



Temple Reflections

A TSDBT Monthly Publication

VOLUME XXVIII

May 2009

ISSUE FIVE

Please refrain from parking in the two to three spaces on either side of the garage door leading into the gymnasium. Leave these spaces open for those in need of close proximity parking. Thank you.

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This Month's
Buddhist
Holiday. . .

Gotan E
Birth Date of
Shinran Shonin

Dento-Kosho

DENTO KOSHO Tradition/Personal Interpretation

Memorial Day will be May 25, 2009. During this weekend, the Ministers will be visiting many cemeteries for Ohakamairi (gravesite going) to conduct services. Traditionally for Buddhists, Obon is the time to visit cemeteries, clean the grave site, head stone and conduct a service. The ministers visit the outlying area cemeteries during Obon. It is impossible to visit all cemeteries during Obon and so Memorial Day is a good time to visit the cemeteries within a 60 mile radius of Denver.

On Sunday, May 24th, I will visit Crown Hill Cemetery @ 9:30 am. Then to Lafayette Cemetery @ 11:00 am. I will conduct a service at the Longmont Buddhist Temple @ 1:00 pm.

On Memorial Day, Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim will be visiting Elmwood Cemetery in Brighton @ 10:00 am. He will then visit Hill Side Cemetery in Fort Lupton @ 11:00 am. Rev. Inokoji-Kim will then visit Platteville Cemetery @ 12:00 noon.

Rev. Carol Gansho O'Dowd and I will visit Fairmount Cemetery @ 9:30 am. We will conduct services at various sites as family requests. Then at 11:00 am we will participate in the JA Community service. At 1:00 pm, we will visit Riverside Cemetery and then meet up with Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim @ Olinger Highland Cemetery for the Tri-State Buddhist Temples Memorial Day Service which will begin at 2:00pm in the old chapel.

On May 16th, Rev. O'Dowd will be visiting Amache Relocation Camp. She will join the Amache Club on the Amache Pilgrimage and conduct a service there. If you have never been to Amache, this is a good time to see and learn about the camp. I am also planning the Southern Tour into New Mexico and Texas during the month of May. I plan to stop in Santa Fe, NM, Albuquerque, NM, Las Cruces, NM and El Paso, TX. In June, the Northern Tour into Wyoming.

It is important for us as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists to Ohakamairi, visit cemeteries where many of our family are buried. To remember, in Gratitude, their lives which shaped and formed our lives.

Together in Gassho,
kanya

Buddhist Education Events : BEE wise, BEE compassionate

by Rev. Carol GanSho O'Dowd

We offer a variety of ways to learn and experience Buddhism through TSDBT Temples. Since our funds are limited and we don't have a fancy building with a lot of paid staff, what we do is promote programs offered through Buddhist

(cont. on page 8)

A Word From the Temple Office

by Donna Inouye

There are some months when writing a newsletter article is a process that feels a lot like pulling hairs out of one's nostrils with a pair of tweezers. (Yes, I admit to trying this - I had listened to one too many [elderly] guys comment on the painful necessity of this operation - the guy that made my experimentation inevitable just happened to be a national news commentator so my thinking was that his word must be validated if I'm to be able to trust his reports and assessments on worldly events.) (And you thought you held the highest ranking in the school of rationalization☺) Anyway, let me assure you that pulling hairs out of one's nostrils with a pair of tweezers is a very painful and not quickly forgettable experience. Hence, the brevity of this month's article. . .

The first of the Four Noble Truths - Truth of Suffering - states that the "world is full of suffering; that actual existence and death is suffering and sorrow." Remember hearing this - "Life is dukkha"? Anyone who has had to purchase a DTV converter box, stay awake all night with a wheezing child, take a test at school, (write a newsletter article), overcome a fear, blunder through unemployment, etc. knows this to be true.

The second of the Four Noble Truths - Truth of the Cause of Suffering - is often stated by Reverend Okamoto as *GAS* or greed, anger and stupidity. Craving things we don't or can't have, resisting change, taking action by bull-headed determination without being informed, (writing a newsletter article) - these are the things suffering is made of.

The third of the Four Noble Truths - Truth of the Cessation of Suffering - offers the promise of Nirvana or extinguishing of ignorance and suffering.

The fourth and final of the Four Noble Truths - Truth of the Path to the Cessation of Suffering - lists the Eightfold Path (**Right** Views, Thoughts, Speech, Conduct, Livelihood, Effort, Mindfulness & Meditation); these eight spokes (think circular; think Dharma Wheel; think connectedness) provide "rules" for practicing and/or living Buddhism.

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples

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For newsletter contributions, submit your article by the 10th of each month for publication in the next month's issue.
For additional information, or to read the newsletter online, go to our website at www.tsdbt.org

Arigato Gozaimasu!!

Thank you to the following people for helping out with newsletter mailing tasks last month (please note that we attracted "young" help due to coinciding Spring Breaks):

Ed Nakagawa, Grace Kiyotake, Herb & Dot Inouye, Alyssa Holland and Dennis, Kikue & Emi Hardman.

Thank you to the 25 new email newsletter recipients who were able to accept their newsletter via email thus saving the Temple paper and postage costs. We know this method of readership is not accessible by all, but we certainly appreciate those who utilize this method when possible.

