



May/June Highlights

- **5/24, Sun 9:30 AM**
Alta Mesa Memorial Service (No services at the Temple)
- **5/31, Sun 10:00 AM**
Graduating Sr. Speakers: **Heather Andrews, Jeff Hamada & Doug Hasegawa**
- **6/1, Mon 7:30 PM**
Religious Planning Mtg
- **6/7, Sun 10:00 AM**
June/July Shotsuki Hoyo Graduating Sr. Speakers: **Kacyn Fujii & Kendall Dea**
- **6/8, Mon 7:00 PM**
50th Anniv. Planning Mtg
- **6/10, Wed 7:30 PM**
Temple Board Mtg
- **6/14, Sun**
Dharma School Field Trip (No Dharma School)
- **6/17, Wed 7:00 PM**
Japan Tour Informational Meeting

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MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Volume 48 Number 6

Graduating Seniors Dharma Speeches—Megan Matsumoto

For the next two issues, I will be highlighting the Dharma Speeches of our 10 graduating high school Seniors.

Please join me in congratulating these distinguished and well-grounded young adults as they transition to the next exciting phase of their lives.

—Reverend Dean Koyama

Among her many accomplishments, Megan Matsumoto has received the Girl Scout Silver award, is a member of the Taiko group, and is the MVBT YBA President. Megan will attend UCSD in the Fall.

By Megan Matsumoto

We all have our greatest fears. For some people it might be spiders, or the dark, or heights, but none of those things really bother me. My greatest fear is, as many of you know, public speaking.

I often wonder why does talking in front of a large group of people freak me out so much? I mean it's not like I'm in a life or death situation where if I do badly then the world is going to explode. But when it comes down to it, it just scares me.

So the reason I'm telling all of you this is that while I was

preparing for this speech all I could think about was that I am insanely stressed out!

I couldn't figure out why I was so worried about this when it's really not a big deal, but basically what I was doing



Activities at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple are happening at a rapid rate.

Temple Activities Abound!

By Ron Murata

In late March there was the Coast District YBL conference. At the end of April there was the Federation of Dharma School Teachers League conference. These are on top of the normally

scheduled Sunday Services (recently these have included talks by graduating seniors to which I give a “don't miss” rating) and the activities of Dharma School, Fuji Club, Girls Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boys Scouts, YBA, ABA, BWA, Seniors Activity, the

june 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
	1 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Kendo 7:30 PM Religious Planning meeting	2 6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Tai chi	3 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Scouts & parents 7:30 PM Tri-City Youth Group	4 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts 6:00 PM Taiko	5 4:30 PM Calligraphy class 7:00 PM Fuji Club	6 9:00 AM Scouts/Sangha Hall & gateball area/archery 12:30 PM Memorial Service 4:00 PM Girl Scouts Annual Bridging ceremony/Sangha Hall																																																																																																									
7 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Service/Shotsuki Hoyo 11:00 AM Dharma School 11:30 AM YBA meeting 12:00 PM Taiko 12:15 PM YBA/YBA Hall	8 11:00 AM Senior activity comm. meeting 7:00 PM 50th anniv. comm. meeting 7:00 PM Kendo	9 6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Tai chi 6:30 PM Tri-City Newsletter	10 6:30 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts 7:30 PM Temple Board meeting	11 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts 6:00 PM Taiko	12 4:30 PM Calligraphy class 7:30 PM ABA meeting/conf. room & YBA Hall Echo deadline	13 9:00 AM BWA meeting 10:00 AM Kinyu Kai 4:00 PM Fujii/Sangha Hall game room																																																																																																									
14 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Service 11:00 AM Dharma School /Field trip 12:00 PM Taiko	15 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Kendo	16 6:30 PM Taiko 7:00 PM Nakayoshi Gakko/meeting/room 7 & 8	17 6:30 PM Echo 7:00 PM Scouts Court of Honor/Sangha Hall	18 9:00 AM Senior Activity 12:00 PM Senior activity /guest speaker MediCal	19	20 7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/maintenance 1 3:00 PM Memorial Service																																																																																																									
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28 NO SUNDAY SERVICE	29 7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/session 7:00 PM Kendo	30 7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/session 3:00 PM Memorial Service	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; margin-right: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">May</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">July</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				May							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							July							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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Updated 5/8/2009 (events subject to change)

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Dharma Speeches—Megan Matsumoto (cont'd from Page 1)

was allowing my fear to overcome me and when I thought about it deeper it wasn't my fear that was controlling me it was my ego.

The ego is something that Rev. Dean has talked about in a few of his sermons and so while I was preparing for this speech I realized that I have a huge ego. Now I'm not talking about the ego that usually comes to mind which is cockiness, but the ego that Rev. Dean talked about was that of your sense of self.

