



September 2011

## Information To learn Buddhism is to learn about ourselves



Generally speaking, we tend to think that to become a Buddhist means to get a lot of information about Buddhism, gain knowledge of its teachings and become intellectual. But is this true? If true, all Buddhists must become scholars of Buddhism and all scholars of Buddhism must be Buddhists. I think there must be greater urgency to becoming a Buddhist than merely collecting an abundance of information.

Four months ago, my wife went to Portland, Oregon, to help one of our daughters, Betty, who had slipped on the steps and broke her leg in three places during her pregnancy. My wife stayed there for two months to help her. Fortunately, Betty had a healthy baby girl. My wife came home and shared her stories she heard while in Portland, one of which Betty had told her. Actually I was a bit surprised, but it gave me food for reflection.

This was the story Betty told after her surgery at the hospital: because of the broken leg, an ambulance came to take her to hospital. In route, the ambulance attendant asked Betty to fill out a sheet of paper which had many questions

about personal information. While Betty was completing the form, and answering questions, the attendant did not do anything to the leg though part of a bone had broken through the skin. Agonizing and enduring her pain, Betty filled out the paper and answered all questions. The attendant then looked at the paper, made sure she got all the necessary information and then asked Betty to sign the paper.

Listening to my wife, I wondered about the way the attendant acted although I understood it was standard procedure to get medical information. Then, I remembered a story that appears in the Buddhist text. One day a man was struck by a poisoned arrow. His friends came to the rescue and tried to immediately pull the arrow out. But he stopped and asked them the following questions. Who shot the arrow? Was it a man or a woman? What was the bow made of? Who made the poison? I want to know about all these information before the arrow is removed.

Here are two stories. Each story is different in context but appears to me to have a similarity: The ambulance attendant did not do anything until all information was gotten from the wounded woman. To the attendant, getting information seemed more important than treating, even temporarily, the wound at once. In the same way, it was more immediate for the man who was struck by a poisoned arrow to get information rather than to pull it out.

Buddhism talks about examination and reflection of ourselves first, for no matter when and where we live, our life is limited and changing. There are so many ways to get information around us, from radio and newspaper, from T.V. and internet. Buddhism cautions us not to be fooled by an overabundance of information which

seems to be happening in modern times in particular. Are we not becoming hungry ghosts of information? It is always true in Buddhism that “to learn Buddhism is to learn about ourselves.” That’s what we Buddhists do first and immediately.

In Gassho,  
Yasuo Izumi, Minister of BTSA

### 「八難」

教えに会う、あるいは教えを聞く、という場合、八つの障害があるといわれます。つまり、聞くことを邪魔する八つの要因です。まず耳が不自由であったり、体が悪かったりすると、なかなか教えを聞くことが出来ません。また、暑すぎたり、寒すぎたりすると、教えを聞こうという気分になれません。また、地位や身分が高すぎると、とかく教えを見下し、聞こうとしません。生活が貧しいと、聞くどころではありません。かといって生活が楽になると、聞くことに怠惰となります。そして、多くの知識、情報を持つと、とかく教えを聞かなくなるのです。自分が一番、と驕慢(きょうまん)になるからです。しかし、仏様の広大な智慧と慈悲は、そのような障害をつきやぶって、「私を真実世界に目覚まさせるために」働いてくださるのです。法の働きは、どなたも邪魔することは出来ないのです。昔の方は、「仏法は毛穴からでも入る」といわれました。だからと言って、聞法に関して、横着していてもかまわない、ということではないのでしょうか。これは、法(教え)の働きに遇った人の「よろこび」の言葉なのです。教えに育てられた人の「感謝」の表現なのです。いよいよ聞法いたしましょう。合掌 泉康雄

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Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Z5  
403.327.1260  
www.theBTSA.com

## BTSA NOTES

After a relatively subdued summer—punctuated by the major Obon celebration in July—BTSA activities are on the upswing with the return of the autumn season. We hope everyone enjoyed a relaxing, leisurely break.

The informal summer Sunday services give way to the regular schedule with the monthly memorial service on Sept. 4. While the attendance remained steady, I think the main benefit from holding services throughout the summer was the number of guests who visited the temple.