Thank you to Becky Hardman and Bruce Hiraoka for updating the Centennial Endowment & Restoration Fund Committee's donation tracking thermometer setting in the front, main floor lobby. Have you guys noticed the climbing temperature? Have you helped send the indicator in an upward direction?

Thank you to Wayne Berve and Myron Kiyotake for replacing the front door intercom. This thank you is especially necessary because an operating front door intercom saves office personnel from tromping up and down the stairs multiple times per day. Less trips on the stairway translates into less chance of falling and/or broken limbs. So, thank you.

Thank you to Joni Sakaguchi and Gail Ida who have been leading various groups through the process of manju making. If you participated in one or more of these sessions, thank you very much. If you have not been a part of manju-making, why not? Sessions are scheduled on Saturday mornings and sometimes happen on Sundays after services. Please check the Temple calendar.

Another thank you to Wayne Berve and Myron Kiyotake for repairing clogged toilets in the main floor men's room and the men's locker room off the gym. Let me take this opportunity to implore all temple members and guests to be respectful of the temple facilities. In this particular case, this means do not flush anything down the toilet except human waste and toilet paper. Please note that paper towels do not qualify as toilet paper; do not place or flush paper towels down the toilet. And, if you should accidentally drop a foreign object in the toilet bowl, please don't leave it for someone else to discover. If you can't retrieve it, alert someone (your parent, myself, a minister, a Board member, a teacher, etc.).

Shin Meditation: Deep Listening as Entrusting

by Reverend Carol GanSho O'Dowd

Nembutsu and life are intertwined because gratitude requires mindfulness. For Shin Buddhists the practice of *Nembutsu* involves *shinjin* or entrusting. As Hisao Inagaki explains in his book, *Three Pure Land Sutras* the term *shinjin* uses meaning from the Sanskrit word *sraddha*. Inagaki explains, "*Sraddha* is composed of two Chinese characters meaning 'entrust, trust, confidence' and the second character meaning 'heart, mind'." It is entrusting, the connecting to Amida's vow with sincere heart and mind that allows one to make the practice of the *Nembutsu* a way of life. This is possible because the Name includes the most important person - *me*. We are chanting Namō (I entrust) Amida (infinite light and life) Butsu (Buddha - the Ultimate awakened state). Saying the name is a reminder of how 'I' as a human being am part of the Ultimate. When uttered sincerely, we can only experience gratitude because we are aware of the enormous circumstances and conditions that came together for us to learn of the *nembutsu*. Mindfulness meditation supports the practice of *nembutsu*. With mindfulness meditation we do not run from our thoughts or reject our human condition. Instead we use our human life to connect with what is. We practice meditation to slow down so that we can truly listen to our thoughts, to our bodies, to our emotions, to our words. We use mindfulness meditation to become aware of our mind's egoistic judgments. Meditation is the practice letting go and listening to what is instead of what we project to be. When we listen carefully, we watch our thoughts. When we open our mind, we almost always find something for which to be grateful. Living a life of gratitude means I must be mindful. Practicing mindfulness, I stop to listen fully to the moment. I open up to the beings and things that made it possible for me to be in this moment, even those who made the chair in which I sit. Although I cannot see their faces, I appreciate the thousands of people who invented and continue to make computers easily accessible, those who developed software, those who made printers inexpensive and those who made e-mail a common event in our lives. Benefiting from all their efforts and the efforts of so many plants and minerals, I sit down and write a simple article on Shin Meditation. I use meditation and living a life

of gratitude to connect, to be and entrust in the world. It allows me to understand that my tapping keys to write an article goes far beyond what my self-centered ego can embrace. While writing to you all I could do was smile and hold in my heart is gratitude for the great interconnectedness of life.

Meditation is the practice of such listening with life. It allows me to practice hearing the sounds, listening to words and sensations, and understanding the meaning. When I hear the Name, Namō Amida Butsu, I am to recognize my own thoughts and ramblings. I label my thoughts and sensations even it is a thought like, "I am experiencing a dull pain in the back of my left leg." I try to listen and sometimes I contemplate from where did the thought come? Then I begin to understand how interconnected we all are. My thinking on the Buddha can only happen because of the efforts of so many who made it possible. Ahh a return to the great interconnectedness and the great oneness of which we are all a part. I begin to understand that I do not need to alienate myself from the world, even the painful parts. Instead I use each situation, even the difficult ones to connect fully by entrusting completely in the Buddha of Infinite Light and Infinite Life. I do the best I can and then open heart and mind - and try again.

Namō Amida Butsu

Update of Past Members

Former Dharma School student and YBA member, Diana Thompson, is currently a student at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, CA. She is working on a Masters Degree in Buddhist Studies. Diana is the daughter of Bruce Thompson and Anne Hyde.

Diana has been certified as a Minister Assistant at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple under Rev. David Matsumoto. Congratulations, Diana! Diana is planning to undergo Tokudo (ordination) with the long-range goal of becoming a BCA Minister.

Former TS/DBT member, Art Kaufmann, is living in Hawaii and is now a minister at Aiea Hongwanji Mission. Art is a past DBT board president and received his ordination under the Hawaii Kyodan. Congratulations, Rev. Art Kaufmann.



Dharma School Pages

Valuable Information and News
from Your Dharma School Co-Superintendents

Merrily Stewart (303)755-3874
Deb Omoto-Berve (303) 450-9742

Words of Appreciation & Dates of Importance

by Merrily Stewart, Dharma School co-Superintendent

Skillful speech not only means that we pay attention to the words we speak and to their tone but also requires that our words reflect compassion and concern for others and that they help and heal, rather than wound and destroy.