The larger your ego the more inhibited you are because you are more worried about what other people are thinking. And this is completely true of me because it's not that I fear speaking its more that I fear making a mistake or making a complete fool of myself.

One thing that Buddhism tries to teach us is to shrink your ego and that it's not about what other people think, but its more about your own self reflection and making peace with yourself because you can't control how other people are going to react.

When I thought about this it made me feel a little bit better about getting up here and talking to you all today. If I

could just lower my ego and just go with what I feel than maybe this experience would not be as frightening as I thought it would be.

It also makes it so much easier that here at this temple everyone is so accepting and open that making a mistake doesn't really matter. And leading up to this everyone was so encouraging like Mrs. Flynn, who reassured me while I was freaking out about what to say and my friends, who no matter how many times I said I wouldn't kept telling me how I would do great.

***This temple feels like
a second home.***

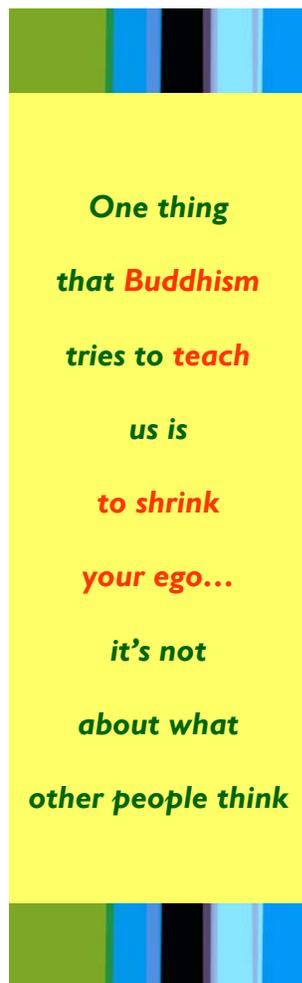
This temple feels like a second home, I mean I spend enough time here for it to be. I basically grew up here and I know that this will always be a place that I will feel welcome and secure. This is a place where I can let my ego down just a bit and its definitely been where I've had the most opportunity to grow in confidence and as a person.

For example I've never thought I would be able to chant in front of people, es-

pecially chant lines by myself, but at the Coast District Retreat we had to chant a lot. Everyone was so nervous and we were all afraid to embarrass ourselves by screwing up the lines, and these were not easy lines to chant. They had tons of inflections and changes in notes, so we were pretty intimidated.

I remember someone saying, and I think it was Haley, "Let's all mess up so that we fail together" or something along those lines. The first time we went through Shoshinge no one would chant above a whisper. We were just so nervous and we let our egos get the better of us. However, as the weekend progressed you could tell that we were getting louder and more confident. It didn't even matter if we made a mistake because well we all made mistakes and we had all formed a bond where we could just laugh at ourselves and do better next time.

Walking into that retreat all I could think of was "Oh no chanting," but when I left I felt like I had gained this great experience that gave me confidence to do so much this year at both the temple and at school. In marching band I was able to show the leader-



The ECHO

Dharma Speeches—Megan Matsumoto (cont'd from Page 3)

*As a section leader,
I put myself in a
position to be
criticized and
possibly disliked,
but the thing was
that I did it.*

ship side of me that people don't necessarily expect.

Initially I was hesitant to apply to be a clarinet section leader. I wasn't all too confident in my musical and marching skills, but I wanted so much to be a part of it all.



Getting that position allowed me to grow so much because

I had to stop thinking about "Oh no are the freshmen going to hate me for making them stay an extra half hour to practice" and start thinking about just trying to do my best. As a section leader I put myself in a vulnerable position, a position to be criticized and possibly disliked, but the thing was that I did it and I would never ever trade in that experience for something else.

So now that I will be going off to college soon I'm thinking about the things that I'll do and experience. Naturally I would tend not to stretch myself and try something different. I would stick with the things that are in my comfort zone and would be hesitant to do anything other

than the things I've already been doing my whole life like music and taiko.

Though I never want to lose those things, college is about more than just doing the status quo, and thus I cannot let my ego and fear of failure prevent me from doing something new like hmmm maybe scuba diving lessons.

But from growing up here and learning that my ego and inhibitions do not control me I feel that I can do anything. I will be stepping on to San Diego's campus in the fall with confidence and with a smaller ego thanks to my time spent here at the temple.

**—Megan Matsumoto
Class of 2009**

HELP WANTED: Obon Volunteers

The Mountain View 2009 Obon Committee invites all and any interested individuals to become involved in our Obon festivities.

No experience necessary—just an interest in creating a great time.

