



Sensei's Message



I hope readers of Hikari newsletter are all well.

Every morning, I take our dog, Taro, for a walk around 8 am. This morning, I could feel it was quite cold. My

hands were numb with cold. Taro seems not to care. I thought I will need gloves tomorrow morning. This means a severe winter is coming soon in Alberta.

I have been in Alberta altogether for 25 years but I never get used to this kind of coldness. My wife likes cold weather rather than warm weather. I am completely the opposite. Speaking of differences between my wife and me, she likes bread, I like rice. She likes black tea, I like green tea. I like an *umeboshi*, a pickled *ume*, she does not. I like *miso*-soup, she does not care for it. And yet, we have been living under the same roof for over 50 years. Of course, I do not think, we have the same dream while sleeping.

There is a proverb: Same dream in different bed. This proverb suggests deep love and affection for each other. But, no matter how two persons may love each other, they are not able to die together. Because we have different karma. Karma does not mean "fate" or "predetermination." The consequence of our thoughts, deeds and words will inevitably follow us. We must take responsibility for our actions. This is the meaning of karma.

Though we will die at different times and in different places, we will be born in the same realm of Amida's home, the Pure Land of peace and serenity. So, it is always

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encouraged for Jodo Shinshu followers to hear the voice of Amida, *namo amida butsu*, and be born in the same realm after we die. We must touch Amida's compassionate call working right here and now. Hearing the same teaching assures us that we will receive the same result.

We must be aware that Amida's call, *namo amida butsu* has been raised because of us, you and me, who have been wandering in the sea of *samsara*, delusion from time immemorial. We should not continue to cling to the world of *samsara*. All Buddhas are urging each of us to take refuge in wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Shan-tao, 5th great monk in the Jodo Shinshu stream, said:

Let us return! Do not abide in this homeland of suffering.
Since innumerable kalpas ago,
We have been transmigrating,
Passing through all the six courses.
Nowhere has there been any pleasure;
We hear only the voices of grief and sorrow.
After this present lifetime has ended,
Let us enter the city of nirvana (Pure Land of Amida!)

In Gassho,
Yasuo Izumi, Minister
Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta

10月末に雪が二度降りました。「ああ、いよいよ厳しい冬がやってくるなあ」と思いました。アルバータの冬は、時には、零下30度以下になります。この寒さには、決して慣れることはありません。

枕草子(まぐらのそうし)という本があります。平安時代(794-1184)の女流作家、清少納言が書いた日記です。そこに春、夏、秋、冬の様子が書かれています。冬のところには、「早朝、雪が降っているのも、霜を見るのもいやである。また、昼頃、火鉢の灰が白くなっているのを見るのもウンザリだ。」と書かれています。

私が、まだ幼い頃と同じです。しかし、今ではセントラルヒーティングの生活ですから、家の中では寒さを感じることもありません。それに慣れ切って感謝の気持ちも出てきません。暖かいのが当たり前です。ですから、一歩外に出ると、清少納言が言うように「ウンザリ」です。人間の心は、いつの時代にも同じです。いつの時代でも、どこにいても変わらないのは、仏様のやさしい、温かい心のようにです。合掌 泉康雄



UPDATE

from the Board of Directors

Now, it feels like fall!

The Board of Directors are focusing on succession planning for BTSA Ministerial personnel. Preliminary discussions are underway regarding the sharing of ministerial duties for a one year transitional period, as Izumi Sensei eases into retirement and Roland Ikuta Sensei gets started. As Roland transitions from BTSA's President to Minister, several of his former duties will be taken over by others and this update is an example.

The November Shotsuki service will be held on November 13th (not Nov. 6th). Here is the link to the YouTube Live Channel: <https://youtu.be/rzflbH5MUIw>

A successful mein-making session took place on October 14th and 15th. Thank you to the more than 60 volunteers who came out to help. There are enough mein noodles for the Chow Mein Supper on Sunday, November 20, as well as a few more bags available for purchase after Sunday services (see Brenda Ikuta's email message which was sent earlier).

Approximately \$3,000 was made on the Everything Japanese Sale. Please note, this will not be an annual event; instead, when enough donations accumulate, the event will be scheduled.

With respect to Temple cleaning and maintenance, the outside windows were recently cleaned and snow removal is being arranged. We already have a volunteer to look after the lawn care next summer, for which we are very grateful. The old redundant chairs taking up space in the storage room have been sold, thanks to the online marketing skills of temple members.