The temple will be buzzing throughout the remainder of September with the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada ministerial association meeting Sept. 14 thru the 17, including a day session on the 16th with the JSBTC board. The board will meet on their own on the 17th. (Please see related story in this newsletter.)

Newly-installed socho, Grant Ikuta sensei, will be the guest speaker at our regular service on Sept. 18, during which time a Sarana Affirmation service is scheduled for any interested members. Please see Izumi sensei if you're interested in participating. JSBTC requires a \$30 fee for the ceremony.

Socho will remain the few days after the ministerial meeting and would like to meet with as many temple members as possible to discuss a variety of matters about Jodo Shinshu in Canada following his Sunday guest appearance.

The scheduled mein-making session, with co-chairs Jan Okamura and Pat Sassa, will be held on Sept. 17, and we're hoping to make enough mein noodles for the Fall Chow Mein Supper that's set for Oct. 15, from 1 to 5 p.m. Another session will be planned later on to make mein for sale to members. More details about the supper will be forthcoming in the next Hikari, but we ask all members to be prepared to give a hand to put on this major fund raiser.

The temple crew, with Roland Ikuta as chair, will be working Sept. 13 and 14 at the casino as part of our fund-raising activities. The proceeds will help go towards the maintenance of the temple, just as the proceeds from the previous casino in 2008 were used for a variety of purposes stipulated by the Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission. Thanks to all the volunteers, some who agreed to work the long shift into the wee morning hours.

Temple movie nights also return this month, with a feature film entitled "Pay It Forward" to be screened on Sept. 24, following a barbecue. Please see an accompanying article for greater details. The film will help to set the stage for the Alberta Buddhist Conference which has adopted the title as its theme. The ABC is set for Oct. 28, 29 and 30. Please register as soon as possible by using the form included elsewhere in this month's Hikari.

Since August was a slow month without a newsletter, it's worth noting here that our bon odori in Galt Gardens on July 16 occurred without a hitch. Thanks to all the hard-working volunteers who put together another great summer festival. Many thanks, too, to our obon service guest speaker, James Martin sensei of Calgary Buddhist Temple,

At its July meeting, the board:

- voted to purchase five one-year redeemable GICs, each for \$25,000, from Alberta Treasury Branch at a rate of 1.5 per cent. While the return may not appear overly generous, it was deemed better to invest even a little as opposed to allowing the amount to sit in temple accounts with next to no interest;
- approved sending \$5,000 to Nishi Hongwanji. This is the annual limit allowed by the Canadian government for any overseas financial transfer. The \$5,000 is a portion of the BTSA assessment of \$5,744 for the 750th commemoration of Shinran's memorial. The balance, \$744, will be remitted in 2012. JSBTC's assessment for the event totalled \$50,000; and
- was advised that a doorbell for the temple has been installed, but still needs adjustments to increase the sound volume.

The board also approved on Aug. 20 by email vote the installation of eight additional electrical outlet, each with its own circuit, in the Multipurpose Room by Corona Electric Ltd. at the quoted price of \$1,895.00 plus GST. This will help set up mein-noodle making equipment without having to use extra long extension cords to plugs outside of the Multipurpose Room.

Akira Ichikawa



**Nishi Hongwanji Visitor Governor General Shoshin Tachibana** spent a few hours at the BTSA on Aug. 20 with several members who welcomed him and Sammi Kiribayashi sensei, head of the Hongwanji International section. Their visit to southern Alberta followed one to Calgary to discuss the possibility of that city as host for the 2015 World Buddhist Women's Conference. Tachibana sensei is pictured next to Izumi sensei and Grant Ikuta socho who accompanied them to Lethbridge. A number of members turned out for the brief visit arranged by David Major who guided the visitors on a tour of the Head Smashed-In Museum before their return to Calgary.

## CASTRO SENSEI To Speak Three Times at 33rd Annual ABC



“Pay It Forward: Dana in Daily Life”, the 33rd annual Alberta Buddhist Conference on Oct. 28, 29 and 30, is less than two months’ away. Please register for the weekend in plenty of time to allow the committee to arrange

final details, especially with the caterers who will be providing the Saturday and Sunday meals.