Contact:

Bryan Nishimoto (650) 967-9290, fishhawkent@earthlink.net

Mel Inouye (650) 964-6134, neitoo@sbcglobal.net

50th Anniversary Meeting

June 8, 2009, 7:00 PM, Conference Room

All affiliated Organizations are requested to send a representative to every meeting.

There are critical decisions to make and we need input from each organization.

Time is winding down, therefore please attend the meeting to participate in planning the 50th Anniversary celebration. **Please attend.**

President's Message (cont'd from Page 1)

Wednesday Group, and the Friday Group. Further, there have been 10 funerals held already this year and numerous family memorials.

The activities continue on into May. The special Mother's Day brunch and service led by the YBA, the Temple Chicken Teriyaki fundraiser including a week of preparatory activities, and the Memorial Day services at the end of the month.

In the midst of these activities the Temple is undertaking some special work during the week of May 22nd through 29th. The Temple Board has authorized some renovation work on the o-naijin by the Japan Memorial Corporation.

On May 22nd a few specially-trained craftspeople from Japan will arrive to begin the work to refurbish objects in the o-naijin. Over the years signs of wear and tear have become readily evident on many of the pieces. During

the week the objects in the o-naijin will be taken apart, inspected, refurbished and put back together again.

Anyone wishing to observe the renovation work is welcome to come and watch. Also, help is requested from anyone who has old blankets to bring them so that the disassembled parts of the o-naijin can be set on them during the refurbishing work. Further a few able-bodied people are requested to come help in the disassembly work. If you can help with blankets or the disassembly, please contact me or Reverend Koyama.

At some point during the week, the craftspeople will provide training to us on the proper way to clean and maintain the objects in the o-naijin. Some of the wear and tear showing has been due to the well-intention but improper methods of cleaning and maintenance that we had done in the past. So people

interested in learning how to properly clean and maintain the o-naijin are requested to keep in contact with us to learn the time and date for this training.

Finally, we request that Temple members and friends understand if a special need, like a funeral, arises between May 22nd and the 29th that the Hondo will not be available. As needed, we will work with the families involved to make or help make special arrangements to take care of their needs.

I want to thank all Temple members and friends who are the source of inspiration and energy that makes all these activities possible and ask for their continued support throughout the year. The next few months through our annual Obon and bazaar are particularly busy. See you there.

Ron Murata
Temple President



***I want to thank all
Temple members
and friends
who are
the source of
inspiration
and energy
that makes
all our activities
possible.***



The ECHO

Graduating Senior Dharma Speeches—Brent Hiramoto

Lessons of compassion, impermanence, and interdependence have been endlessly repeated during service and have worked their way into my own world view.

Brent has been the Interact Club Historian, and represented Homestead High school in Showcase 2009 which raised \$5,000 for biosand water filters for families in the Dominican Republic. Additionally, he was a member of the Mighty Mustang Marching Band and served as a section leader. Brent has volunteered as Nakayoshi Gakko sempai throughout high school years. He is a member of the National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation. Brent will attend UC Davis in the Fall.

During my time at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, I have witnessed the dynamics of this community and the niches that I have fallen into. There are the pessimists, the uninitiated, the devout, and those who appear to be involved, but do not even know the first step of the Eightfold Path. Well, now that I'm going off to college, I guess it's time for me to admit, Reverend. I do, in fact, fall into that last category.

Luckily for me, I have been fortunate to be part of this community where I've been able to live comfortably without any admonishment. I recall one instance during a YBA ski trip, where I met a

By Brent Hiramoto

surprisingly outgoing man on a ski lift, who out of the blue started talking to me about religion. Well, as the conversation went out, he came upon Buddhism, and he put in his thoughts regarding its values. He reflected that it was wonderful how Buddhism, in his experiences, felt

I have been able to thrive in an open-minded, accepting, and friendly environment

more like a philosophy than a religion like Christianity that has a relatively strict set of guidelines. It was at this point that I realized my own perspective on Buddhism. Here at the temple, I have been able to hear the advice of Reverend Koyama, and to take in what I felt reflected my own morals and ideology the most. I have never been forced to memorize the Four Noble Truths, or to recite from the depths of my mind

the Eightfold Path. Sure, the consequences have been evident; I still don't know any of either category. But, reflecting back, I realize that it was for the better. I'm not the most avid "church-goer" in the first place, and I'm not a big stickler for rules. Being forced to internalize such ideas would have probably turned me off to the religion.

I'm sure Buddha doesn't like me for this wherever he is, but it's the best I can do, and it is for this that I am thankful to be part of the temple here in Mountain View. I have been able to thrive in an open-minded, accepting, and friendly environment as a member, and it is for this reason that I'm still here at this temple after 10 or so years of attendance.