Thank you to all the volunteers and especially to the organizers and leaders of the Sangha events.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Boras
BTSA Secretary

October Shotsuki Hoyo

BTSA's monthly memorial service (shotsuki hoyo) on Oct. 2 was ministered by Dr. Roland Ikuta sensei in Izumi sensei's absence. Izumi sensei was recovering from a bout of COVID-19 which hospitalized him during the week.

Dr. Ikuta, who has been assisting at Sunday services since completing his ordination this summer, gave a personal dharma talk centred on the five stages of grief attributed to Dr. Kubler-Ross, adding another typically Jodo Shinshu stage of gratitude.

The service was followed by a light lunch of homemade leek and potato soup made from vegetables grown in the temple garden and donated by temple and community members.

CHAIR/AV SCHEDULE November & December 2022

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated

Nov 06

Sheila Oishi
David Major, AV

Nov 13

SHOTSUKI
Ross Jacobs
Brenda Ikuta, AV

Nov 20

No Service due to
Chow Mein Supper

Nov 27

Maya Ichikawa
Andrew Ichikawa, AV

Dec 04

SHOTSUKI
Andrew Ichikawa
Kynan Gordon, AV

Dec 11

BODHI DAY
TBD
Brenda Ikuta, AV

Dec 18 & 25

No Service



Wayne Tsukishima, MC



Dr. Roland Ikuta sensei



Oshoko by shotsuki observants

CHOW MEIN SUPPER CORRECTION

After a review by the committee, there were a number of reports regarding difficulties getting supplies ordered and delivered to meet the November 6 deadline. There were also higher costs on all materials going into the preparation of the meals. This included the costs to move away from styrofoam to a more environmentally friendly compostable plastic. Additionally, concern was expressed that the time between distribution of tickets at mein making and a November 6 supper was not enough time to sell 2100 tickets. The following changes have been made to the Chow Mein Supper plan as announced in the October Hikari:

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2022

Time: 1 - 5 p.m.

Tickets: \$20.00 / meal

I sincerely regret and apologize for the confusion and frustration these changes cause in our community. I realize that everyone is really looking forward to this first post-pandemic supper getting off the ground. I hope that together we can work to ensure its success and the regrowth of our Sangha activities.

Please share these changes with any interested party.

Brenda Ikuta

Chow Mein Dinner Schedule

Friday, November 18: Set Up

- 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Receive food deliveries, set up for food preparation stations, measure the rice, wash a portion of the onions and celery so volunteers can jump right in on Saturday.
- To join this team sign up here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A45A9A723A2FE3-chow1>

Saturday, November 19: Food Preparation

- Open call-out for help from temple members, family, friends, and long-time Chow Mein Supper enthusiasts.
- Food preparation: washing, chopping and packing vegetables, preparing the ground pork, preparing the garnishes, making the sweet and sour pork ribs, and ongoing cooking clean-up.
- 8:00 a.m. until we are done
- Bring your favorite knife/board/ apron – we often run short on this day!
- Save on plastic and bring a reusable bottle – we have a water cooler.
- Lunch will be provided for volunteers.
- Looking for volunteers to provide baking for the weekend:
contact debriesen@yahoo.com, 403-345-4767

Sunday, November 20: Take Out Supper

- Volunteers are typically contacted by Team Leaders for this day.
- Lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Always looking for some muscle for the **Take-Out Supper Clean-Up Crew:**

- Clean the stove, woks, large containers and floors
- 3:30 p.m. through to closing up the temple (around 6:30 p.m.)
- To join this team sign up here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A45A9A723A2FE3-mein1>

UNCERTAIN HOW TO GET TICKETS?

Fall 2022 Chow Mein Supper Ticket Distribution

GROUP AFFILIATION	CONTACT	PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS
Toban 2	Betty Tanaka Mary Shigehiro	(403) 329-0548 (403) 394-3664	bmitstana@gmail.com jmaryp@shaw.ca
Toban 3	Glen Tanaka	Hm (403) 394-1952 Cell (403) 382-8058	glentnk@gmail.com
Toban 4	Joyce Adachi	(403) 381 6995 (403) 331-9495	orrie13@outlook.com
No Toban	Sachi Scharf	(403) 915-6776	scharf1@shaw.ca

Ticket Masters *for general inquiries

Terry Hanna (before November 8)
terrymhanna@gmail.com
(403) 330-1981

David Major (after November 8)
rojam@telus.net
(403) 328-4957 (voice message)
(403) 382-5764 (text message)

Mein-Making: Oct. 15

BTSA members and friends turned out in numbers Oct. 15 to produce mein noodles for sale and in preparation for the temple chow mein supper Nov. 20. The foregoing pictorial report outlines the process involved, beginning with the rounds of dough created the day before.

