



# Temple Reflections

## Temple Reflections

A TSDBT Monthly Publication

Volume XXXVII, Issue 10

November 2017

### Special Event of interest

- Thursday, November 23rd at 10 a.m.
- Interfaith Thanksgiving Service hosted by
- University Park UMC  
2180 S. University Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80210

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## Go and get some water with this, my son.

### Wrap-up of 48vows (I)

#### How to read the 48 Vows?

When I was in Japan more than 40 years ago, one old minister told me about an unforgettable learning moment he experienced when he was a little boy. His story has stayed with me and I would like to share it with you now because his experience is truly and deeply related to the working of Dharma. His short message also points out a serious mistake we make when we learn the Teaching.

His episode goes as follows: One day his Mom handed him a straw basket and said, "Go and get some water with this." He complied with her instructions and went to water, scooping the basket a couple of times. But, with each upward scoop, the basket remained empty. He went back to Mom and said, "Mom, I tried hard, but I could not get any water with the basket!" "Did you recognize any difference between in and out of the water, my son?" Mom asked. "Well, the basket just got wet," he answered. "That's right. This basket just got wet. You can not get water with the basket, but I know the way to see the basket full of water. When you hold the basket in the water, you see it filled with water," she said. Although he was young and could not understand what she said, her words had stayed in his mind for years. Then, after he learned *Jodoshinshu*, he realized the true meaning of his Mother's lesson.

The young mother was a *Nembutsu* follower and she guided her son to become a wonderful minister in the future. Her intention was deep. When we listen to Dharma we try to understand it, or we try to scoop up Dharma. We join services and lectures to listen to Dharma, and we get knowledge and understanding of Dharma. We, however, just get wet like the basket. But when we find ourselves in the Dharma, we are filled with it. Dharma starts working on us vividly.

In other words, when we listen to Dharma in the subject (I)-object relation (Dharma), we just get wet like the basket. We are not filled with Dharma. But when we listen to Dharma in the subject (I)-subject (Dharma) relation, we surely see ourselves in the Dharma and we come to realize the true working of Dharma. It is simply because Dharma is made to be so.

For example, please remember the 1<sup>st</sup> Vow of *Amida Buddha*. It says that there is no anger, greed, and ignorance in My Country. Do you want to know the meanings of anger, greed, and ignorance? Or, do you see them in you with eyes in mind? Don't try to scoop up Dharma, but put yourself in Dharma and identify yourself there. Find yourself in the *Nembutsu*.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Doei Fujii

## Monthly Salutations from Rev. Diana Thompson

Hello everyone, welcome to November, the month of Thanksgiving. This is the time of year when we gather with loved ones to share food and laughter, watch football and the Macy's parade, indulge in couch naps and, of course, to express gratitude. Gratitude is hugely important for us as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists as it informs our practice and the way that we approach the world. In times of great joy or great sorrow, we can be grateful that no matter what has happened or what we have done, the great wisdom and compassion of Amida is always surrounding us. When we recite Nembutsu, we are expressing this gratitude. It is the call of Amida Buddha, urging us to find our true selves and inviting us to return to our home of homes in the Pure Land of Enlightenment. It is also our response to this call; an expression of gratitude for the great wisdom and compassion that guides us.

Thanksgiving is indeed a holiday meant for us to reflect on and be grateful for all we have, but when I was in elementary school it was also a time when we made paper hand-turkeys and colored pictures of cornucopias. We also did acrostics. I recall doing several of these using the words 'thanks', 'thank you' or 'Thanksgiving' and because with acrostics each letter is used to describe the word that you are using, there was a

lot of 'turkey', 'hats', 'gravy' etc. (Largely food-based for obvious reasons.) They were fun and simple to do and so this year, I decided that I would like to try and do another one. I will use the word 'Thanksgiving', but instead of describing the holiday itself, I will use it to describe our religious gratitude.

**Think Happily About Nembutsu, Knowing Surely (that the) Great Inconceivable Vow Is Never Gone.**

And so, this Thanksgiving, as we are gathered around with our loved ones and recalling the things that we are truly grateful for, we can also recall the warm wisdom/compassion of the Buddha. We can put our hands together in gassho, recite the Nembutsu, and share this wisdom/compassion with all beings.