Guest speaker Don Castro sensei of the Seattle Betsuin will be speaking three times, beginning with a Friday talk that is open to the public at 7 p.m. Entitled “Buddha, The Great Physician,” sensei will describe his Buddhist journey and focus on an ecological/conservation theme.

“Static Buddha, Dynamic Buddha” is the title of his talk on Saturday morning at 9:15. The dharma talk at Sunday’s closing service at 10 a.m. will be “Little ‘g’ Gratitude and Big ‘G’ Gratitude.” Further details of his talks will be forthcoming.

The conference also features James Martin sensei of the Calgary Buddhist Temple, several short Buddhist-themed videos, and a panel discussion. Other items planned are a Dharma class session, Japan youth tour reports, the temple choir presentation and, we hope, a short talk by Margaret Benson who spent time teaching English at a Thai monestary.

The registration for this year’s conference is \$65 and includes all the foregoing as well as a banquet, Saturday and Sunday lunches, and coffee breaks. The major benefit is priceless—the chance to listen, meet and enjoy the fellowship.

Please fill the attached registration form and remit with the fee to John and Donna Dubbelboer as soon as possible.

### ANSWER BOX QUERIES

Just a reminder that the BTSA has what is known as an “Answer Box” in the foyer for feedback from temple members. Please feel free to direct any inquiry or comment to specific individuals if you so wish by indicating their name on inserted, sealed notes to insure confidentiality. Thank you.

## ALBERTA BUDDHIST CONFERENCE October 28, 29 & 30, 2011

Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta  
470 – 40th St. S.  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Z5

## PAY IT FORWARD: *Dana in Daily Life*

### REGISTRATION FORM (Please Print)

First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church /Temple: \_\_\_\_\_

Children’s Names & Ages (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Special food requirements or additional information: \_\_\_\_\_

### Cost is \$65/person for the entire Conference

Children under 3, free; ages 3 to 10, \$10; over 10, \$30, same as the cost of an additional meal. Please indicate if a vegetarian meal is preferred for the banquet.

(Cheques payable to: Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta)

### Please email or mail registration prior to October 14, 2011:

ABC Registration

c/o John/Donna Dubbelboer

27 Mt. Blakiston Place W.

Lethbridge, AB T1K 6M4

Email: [jdubbelboer@shaw.ca](mailto:jdubbelboer@shaw.ca)

Phone: 403-381-7643

**Hotel Information:** Rooms has been reserved until Oct. 14, 2011 at two motels near the temple. Please indicate you will be attending the ABC. (1) **Hampton Inn & Suites**, 4073 2nd Av. S., Lethbridge T1J 1Z2, Tel: 1-403-942-2142, Fax: 1-403-942-2707, \$109 per night plus applicable taxes for conference delegates. (2) **Quality Inn & Suites**, 4070 2nd Ave South, Lethbridge T1J 3Z2, Tel: 1-888-331-644, Fax: 1-403-331-6442, email: [gm.cn828@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.cn828@choicehotels.com), \$ 95.99 + tax per

# 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!

### Obon Donations

July & August 2011

Jane Adachi  
Roy & Nancy Adachi  
Yuki Adachi  
Yosh & Sue Aimoto  
Rita & John M Aoki  
Roy Asato  
Etheline Blind  
Eietsu Chiba  
Malcolm & Mary Clewes  
J & E Cozac  
Valerie Hiroko Deveau  
John & Donna Dubbelboer  
Ken & April Fleury  
Janice Foster  
Karen Fujimoto  
Nob & Yoko Fujimoto  
Noriko Fujimoto  
Yoshio Fujimoto  
Judy Fukushima  
Dorene Gordon  
Jim & Atsuko Hagihara  
Terry Hanna & Sylvia Oishi  
Toshiko Hase  
Shinako (Sheila) Higa  
Shirley Higa  
Janet Hinatsu