Another facet of my experience at the temple is the messages that have hit home for me that I have picked up in the various sermons I have had the privilege of attending. Lessons of compassion, impermanence, and interdependence have been endlessly repeated during service and have worked their way into my own world view. It has been an uplifting experience being able to see how

Brent Hiramoto's Perspectives on Buddhism

the ideology of Buddhism has revealed itself in my own life.

I remember one instance in class after service in which Mrs. McCoy exposed our high school class to gay members of our community and, more specifically, the Asian community here at the temple. The speaker talked to us about his experiences growing up concealing his inner identity and sexual orientation, and how he ended up coming out to his peers and his family. Yet, surprisingly, he met no opposition and only grew closer to the friends he knew at the temple. In fact, he even went on to become an executive at Toshiba, his sexual orientation withstanding. It was through this session of class that I found the true meaning of compassion, and that there is compassion to be found in this world; and that sometimes, it is just a matter of looking in the right places.

Lastly, the YBA here at the temple has contributed greatly to my experience throughout my last four years. True, I started off as the little boy standing off in the corner diddling with his cell phone, but I feel that I have made great strides. The

ideals that the YBA stands for, as well as its members, have proved to be welcoming and it took little time for me to feel comfortable at the temple. It was nice to know that my peers I knew from the temple were accepting and that I didn't need to meet any expectations in assimilating into the community. Furthermore, the YBA, through the conferences and activities, has helped me de-

*I went from being
the little hermit crab
to someone that
people actually
cared about.*

velop socially and has helped me to see the importance of solidarity as a member of a community. I recall from my freshman year, I believe my only close friend I had was Jeff Hamada. We were pretty much the dynamic duo back then. Yet, as time went on, YBA helped extend me beyond my comfort zone and I went on to meet people like Heather Andrews and Dani Ryu. I went from being the little hermit crab I was to

someone that people actually cared about.

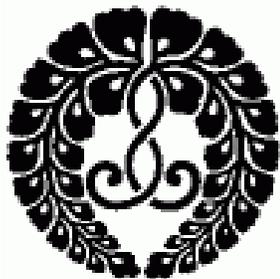
Well, I'll be off to UC Davis next year, and I know that Buddhism will be with me throughout my, hopefully, four year stay. I'm not exactly sure how well religion will stick with me while I'm away at college, given any unforeseen obstacles and inconveniences, but I know that regardless of my situation, I'll be keeping the Buddhist messages with me in my future endeavors. And if there is one thing I'll keep for the rest of my life, it will be the comfort of knowing that I had grown up in a community of acceptance and kindness, and the comfort of knowing that it will always be there in the future for my homecoming.

—Brent Hiramoto
Class of 2009



The ECHO

Get Ready for Obon Preparation and the BWL Conference



Buddhist Women's Association

BWL CONFERENCE

October 9-11, 2009

41st Federation of BWL Conference will be held in Sacramento, California.

BWA has started to take sign-ups for this conference. Those interested may contact Mitsue Fukuda (650) 948-5759 for details.

BAZAAR

BWA is planning and organizing various BWA responsibilities

for the upcoming bazaar in July. All members will be requested to come out and help in this important fundraiser.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

During the FDSTL Conference: To the ten members who provided Jell-O dishes for the luncheon.

To the members who helped with the food preparations for the luncheon and dinner.

Chicken Teriyaki

To all the members who helped with temple chicken teriyaki fundraiser.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, June 21, 2009,
9:00 AM (3rd Saturday in June)



MVBT 50th Anniversary Japan Trip—2011

MVBT 50th Anniversary Japan Trip 2011

Approximate
Dates:
May 14-24, 2011

Kyoto – Niigata

Informational
Meeting

Wed, June 17th
7 PM

In conjunction with the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's 50th anniversary in 2011, Rev. Koyama is putting together a tour to Japan. This tour is to coincide with the **Shinran Shonin's 750 Memorial Observance at our Jodo Shinshu Hompa Hongwanji-ha Mother Temple** in Kyoto, Japan and the **14th World Buddhist Women's Convention** in Kyoto, Japan

Because of the historical significance of the 750th Memorial Observance in Kyoto, I am hoping to put together a tour based on following in the footsteps of Shinran Shonin.

Some of the sites we will visit in Kyoto are:

- Shinran Shonin's birthplace**
- Temple of ordination**
- Mt. Hiei**
- Shinran Shonin's tomb**

We will follow Shinran's journey to Niigata (historical name Echigo). This is the region where Shinran was exiled due to the persecution of the Nembutsu. Niigata is located on the Japan seaside, and is known as a premier sake region and offers a wealth of on-sen hot springs resorts as well.