## この世はどこへ向かうのか？

もう40年以上も前のことだが、私は知識もないままにコンピューターの仕事をしていて、私のあつかつていた材料はコンピューターの中心部を封印する粉状の樹脂（じゅし）だった。この粉を熱で溶かしてコンピューター・チップが置かれた鋳型に流し込む。すると表面にある髪の毛よりもはるかに細い金線を切らないような水より柔らかくなる。ひとたび封印すると、ハンマーでたたいても壊れない、熱でも溶かせない、というコンピューター・チップが出来上がる。

私の仕事は材料を売る仕事。だがまったく知識がないため信頼できる顧客のもとに行き二人の博士号を持つ技術者に「私のあつかつている樹脂がどうして世界一なのですか。どこがいいのですか？」と時間をさいてもらい幾度も質問せめにしていた。そんなある日のことその技術者から最新樹脂のサンプルが欲しいとの連絡があった。彼らはもうすでにその最新樹脂の資料を手に入れていた。私はまたもや「どうして新しい樹脂がいるのですか？どのような用途に？」といったものように問うてみた。すると驚くような返事が戻ってきた。

「今、わが社ではスーパー・コンピューターを計画しており、その中心部はすでに出来上がっております。ですが高い成功率、特に**99%**以上の成功率で封印する樹脂がいます。中心部分は**15cm x 15cm**で一つの部品が実に高価なので成功率の高いあなたの樹脂がいるのです」という。「そんなバケモノみたいなコンピューターを作るとどんなことができるのですか？」と無知な私はきいた。「何でもできますよ。例えば、より正確な気象予報、地震予測、あるいは戦争と何でもできます」との答えだった。これが40年前の日本の技術力だった。

さて、今のIT技術はそれよりもはるかに進歩し、子供までが小さな携帯電話大のスーパー・コンピューターを持ち歩いて遊んでいる。計算も、将棋も、チェスも、工場での生産も、いたるところで人間以上に正確で速い技術がみられる。人間が要らなくなっている。家庭内でも話し相手をしてくれるコンピューターがあり、もうすでに人間が運転しなくてもいい「自動運転車」がほぼできあがっている。今から**40、50**年後にはどんな社会になっているのだろうか。IT技術の発展が人間生活におよぼす影響が知りたい。特に私は坊さんだからIT技術と宗教の関係を知りたい。そこで、自分で考えても分からないからインター・ネットで調べてみた。すると科学者は次のように未来を予測していることが分かった。

彼ら科学者によると、人類は今までに二つの大革命をへてきた。一つの革命は約7年前に始まった氷河期が約1万年前に終了した。人類は定住するようになり農業が始まり人口が急激に増加した。つまり第一の革命は農業革命。第二の革命は産業革命でイギリスで**1825**年に始まり、手作業から機械にうつり蒸気機関ができ新しい動力の出現で飛躍的に生産量が増え人口も増えた。そして我々人類は第三の革命に向かっているという。

今のIT技術の進歩を考えれば第三の革命が**2045**年に来るといふ。コンピューターの能力があらゆる面で人間を超える。その革命は人工頭脳による革命で、コンピューターが機械ではなくなり、人間と同じように学習し・自分で考え・自分で判断して、コンピューター自体がより高度な人工頭脳を待つコンピューターをつくり出し、その人工頭脳がより良い人工頭脳を作り、その人工頭脳がより高度なコンピューターを、、、と次々と優れたコンピューターを作り出し、全ての面でコンピューターが人間を超えると予想する。その境目となるのが**2045**年だといふ。そんな時代があと**30**年足らずでやってくるらしい。

さて、ではいくら優秀なコンピューターであっても人間にしかできない分野があるはずだが、それらはどんな分野なのだろうか。例えば、音楽や芸術や美術などの創造力のいる分野はどうか。すると今の発展段階でさえも、私が好きな音楽を3、4曲コンピューターに入力すると、コンピューターが私の好みを学習して、好みに従って私の気に入る曲を作ってくれるという。聴いて「まんざら悪くはない」らしい。すると作曲家も要らなくなるのだろうか？

また、「アーマロイド」という人間そっくりなロボットが今すでに作られている。若い美人の女性ロボットで動画をみると確かに身の動きは人間に近いがどこか少々不自然だ。ところが人工皮膚、髪、表情、人工音声は人間と見分けがつかない。そのロボットを会場でみた人々が「これはロボットではないよ。人間の女性がロボットのふりをしているだけだ」という。「いいえ、これはロボットです」と作った人が言っていた。驚愕だね。私の好みの女性の写真を数枚コンピューターにみせると、私の好みのガール・フレンドができあがる。もうボーイフレンドもガール・フレンドも手間暇かけずに探さなくてよらしい時代になっているのか。