-Bhante Henepola Gunaratana, Eight Mindful Steps to Happiness

A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped make Hanamatsuri a success.

Thank you to the Hardman family for putting together the Hanamidōs. Thank you to KC Stewart and Mieko Ospina for helping with both services

Thank you to Reverend Okamoto for everything you do.

Thank you YBA for setting up and cleaning up.

Thank you to the helpers in the kitchen: JoAnne Adair, Joanne Knight, Gayle Goto, Gary Matsuda, Sue Mollard, Joyce Nakata-Kim.

Thank you to Linda Hardesty and Dennis Hardman for all your help putting together the program. Thank you to those who helped hand out the programs.

Thank you to all the teachers, students and families for your commitment to making Hanamatsuri a wonderful day. The performances were wonderful!

Thank you Mitch Mollard for your help with the media projector. Thank you Kent Yamasaki, Kevin Kutsuma and Kyle Inouye for helping with the sound system.

Thank you Joe Yoshimura and McKenna Asakawa for being entertaining MC's. Thank you to all the dancers and all those that made sure they were dressed properly.

Thank you to the Ohara School of Ikebana for making the beautiful corsages and donating the proceeds to the Temple.

Thanks to anyone we may have left out – those of you who work anonymously behind the scenes to help make things operate smoothly.

Teacher's Conference

Some of the Dharma School staff were able to attend the Teacher's Conference in Mountain View, CA; thank you to the Dharma School for allowing them this opportunity.

At these conferences, teachers learn many new ideas and techniques to help teach our children the Dharma. At this year's conference, three of our teachers were recognized for their many years of service:

Cameo Haddan – 18 years
Jamie Chikuma – 16 years
Merrily Stewart – 13 years

May is **TEACHER APPRECIATION MONTH.**

Please take this opportunity to thank your child(ren)'s teacher for their selfless commitment to the Temple.

We want to thank all the teachers. We appreciate the time and energy you put forth for the younger students of the Dharma:

Preschool
Sue Yoshimura
Wendy Thompson
Keiko Yoshida

Kindergarten
Jamie Chikuma

First Grade
Jennifer Chikuma
Kellye Goto

Second Grade
Janice Ramos
Shirley Horiuchi

Third Grade
Michelle Asakawa

Fourth/Fifth Grade
Naomi Nguyen
Brandan Stewart

Sixth Grade
Stacey Ospina
Jared Ospina

Jr YBA
Cameo Haddan

YBA
Zak Umetani
Shannon Umetani

Poem

By Kevin William Huff

Teachers

Paint their minds
and guide their thoughts
Share their achievements
and advise their faults

Inspire a Love
of knowledge and truth
As you light the path
Which leads our youth

For our future brightens
with each lesson you teach
Each smile you lengthen
Each goal you help reach

For the dawn of each poet
each philosopher and king
Begins with a Teacher
And the wisdom they bring

*A good teacher is like a candle -
it consumes itself to light the way
for others.*

- author unknown

Fun! with Impermanence and Interdependence

By Michelle Asakawa, Dharma school teacher

The third grade Dharma school class has spent much of the year exploring and considering the two Buddhist concepts of Impermanence and Interdependence (or Interconnectedness). When it was time to determine

Bake Sale

May 3
DBT Dancers

May 10
Preschool

May 17
Kindergarten

May 24
NO Service

May 31
1st Grade

our class presentation for the Hanamatsuri afternoon program, the students were able to volunteer many easy and memorable ways to demonstrate the two "I"s. Following are some of their ideas:

Kimiko and Lauren remembered how our class blew soap bubbles to show impermanence: all that work to blow them, and seconds later they are gone!

Robert liked the idea of eating a cookie because it

shows impermanence and he likes cookies.

Connor had several suggestions, including turning a frown into a smile (do it really fast and it is fun to watch!) and taking off your hat. Both show impermanence. He also volunteered how noodles change form from hard to soft, which also shows impermanence.

Keith thought of how the sound of a bell doesn't last and offered up his family's bell gong to use in the presentation.

Quentin and Michael liked using a sheet of bubble wrap to show impermanence. The air stays inside the plastic bubbles only until you stomp on the wrap. Once the bubbles have all been popped, the usefulness of the sheet changes. And it's also lots of fun!

Together the class came up with ideas showing Interdependence, such as playing Tug of War and jumping rope. Some of the most fun came when we decided to form a pyramid using our bodies. We practiced this several times during class but couldn't hold on for long during the Hanamatsuri program. Oh well, that also shows Impermanence!

2008-2009 Kindergarten Class

by Jamie Chikuma, Dharma School Teacher

This year, has been a very special year so far! We have a small class with LOTS of personality! The students have learned a lot, as I have learned from them. I have observed the development of their personalities from being shy pre-schoolers to making friendships with one another and becoming more independent.

As I was getting ready to introduce the children to you, it occurred to me, they all have some similar traits -> They are all very smart, full of creative thoughts and always smiling!!

Now, let me take this opportunity to introduce them to you further:

Blake Parvin - Is the jokester of the bunch - he is always making us laugh! He tells us funny and interesting stories.

