSA Board Meeting 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | 10am Magrath Cemetery Visitation 11am Temple Hill No service @BTSA 10 | 6:30pm Bon Odori practice 11 | 7pm Taiko 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 6:30pm Bon Odori in Galt Gardens (ceremony at 7pm) 16 |
| | 1pm BTSA Cemetery Visitation 2:30pm BTSA Obon Service 17 | 18 | 7pm Taiko 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 1pm Taber No service @BTSA 24 31 | 10:30am Regular Service 25 | 7pm Taiko 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |