Dec 2009

The ECHO

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Volume 48 Number 11

Dec/Jan Highlights

- ***12/6, Sun 10:00 AM***
  Dec Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service
- ***12/7, Mon 7:30 PM***
  Religious Planning Mtg
- ***12/9, Wed 7:30 PM***
  Temple Board Mtg
- ***12/13, Sun***
  MOCHI-TSUKI FUNDRAISER
  (No Services)
- ***12/20, Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Sunday Service & *O-Soji*
  (All Temple Clean-up)
- ***12/27-28, Sun-Mon***
  Coast District Youth Winter Retreat
- ***12/31, Thu 7:00 PM***
  Year-End Service
- ***1/1, Fri 10:00 AM***
  New Year's Day Service
- ***1/3, Sun 10:00 AM***
  Jan Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service

In Every Issue

Rev. Dean's Msg	*1, 3-4, 6*
President's Msg	*1*
Calendar (Dec/Jan)	*2, 10*
Sr. News	*6*
Religious Planning	*9*
BWA	*7*
Dharma School	*13*
Donations	*18-21*

Everything That Has a Beginning Has an End

By Reverend Dean Koyama

For the past few months, I have been focusing upon the theme: "***Everything that has a beginning has an end***." This is one of the fundamental realizations that the historical Sakyamuni Buddha came to understand as a truth of human life. It is a reality that at times, we seem to forget or put in the back of our minds.

Last month, I wrote my article just prior to going to Japan to attend the 750th Memorial Service at the Ohtani Hombyo, Shinran's mausoleum. It was a very grand affair with a total of 16,000 people attending the weeklong services. The service began at 1:00 PM with a special lecture followed by a selection of songs from an area chorus. At 1:40 came a procession of Ochigo children and the entry of at least 100 priests dressed in richly multicolored robes.

The rituals for the service began at 2:00 followed by words from the Gomonshu, Koshin Ohtani the 24th Generational descendant of Shinran Shonin. The service finally concluded around 3:30 PM.

A Time to Remember and Give Thanks

Eitaikyo Service Remembered Forever.

By Ron Murata

Since Shinran Shonin, 25 generations—33 million, 554 thousand 432 people—lived for each of us to be here. And many others from before Shinran's time.

Keiro-kai 2009—125 keiro recognized and honored. Megan Matsumoto's "Legacy for the Future," a poignant remembrance of Mountain View's Issei and Nisei history.

Thanksgiving 2009 – a celebration of appreciation and gratitude by family and friends for all that we have received this year and in the past.

I hope everyone has a happy holiday season and is able to enjoy each moment of it.

Ron Murata
Temple President

december 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 09 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		1 6:00 PM Taiko	2 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Scouts & Parents 7:30 PM Tri-City Assn meeting	3 6:00 PM Taiko	4 4:30 PM Calligraphy class 7:00 PM Fuji Club	5 12:30 PM Memorial Service 3:00 PM Memorial Service 5:30 PM Memorial Service
6 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Service/Shotsuki Hoyo/ Bodhi Day 11:00 AM Dharma School 11:30 AM BWA/Sangha Hall/Udon fundraiser 11:30 AM YBA meeting 12:00 PM Taiko 12:15 PM YBA/YBA Hall 2:00 PM Memorial Service	7 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Kendo 7:00 PM Religious Planning comm. meeting 7:00 PM Tri-City Newsletter	8 6:00 PM Taiko 6:30 PM Tri-City Newsletter/ Echo room	9 8:30 AM Wash barrels 7:00 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts 7:30 PM Temple Board meeting	10 4:00 PM PACT (Mayor Margaret Abe Koga)/ Sangha Hall 6:00 PM Taiko (cancel)	11 8:00 AM Wash rice 4:30 PM Calligraphy class 7:00 PM ABA meeting/conf. room & YBA Hall ECHO DEADLINE	12 8:00 AM Final set up mochi equipment 9:00 AM BWA meeting 10:00 AM Kinyu Kai 11:00 AM Memorial Serrvice 5:00 PM Scouts Court of Honor/game room 6:00 PM Fuji Club & Scouts party/Sangha Hall /pancake & game room 6:00 PM Tri-City Youth Group Christmas party/Sangha Hall
13 5:00 AM Mochitsuki 12:00 PM Mochi pick up 12:00 PM Taiko 9:00 PM Janitorial clean up/ Sangha Hall	14 7:00 PM Kendo	15 6:00 PM Taiko	16 7:00 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts	17 6:00 PM Echo 6:00 PM Taiko	18	19 4:00 PM Memorial Service
20 10:00 AM Osoji (clean up day) 2:00 PM Memorial Service	21 6:30 PM Girl Scouts OFFICE CLOSED	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 7:00 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts OFFICE CLOSED	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 CD Youth Winter Retreat/ overnight	28 CD Youth Winter Retreat OFFICE CLOSED	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 7:00 PM Joya-e Year-end Service (Toshi-koshi soba) BonenKai OFFICE CLOSED	January 10 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	

Updated 11/13/2009 (events subject to change)

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Everything That Has a Beginning Has an End (Cont'd from Page 1)

As part of the ceremony, the first ministers to enter were the last to leave. These poor

individuals had to sit Japanese style on their knees for about 2 hours. As much as it is an honor to be a participating priest for this once-in-a-lifetime event, I was glad to be a spectator minister sitting comfortably in a chair. I could imagine the pain and suffering of these priests as they had to endure sitting without fidgeting; then after 2 hours, to pop up and walk out as part of the recessional. I remember having to do something similar for only an hour during my ordinations. But I was a lot younger and skinnier. There would be no way that I could do it now.