Kai Sakata - Is sometimes the serious one of the bunch - which is a good thing because he always keeps us on task and makes sure we get the projects done! (Don't get me wrong, he too can be very silly!)

Maile Kilen - Is the quieter one of the bunch - My suspicion is it might be because she is focused on getting the projects done so she can write on the chalk board! She also gives me ideas for what to do next. Without having an assistant, I always welcome her ideas!

Tara Case - Is the helper of the bunch (again a great assistant!) - she continuously is helping others out. She too loves to draw on the chalk board and loves to tell us some very interesting stories!

Our class is also responsible for the April Bulletin board and our hopes are that you will stop by and see their pictures! Or better yet, come visit our class!

Congratulations to Irene Kawanabe, who was recognized and named recipient of the Governor Ralph L. Carr Award at the April 10th Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado's 2009 Minoru Yasui Banquet.

Irene and her husband, Kenzo Kawanabe are members of TS/DBT. Their daughters, Mika and Aya, are Dharma School students in the 1st Grade and Preschool classes, respectively.

The Gov. Ralph L. Carr Award is intended to recognize and encourage newer attorneys to act in the spirit of Gov. Carr and work towards a more just society. Gov. Carr served as Colorado's 29th governor and spoke outwardly for racial tolerance while opposing the resettlement of Japanese-Americans into Colorado detention camps.

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings received from March 1, 2009- March 31, 2009:

In memory of Betty(17) & John(5) Mayeda

Kyle Mayeda
Mr.&Mrs. Dick Mayeda
Jenny Mayeda & Erice Manz&Amaya
Hailey Violi
Gary Mayeda
Stacey Mayeda & Robert Montoya

In memory of Mikazu(7) & Yoshito(17) Tsuchimoto

Kyle Mayeda
Mr.&Mrs. Dick Mayeda
Jenny Mayeda & Erice Manz&Amaya
Hailey Violi
Stacey Mayeda & Robert Montoya
Sheryl Banecks
Longan Family
Jodi Ortega & family
Satoru & Naomi Takase
Shirley Tsuchimoto
Brandi & Gregg Tsuchimoto
Mia Tsuchimoto & Stacy Hendershott
Coco Upton & family

In memory of Momoyo Tsuchimoto

Sheryl Banecks
Longan Family
Jodi Ortega & family
Satoru & Naomi Takase
Shirley Tsuchimoto
Brandi & Gregg Tsuchimoto
Mia Tsuchimoto & Stacy Hendershott
Coco Upton & family

In memory of Chieko Ono – 7th year

Akahoshi family
Ono family
Gen Ono

Donation

Yoshi Igata
Time Share Angels (w/Joe & Jill Ozaki)

Facilities Usage

Craft Class
Denver Aikido Aikikai
JANM/Educator Workshop

Nehan E

Tom & Kazue Ajisaka
Alice Hara
Dora Shibata & family

Spring Ohigan

Sumi & Yosh Akiyama
Sadao & Shizue Asano
Sumiko Chihara
Michiko Chikuma
Mary Chikuma
Masaye Doi
Linda Fukuhara
Frances Furukawa
Paul & Midori Gow
Mary Hamano
Ine Hanatani
Alice Hara
Joe Iwao & Takako Hatanaka
Erlene Hikida
Ryoko Hirakawa
Sawaye Hirokawa
Kirk Horiuchi
Herbert & Dorothy Inouye
Chiko Inouye
Tetsuo & Sadako Iwahiro
Ruth Kamibayashi
Scott & Lisa Kanayama
Jack & AC Kimura
Haruko Kimura
Ayako Kimura
Manabu & Junko Kimura
Minoru & Michiko Kishiyama
Tepper & Emiko Koga
Tom Koshio
Randy & Faye Koto
Tatsuo Matsuda
Dick & Yoshie Matsushita
Jack & Margaret Miyasaki
Lillian & Phillip Miyazawa
Frank Miyazawa
D.D. & Chizuko Momii

Kim Morehouse
Edward Nakagawa
Henry & Ann Nakata
Chiyo Nakayama
Charles & Teri Ozaki
Jason & Cameo Pettis
Greg & Janice Ramos
Sally Sakamoto
Patricia Sato
Hank & Irene Shibao
Rose Shibao
Dora Shibata
James Shimada
Edward & Yuriko Shimoda
May Shuto
June & Kenneth Tagawa
Brit & Jean Takara
Isao Jon & Sayoko Takata
Hiroshi Takeda
Michio & Hisae Taniwaki
Fumiko Yamashita
Betty Yamashita
Harlan & Emi Yoshida
Sue Yoshimura

Osaisen

3rd Grade Dharma Class
4th/5th Grade Dharma Class
6th Grade Dharma Class
Frank Ciskovsky
Sally Harr
Ted Okuno

Jane Kano funeral; Sam Suekama
Tatsuo Matsuda funeral; Alyce Matsuda
Sam & Rachel Davis Hatsumairi; Miles Davis
Poudre High School visitation
Mitzi Nakamura in memory of Akira Nakamura – 1st yr
Teruo Okuno in memory of Ann Okuno
Amy Shimamoto in memory of Harley Haruo Shimamoto – 17th yr
Hugh & Alice Nishimoto in memory of Mary Miyauchi – 49th day
Sam & Hitomi Sasamoto in memory of Motoye Sawada
Ted & Sue Migaki in memory of Naka Migaki – 33rd yr
Samuel Strapping System in memory of Sam Suekama
Takashi & Hisako Yoshida in memory of Yoshio Mochizuki – 3rd yr