Niigata is also the home region of Eshinni, the wife of Shinran. We will see the

beach where it is said that Shinran landed, the tomb of Eshinni, and a very interesting altar at the Kokubunji that combines the altars of Amida Buddha and Shinran. I think this will be an exciting, fun and educational tour.

Details of the tour still need to be finalized. The first informational meeting is June 17th, Wednesday at 7 PM in the Temple Conference Room. Hopefully, both Kin-tetsu International and Japan Travel Bureau present of their proposed tours. For further questions or details, please contact Rev. Koyama at (650) 964-9426 or e-mail dkoyama@comcast.net.

Senior Activities for June and Starting in September

Crafts & Activities

June 4th, 11th, and 18th
Thursdays, 9am – 12pm

We will take a summer break in July/August. Senior Crafts start again on September 3rd, 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon. Please mark this on your calendar.

JUN 18th, 11:30 AM

Lunch with guest speaker, Robbie Price on Medicare to Medical. For the many Seniors, this may be vital information, and for the senior that are worried about the high cost of getting care when they can no longer take care of themselves. The speaker will address different scenarios and options for seniors to cope with this financial dilemma

SEP 23/24—Reno Trip

A Wed/Thu Reno Trip. Stops will be at the Nugget, Silver

Legacy (lodging). Next day, stop at Cal Neva then on to Boomtown.

\$74.00 per person double occupancy. For Single occupancy, add \$28.00. Call Chuck Uyeda (408) 736-5141) after July 1st for reservation.

OCT 15—Trip to the California Academy of Sciences

More information provided in the near future.



Please note that on our trips, Temple members have first choice on a first come first served basis for two weeks after the announcement for sign-up is made. After that, it will be opened to non-members. It is our wish not to turn away any Temple members.

Again, through your continued support, we are able to make these trips.

Thank you to the many that have donated monetary, many crafts items, food items, and especially your time and effort. We are truly grateful to the many for sharing with the group.

ありがとう。

Senior

Activities

Mark your Calendars

“Buddha Booties” to Debut at Volleyball Tournament

To start off I would like to thank everyone who helped out at YBA's Mother's Day Brunch! There was tons of great food and I hope that the mothers and all who attended enjoyed it.

Also the YBA helped out at chicken teriyaki in May, boxing chicken and bagging for-

tune cookies. And we all had fun going to Sky High, which is basically a room with floor to ceiling trampolines!

Coming up very soon is the Bay District Volleyball Tournament with the theme of "Shoes". Our YBA will be sending two teams: Buddha Booties Left and Buddha

Booties Right. Also we are currently working on updating our constitution and by-laws as well as getting ready to wrap up the year with elections of the 2009-2010 YBA cabinet in June.

In Gassho,
Megan Matsumoto
YBA President 2008-2009

YBA



Update

The ECHO

A Quiet Month for ABA—Look for CPR Classes

Reno ABA trip was a big success as always, with a few winners but many happy ABA gamblers.

At the April ABA meeting Ken Nakano set up a Medi-Cal presentation. Thank You Ken Nakano for a very informative session. Contact ABA for Medi-Cal information.

Look for upcoming CPR training and refresher classes at the MVBT sponsored by ABA.



Thank you to all ABA volunteers and friends for signing up to cook chicken teriyaki on Saturday, May 16th

DONATIONS

Grateful Acknowledged
Ed & Dorothy Chikasuye
Yas & May Shimoguchi
Namie Takatsuka

GET WELL SOON

Ed, Yas & Ken!

THANK YOU

Russ & Judy Nakano
 for their good luck donation.

Homecraft Booth Seeking Donated Items for the Bazaar



With the temple bazaar only two months away, we again are asking for your help in providing items for the Homecraft Booth.

We welcome all contributions, particularly those that

you have made such as blankets & afghans, baby items, aprons, kitchen items, stationery, jewelry, etc.

You may leave your offerings at the temple office and please fill out the donation

form so that we can acknowledge your contribution.

In Gassho,

Jeanne Ohara
&
Miyo Yamagata

150 Club News

At the May 6th Board meeting, the winner of the drawing for May, 2009, was R. Inouye.

There are still 7 more monthly drawings plus the big bonus drawing in December. You still have a chance to be picked. Good luck.

Thank you for participating in the 2009-150 Club.

Toban/Revised Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo	Article Deadline
JUN	Zones 12 & 13	June 17	June 12
JUL	Zones 1 & 2	N/A	N/A
AUG	Zones 3 & 4	Aug 19	Aug 14

Please note the revised article deadline, printing dates and email submission process. This is provide time to layout in the new format. Thank you.

Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org

Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

The Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Services are conducted and sponsored by the temple in memory of the past members who have passed away during a given month. It is not meant to be a substitute for families to observe their Family Memorial Service for their loved ones. The June and July Shotsuki will be combined on June 7, 2009. The June/July Shotsuki loved ones are:

Spencer Cowap	Yotsu Iwata	Takara Ogawa
Robyn Delgado	Iris Kawamoto	Mika Okita
Kotome Fujii	Kojuro Kawamoto	Ichitaro Okumura
Frank Fujii	Yasu Kawamoto	Ryu Ozawa
Masakazu Fujii	Norma Kochi	Yoshio Ozawa
George Furuichi	Kiyoshi Makishima	Mishi Sako
James Furuta	Erin Maruyama	Nizo Sako
Tomoye Goto	George Masuda	Suye Shimamoto
Shizue Haruta	Frank M. Matsumoto	Mary Shimizu
Ben Hayamizu	Jimmy Matsumoto	Margaret Shinseki
Masako Hayamizu	Natsumi Michihira	Trevor Sugimoto
Joe Hayano	Helen Miyake	Yuki Taniguchi
Sidney Hiramoto	Chizuko Murai	Barry Tokunaga
Asa Hori	Katsuki Nakagawa	Ito Tsukagawa
Genzo Horino	Shigeo Nakanishi	Kiyoshi Umeda
Kou Imai	Megumi Nakano	Kazuko Watanabe
Yukishige Imai	Tsuyoshi Nakashima	Kenji Yamane
Takao Ishikawa	(by Lucy Nomura)	Imi Yasuda
John Ishizaka	Jim Nakayama	Goichi Yonemoto

June/July

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday

June 7th

10:00 am

If a name has been inadvertently left off or you would like to add a family member to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple list of Shotsuki names, please contact Rev. Koyama either by e-mail at dkoyama@comcast.net or call the temple office at 650 964-9426.

Condolences

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple would like to express heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of:

Hiram Sera

April 11, 2009

Dorothy Horino

April 30, 2009

May you find comfort in the embrace of Infinite Light and Life,
the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Namo Amida Butsu

The ECHO

Religious Planning Committee Report—June

MVBT Services

May 24th Services

We will hold our annual Memorial Day service on May 24th at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto.

May 31st Services

A regular Sunday Service featuring two more graduating seniors giving speeches. Once again, please come to service to support them.

June closes the our Dharma School year.

June 7th Services

The first Sunday is our Shotsuki Hoyo service. We will also close the series of speeches by our graduating High School seniors. All of them have given wonderful speeches, so please come out to support them.

June 14th Services

Our Dharma School will be going on its annual Field Trip. However, for those who are not going on the Field Trip, we will hold regular Sunday service at the Temple. Come to the Temple if you are not going on the Field Trip.

June 21st Services

This is the final service of the 2008–2009 Dharma School

By *John Arima*

year. We will recognize our graduating high school and junior high school students at this service. Come to give encouragement to our graduating high school seniors and junior high students as they prepare to enter the next phases of their lives



Call for Help from the Sangha

We are in need of support for a couple things to prepare us for the coming 2009–2010 Dharma School year. First off, with a number of our Temple musicians graduating from high school and moving out of the area of college, **we need more musicians to play at Sunday services.** If you can play an instrument and are willing to forego your ego to play for the Sangha, please contact Jim Lund or John Arima.

The second need we have for **help is to plan our Fall**

Seminar. Our Fall Ohigan Seminar is tentatively scheduled for October 17. I say tentatively because we have a date, but not a seminar. Please contact John Arima if you are willing to help us plan and coordinate our Fall Ohigan Seminar.

Other Buddhist Education Opportunities

The June “Inspired by Shinran Shonin Monthly Dharmathon & Chazuke Chat” session from the CBE will be on June 16 from 12:00 to 12:45 at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. The Dharmathon will be followed by a discussion session (the Chazuke Chat) lasting until 1:30. Please bring a “brown bag” lunch if you wish. A \$2 donation for ochazuke is requested.

The 2009 Pacific Seminar 21st Century will be held June 26 to 28 at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. The focus of the seminar will be on the Larger Sutra as discussed by Shinran in his Kyogyoshinsho. The registration fee is \$125 (for BCA members) with a registration deadline of June 7.

Re-Employment Support Group

If you know of a job opportunity, there may be qualified candidates at one of the temples and we can help connect you with members that are looking for employment.

We have currently employed temple members who have volunteered to help with information they have about job search and jobs at their companies. The support group is for members that are currently un-employed and looking for a new job or career. The group is open to members of the Mountain View, Palo Alto and San Jose Betsuin Buddhist temples, their affiliated organization members and their immediate family.