A rousing thank you to all who helped in this important temple project.



Rounds Of Dough



Cutting A Round



Flattening Dough



More Flattening



Assembly Line



Noodle-Ready



Photos: Akira Ichikawa, Brenda Ikuta



Into noodle maker



Prepared For Frying



Frying in wok



Spread to Dry



Bagged...



and weighed



Beehive of Activity in Multipurpose Room and Kitchen



Coffee break

2022 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: _____

Telephone No.: _____ 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

*Note

Student membership is limited to persons 18 years or older who are currently registered in a recognized educational institution. It is free of charge with a valid student ID card. Student Members are not entitled to vote at general meetings or to hold office in the BTSA and this category does not include membership in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada, the national organization.

LET'S EXPAND THE CIRCLE OF THE DHARMA!

Membership at Oct 21: **145**

Sandai Hoyo
March, April, July 2022
Kazuko Takaguchi

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations
October 2022

Anonymous
John and Donna Dubbelboer
Judy Fukushima
Dorene (Keiko) Gordon
Neil Hinatsu
Lois Hinz
Rumiko Ibuki
Yutaka and Chiyomi Matsuno
Ken and Vickie Nakagama
Ken Ohno and Nancy Eng
Setsuko Ohno
Heidi Oishi
Doreen G. Osaka
Doug Osaka
Evelyn Osaka
Larry Osaka
Sachi Scharf
Bob and Eiko Shigehiro
Joe and Mary Shigehiro
Harry Hajime Sugimoto

Tomiko Sugimoto
Kazuko Takaguchi
Robert and Judy Takaguchi
Fugi Takeda
K.B. Takeda and Lila Ho-Takeda
Alan and Margaret Tanaka
Glen and Pamela Tanaka
Joe and Sumiko Tomiyama
Tak and Yoko Tsujita
Total for Sandai Hoyo and Shotsuki Hoyo - \$1,970

Other Donations

October 2022
CanadaHelps.Org
Akira Ichikawa
Rev Yasuo or Sachi Izumi
Suyeko Kanegawa
Chizuko Kimura
Marvin and Sharon Koizumi
Total - \$1,944.95

Funeral Donations

October 2022
Darcy and Joy Bruns
Tammy Dalton
Mark and Dawn Farrow
Marg Fujita
Judy Fukushima

Jim and Atsuko Hagihara
Tomi Hisaoka
Akira Ichikawa
Etsuko Karaki
Leslie Lavers
April Matsuno
Kinuko Matsuno
Yutaka and Chiyomi Matsuno
Joyce Miyashita
Judy S. Miyauchi
Sway and Toshiko Nishimura
Heidi Oishi
Pat Takeda
Naomi Plaustein
Kenneth and Keiko Sampson
Cary and Eileen Saruwatari
Gaye Saruwatari and Calvin MacDonnell
Phil and Tammy Saruwatari
Rick and Wendy Saruwatari
Emily Stitt
Dawn Sugimoto
Tomiko Sugimoto
Yvonne B. Sugimoto
Noris and Sachiko Taguchi
Harumi and Michi Takaguchi
Kazuko Takaguchi
Robert and Judy Takaguchi
K.B. Takeda and Lila Ho-Takeda
Irene and Kenichi Takigawa
Eichi and Betty Tanaka

REGULAR EVENTS

Minyo Dance Mondays @ 6:30pm to Dec. 5
Contact Pat Sassa 403.329.3105 sas7@telus.net

NCS Adult Taiko Tuesdays @ 7pm to Dec. 6
Contact tanaka.david@gmail.com 403.330.1548,

Study Class Saturdays @ 10:30am
Contact bobmuskovich@gmail.com or Rev. Izumi

Meditation continues until Dec. 15, Thursdays @ 7pm
To register contact Vickie Macarther spiryoga@shaw.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences

Kaz Tomomitsu (86) passed away on October 21, 2022

Update from Oct. 29, 2022:

Rev. Izumi has received confirmation from the Bishop's office that as of November 1st, Dr. Roland Ikuta will be a BTSA minister. Accordingly, he will no longer be BTSA president.