Yoshie Hiraga  
Marie Y Hirashima  
Jim & Aya Hironaka  
Robert Hironaka  
Tomoe Hironaka  
Tsuyoshi & Mariko Hironaka  
Tomi Hisaoka  
Terry Horii  
Violet Horii  
Rumiko Ibuki  
Akira & Lorita Ichikawa  
Ayako Imahashi  
Bob & Sharon Imahashi  
Judy M. Irvine  
Koji & Sumiye Itaya  
Mike Kado  
Sue Kado  
Tom & Lily Kaga  
John & Alice Kanashiro  
Sadae Kanegawa  
Fujiye Kariatsumari  
Eleanor Katakami  
Tadao & Michie Kawasaki  
Akiko Kimoto  
Aiko Kimura  
Chizuko Kimura  
Howard Kimura  
Lorette Kimura  
Kaz Kinoshita

Hiroshi Kitagawa  
Tom & Katsuko Kosaka  
Takeshi & Sue Koyata  
Dave Kunimoto  
Eileen Kunimoto  
Hisaye Kunimoto  
Monty Kunimoto  
Nobby Kunimoto  
Yosh & Kathleen Kunimoto  
Elizabeth Machida  
Katoye Maruno  
Toru Maruno  
Yas Maruyama  
Kay K. Matsuda  
May S. Matsumiya  
Hideko Matsune  
Kinuko Matsuno  
Yutaka & Chiyomi Matsuno  
Gary & Beverly McIlroy  
Bob Mikado  
Robert & Toshi Miyanaga  
Joyce Miyashita  
Kiyoshi & Marion Mori  
Kay Kimie Moriyama  
Mr & Mrs Mark Murakami  
William T. & Setsuko Nagai  
Ken & Vickie Nakagawa  
Shig & Katie Nakagawa  
Teiji Nakamura

Yoshiye Nakata  
Roy & Minnie Nakatsuru  
Hideko Nishi  
Hideo & Jennifer Nishida  
Setsuko Nishiguchi  
May Nishikawa  
Danny & Yoko Nishimura  
Sway & Toshiko Nishimura  
Mac & Reyko Nishiyama  
Norreen Nishiyama  
Dennis Oga & Jeffrey Batchelor  
Donald Craig Oga  
Mitsuko Oga  
Noriko Oga  
Richard Oga  
Cheryl L Oga  
Ester Oga & David Fleming  
Sonny Ohama  
Frank & Kimi Ohno  
Kaz & Setsuko Ohno  
Ken Ohno  
May Ohno  
Kazumi Oikawa  
Heidi Oishi  
Lilly Oishi  
Sut & Neva Oishi  
David & Wanda Okamura  
Tak & Jan Okamura  
Hide (Marie) Ono  
Mae Osaka  
Doreen G. Osaka  
Eichi Osaka  
Kay Osaka  
Yumiko Osaka  
George & Grace Oshiro  
Jim & Daisy Oshiro  
A. K. Otsuka  
Joanne Planidin  
Hisae Price  
Darcee Richardson  
Angie & Carman Riediger  
Barrie & Jackie-Lynn Robb  
Marie Rusek  
Asaye Sakamoto  
Irene Sakamoto  
Tobie Sakamoto  
Sak & May Saruwatari  
Tosh & Joyce Saruwatari  
Gordon & Joy Saruwatari  
Jiro & Mae Sasaki  
Roy & Pat Sassa  
Brian & Holly L. Sekiya  
Carol Sekiya  
Coleen N. Sekiya  
Florence Senda  
Ken & Nancy Setoguchi  
Bob & Eiko Shigehiro  
Joe & Mary Shigehiro  
Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro  
Takaaki & Hajime Shigemi