さて、結論です。あるとき**40**代の女性が不調を訴えて入院した。検査の結果ガンの第四期と判明。耳にしたとたんその女性は発狂しだした。医者も看護婦も家族も手がつけられないほどに狂い出した。ところがある日のこと、違う病室から一人の老婆がその女性に会いに来て「死ぬのは恐くないですよ。静かにお念仏を称えなさい」とだけ言って病室を去った。するとその女性は短い言葉で発狂はピタリとやんだ。顔も安らかになった。それをみていた医師が「これこそ本当の医療だ！」と感激して書いていた。医者は身体の病気が相手だが、本当の医療は身体だけではない。患者は人間だ。心がありその心が病む。その心を安らかにするのも大切な医療ではないかと感服して書いていた。

スーパー・コンピューターも、人工頭脳も、アーマロイドも人間の脳や願いが作り出した「脳化（のうか）」の世界だ。その飛躍的に発展する時代、すべての面で人間を超える時代が**2045**年ごろに予想されている。では、その頃には「人間の抱える心の苦悩」は解決されているのだろうか。坊さんは**2045**年以降もまだ必要なのだろうか？ まあ、全ては私の死んだ後のことだがね。合掌、

## Greetings from Dharma School!

By Sara Downey Robinson, Co-Superintendent

Thank you to all families who participated in Aki Matsuri! We had a terrific time as usual and are especially thankful to YBA for providing a delicious lunch for the Sangha.

We are gearing up for Turkey Bingo on Nov. 19th! Be sure to join us and support Dharma School, play some Bingo and have a great time. If you're interested in volunteering, please let me know. We're also seeking donations for raffles and turkey donations for prizes!

Let's make this the best Turkey Bingo yet!

I've been so fortunate as Dharma School Superintendent to be able to visit so many classes this year and I am very impressed with the work going on every Sunday in our classrooms. Our dedicated teachers are helping teach our youngest Sangha members the Dharma in creative and innovative ways.

There will be no Dharma School on Nov. 26th but we invite all Dharma School families to participate in the Thanksgiving Interfaith Service.

Bake Sale for November will be:

Nov. 5th - Band  
Nov. 12th - DBT Dancers  
Nov. 19th - YBA will provide Lunch for Turkey Bingo

Thank you to everyone for your continued support for our Dharma School.

Sara Downey Robinson

### Dharma Discussion With Rev. Thompson

November 7, 14, 21 & 28  
Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Friday, November 17th  
at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion preceded by a  
short service

You are invited to join in dharma discussions that cover such topics as Amida Buddha and the PureLand, basic temple etiquette, onajjin objects and other concepts related to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Bring your own questions and thoughts to keep the discussions lively and relevant.

Contact  
Diana Thompson Sensei at  
303.295.1844 OR  
dthompson@tsdbt.org

*Dates and times are subject  
to change. Contacting Diana  
Sensei ahead of time is highly*

# Turkey Bingo & Raffle Sunday, November 19th

Sponsored by DBT Dharma School  
Lunch provided by YBA

Games begin promptly at 12 noon

PRIZES  
FOOD  
FRIENDS  
LAUGHTER  
YOU ARE INVITED!

*Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings  
received from September 1, 2017—September 30, 2017:*

**Autumnal Ohigan**

Don Akiyama  
Audrey & Jay Charness  
Miyuki Mabel Googins  
Cindy Horiuchi  
Ken & Amy Inouye  
Beulah & Tsutomu Kagiya  
Charles Kagiya  
Jack & Alice Kimura  
Manabu & Junko Kimura  
Ayako Kimura  
Frank Miyazawa  
Alice Nishimoto  
Kumiko Ohtake  
Joe & Jill Ozaki  
Mike & Sara Robinson  
Hank & Irene Shibao  
Sayoko Takata  
Hisae & Michio Taniwaki  
Gary & Debbie Yamashita  
Fumiko Yamashita  
Richard & Michiko Yoshida

**Offering Box**

anonymous  
4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Armijo Family  
Jr. YBA  
Jane Kano  
Preschool Dharma Class

**Obon Donation**

Frances Furukawa  
Dat & Naomi Nguyen

**Facilities Usage**

DBT Judo Dojo  
Wed Nite Bball

<b>September Shotsuki</b> donation .....	<b>in memory of</b>
Elaine & Ted Tsumura .....	Amy Tsumura
Sumi & Yosh Akiyama .....	Frank Higa
.....	Hitoshi & John Tawara
Miyoko Murata .....	Fujie Nishi
Sayoko Takata .....	Fujie Nishi
Families of Tosh&Mary Tawara .....	Hitoshi Tawara
.....	John Akio Tawara
Yuri & Michael Gorin .....	James & Grace Shimada
Betty & Yo Shimamoto .....	Kaichi Sadahiro
Sakamoto Family .....	Muneko Furuiye
Miyuki Mabel Googins .....	Norma Lou Yoshimura
Lillian & Phillip Miyazawa .....	Sally & Kaz Sakamoto
Sakamoto Family .....	Sally & Kaz Sakamoto
Sue Murahata .....	Sueki Joe Murahata
Ida Sasaki .....	Tom Sasaki
<b>Donation</b> .....	<b>for reason of</b>
Charles Kagiya .....	Kitchen Fund
Charles Kagiya .....	Legacy Endowment Fund
Eijiro & Michiko Fujii .....	visiting family from Japan
Kanya & Judy Okamoto .....	for birth of grandson
Carolyn Takeshita .....	in memory of Mickey Takeshita
Hiroko Hung .....	in memory of Ming Hung
Grace Hori .....	in memory of John & Kazuko Hori
Phyllis Kajiwarra .....	in memory of Kikuno Kajiwarra – 50 yrs



## Tomiki Aikido in Akita, Japan 2017

Submitted by Ron Abo Sensei



DBT Aikido recently attended the International Aikido Festival and Tournament in Akita, Japan. Those representing DBT Aikido were Sensei Ron Abo, Ryan Abo, Michael Anderson and Kyle Ramey. DBT Aikido is also a member of the Tomiki Sport Aikido Association (TSAA) USA Chaired by Shihan Seiji Tanaka. TSAA USA had 11 people attending including Shihan Tanaka. Shihan Tanaka is a graduate of Wasada University in Tokyo. Tanaka studied directly under Professor Kenji Tomiki, the founder of the sport style of Aikido. Shihan Tanaka was able to arrange a joint training session between the US Team and the Wasada University Team at the Wasada University Campus in Shinjuku, Tokyo.

The festival and tournament was held at the Tazawako Sport Center in a ski resort in Akita, Japan. It was in the mountains of northern Honshu.

The weather there was pleasantly cooler than the sweltering 90° and high humidity of Tokyo. There were demonstrations and seminars by high ranking sensei from 9 countries. The US Team entered into all of the competitive events that included various kata (a series of choreographed techniques) and free sparring with a tanto (foam rubber knife) and hand-to-hand.

The last day was a visit to the grave of Shihan Kenji Tomiki and a tour of his hometown, Kakunodate, which is an ancient city of many samurai houses and we were able to see first-hand how samurai lived.

We took the Shinkansen (bullet train) back to Tokyo and some of us got to experience a capsule hotel (not bad!) We all enjoyed the sights, sounds, food, sake and new friendships.



BCA Ministers' Association and National Council Meeting

## Together in Gassho

DoubleTree Inn by Hilton - Sacramento, CA

**February 21-25, 2018**

Registration Materials were sent to temples in October

## November Shotsuki Names

(Sangha members who have passed away in the month of November)