While these ministers were sitting in seiza, perhaps they focused upon "Everything that has a beginning has an end," to help them cope with their pain and suffering. Knowing that there is an end to the service could have helped them to endure the pins and needles especially as they stood up. However, If I were to put myself in their shoes (or knees), I think that I would have focused upon a more vulgar version of this elegant teaching: "When is this @#$% service going to end?"

Again, I felt lucky that I did not have to endure such physical agony. I did, however, deal with a suffering of a different kind during the seminar that brought me to Japan.

It was at our first meeting during the orientation session of the Hongwanji Overseas Seminar that I received the shocking news. As I was flipping the pages of our orientation book I saw the schedule of various activities. Right after our orientation we were to head over to the Hongwanji Administration building for Opening service with the Gomonshu. As I looked over the contents of that service, I noticed that representing the Overseas districts participants for words of greeting was my friend Rev. Eric Matsumoto of Hawaii.

I gave a huge sigh of relief, " I am so glad that it wasn't me!!!" Rev. Matsumoto is fluent in both English and Japanese. He would have no problems.

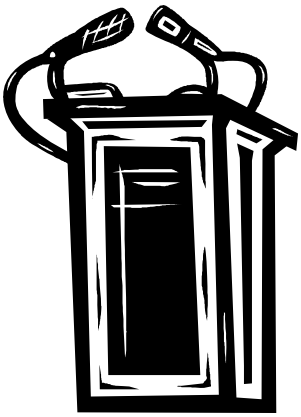
But then I looked further down in the program and found that a banquet had been scheduled for the following evening at a 5-star hotel. After the formal dinner, an address was to be delivered by one of the Overseas seminar participants.

Who was assigned to give that address? Rev. Dean Koyama. I let our a huge groan, "Why ME??!!!" I had to give a message in front of the Gomonshu in a very formal banquet setting.

I became so nervous. It didn't help to find out that Rev. Matsumoto had been given a week's notice to prepare for his message. I had just one day to prepare. It didn't help I chose not to bring a suit, thinking that if I had to wear a tie, I would be wearing my robes. And it was compounded when I found out that not only did I have to give a talk in front of the Gomonshu, but I also had to sit at the same dinner table with him as well. I couldn't enjoy the wonderful dinner that had been prepared at the hotel.

Don't get me wrong, it is not that I dislike the Gomonshu. It is just that he is like royalty. He is like the Pope, the Dalai

Everything That Has a Beginning Has an End (Cont'd from Page 3)



Lama, or President Obama. I am not accustomed to being in the presence of such esteemed people. I have spoken at a conference in front of 500 people before. This gathering was only 20 people at the most, but I had never felt my stomach so tied up in knots before.

All during the dinner, I was tense, anxious, sweating, and uptight. I didn't say much in terms of conversation at the dinner table. I kept thinking, "When is this @#$% banquet going to end?" Then I heard my name. It was time for my talk and when it was over, I felt a great relief lifted off of my shoulders.

Everything that has a beginning has an end. The Gomonshu left the room and the banquet was over.

While we are in the midst of suffering and hardship, it is difficult to see an end in sight and time seems to come to a complete stop.

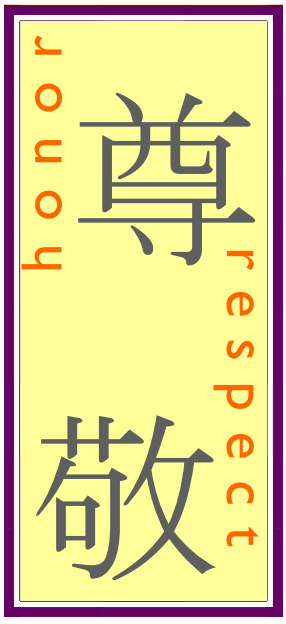
However, as the Buddha realized, even sufferings and pain has an end. They are temporary. When we are caught up in the busy-ness of the year, we feel it will last forever and wonder when it will all end.

And yet, the year never fails to end and a new one begins. In the same way does our lives begin and end with each breath we take in and let go. Because we can inhale and exhale, we are fortunate to live another moment, another day, another year.

This past year the MVBT has been the location for many activities and events. It was a full year. We hosted the Coast District Young Buddhist League conference with people attending not only from our home district but also Northern, Central and Southern California as well.

We hosted a national Dharma School Teachers conference with close to 300 teachers in attendance. We were also host to a Coast District youth retreat in the summer, a Reunion Dance benefiting the BCA Jodo Shinshu Center's Center for Buddhist Education, and at the end of the year we will host another CD youth retreat.