Eshinni-Kakushinni Service and Seminar Donation
March 22, 2009

BWA News

by Mitzi Kishiyama

Alice Kimura	Sawaye Hirokawa
Chiyo Nakayama	Frank Miyazawa
Pat Umetani	May Shuto
Teri Ozaki	Cameo Pettis
Chiyeko Aoki	June Inuzuka
Merrily Stewart	Ayako Kimura
Judy Okamoto	Mitzi Kishiyama
Rose Shibao	Janice Ramos
Ruth Kamibayashi	Michiko Chikuma
Junko Kimura	Hisae Taniwaki
Deb Omoto-Berve	Youko Yamasaki
Mary Hamano	Alice Hara
Anonymous	Joyce Nakata-Kim
Dorothy Inouye	Susie Asano
Ann Nakata	Ed Nakagawa
Peggy Kagiya	Jeanne Nozawa

The Eshinni/Kakushinni service and seminar was held in March. A last minute change occurred when Dr. Ginni Ishimatsu was unable to participate as the event speaker – we will look forward to having Dr. Ishimatsu speak to us at a later date.

“The show must go on!” Standing behind the curtain was our very own Rev. Carol Gansho O’Dowd who stepped up and gave the Dharma talks and the seminar presentation. Her lecture was on the evolution of American Buddhism which was established in 1907. The core teaching of all Buddhism is impermanence. Be open to change from growth – hear, listen and understand.

Rev. O’Dowd also showed us slides of her recent trip to Thailand where she received the International award for Outstanding Women in Buddhism. Not to be outdone by this prestigious award, we, the BWA, wanted to show our appreciation and gratitude to Rev. O’Dowd; we presented her with a plaque recognizing her achievements within our Temple.

This yearly seminar is a success because of all of you who participate, bring delicious foods to the potluck lunch and your generous monetary donation. ARIGATO!

Also, thank you to the kitchen volunteer ladies who make sure we have hot tea, wash dishes, set the tables and clean up. Because of these ladies, our Temple events run smoothly.

*Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership
congratulates and welcomes
our newest Hatsumairi recipient:*

*Miles Davis
Son of Sam & Rachel Davis*

Longmont Hanamatsuri: A Singing and Clapping Affair

by Jackie Tono, LBT President

Hanamatsuri was celebrated at Longmont Buddhist Temple with a diverse group of 45+ folks. The program involved those still in single digits to those in their 70's. Special thanks to Shieko Uno, Minister's Assistant for connecting us with the spirit of Amida through song. As Choir Director, as well as song writer, the Longmont Buddhist Temple Choir provided moving songs during the service. The singing chants calmed us and helped us to listen deeply. The closing song helped connect our sangha – young and old – as it had us singing and clapping. A big thank goes you to Christina Hildebrant for contributing her talents as a budding harpist. What a wonderful background for our practice of pouring of sweet tea. Thank you to Stu Cruven and Lizze Hildebrant for playing guitar and helping lead us all in Shieko's Buddhist version of "If You Are Happy and You Know It". Thank you to Lynn Lum who coordinated and planned efforts of our small Dharma School. Even though Lynn and Marissa were unable to attend due to illness, we had five

children participate in offering sweets for the altar. We are grateful to the many who donated such wonderful food that everyone enjoyed the pot luck. To quote a visitor and her daughter who attended for the first time, "This was fun and we learned! We are coming back."

Speaking of learning, we are grateful Rev. Carol GanSho O’Dowd shares educational as well as inspirational Dharma talks and participates with the Shin Buddhist Book Club as a discussion leader. As Harriet Bissell, Book Club Chair describes them, Book Club discussions are interactive and lively, Join them during the evening on the first Monday of the month or during the day for a brown bag lunch on the fourth Monday of the month. In May the club continues to explore Shin Buddhism: Bits of Rubble Turn Into Gold by Taitetsu Unno. To confirm dates and times or check out other Longmont Temple activities, visit our website – www.longmontbuddhisttemple.org maintained by Joe DeNicholas, Minister's Assistant.

Buddhist Education Events - BEE Informed *(continued from page 1)*

educational institutions and use our Temples as places to learn and share the Dharma. Like bees we share the nectar found at organizations such as the Jodo Shinshu Center and even other Buddhist groups in our area. Also, we have a few upcoming opportunities to be a busy bee and absorb the dharma through being wise and being compassionate, listening with heart-mind.

DHARMATALKS

In May we celebrate the birth of the founder of our sect of Buddhism. So we have a special founder's day service or Gotan-E service. You can learn more about Shinran Shonin and his teachings at Dharma talks throughout the month of May. We celebrate because Shinran worked hard to make the teachings of the Nembutsu – the active work ing of Amida Buddha — available to everyone. He carried the light of Amida into the homes and hearts of the average illiterate rice farmer in Japan by teaching chants that could be memorized. These chants describing Amida as an active force in our lives, always moving, reaching out and carrying each of us to enlightenment are ones we chant in our services today. Shinran was considered a radical in his day because he taught that the Wisdom-Compassion of Buddha was available for all of us – male or female, rich or poor, monastic or householder – and that each of us is embraced by the compassion-wisdom of Amida. Learn more about these teachings and practices at upcoming Dharma Talks in May:

Alamosa /La Jara Sangha May 20 monthly service

Denver Buddhist Temple May 3, 10, 17 and 24

Family service at 9:30 a.m. and

Adult Service at 10:15 a.m.