For more information or if you would like to help, please contact:

Yumi Higa – yumi_higa@yahoo.com / 650-625-1369 (Mountain View)

Carol Kitaura – ckitaura@sbcglobal.net (Palo Alto)

are you **HIRING**?

Temple members/family currently looking for employment (please contact directly if you know of an opportunity)

Debbie Aiu debbieaiu@yahoo.com (Trade Compliance)

Russell Davis russell_davis@yahoo.com (Account/Project Management, Customer Service)

Yumi Kawazoye Higa yumi_higa@yahoo.com (Event Management/Project Coordination/ Customer Service)

Bob Imai bobimai@sbcglobal.net (Human Resources)

James Kaku jkaku@sbcglobal.net (IC Design Management)

Carol Kitaura ckitaura@sbcglobal.net (Administrative Assistant)

Brad Kumagai bykumagai@yahoo.com (QC Associate--Analytical Chemistry/Microbiology)

Betty Sugimoto betty.sugimoto@comcast.net (Program Manager)

Cindy Woo cyw2000@sbcglobal.net (Software QA)

Landon Yamaoka lkamaoka@yahoo.com (Youth Counseling)



Next Meetings

**Mountain View
Buddhist Temple
YBA Hall**

**Thursday,
June 4 & 18**

**Palo Alto
Buddhist Temple
Mini Chapel**

**Tuesday,
June 9 & 23**

**All meetings are
7:30 – 9:00 pm**

The ECHO

Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Class—Shinjin Faith or Belief?

What does

Shinjin

信心

mean?

The following is from the current JSCC session. As always, I strongly encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about Buddhism and our Jodo Shinshu traditions to sign up for the JSCC. Please note that this example is simply my response to the question posed by the course and not the best or the only answer to this question.

Question:

The concept of “Shinjin” is fundamental to the understanding of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, yet so many seem to have difficulty with its understanding. Please write an essay on what you think “Shinjin” or “Entrusting Heart/Mind” means.

John’s Response:

“Shinjin” was often translated into English as “faith”. In recent English teachings, the use of “faith” as the translation for “Shinjin” has been replaced with such terms as “entrusting heart/mind”, “true entrusting”, and “faith-mind”. This is due to the limitations of a single English word to properly reflect the many aspects of “Shinjin”.

To explain what “Shinjin” means requires examination

By John Arima

of not only the entrusting of the heart, but also the understanding of the mind.

“Belief”

is to agree only

with your mind

In *Shinran – An Introduction to His Thought*, by Prof. Yoshifumi Ueda and Dennis Hirota, realization of “Shinjin” or “Shinjin” awareness, is described as:

“The self-awareness of samsaric existence that is possible only through transcendent wisdom becoming one with it.”

In other words, it is the awareness of our imperfect selves while at the same time accepting ourselves just as we really are and transcending beyond ourselves.

While on the surface this appears to present a paradoxical situation, the realization of “Shinjin” in Shinran’s thought, does not require the elimina-

tion of our samsaric existence, but the transformation of it through the compassion of Amida’s Primal Vow.

Within this context, we can see the need for both an entrusting heart and an understanding mind. The mind is needed to understand our imperfect selves. The heart is needed to entrust in Amida’s Primal Vow. The combination of mind and heart need to be used to sufficiently explain the meaning of “Shinjin”.

However, there is one more element necessary to understand the meaning of “Shinjin”. This element is the absence of doubt. Merriam-Webster’s dictionary gives

“Faith”

is to entrust in

something with your

entire being

“belief” as a synonym for “faith”. However in his book, *Ocean – An Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America* Dr. Kenneth Tanaka cites the work of Prof. Wilfred C. Smith who

What does Entrusting Heart Mind Mean?

wrote an entire book comparing “faith” and “belief”.

“Belief” is to agree with only your mind, without fully committing your entire self to that idea. On the other hand, “faith” is to entrust in something because not only your mind accepts it, but your entire being accepts it such a way that doubt no longer exists. In the following passage from Prof. Smith’s work

Under this definition, “faith” is seen as an entrusting of ones entire being, so complete that the one is able to see things as they truly are: the interconnections of oneself with the universe, the realization of ones imperfect self, and how to live a life that is consistent with the Dharma. The completeness of this entrusting represents the absence of doubt that is

will ultimately allow one to realize Enlightenment.

I feel that “Shinjin” is the moment in which one has fully realized this truth and ceases to fight against both one’s own imperfections and against the Other Power of Amida’s Primal Vow, because they both exist at the same time and in the same place. This state can sometimes be

beliefaith 信心

we can see how an understanding of “faith” beyond the dictionary definition can show the meaning of “Shinjin”.