It has been an extremely busy year for me. In the midst of all these activities, I probably (really did) complained and bickered. And I am sure that I failed to



Keiro-kai Appreciation Luncheon

On Sunday, November 8, 2009, we all gathered to honor (sonkei) and show respect to our Keiro temple members. We are would like to express our sincere appreciation and thankfulness to all who attended the event.

Zone 10 is indebted to all those individuals from the different temple organizations that assisted in making this event possible. Our Sangha's dana is extremely important to the success of the Keiro-kai Luncheon. Thank You to the Dharma School, ABA, Taiko, & Boy Scouts groups.

Special thanks go to Mike Inouye for again emceeing the luncheon and making the program run so smoothly with his always humorous anecdotes.

We would like to acknowledge the generous donations from the following:

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Satake & Satake Nursery LLC.
Mr. & Mrs. Naomi Higaki
Imahara Produce & Japanese Foods Market
Kazuko & Shigeru Tashiro
Margaret Abe
Marie Ochi-Jacobs & Allan Jacobs
Dale Ando, California Bank & Trust

Domo Arigato Gozaimasu,
Zone 10

mmm—Mochi-tsuki December 13th

Mochi-tsuki time is here again and we look forward to seeing you all at this annual get together. Come and have fun helping and participating in the activities that make this cultural event and fundraiser a success.

Tickets have been distributed to each zone and **a final count is due Monday, December 7, 2009.** Tickets are also available at the MVBT office or thru your zone chairperson.

Mochi Prices

Komochi
$ 4.00
(1-pound pkg)

Okasane
$ 8.00
(Kagami)
(1-pound pkg)

Noshimochi
$16.00
(4-pound pkg)

Work schedule is as follows

SAT, Dec 5	**8:00 am**	Pre-preparation, test equipment, and hang plastic
FRI, Dec 11	**8:00 am**	Wash barrels & rinse rice
SAT, Dec 12	**8:00 am**	Final setup, clean area, move equipment
SUN, Dec 13	**Mochi-tsuki Day**	
	5:00 am	Start steamers
	5:30 am	Start cooking rice
	6:00 am	Start pounding
	6:30 am	Start shaping mochi
	12:00-4:00 pm	Mochi pickup

See you all on Sunday, December 13th.
If you have any questions, please contact Dave Maruyama at (650)948-5357.

Japanese Movie—"Always 2" showing Jan 21st (Thurs)

The sequel to the award winning movie "Always - Sanchome No Yuhi" (Sunset on Third Street) will be shown on Senior Activity Day, Thursday, January 21, 2010.

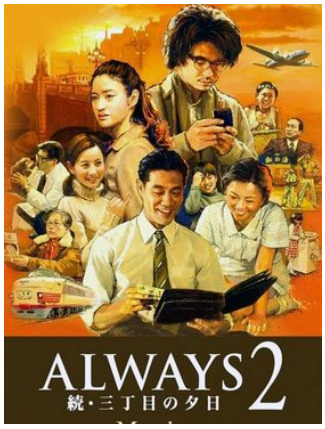
The movie is set in 1959 Tokyo and is a story of a young boy, Junnosuke, who is abandoned by his mother and through the mother's friend, Hiromi, becomes the ward of an author of children's stories, Ryunosuke Chagawa.

Chagawa struggles to write a short story to win a coveted literary award which would enable him to support and raise Junnosuke.

Woven into this wonderful story are the supportive and compassionate neighbors and friends who make up a close knit community creating this truly heart-warming movie.

This very popular sequel to the highly acclaimed picture was directed by Takashi Yamazaki and stars Hidetaka Yoshioka, Shinichi Tsutsumi, Koyuki and Maki Hirokita.

This movie was released in 2007 and is in color with English subtitles.



Everything That Has a Beginning Has an End (Cont'd from Page 4)

express my appreciation and gratitude.

All the more, I need to take this time right here and now, to thank everyone for their support, energy and willingness to help make all of these activities great successes.

We truly have a unique temple where we can accomplish all these activities and events and continue to keep a smile on our faces. It is because of you that we can do all that we can do. Once again, thank you for a wonderful, purposeful, and meaningful 2009 year.

May 2010 be filled with happiness and gratitude. May it be filled with Nembutsu.

Gassho,

Rev. Dean & Linda,
Justin, Curtis, and Tommy

YBA News—Holiday Party Coming Up

Sadly, our Halloween activity, going to the gyro's screamfest and carving pumpkins, was canceled.

But on the other hand, we are all extremely excited for the CC conference in Fresno which takes place this Saturday, the 14th-15th. We are sending 17 members this year. Mtn. View YBA is entering the talent show in Fresno with interpretive dances choreographed by Ashley Andrews.

We helped serve tea, coffee, and dessert at Keiro-kai and will also be helping with Mochitsuki on December 13t, bright and early! YBA will also be planning our annual holiday party in December for all of our members.

In Gassho,

Haley Sugimoto
YBA President 2009-2010

Senior Activities on Holiday Until January 2010

December
NO Senior Activity & Craft,

January 7th Thurs (2010)
Senior Activity & Craft resumes 9:00 AM—12:00 Noon

We are asking for anyone's favorite recipe. The Senior Activity Group is preparing to publish a "Senior Cook Book" working toward our 50th Anniversary project. Please turn in you favorite recipe to Jeanne Ohara, Amy Imai or Aiko Sugimoto.