Greeley Shin Sangha Services May 7

Regular Service at– Part One “What keeps us linked to suffering?” and

May 21 Discussion Group – Part Two on “Hot Links to Suffering and Peace”

Greeley Buddhist Temple May 16 Monthly service

Longmont Buddhist Temple May 3 and 17 10:45 a.m.

Regular service

Sedgwick Buddhist Temple May 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Special service at Amache May 16 remembering those who have gone before. (Be sure and sign up for bus ride for Amache educational tour and service.)

SPECIAL MEMORIAL SERVICES

May 24th and 25th our ministers will be conducting short services at gravesites and inurnment sites throughout the metro area. Also, you can listen to dharma talks on impermanence at Longmont Buddhist Temple on May 24th and at Olinger Highland Mortuary on May 25th at 2:00 p.m. Check the calendar for more details.

SHIN MEDITATION: DEEPLISTENING PRACTICE

May 7, 14, 21 and 28: Lunchtime Meditation Breaks, DBT from noon to 12:45 These sessions are led by Reverend O'Dowd who is a certified mindfulness instructor. O'Dowd combines the teachings of Shinran with her training in mindfulness to share deep listening practices for daily life. Join a small group on Thursdays at Denver Temple from noon to 12:45 p.m. Contact Reverend O'Dowd at gansho@carolodowd.com with questions.

May 3, 17 Meditation Services at LBT at 10:00 a.m.

May 7 Meditation Service for Greeley Shin Sangha at 6:30 p.m.

HEALTH FAIR ATTRACTED 150 TO DBT

As part of our BEE program (Buddhist Education Events) TSDBT shares information to help members care for themselves. Practicing the paramita (perfection) of generosity, we were busy bees hosting a health fair on April 4 to give away diagnostic health screenings and health care information. TSDBT provided the building and the Colorado Asian Health Education Promotion (CAHEP) provided thousands of dollars worth of free health screenings to 100 people. We express our appreciation to members of TSDBT, Japanese American Citizen League and the Chinese Evergreen Society for making the event such a success on a cold, snowy day. Special thanks goes to Joanne Adair, who spent more time in the kitchen than getting her screenings, Mike Shibata for contributing wonderful baked breads when the food donated by JACL disappeared. Thank you to Suzie Shimasaka from JACL for driving through the snow, promoting TSDBT and making sure translators were directed to areas where needed. Because of such a successful event, TSDBT will be coordinating efforts of even more organizations for a joyous health fair this fall to share flu shots, health screenings and Buddhist practices for healthy living. If you are interested or want to help, contact Rev. O'Dowd at gansho@carolodowd.com or leave a message at 303-380-8969.

TSDBT Board Meeting Minutes - March 22, 2009

The following is a summary of the March 22nd TSDBT Board of Directors meeting.

Donna Inouye	Kirk Horiuchi	Gene Watada	Greg Ramos
Randy Sasaki	Robert Miller	Donna Miller	Tepper Koga
Charles Ozaki	Joanne Knight	Frank Miyazawa	Mark Ozawa
Noreen Okubo	Joni Sakaguchi	Wayne Berve	Dat Nguyen
Lisa Kanayama	Dennis Hardman	Alley Watada	Yoshimi Watada
Rebecca Steinebrey	Rev Kanya Okamoto	Frank Ciskovsky	Kathy Kuge

- % Call to order, Rev. Kanya Okamoto Gassho. 11:30 am.

% Approved January 25, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes with no changes.

% Minister's Report – Rev. Okamoto - Report approved with no changes.

% Monthly Financial Reports: Tepper Koga - Submitted Jan 09 and Feb 09 financials. Feb 09 financials need to be corrected, some questions and action generated – see full minutes. Approved Jan 2009, will approve Feb in next meeting.

% Building Maintenance Report: Wayne Berve
 - We need to maintain roof to retain the materials warranty. Window was replaced, so work pads around the evaporative coolers can be installed. Have received cost estimate from Turner Morris.
 - Intercom / Security Camera – intercom has failed, considering cameras as part of future fix.
 - Discussion about video record of temple assets – need to buy camera? TBD.

% Membership Committee: Mark Ozawa
 - Have been meeting regularly.
 - Working on getting Dharma School families to be TSDBT members, membership definitions, membership benefits, greeters for Sunday mornings in Denver, and better communications.

% Affiliated Temple Updates
 - Sedgewick: Bob and Donna Miller - Drove 176 miles to attend Board meeting. Sedgewick has 17 members with the addition of newest member, Michael from Burlingame CO.
 - Ft Lupton / Brighton: Gene Watada / Kirk Horiuchi - Held a combined service at Ft Lupton.
 Longmont: Frank Ciskovsky - Usual attendance is 40-50 people every service, with 2-5 visitors every service. Joe DeNicholas signed up to be a ministers assistant. New sign in the works.
- % Cherry Blossom Festival: Joni Sakaguchi Chair - Street Closure permits not filed by Noreen Okubo in January. Joni will see what can be done. Working on possible contingency plans just in case.

% Endowment Committee Report: Charles Ozaki - At recent meeting, Kevin Yoshida prepared a Draft Spending Plan and an Endowment Policy. Committee and Board structure changes being considered.