BUDDHA IN THE SNOW



The temple garden Buddha statue is lightly covered the morning of Oct. 23 with the first snowfall of the autumn as cold weather greeted those attending the Sunday service.

Clifford Thomas
George Tokuda
Joe and Sumiko Tomiyama
Total - \$2,188.50

Bazaar & Bake Sale
(All Things Japanese Sale)
October 2022

Anonymous Cash Donors
Total - \$3,544.85

Building & Kitchen Rental
October 2022

NCS Bunka Hashi
Total - \$750

Total Donations - \$10,398.30

Please inform us if your name has been omitted or misspelled. Anyone wishing not to be acknowledged in print, let us know so it will not be published. Thank you.

Ministers Appreciation Notice



Further to the notice about inaugurating Ministers Appreciation Month, effective September 2022, in the September Hikari, **BTSA will be hosting a potluck lunch after the shotsuki hoyo service Dec. 4. BTSA will provide the main dish, rice and cake, and would appreciate attendees bringing salads and side dishes.**

A reminder that this national event is a joint initiative of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) and the JSBTC Women's Federation to show appreciation to the ministers and assistant ministers for their dedication and commitment to their sangha and to the communities they serve

Each temple will be coordinating an event/activity to mark the occasion for their own ministers.

Saturday Study Class

Opportunity to learn Buddha's teachings as well as Shinran Shonin's teaching through Shinran's poems.

Please join Reverend Izumi and others to learn and discuss teachings, including the *wasans* (poems) of Shinran. Classes run regularly on Saturdays at the Temple at 10:30 am. Please contact Rev. Izumi or Bob Muskovich for further information.

Thursday Meditation

Thursday night meditation with Vickie Macarthur continues to run at the temple and online until December 15.

Please contact Vickie to register if you have not attended to this point. If you would like to attend in person please come to the temple at 7 pm, and if you prefer to attend virtually (zoom) please contact Vickie to get the link (email below).

So far we have had 4-8 people attend in-person and 4-6 people attend virtually. We invite anybody who is interested to come and try it. No experience is necessary. The usual format is 35-40 minutes of guided meditation. This is followed by a 10-15 minute video or reading brought to discussion by Vickie. We usually end with a 20 minute discussion.

Vickie Macarthur
spirityoga@shaw.ca

Thanks to all who helped make our October Mein Making session a success! We have set aside all that we need for Chow Mein Supper on Sunday, November 20.

There are a few more bags available for purchase by 'first time buyers' (those who have not purchased noodles yet for their household):

- **\$4.00 / bag**
- **Limit of 4 bags per household**
- **We will be selling them on Sundays after service until all are sold**

JSBTC Women's Federation Fund Raising Project



Cherry Blossoms
Artwork by Laurie Takeda
Calgary Buddhist Temple



Castle Two Trees
Artwork by Y Izumi
Buddhist Temples of
Southern Alberta



Calla Lilies
Photo by Ted Akune
Steveston Buddhist Temple

- A pack of 6 blank cards (4.25" x 5.5") are \$10 a pack
- Each pack has 2 cards of each of the above three designs
- Cards can be used for any occasion
- Donna Dubbelboer will be selling at the temple when they are available
- This fundraising project will help offset the costs of supporting travel for four representatives to attend the 2023 World Women's Conference in Kyoto.



NOVEMBER: TOBAN 4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
OFFICIAL BTSA ACTIVITY		7pm Taiko		7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class
		1	2	3	4	5
10:30am Regular Service*	6:30pm Minyo Dance Practice	7pm Taiko		7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class*
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30am Shotsuki Memorial Service* (live stream)	6:30pm Minyo Dance Practice	7pm Taiko		7pm Meditation	9am Chow Mein Supper Prep	8am Chow Mein Supper Prep 10:30am Study Class*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1-5pm Chow Mein Supper	6:30pm Minyo Dance Practice	7pm Taiko		7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class*
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30am Regular Service*	6:30pm Minyo Dance Practice	7pm Taiko				
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER: TOBAN 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class*
				1	2	3
10:30am Shotsuki Memorial Service* (live stream) Ministers' Appreciation Lunch	6:30pm Minyo Dance Practice	7pm Taiko		7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class*
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:30am Bodhi Day Service*				7pm Meditation		10:30am Study Class*
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No Service						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
No Service						9pm Joya-no-kane, Year end bell ringing @ Nikka Yukko Japanese Garden - free admission
25	26	27	28	29	30	31