For the coming year, various trips and programs are being planned for the Seniors. Everyone is encouraged to join the fun and friendship of our weekly gathering.

Best Wishes to each one you for the New Year. Continue to stay well and healthy.

We want to express our sincere gratitude for the many monetary and material donations that we continue to receive. The proceeds will be used to supplement the lunches, trips and special activities that are planned during the year. These donations enhance the operation of our program. Arigato.

ありがとう

ABA News—Welcome (Back!) New Members

Zone 10 says a hearty "Thank You" to ABA members who helped with the Temple Keirokai on November 8, 2009.

ABA welcome six new members at the annual New Members Dinner on Friday, Nov. 13, 2009.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, beginning with an abbreviated meeting, continuing with a delicious dinner, and great fun. The dinner included delicious slow roasted shredded pork with all the trimmings.

We thank Reiko Tsuchida, Alice Ishida, Judy Nakano, Carolyn Murata, Alice Ikenaga and Adele Sato for the preparation and hard work in the kitchen. Special thanks to Judy Nakano for the "Island" décor!

For the wonderful activities thanks go to Dennis Tsukagawa; Sterling & Joanne Makishima and Ken & Mieko Nakano.

Joanne keeps ABA mentally alert trying to get those cobwebs shaken out and Sterling got everyone to try "fly fishing". Dennis taught a new game called "Switch Blackjack"…especially fun when you use the "house's money".

The Second Battle of the Sexes was won by the "stronger" males this year. Guess the third round to be held next year will determine the true champions!!??!! Thanks to all the members who with their help and participation made the evening such fun!

ABA gratefully acknowledges generous donations from the following:

Reiko Murakami on behalf of the Senior Group for ABA's help with their White Elephant event..

Alice & Sadao Ishida in celebration of the birth of granddaughter, Cassidy

Welcome

Ron Rumbo Tsukagawa

Joyce & Tom Lee

Barbara Sugano

Welcome Back

Reiko & Ray Murakami

BWA Udon Luncheon Fundraiser December 6

SPECIAL SERVICE

November 29, 2009

This special annual service to honor Eshinni-ko, Kakushinnni-ko, and Lady Yoshiko Otani is sponsored by BWA. Guest minister: Reverend Ryo Imamura, Professor, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

A luncheon for Reverend Imamura has been arranged:

Place: Kirin Restaurant
Time: 12:00 Noon
Cost: $13.00

Everyone is invited this lunch, so please sign up with Mitsue Fukuda or Sumi Uyeda

BWA FUNDRAISER

Sunday, December 6, 2009, 11:00 AM
Udon lunch in Sangha Hall.
Take-outs available
$5.00 per ticket

Preparations
Friday and Saturday,
December 4th and 5th,
8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
HELP NEEDED!

As always, BWA deeply appreciates everyone's support

SPECIAL THANK YOU

To Toshiko Kawamoto for serving continental breakfast to guest minister, Reverend George Matsubayashi, BCA Minister Emeritus. (Eitaikyo Service)

NEXT MEETING

December 12, 2009
Saturday, 9:00 AM

Buddhist Women's Association

Support Boy Scout Troop 87 Beef Takoyaki Fundraiser!

Help Boy Scout Troop 87 raise funds to attend the 2010 Jamboree in Virginia next July.

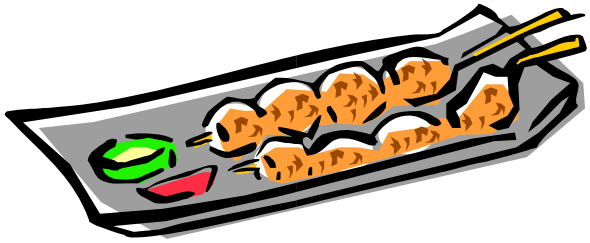
Why are we raising funds? Our goal is to raise 50% of the cost of to attend this event.

Why is the 2010 Jamboree special? It commemorates the 100th year anniversary of BSA Scouts from all over the USA will be attending this event.

Who is going from our troop? Four scouts will represent T87. We look forward to sharing our experience with everyone upon our return.

Takoyaki is traditional Japanese fast food. Shaped like small dumplings they are made from flour and egg and cooked on a special iron skillet. In Japan they are filled with small pieces of octopus! Our version will be filled with minced beef. They are topped with mayonnaise and Worcestershire sauce.

Please contact Kaoru Yamaguchi (kaorumd@gmail.com or 650-464-9231) for inquiries.



Beef Takoyaki
$ 5.00
(8 per serving)

Buy Tickets Limited Time Only!
Nov. 29 (Sun)
Dec. 6 (Sun)

Pickup During Mochi-tsuki
Dec. 13 (Sun)
11:00 AM

2009 Bodhi Seal Drive

Help spread the Buddha-Dharma by using Bodhi Seals. Usage the Bodhi Seal helps others become aware of the Buddha Dharma in America. The annual Bodhi Seal Drive is under way and seal letters were sent out in November.

Club 150 News

At the November 11th Board meeting, the winner of the drawing for November , 2009, was Yukiko Higa. There is still 1 more monthly drawings plus the big bonus drawing in December. You still have a chance to be picked. Good luck.