% Balanced Budget: Randy Sakaki - Wayne, Randy, Dennis, and Greg (Gang of Four) have Balanced Budget Goal for 2010.

% Ministerial Relations Committee scheduled to have meeting soon to work on Ministerial Position Descriptions during the spring and summer.

% 2009 Officer Election: Treasurer-Tepper Koga, Assistant Treasurer-Lisa Kanayama, Recording Secretary-Noreen Okubo. No other positions up for election this year.

% Minister's Parking Spots: Donna Inouye - Denver City has not renewed Minister parking packets. Rebecca Steinebrey to talk to City of Denver Parking to find a solution.

Adjourn

Gassho Rev Okamoto, Time 2:15 pm.

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership offers condolences to the family and friends of:

Yoshiko Sasaki
January 10, 1923 - March 30, 2009

Chizuko Mura
August 16, 1922 - April 2, 2009

Esther Furuta
died April 3, 2009

The Centennial Endowment and Renovation Committee and the TS/DBT Board of Directors would like to acknowledge and humbly thank the following donors who have contributed to the Centennial Endowment and Renovation Campaign. NOTE: listing of donor's names will be cumulative, month by month. This month's new donor names are printed in a different and bolded font, at the bottom of each Level list. Repeat donor names are bolded within each list. Donors who pledged by interval payments, are listed by Level of their original pledge and bolded at the time of their initial payment.

Gold Level \$5000 - \$9999

Anonymous

Family and Friends of Karen Eiko Matsushima
Miyuki Mabel Googins
in memory of Tom Googins
Herbert & Dorothy Inouye
Cal, Sharon (Brookes), DJ (Ida), Linda,
Bob & Dave Kato
In gratitude to Sam & Kimi Kato
Tepper & Emiko Koga
Charles & Teri Ozaki
Patricia Sato
George & Jane Kanemoto
In memory of Jim & Chiyo Kanemoto

Diamond Level \$10,000 and above

Brighton Buddhist Sangha
Robert & Gail Ida
*in memory of Henry Yamashita and
Kazuo & Tsurue Kimura*
Edward T. Nakagawa
Noreen Okubo;
in memory of Riyo Okubo & Aiko Nishimura
Tagawa Greenhouse Families
Hiratsuka Family
(Steve Hiratsuka, Louise Takemura,
Carrol Tsutsui)
***In memory of our parents,
Yutaka and Misaye Hiratsuka***

Bronze Level \$1 - \$999

Preschool Dharma School Class
Kindergarten Dharma School Class
2nd Grade Dharma School Class
3rd/4th Grade Dharma School Class
5th Grade Dharma School Class
Ronald & Lisa Abo
Noel & Kimberly Allen
Djab Burchinow
Elsa Djab Burchinow
DBAC Volleyball
DBT Choir
DBT Craft Class
DBT Dance Girls
DBT Dharma School 2007/2008 Staff
DBT Japanese Language School
DBT Minyo Club
Alice Hara
Frank Higa
Sawaye Hirokawa
Chris Horiuchi
Ming & Hiroko Hung
Cindy Iida
Peter Inokoji-Kim & Aileen Okimoto
Linda Kato
Charles Kagiya
Ruth Kamibayashi
Jack & Alice Kimura
Minoru & Michiko Kishiyama
Grace Kiyotake
Kelli Koga

Brian & Marjorie Levitt

Mary & Steve Marx
In memory of Kimiye Miyake
Carl & MaryLee Mitcham
Mitchell & Susan Mollard
Dan & Terry Moskowitz
Lee T. Murata
Chiyo Nakayama
Dat & Naomi Nguyen
in memory of Harry "Doc" Matsushima
Carol Gansho O'Dowd
Miyako Otsuki
Daniel Podell & Linda Reiter
Rose Shibao
Edward & Yuriko Shimoda
The Steinebrey Family
Thomas Taggart
Suzanne Tanaka
Thom Sakata & Jennifer Trompeter
Youko Yamasaki
Art & Sachiko Yoshimura
Dick & Yoshie Matsushita

Silver Level \$1000 - \$4999

Sadao & Shizue Asano
Wayne & Deb Omoto Berve
Robert Boudreau
in memory of Janette Haruko Boudreau
DBT BWA
DBT Dharma School Carnival 2008 fundraiser
DBT Judo Dojo
Denver Taiko
Mae Doida
in memory of Sam Doida
Janet & James Fujita
Miyuki Mabel Googins
in memory of Yoshi Nishimura
Dennis & Becky Hardman
Iwao & Takako Hatanaka
Fumiko Hattori
Tommie & Kinuko Hiraoka
Helene Ioka
in memory of Tom Ioka
Al Kawakami
Kenzo & Irene Kawanabe
Ayako Kimura
HJ & Alice Kimura
Manabu & Junko Kimura
Charlie & Mary Matsubara
*in honor of Charlie Matsubara's
88th birthday*
Sam & Terry Mayeda
Frank Miyazawa
Phillip & Lillian Miyazawa
in memory of Shigeo Miyazawa
Kim & Sarah Morehouse
in memory of Kay Tamaki
George & Yoko Nagai
Henry & Ann Nakata
George & Kiyoko Omoto
Janice & Greg Ramos
Helene H. Saeda
in memory of Moriichi & Hisayo Saeda
David & Joni Sakaguchi
Steven & Stacey Shigaya
Ken Tagawa
Carolyn & Mickey Takeshita
Sumiji Tamaki
Robert & Shelly Tanaka
Michio & Hisae Taniwaki
Bill & Wendy Thompson
Ted & Elaine Tsumura with Fairy Kuritani;
*in memory of Henry Kuritani, Amy Tsumura
and Nobuzane Tsumura*
Kent & Kelly Yamasaki
Betty Yamashita
Gary & Debbie Yamashita
Tom & Fumiko Yamashita
Kevin & Keiko Yoshida
Tatsuo Matsuda
In memory of Alyce Matsuda
Kurt, Kanae, Bruce & Ariana Tsumura