Toshino Shigemi  
Tom Shimoza  
Yoshiye Shirakawa  
Nobuko & Mary Shono  
Tomiko Shono  
Sonia Sitz  
Fumi Sugimoto  
Noboru & Kazuko Sugimoto  
Tomiko Sugimoto  
Miyu Sunada  
Norris & Sachiko Taguchi  
Tom & Tsuyako Tajiri  
Kazuko Takaguchi  
Robert or Judy Takaguchi  
Fugi Takeda  
Cathy Takeda  
Mary Takeda  
Toshiko Takeda  
Reiko Takeyasu  
Tomiko Takeyasu  
Trent Takeyasu  
Eichi & Betty Tanaka  
Jane Tanaka  
Masaye Tanaka  
Tammy Tanaka  
Toshiko Tanaka  
Yoshio Tanaka  
Bob & Shirley Taniguchi  
Sam & Betty Taniguchi  
Jean Tatebe  
Bill & June Terakita  
Carolyn Terakita  
Mas Terakita  
Masaji & Shirley Terakita  
Mitsuyuki & Hideko Terakita  
Tami Terakita  
Akira Terashima  
Bill Teshima  
Margaret & Bob Thole  
Cliff & Mary Thomas  
Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita  
Joe & Sumiko Tomiyama  
Mas & Carol Tomomitsu  
Tak & Yoko Tsujita  
Brenda Tsukishima  
David & Hoa L. Tsukishima  
Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima  
Jim Tsukishima  
Kay Tsukishima  
Wayne & Amy Tsukishima  
V.F. Boras Professional  
Corporation  
Mrs S Yamagishi  
Dick & Sue Yamamoto  
Roy & Joyce Yokoyama  
Minoru Yoshida

**\$15,380 Total**

## REGULAR EVENTS

**Dharma Study** 10 - 10:20 am Sundays (except first Sunday of the month, please note calendar)

Contact: Rev. Izumi at 403.382.7024

**Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir** begins September 8 • Thursdays 7 - 8:30 pm

Contact: Katie at 403.327.4296 or katiinak@shaw.ca

**Tonari Gumi** begins September 6 • Tuesdays 12 - 3 pm

**Taiko Class** Begins September 6

Tuesdays 7 - 8:30 pm • Children/youth welcome at 6:30

Contact: David Tanaka at 403.330.1548 or david@eyesquared.com

**The Lethbridge Karaoke Club**

Wednesdays 1:30 - 4 pm

All interested are welcome to join or just listen and enjoy

**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 at 403.327.3110 or sumi.tomiyama@gmail.com

## PROGRAMS

**Gentle Yoga for Seniors** with Val Kunimoto

September 22 - November 24

8 sessions Thursdays 10:25 - 11:30 am • No classes October 20 or 27

Suggested donation: \$40 for BTSAs members and \$50 for non-members.

Please bring your blocks, bolsters, pillow and a large, firm blanket.

**Aiki Breathing Class** with Lincoln Chew

September 26 - November 21

8 sessions Mondays at 10:45 - 12 noon • No class October 10

Suggested donation: \$40 for BTSAs members and \$50 for non-members.

Participants can wear plain, loose-fitting clothes and practice in stocking feet or slippers/sandals.

For further information on **Toban, Special Events or Programs**,

Contact: Lorita at 403 327 1668 or lorita.ichikawa@gmail.com

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**Mr. Yoshio Tanaka (95) July 27, 2011**

**Mr. Masamoto Tanaka (97) August 17, 2011**

**Mr. Kenzo Ichino (96) August 18, 2011**

Congratulations to **Courtland Dean Bain and Lindsay Asami Pozgai** on their marriage, July 15, 2011.

## Shotsuki & Memorial Donations July & August 2011

Dick Adachi

Rita & John M Aoki

Nadine Hamabata

Hideo & June Hinatsu

Tomi Hisaoka

Rumiko Ibuki

Toshimi & Marian Ibuki

Ayako Imahashi

Keith & Penny Margetson

Tomoko Mori

Shig & Katie Nakagawa

May Nishikawa

Sway & Toshiko Nishimura

Mac & Reyko Nishiyama

Noriko Oga

Lilly Oishi

Ken & Nancy Setoguchi

Toshino Shigemi

Fumi Sugimoto

Miyo Sunada

Robert & Judy Takaguchi

Fugi Takeda

Shigeo Tanaka

Sam & Betty Taniguchi

Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita

Kimiye Tsuji

Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima

**\$2,345 Total**

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

## BUDDHIST Q & A

### Why are 7th day services held?

Generally speaking it is Buddhist custom in which a deceased enters his or her next life after a period of seven times seven (49) days. The services are held for the sake of the deceased. In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Shin Buddhism) we understand and appreciate that the deceased is born in the Pure Land and will become a Buddha instantaneously when the death occurs. For Jodo Shinshu followers the 7th day services may become an occasion to cherish the memory of our loved one and at the same time a precious opportunity for the living to listen to the Dharma, life which is true and real. Thus the Buddhist custom continues but its implication, therefore, differ from Buddhism in general.