The 2010-150 tickets are now available. Check with your Zone Chairman.

Thank you for participating in the 2009-150 Club.

Toban/Revised Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo	Article Deadline
DEC	Zones 11 & 12	Dec 17	Dec 11
JAN	Zones 13 & 1	Jan 21	Jan 15
FEB	Zones 2 & 3	Feb 18	Feb 12

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

Religious Planning Committee Report—December

By John Arima

MVBT Services

Nov. 29th Service—BWA Eshinni-ko / Kakushinni-ko Memorial Service

The last Sunday of November, the 29th, will be our BWA's Esshinniko / Kakushinniko Memorial Service in honor of Shinran Shonin's wife and youngest daughter. Rev. Ryo Imamura from the Buddhist Church of Florin will be our guest speaker. There will be Dharma School classes for those students who attend this service.

Dec. 6th—Shotsuki Hoyo & Bodhi Day Service

On the 6th will be Shotsuki Hoyo & Bodhi Day Service. The Dharma School 2nd Grade class will chair this service which celebrates the day Shakyamuni Buddha realized enlightenment.

Dec. 13th—Mochi-tsuki Fundraiser (No Services)

There will not be any Sunday Service because we'll all be busy supporting our Mochi-tsuki fundraiser. There's plenty of work so everyone should come out an help. Also, this is a unique opportunity to see mochi made in a way that is not often seen, even in Japan these days.

Dec. 20th—Temple O-soji

O-soji is at time for everyone to come to the Temple and show our appreciation for the placed where we hear the Dharma by cleaning up. Please come out dressed to do a little work and find a place where you would like to clean up the Temple. There will be a short service in the Hondo to start the day and then we will all get to work.

Dec. 31st—Joya-e New Years Eve Service

Finally, we close the year with our Joya-e New Years Eve service on December 31st. Service will start at 7:00pm, so please come and join us as we ring out 2009 and ring in 2010.

Upcoming Events

Help Plan Spring and Fall Ohigan Seminars for 2010

The Religious Planning Committee is planning the Spring and Fall Ohigan Seminars for 2010. We're looking for anyone who has any ideas and would like to help with the planning the seminars. Please let John Arima or the RPC representative from your organization know if you have any ideas or are interested in helping out.

Other Buddhist Education Opportunities

The December "Inspired by Shinran Shonin Monthly Dharmathon & Chazuke Chat" session from the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) will be on Wednesday December 16th from 12:00 to 12:45 at the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) 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.

Looking ahead to 2010, The CBE will have Hoonko at the Jodo Shinshu Center on Friday January 15th at 7:00pm. The Hoonko service will be followed by an ozenzai (red bean soup) reception. Please see the CBE website for more information.

january 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00 AM New Years Day Shusho-e Service OFFICE CLOSED	2
3 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Svc/ Shotsuki Hoyo Svc 11:00 AM Dharma School 11:30 AM YBA Meeting 12:00 PM Taiko 12:15 PM YBA/YBA Hall	4 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Kendo 7:30 PM Religious Planning comm. meeting	5 6:00 PM Taiko 7:00 PM Shodo Kai	6 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Parents & Scouts 7:30 PM Tri-City Youth Group meeting	7 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts 6:00 PM Taiko	8 4:30 PM Calligraphy class 7:00 PM Fuji Club	9 10:00 AM Kinyu Kai 5:00 PM ABA Cabinet installation/New Years gathering
10 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday service 11:00 AM Dharma School 12:00 PM Taiko	11 11:00 AM Senior activity comm. meeting 7:00 PM Kendo	12 6:00 PM Taiko 7:00 PM Shodo Kai	13 7:00 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts 7:30 PM Temple Board meeting	14 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts 6:00 PM Taiko	15 4:30 PM Calligraphy class ECHO DEADLINE	16 9:00 AM BWA meeting
17 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Svc/ Hooko Service/Rev. Ryuta Furumoto 11:00 AM Dharma School 12:00 PM Taiko	18 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Kendo	19 6:00 PM Taiko 7:00 PM Shodo Kai 7:00 PM Nakayoshi Gakko	20 7:00 PM Cub Scouts & Scouts	21 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts/ movies 6:00 PM Taiko	22	23 10:00 AM Kinyu Kai 3:30 PM Memorial Service
24 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Service/Temple installation 11:00 AM Dharma School 11:30 AM Temple Annual meeting/Temple 12:00 PM Shodo Kai/pancake room 12:00 PM Taiko	25 7:00 PM Kendo	26 6:00 PM Taiko 7:00 PM Shodo Kai	27 7:00 PM Cub & Scouts 7:00 PM Japan Tour meeting	28 9:00 AM Senior activity/crafts 6:00 PM Taiko	29 10:00 AM Rotary food delivery	30 3:30 PM Memorial Service 4:30 PM Rotary Crab Fest
31 8:30 AM Morning chanting 10:00 AM Sunday Service 11:00 AM Dharma School 12:00 PM Taiko						

December 09

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	30	31		

February 10

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Updated 11/13/2009 (events subject to change)