Religious Services

SUN May 3 9:30 am DBT (G)
10 am Longmont (S)

TUES May 5 6 pm Sedgwick (G)

THURS May 7 12 noon Meditation (G)
6:30 pm Greeley Shin Sangha (G)

FRI May 8 11 am Hoji - offsite (O)

SAT May 9 4:30 pm Wedding - offsite (O)

SUN May 10 9 am Brighton (OG)
9:30 am DBT (P)
11 am Ft. Lupton w/hoji (OG)

THURS May 14 12 noon Meditation (G)

FRI May 15 6 pm Hoji - offsite

SAT May 16 1 pm Greeley w/hoji (O)

SUN May 17 9:30 am DBT Gotanye
10 am Longmont

WED May 20 6 pm Alamosa (O)

THURS May 21 12 noon Meditation (G)
6:30 pm Greeley Shin Sangha (G)

SAT May 23 1 pm Wedding (O)

THURS May 28 12 noon Meditation (G)

SAT May 30 10 am Hoji
6 pm Wedding - offsite (O)

SUN May 31 9:30 am DBT; Award Sunday

Dharma School Events

May 2009 JrYBA chairs Family Services
Preschool decorates bulletin board

SUN May 31 Dharma School Award Sunday

Special Events

APDC-sponsored Mammogram Van
Friday, May 1st
8 am - 2 pm
FREE mammograms

DBT Judo sponsors CPR training
Saturday, May 2nd
8 am - 3 pm

Manju Making; for Cherry Blossom Festival
Saturday, May 2nd and 16th
9 am

Temple Scholarship Interviews
Sunday, May 3rd, 11 am

YBA Breakfast
Sunday, May 10th, 8 am

Denver Taiko Workshop
Friday, May 15th, 7 pm (bsmt)
Saturday, May 16th, all day (gym)
Sunday, May 17th, afternoon (gym)

Amache Pilgrimage
Saturday, May 16th
bus leaves TSDBT at 6 am

Tawara Golf Tournament
Saturday, May 16th, 8 am

Memorial Day Services; temple office closed
Sunday, May 24th
9:30 am Crown Hill
11 am Lafayette
1 pm Longmont
Monday, May 25th
9:30 am Fairmont
10 am Brighton
11 am Fairmount Community
11 am Ft. Lupton
12 noon Platteville
1 pm Riverside
2 pm Olinger Highland

The Cherry Blossom Committee continually looks for ways in which we can maximize revenues. Last year we were quite successful by reducing printing expenses, using all surplus supplies and requesting some in-kind donations.

This year we expanded our in-kind donation list. Thank you to the many who have contributed items from this list, helping to offset our expenses. We are re-printing the list in hopes that a second wave of donations will begin pouring in as Cherry Blossom Festival draws ever nearer.

There will be a table in the auditorium marked for donations. There will also be a donor form that we ask you complete and attach to your items. We want to acknowledge your generosity as well as provide you with a receipt for tax purposes.

As always, we also welcome cash donations, if you would prefer us to make purchases on your behalf for specific items. For cash donations, please submit these to the Temple office in an envelope marked "Cherry Blossom Donation" and let us know which items you'd like us to purchase.

Again, thank you for your continued support!

Description	Qty				
plastic forks	3000	ea	2 mil clear plastic sheeting	1	roll
wooden chopsticks	4000	ea	bleach	3	gal
dinner napkins	5000	ea	laundry detergent	10	boxes
cocktail napkins	2000	ea	aluminum foil	10	rolls
7-inch paper plate (sturdy paper - no Styrofoam)	1000	ea	plastic wrap	20	rolls
55 gal trash bags	1000	ea	corn starch	50	boxes
rolls of clear packing tape	25	ea	regular cans of SPA M	300	cans
rolls of masking tape	20	ea	spicy cans of SPA M	100	cans
rolls of duct tape	10	ea	flour for manju (lbs)	200	lbs
reams of white copy paper	10	ea	mochiko	200	boxes
reams of white card stock paper	5	ea	canola oil	5	gal
rolls of paper to cover tables	20	ea	white vinegar	20	gals
kitty litter (absorb grease from grills)	50	lbs	mirin for sushi/teriyaki sauce	30	gal
PAM spray cans	10	cans	shoyu for teriyaki sauce	100	gal
postage stamps	200	ea	nori for sushi/SPAM musubi	1500	sheets
green tea bags	1000	ea	Memmi	13	gal
coffee	20	lbs	somen	50	lbs
plastic gloves	300	ea	Sesame oil	1	gal
dishsoap	5	quarts	soybean oil (for cooking eggrolls)	10	gal
			ketchup	10	bottles