## TOBAN UPDATE

### Toban Schedule

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

**September Toban 3**

**October Toban 4**

**November Toban 1**

**Toban 2** Sumie Tsukishima will coordinate Toban 2 with the assistance of Donna and John Dubbelboer, Betty and Eichi Tanaka, Mitsuko and Tom Shigehiro and June and Bill Terakita. Thanks for coordinating the planned and unplanned activities in August.

**Toban 3** is up for the month of September. Pat Sassa is coordinating Toban 3 with the assistance Debbie Friesen, Hisae Price, Emily Stitt and Deanna Jones.

**Toban 1** Thanks for the great O Bon supper and especially to Lilly Oishi and Sheila Oishi for coordination preparation of the bento boxes for the Bon Odori Festival.

## Ministers and JSBTC Board to Meet Here

Each year the Ministers Association has a meeting in the fall. This fall it is Lethbridge's turn to host the meeting. Similarly, the JSBTC Board has an interim board meeting, usually in Vancouver.

This year it has been decided to hold the JSBTC Board meeting in conjunction with the MA meeting and to do it in such a way that we can have a joint team-building workshop in between.

So the ministers will hold their meeting on Thursday, September 15th. The team-building workshop will be held on Friday, September 16th and then the interim JSBTC Board meeting will be on Saturday, September 17th. Trudy Gahlinger, a Calgary Temple member will be our facilitator on Friday.

Our new Bishop (Socho), Rev. Grant Ikuta will stay over for another day to attend the regular BTSA service and give the Dharma talk.

It is not yet clear if the BTSA will be called upon to provide any service for the meeting. Toban 3 is in charge for September. If help is needed I'm sure our members will step up, as you always do.

At the Annual General Meeting in April in Toronto, the ministers participated in a team-building workshop and the reports from this workshop were positive. Our hope is that with the board members and the ministers getting together we will build a greater sense of unity and cooperation among the board members and the ministers.

The JSBTC board members are Dave Otori (Vancouver), President; Jim Hisanaga (Manitoba), Vice President; Ray Nakano (Hamilton), Treasurer; David Major (BTSA), Secretary; Larry Ryan (Steveston); Susan Huntley (Calgary), Women's Federation representative; and James Martin (Calgary), MA representative. The Bishop, Rev. Grant Ikuta, is an ex-officio board member.

The ministers who will attend are Bishop Grant Ikuta (Steveston); Rev. James Martin (Calgary), MA Chair; Rev. Tatsuya Aoki (Vancouver); Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa (BC Interior); Rev. Yasuo Izumi (Lethbridge BTSA); Rev. Fred Ulrich (Manitoba); Rev. Tomufumi Fujii and Michael Hayashi (Toronto). Hamilton and Montreal are served by the Toronto ministers and Fraser Valley by the Steveston and Vancouver ministers. Roy Akune (Steveston) and Bob Akune (Vancouver) are assistant ministers.

David Major

## SOCHO IKUTA TO SPEAK, LISTEN AND PERFORM SARANA AFFIRMATION ON SEPT. 18

Any member interested in participating in the Sarana Affirmation ceremony by newly-installed socho, Grant Ikuta sensei, is asked to talk to Izumi sensei as soon as possible. Ikuta socho will be the guest speaker at the regular BTSA Sunday service Sept. 18, at which time the affirmation ceremony will be held. There is a \$30 administration fee required by the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada.

Socho also would like to meet with as many temple members as possible after the service in a city-hall type meeting to listen to concerns about Jodo Shinshu in Canada and related matters. For this, BTSA asks members to stay for the meeting following tea after the service. Socho's presence in Lethbridge comes at the tailend of the annual JSBTC Ministerial Association meeting which will held on Sept. 14 and 15. The ministers also will meet Sept. 16 with the board of JSBTC. The board, then, will meet on its own at the temple on Sept. 17.