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 *Shotsuki* loved ones are:

Yoshiko Akizuki
Ichiro Chikasuye
Emiko Fujikawa
Mamoru Fukuma
James Furuta
Sato Hiroshige
Dorothy Horiuchi
June Hoshi
Teruko Ikeda
Hana Inouye
Harry Ishii
David Kawamoto
Junso Kawamoto
Tsue Kawamoto
Tsutomu Koyama
Alice Koyano
Tomoe Kumamaru
George Kunimoto
Yoshio Kusaba
Nobuichi Masaki
Kiyoko Murakami
Jane Nakamura
Masazo Nakamura
Miyuki Nakano
Shunsuke Nakano
Dr. Leo Nakayama
Frank Okimoto
Kelly Sakae
Jiro Sakano
Hatsue Sako
Chiyo Shimoguchi
Yasuki Shinke
Laurie Takasugi
Robert Taniguchi
Florence Tsukagawa
Hiro Uyehara
Edward Yonemura

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

E-mail **dkoyama@comcast.net**
Phone (Temple Office) **650 964-9426**

December Monthly Memorial Service

Sunday
December 6th
10:00 am

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

Sachi Elmer Adachi October 21, 2009

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

Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Class—Shinjin Explained

By John Arima

The following is from the JSCC Jodo Shinshu I section. 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:
Why did Shinran choose 'shinjin' as the essential aspect of nembutsu practice?

John's Response:
The realization of shinjin in Shinran's thought does not require the elimination of our samsaric existence, but the transformation of it through the compassion of Amida's Primal Vow.

Shinjin, as explained by Shinran, is when three things simultaneously occur.

Those three things are:

We foolish beings realize we are deluded by blind passions

We foolish beings realize we do not have within ourselves the Self Power to overcome our deluded nature

We foolish beings realize our ability to achieve enlightenment is certain if we truly entrust ourselves to the Other Power of the Tathagata

Dr. Kenneth Tanaka summarizes the ocean parable in his book Ocean – An Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America with the following:

"The drowning sailor represents our human condition. . . Our natural response is to try and swim out of our predicament. But no matter how strong or well trained, we are unable to swim to the distant island. Try as we might the effort is futile. At that very point, we are called to let go of our struggle and to trust the ocean. The result is a dramatic change in which we experience release, joy and awareness."

This dramatic change is the shinjin of which Shinran taught. Based on this understanding of shinjin, it now becomes possible to attain shinjin at some point during our lifetime. When Shinran taught this, it was a new perspective on shinjin. Prior to Shinran, most schools of Buddhism believed that one achieved shinjin and then became enlightened at the moment of one's death. Shinran was teaching that we foolish beings could live our lives with shinjin awareness.

We must now look at the practice of reciting the Name with the understanding that practice alone (Self Power) is not enough to achieve enlightenment. Some sects of Buddhism during the T'ang Dynasty in China were teaching the "expedient means" of attaining birth in the Pure Land by saying the Name of the Buddha ten times. In response, Shan-Tao expressed that in the practice of reciting "Namo-Amida-Butsu", the embracing of the Primal Vow must be intended. In his Commentary on the Sutra of Contemplation on the Buddha of Immeasurable Life, Shan-tao explains:

"Namu is to yield yourself to and to obey the imperial command of the Amida Buddha. Namu is also the act of Amida Buddha endowing the sentient being of 'entrustment (Shinjin),' both with the aspiration for birth in the Pure Land and the merits crucial for that birth. Amida Butsu is that Buddha that vowed, "If sentient beings, defiled by blind passions, are unable to attain birth in the Pure Land and concomitantly, Buddhahood, my own Enlightenment too will remain unrealized."

This teaching from Shan-tao led Shiran to further elaborate

Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Class—Shinjin Explained

his Notes on the Inscriptions on Sacred Scrolls that "Namu" means to take refuge in the call of Shakyamuni and Amida and that "Amida-Butsu" is the fulfilled practice of the Primal Vow. The Passage from the Eighteenth Vow regarding the Fulfillment of the Primal Vow, it states:

"When sentient beings, upon hearing the Buddha's name, realize an entrusting heart in joy with even a single thought of the Buddha, direct their merits with sincere mind, and aspire to be born in that land, they then all attain birth in that land and dwell in the stage of nonretrogression."

This expresses that in the very moment that one truly hears the Name and thereby entrusts oneself to the Nature of the Amida Buddha, one acquires shinjin awareness. Thus we see the essential connection of shinjin to the nembutsu practice as defined by Shinran.