“Faith, then, is a quality of human living. At its best it has taken the form of serenity and courage and loyalty and service: a quiet confidence and joy which enable one to feel at home in the universe, and to find meaning in the world and in one’s own life, a meaning that is profound and ultimate, and is stable no matter what may happen to oneself at the level of immediate event.”

necessary to understand the meaning of “Shinjin”.

To express what I feel “Shinjin” means, I reflect back on a simple, yet profound, statement I heard from Rev. David Matsumoto to explain the “Logic of Other Power”.

“I try very hard and yet, in spite of my efforts, I realize Enlightenment.”

Within this statement, we can see how the effort of Self Power is important but is not sufficient by itself to realize Enlightenment. Other Power

fleeting; lasting only a moment before doubt comes flooding back into our consciousness. However, once one has fully accepted this truth, without any doubt, they have achieved a state of non-retrogression and no longer will fall out of “Shinjin” awareness.



Girl Scout

Troop # 60736



COME JOIN US!

Girl Scout registration is now open and applications are being accepted

Daisy are girls who are ages 5 through 6 (K dg - 1st grade)

Brownie are girls who are ages 6 through 8 (2nd - 3rd grade)

Juniors are girls who are ages 8 through 11 (4th - 6th grade)

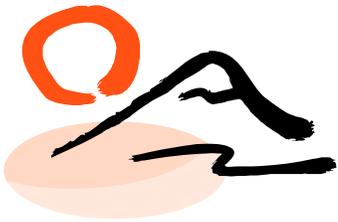
MVBT Daisy Scout, Brownie Scout and Junior Troop meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM.

For more info and to join:

Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto
naominm@aol.com

Debbie Ho
akemi_ho@sbcglobal.net

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place



Dharma School



DONATION & THANK YOU'S

Carly & Tai Jespersen – birthday

Hayley Arima –birthday

Martha Okumura—special (manju)

Melissa Abe - donuts & coffee for work crew during white board installation



June

- 6/7/09 10 AM Shotsuki Hoyo Service & DS High School Speakers
- 6/14/09 10 AM Field Trip to Chabot Space & Science Center
- 6/21/09 10 AM Sunday Service
Graduation Recognitions
Attendance Awards
Father's Day

DANA Project

Family Giving Tree's
Back-to-School Drive
for lower income children

Pick up a wish card at service. Donate a backpack filled with needed supplies



July

- 7/5/09 10 AM Kanji-e Obon Hatsubon Service
- 7/18 & 19 Obon Bazaar

july 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
<table border="1"> <tr><th colspan="7">June</th></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><th colspan="7">August</th></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>			June							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					August							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>1</p> <p>7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/ session 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Scouts & parents meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/ session 6:00 PM Taiko 7:30 PM Odori Practice/ Sangha Hall</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/ session OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 AM Nakayoshi Gakko/ maintenance/II HOLIDAY</p>
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<p>12</p> <p>12:00 PM Taiko NO SUNDAY SERVICE</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 PM Kendo 7:30 PM Bazaar pricing meeting Start up outside reefers</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Construction 7:30 PM Odori practice/ Sangha Hall</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Construction</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Construction 7:30 PM Odori/ practice/ outdoors</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:00 PM Taiko</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:00 PM Obon Bazaar & Festival 4:00 PM Taiko performance 10:00 PM Bazaar closes</p>																																																																																																									
<p>19</p> <p>12:00 PM Obon Bazaar & Festival 12:00 PM Taiko performance 6:00 PM Chidori Band/outdoors 7:00 PM Odori (dancing) outdoors 8:30 PM Bazaar closes</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 AM Clean up</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 PM Clean up</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 PM Clean up Move all furnishings from all rooms/pre janitorial service</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 PM Clean up Rev. Koyama vacation</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation</p>																																																																																																									
<p>26</p> <p>NO SUNDAY SERVICE Rev Koyama vacation</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation Sangha Hall, YBA Hall, all classrooms closed/ Janitorial service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation Sangha Hall, YBA Hall, all classrooms closed/ Janitorial service/basketball court floor finish</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Return all furnishings to all rooms/after janitorial service Rev Koyama vacation Sangha Hall, YBA Hall, all classrooms closed/Janitorial service/basketball court floor finishing/ rug cleaning/conf. room</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation Sangha Hall, YBA Hall, all classrooms closed/janitorial service</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Rev Koyama vacation</p>																																																																																																										

Updated 5/8/2009 (events subject to change)

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

In this Echo—A Full Schedule of Activities in June



Be sure to attend services in June to hear perspectives from our Graduating Seniors.

The last service will be held on June 21st, recognizing graduating Seniors and 8th graders, and Fathers' Day.

Check the calendar for the complete list of events.

You can also find a color pdf version online at:
www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

**In gassho,
The Echo Staff**

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Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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