## MOVIE NIGHT at the temple

### *Pay It Forward*

**Saturday, September 24 • 7pm**

### **BBQ supper at 6pm**

Please contact Roland Ikuta at 403.317.0078

- If you are planning to attend the supper please let us know.
- If you are willing to help with meal preparation

**Trial Transportation System** from Taber and Coaldale to Lethbridge for the Shotsuki service on Oct. 2. We are using a mini bus that can seat 13 passengers. There will be no cost. Pick-up time will be 9:15 AM in Taber and 9:50 AM in Coaldale at central locations. These locations are still being determined. If you are interested please contact Roland Ikuta at 403.317.0078. This is a trial, and will be the basis of how future trips will be arranged.

## BON ODORI 2011

The 8th Annual Bon Odori was a wonderful and exciting success. It drew, by a variety of estimates, between six to seven hundred attendees. Joyce Shigehiro was an excellent MC with her spontaneity and flexibility in dealing with the inevitable little hitches and Roland Ikuta managed the stage/music, along with various other tasks. Aya Hironaka, ever the charming and venerable teacher and mentor, once again led the dancers, including a large number of youngsters. Appreciation goes to

Maya Ichikawa for the posters and to all the dancers who practiced weekly prior to the event. David Tanaka maintained a taiko drive throughout the dances, occasionally being relieved by Rev. Izumi who also provided opening greetings and opened the Bon Odori with the chant San Bujo. Thanks to soloists Charlotte Ikuta and Sway Nishimura for the intermission entertainment, to Dharma Deli coordinators, Brenda Ikuta and Sheila Oishi and to Lilly Oishi for

organizing the Bento Box crew; and, of course, to Akira who organized the set-up take down crew as well as a managing other details. Charlotte, Lisa and Mariko were on hand for a variation in the sno-cone delights. There were another fifty or so volunteers, too numerous to mention, who deserve a round of applause for their contributions to the festival. Thank you all and to the planning committee for another successful Bon Odori!

In gassho,  
Lorita Ichikawa, Chair  
Bon Odori Committee



# September & October 2011 Schedule

**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。 Those who are interested in taking **Sarana Affirmation Ceremony on Sept. 18** please let your minister know. Socho Grant will officiate it. He will also deliver his Dharma Talk on Sept. 18 Regular Sunday Service.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SEPTEMBER					1	2	3
	10:30am Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service 4	5	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 6	7	7pm SAB Choir 8	9	10
	10 - 10:20am Dharma Study 10:30am Regular Service 11	12	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 13	14	JSBTC Ministers' Meeting 15	16	Mein Making JSBTC Board Meeting 17
	10:30am service Socho Grant Ikuta, guest speaker Sarana Affirmation 18	19	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 20	1:30pm Karaoke 21	10:30am Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 22	23	Movie Night 6pm BBQ supper 7pm movie 24
	10 - 10:20am Dharma Study 10:30am Regular Service 25	10:45am Aiki Breathing class 26	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 27	1:30pm Karaoke 28	10:30am Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 29	30	

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
OCTOBER	10:30am Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service 2	10:45am Aiki Breathing class 3	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 4	1:30pm Karaoke 5	10:30am Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 6	7	1 8
	10 - 10:20am Dharma Study 10:30am Regular Service 9	No Aiki class 10	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 11	1:30pm Karaoke 12	10:30am Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 13	14	1 - 5pm Chow Mein Supper 15
	10 - 10:20am Dharma Study 10:30am Regular Service 16	10:45am Aiki Breathing class 17	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 18	1:30pm Karaoke 19	No Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 20	21	22
	10 - 10:20am Dharma Study 10:30am Regular Service 23	10:45am Aiki Breathing class 24	12 noon Tonari Gumi 7pm Taiko 25	1:30pm Karaoke 26	No Gentle Yoga 7pm SAB Choir 27	ABC 28	ABC 29
	ABC 30	10:45am Aiki Breathing class 31					