Save the Date

Friday, January 15, 2010

Special "Hoonko Eve" Observance

Special chanting created by the Hongwanji commemorating Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance

Friday, January 15, 2010
7:00PM—9:00 PM
Jodo Shinshu Center
2140 Durant Avenue
Berkeley CA 94704

Dharma School

Donations

Doris Kuboyama	For Douglas Zolezzi's birthday
Evan Itow	Birthday
Douglas Zolezzi	Birthday
Howard & Marcia Leong	Special

December Services

12/6	Bodhi Day and Shotsuki Hoyo Service chaired by 2nd Grade Dharma School
12/13	Temple Mochi-tsuki No Service or Dharma School
12/20	Sunday Service and Osoji No Service or Dharma School
12/27	Holiday Recess No Service or Dharma School
12/31	Joya-e New Year's Eve Service

1st International Conference on Other Centered Approaches

NEW DIRECTIONS IN BUDDHIST PSYCHOLOGY

Co-sponsored by Amida USA, Todo Institute & Institute of Buddhist Studies

FEBRUARY 19 - 21, 2010

Hosted by Buddhist Churches of America –
CENTER FOR BUDDHIST EDUCATION at the

JODO SHINSHU CENTER – 2140 DURANT AVE., BERKELEY, CA

Chair Greg White (CA) *Keynote Speakers* Caroline Brazier (UK)
Clark Strand (NY) Gregg Krech (VT) Daijaku Judith Kinst (CA)
David Brazier (UK) *Other speakers include:* Yaya de Andrade (BC)
Kazuo Yamashita (Japan) Franco Acquaro (HI) Carol O'Dowd (CO)

See details at http://www.amidatrust.com/icoca.html

Other centeredness, a principle derived from Buddhist psychology, transcends the boundaries of psychological schools and religious categories. That mental and spiritual well-being should be a function of the quality of one's engagement with and ability to appreciate others is not exclusive to any one school or tradition. Here many contemporary concerns converge. The practice of mindfulness raises the question 'mindful of what?' Yet psychology as practiced is generally heavily focused on 'self'. In this conference we will present how focusing attention on what is not self - on others - is the key to a change of paradigm in therapeutic and spiritual practice. Participants will be introduced to the theory and practice of other-centered approaches.

Whether we are reflecting on internationalism, community relations, or interpersonal problems, other centeredness provides a key that opens new doors. Humankind's major difficulties at the moment – breakdowns at the psychological, community, economic, ecological, and international levels - are due to a deficit of other-centeredness. This conference will appeal to all people interested in learning how an other-centered approach deepens and enriches work in these fields.

Registration: $190

(Early registration: $175 before Dec. 6, 2009)

Includes full program and refreshments. Does not include meals or accommodation.
Continuing Education credits for MFTs, LCSWs, and Psychologists are pending but not yet approved.

To reserve a place: email: conference@amidatrust.com

Traveling with Reverend Koyama !!

MVBT 50th Anniversary Japan Tour 2011

The Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial and The 14th World Buddhist Women's Convention

Tour Itinerary

Day	Date		Schedule
1	5/12	Thu	Depart SFO to Japan
2	5/13	Fri	Arrive at Kansai or Itami Airport via Tokyo. Transfer to Kyoto <ANA Hotel Kyoto or similar class>
3	5/14	Sat	Kyoto and Shiga full-day sightseeing tour <ANA Kyoto Hotel or similar class>
4	5/15	Sun	***The Shinran Shonin's 750th Memorial Observance*** <ANA Kyoto Hotel or similar class>
5	5/16	Mon	***The 14th World Buddhist Women's Convention*** *Option: Sightseeing tours available upon request <ANA Kyoto Hotel or similar class>
6	5/17	Tue	***The 14th World Buddhist Women's Convention*** * Option: Sightseeing tours available upon request <ANA Kyoto Hotel or similar class>
7	5/18	Wed	Enjoy Japanese style Onsen Ryokan (Hot springs) in Toyama <Unazuki Grand Hotel or similar class>
8	5/19	Thu	Full-day Tateyama-Kurobe Alpine Route sightseeing <Tateyama Prince Hotel or similar class>
9	5/20	Fri	Visit footsteps of **Shinran Shonin in Niigata** <Holiday Inn Express Nagano or similar class>
10	5/21	Sat	Tokyo free afternoon and Farewell dinner <Shinagawa Prince Hotel (Main tower) or similar class>
11	5/22	Sun	Free morning in Tokyo Fly to SFO (arrives the same day)

* Schedule is current as of 11/10/09 and subject to change.

Tour Highlights

5/12/2011 (Thu) ~ 5/22/2011 (Sun) <11 days>

Kyoto ~ Shiga ~ Toyama ~ Niigata ~ Nagano ~ Tokyo

- Kyoto: Otani Honbyo / Kiyomizu Temple / Nishiki Market / Gion district
- Shiga: Hieizan Enryakuji
- Toyama & Nagano: Tateyema-Kurobe Alpine Route
- Niigata: Kitagahama / Gochi Kokubunji Temple / Hongwanji Kokufu Betsuin / Eshinni no Sato
- Bullet train ride (Shinkansen)
- Experience Japanese Ryokan with Hot Springs
- Sake brewery visit and tasting
- Farewell dinner in Tokyo

- Fully escorted with professional tour guide throughout the trip
- Optional tours available in Kyoto (5/16&5/17)
- Pre/Post optional tours available

Price Detail

Tour Price: JPY 224,500 (USD 2,363.00)

*The tour price is calculated at minimum 35 paying participants and subject to change due to number of participants and exchange rate.