Ine Ajsaka	Takako Kishiyama	Paul Den Ono	Seihichi Yago
Kichiro Akiyama	Yuichi Kiyonaga	Yone Ono	Kiso Yamada
Kamekichi Ando	Kojima Takaharu	Shuji Osaki	Masakimi Yamada
Chiyeko Aoki	Kojima Takao	Yoshihiro Otaka	Shiro Yamada
Martha Arakawa	Mihoko Kondo	John Sadahiro	Sahei Yamaguchi
Naojiro Ariki	Katy Shizue Koshio	Nobu Sadahiro	Hatsu Yamao
Naomi Brockman	Asano Koto	Helene Haruko Saeda	Betty Ayako Yamashita
Susan Hanatani Burkhardt	Shosuke Kuroki	Shinpachi Saeki	Sannosuke Yamashita
Yoshi Chikuma	Logan Kusuno	Robert Kingi Sakaguchi	Kazuyo Yasumichi
Fred Kumaji Doizaki	Mark Isamu Kutsuma	Shin Ichi Sakai	Asajiyo Yonekura
Sumire Doizaki	Yaye Kuwabara	Takeno Sakamoto	Miyuki Yonemoto
Ura Doizaki	Kamematsu Masunaga	Kie Sameshima	Shintaro George Yoshihara
William Masashi Doizaki	Sutekichi Matsubara	Hayami Russ Sato	Hideichi Yoshimoto
Hisao Haley Fujii	Isamu Sam Matsuda	Teruko Sato	Soji Yoshimoto
Jean Ikuye Fujimoto	Shunso Matsuda	Tatsuo Sera	Mich Yoshimura
Hisayo Furukawa	Shiro Matsuno	Howard Haruo Shibao	Chiye Yunoki
Itsuno Hara	Tomeko Mayeda	Yoshi Shibao	
Ugi Harada	Kazuo Miyahara	Tatsuo Shibata	
Saju Hasegawa	Kimiye Miyake	Hikoichi Shimamoto	
Masaye Hashimoto	Misumasa Miyake	Wesley Shimoda	
Kikuno Hayashi	Genichi Miyamoto	Emiko Ruth Suekama	
Makoto Hideshima	Chizuko Mary Miyauchi	Ukichi Sumida	
Gary Lee Higa	Kiju Yamashita Miyoshi	Francis Masaaki Suzuki	
Gladys Reiko Hiraoka	Shigeo Miyoshi	Harry Tatsuo Tabuchi	
Yutaka Honjo	Akira Mizunaga	Albert Tokio Tagawa	
Masako Hopp	Shingeru Momoi	Hazel Haruko Tagawa	
Shigeo Horiuchi	Lucy Akiko Mori	Kikue Takahashi	
Toyo Horiuchi	Toi Morimitsu	Tokuhei Takamori	
Tsuneo Horiuchi	Torajiro Mugishima	Tsuyako Takata	
Nakao Hoshijima	Anna Murahata	Fujitaro Takemoto	
Earl Hiroshi Imanaka	Matasaku Murai	Yonekichi Takeuchi	
James Inamasu	Kenji Murakami	Nobuko Tanabe	
Shigeru Inamasu	Linda Kimiko Murakami	Kenzuchi Tanaka	
Taju Inamasu	Otokichi Murakami	Sam Shozo Tanaka	
Yoshie Inouye	Haru Murata	Allen Hiroshi Tani	
Kaname Isahashi	Mitsu Murata	Kiyo Tani	
Betty Ishiguro	Masako Nakadoi	Masato Mike Tashiro	
Tatsuo Roy Iwahashi	Elton Kunisaburo Nakamoto	Chitose Tateyama	
Haruko Iwahiro	Suga Nakasawa	Mitsutarō Tawara	
Hisako Iwakiri	Harry Soichi Nakatsu	Shizue Terada	
Taka Iwata	Atsumu Nakatsuka	Jim Naouiuki Tochiara	
Misao Kagiya	Masako Nakayama	Mary Asako Tokunaga	
Sam Fujio Kato	Yoshio Nigo	Shinkichi Tokunaga	
Akira Kawanabe	Kenichiro Nishi	Yoshiyuki Tsuchiya	
Miyono Kawano	Bob Akira Noguchi	George Eiichi Tsukiji	
Haru Kawashima	Nagafumi Nomura	Nobuyue Tsushima	
Frank Sueo Kimura	Maki Numokawa	Noboru Tsutsumi	
Kazuo Kimura	Howard Oda	Shannon Miki Oshiro	
Sunao Kinoshita	Toyosuke Ogura	Umetani	
Tsuchi Kinoshita	Gonshiro Okada	Lily Urano	
Tsuma Kishimoto	Tsuya Okamoto	Goro Watanabe	
Mitsuo Frank Kishiyama	Bill Mitsuo Okubo	Miyoko Yago	

### *Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service*

November 19, 2017

The Shotsuki Service is a general memorial service held on a monthly basis for members and friends of the temple who have passed away during the month of service. Although there are major memorial (hoji) services set at specific time intervals such as 49<sup>th</sup> Day, 1<sup>st</sup> Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year, 7<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> years, the temple provides families with monthly memorial Shotsuki services held in conjunction with regularly scheduled Sunday services, so family members will have the opportunity to pay respect and gratitude to loved ones who have passed away in that particular month. Donation by affected family members is appreciated: \$50/observance. In Gassho