<Included>
- ✓ Accommodations: 8 nights in Western style hotel and 1 night in Japanese style Ryokan (Inn)
- ✓ Daily breakfast, 3 Lunches, 3 Dinners and Farewell dinner
- ✓ Grand transportation service (Private motor coach, JR)
- ✓ Admission fee during pre-arranged sightseeing tour
- ✓ Tip, tax and service charge
- ✓ Tour price is per person, based on double occupancy

<Not included>
- ✓ International and domestic flights
- ✓ Fuel surcharge & tax
- ✓ Congress Registration fee (JPY 20,000)
- ✓ Single room supplement
- ✓ Incidental charge
- ✓ Travel insurance

Informational Meeting

Date: January 27, 2010 (Wed) from 7PM ~
Place: Mountain View Buddhist Temple

kie
Kintetsu International

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San Jose Branch
2290 North First St., Suite 333, San Jose CA 95131
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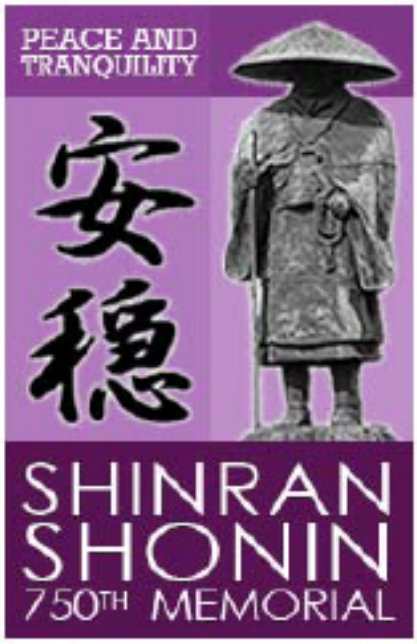

"May there be peace in the world and may the Buddha's teaching spread!"

- Shinran Shonin

Buddhist Churches of America

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance, Symposium & Banquet

Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, CA

Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010 - Symposium & Banquet
1:15pm – 9:30pm

Symposium Speakers
Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka Rev. Harry Bridge
Prof. James Dobbins Jacqueline Kramer

Shinran Expo

Banquet
Banquet Speaker – Pieper Toyama

(Symposium & Banquet registration fee: $110)

Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010 - Family Service
9:30am – 12pm

Shinran Shonin Memorial Service and Musical Program
Open to all at no charge

For more information contact your temple or go to www.ingassho.com

Buddhist Churches of America

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance, Symposium and Banquet

Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California

Saturday, February 27, 2010

"Peace and Tranquility"

Individual registration form for non-BCA National Council Delegates and boosters.
Official Delegates and booster are to use the Ministers Association Meeting and National Council Meeting registration form

Name: _____
First Last

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number : ( ) _____ Email Address: _____

Temple and District Affiliation (if applicable) _____

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th SYMPOSIUM WORKSHOP SESSION I

List workshop choice: 1st, 2nd and 3rd

A		Dr. Rev. Ken Tanaka - Japanese Language Session.

アメリカ浄土真宗の歩みと展望とその意義 - アメリカ仏教全体を背景に

"Amerika Jodo Shinshu no Ayumi to Tenbo to Sono Igi - Amerika Bukkyo Zentai wo Haikei ni"

B		Reverend Harry Bridge - "The Meaning & Potential of Music in Shin Buddhism"
C		Professor James Dobbins - " Shinran Shonin and His Family: A Personal History"
D		Jacqueline Kramer - "The Practice of Buddhism in Everyday Family Life"

SATURDAY BANQUET ENTRÉE CHOICE

C		Chicken Lattice Breast of Chicken (Grilled portabella mushrooms, sun-dried tomato pesto reduction)
F		Fish Cedar Plank Baked Honey Thyme Salmon (Fingerling potatoes, forest mushrooms, lemon thyme butter)
V		Vegetarian Wild Mushroom Ravioli (Wilted spinach, brandy cream sauce)
		Will not attend the banquet

$110 - Shinran Symposium and Banquet - Saturday, February 27th $ _____

Sunday, February 28th Family Service - Shinran Shonin Memorial Observance and Program (open to all at no charge)

☐ I will attend the Sunday Service

All activities will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, 170 South Market Street, San Jose, CA 95113

Temple Members: Make check payable to MVBT and send the check and completed form to the Temple office or to: Ron Murata or Russ Nakano by January 10, 2010.

Non-Temple Members and Friends: Return completed form and make check payable to MVBT - send to Mountain View Buddhist Temple, 575 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View, CA 94043 Attn: BCA Registration

For more information contact Ron Murata at (408) 739-4165 or email Ron at MtnViewBuddhistTemple@gmail.com

Deadline: All forms and checks are to be sent to Mountain View Buddhist Temple by January 10, 2010

In this Echo—Reflecting on the Year's End

The Annual Mochi-tsuki Fundraiser is coming up on December 13th. Mark your calendars for:

12/20—O-soji

12/31—New Years Eve Service

1/1—Joy-e Service

Happy Holidays to all!

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

In gassho,
The Echo Staff

Highlights in This Issue

Rev. Dean's Msg	*1, 3-4, 6*
President's Msg	*1*
Calendar (Dec/Jan)	*2, 10*
Sr. News	*6*
Religious Planning	*9*
BWA	*7*
Dharma School	*13*
Donations	*18-21*

Mountain View Buddhist Temple
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www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

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