# December 2017

**SUNDAY**      **MONDAY**      **TUESDAY**      **Wednesday**      **THURSDAY**      **FRIDAY**      **Saturday**

<p>31 NO Sunday service</p>					1		2
<p>7 pm Year End service &amp; Bonsho ringing</p>							
<p>3 Bodhi Day 9:30 am Family service 10:15 am Adult service 11 am Nihongo service <b>F</b> 1 pm Sedgwick service</p>	4	5	6 9 am HS visitors	7	8 11 am Shinran's service	9	
<p>10 Family service <b>F</b> 10:15 Adult service <b>F</b> 11 am Ft. Lupton service <b>T</b></p>	11	12	13	14	15	16 1 pm Greeley Service <b>T</b> 5 pm Hoji—offsite	
<p>17 December Shotsuki 9:30 Family service 10:15 Adult service 11 am Nihongo service 11:30 TSDBT Bd Mtg</p>	18	19 7 pm Humu Humu	20	21	22	23	
<p>24 NO Sunday service</p>	25	26	27 11 am hoji (Takamatsu)	28	29	30 YBA Mochi Tsuki	



# November 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday
			1	2 Mountain States District Conference in SLC, UT	3 MSDC in SLC, UT	4 MSDC in SLC, UT
5 MSDC in SLC, UT 9:30 Family Service 10:15 Adult service 11 am Nihongo service	6	7 11:30 am Discussion & service <b>T</b>	8	9	10 11 am Shinran's Day service	11
12 9:30 am Family service <b>F</b> 10:15 am Adult service <b>F</b> 9 am Brighton service <b>T</b> 11 Ft. Lupton service <b>T</b>	13	14 11:30 am Discussion & Service <b>T</b>	15 6pm Lajara/Alamosa service <b>F</b>	16	17 7 pm Discussion & Service— <b>T</b>	18 1 pm Greeley service <b>T</b>
19 Eitai-kyo service November Shotsuki 9:30 Family service 10:15 Adult service 11:30 TSDBT Board mng Turkey Bingo	20	21 11:30 am Discussion & Service <b>T</b>  7 pm Humu Humu	22	23 10 am Interfaith TG service University Park UMC 2180 S. University Blvd. Denver, CO 80210	24	25
26 NO Denver services 1 pm Sedgwick service	27	28 11:30 am Discussion & Service <b>T</b>	29 Panel discussion-offsite <b>T</b>	30		

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Due to unexpected and extended absence (of the Editor) this November temple newsletter has been pushed out in less than perfect appearance for scheduling and information-sharing purposes. Please accept it –warts and all.

The December issue promises a return to proper formatting and content.

If you wish to place Seasonal Greetings in the January 2018 issue, please submit your greetings with a \$5-\$10 printing donation to the Temple office, no later than December 10, 2017—deadlines are firm and unforgiving.

Thank you for your readership and understanding.  
Gassho,  
Donna Inouye  
Temple Reflections Editor

## How To Become a Temple Member

The method for becoming a Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple member is simple. If you answer the initial questions of, “Do you like it here?” and “Do you wish to keep the Dharma available to yourself and others?” in the affirmative – you have completed the first of three steps. Time to move on to Step #2.

Step #2: Obtain a Membership Application form; fill it out and return it to the Temple office. You have the option of making annual, quarterly or monthly payments. Currently, we can accept cash, check or PayPal payments. When you turn in your application with payment, you will be assigned a Membership number (used for internal tracking purposes). Congratulations. You are almost done – please proceed to the final step #3.

Step #3 is perhaps the easiest (most generous) measure of all. Simply stated this final step in becoming a temple member is “more or less” up to you. You can join an affiliated group – or not. You can volunteer as a teacher, Board Director, maintenance labor, etc. – or not. You can attend extra learning classes – or not. You can participate in Sangha activities (i.e. Turkey Bingo, mochi tsuki, Cherry Blossom Festival, etc.) – or not. In other words, the quality and quantity of your membership is well within your control.

So, congratulations! I’m certain your curiosity about TSDBT Membership is founded upon a certain amount of desire. Now that you see how easy it is to become a Member, we eagerly await your paperwork and friendship. Please speak to any

of us to get started:

### Membership Committee Contact Information

Donna Inouye  
[dinouye@tsdbt.org](mailto:dinouye@tsdbt.org)

Joni Sakaguchi  
[jsak5280@centurylink.net](mailto:jsak5280@centurylink.net)

Gayle Goto  
[ggoto@comcast.net](mailto:ggoto@comcast.net)

Amy Nitta  
[amynitta@gmail.com](mailto:amynitta@gmail.com)

Zak Umetani  
[zumetani@gmail.com](mailto:zumetani@gmail.com)