



# Temple Reflections

A TSDBT Monthly Publication

VOLUME XXXIV September 2014 ISSUE SEVEN

## In this issue!

Rev. Fujii's message	1
Diana Sensei's message	2
Japanese Article	3
Dharma School	4
BWA Update	5
New Book Club	5
Temple Offerings	6, 7
Temple Condolences	7
Temple Congratulations	7
Donation Guidelines	8, 9
Ukulele Start Up	9
Arigato Gozaimasu	9
Nokotsudo Development	10
Temple Happenings	11
Sept 2014 Calendar	12
Oct 2014 Calendar	13
Dharma Discussions	14

## Formula in Buddhism The 19<sup>th</sup> Vow: Part-2

The formula below consists of essential items for learning the Teaching of Buddha:

1. To Learn Buddhism is to learn myself,
2. to learn myself is to learn Buddha's Compassion.
3. to learn Compassion is to forget myself,
4. and to forget myself is to throw me into Buddha's World.

### The 19th Vow

“If, when I attain Buddhahood, the sentient beings of the 10 quarters, **while awakening the mind aspiring for enlightenment and performing meritorious acts, should desire to be born in my land with sincere aspiration, and yet should I not appear before them at the moment of death surrounded by a host of sages,** may I not attain the perfect enlightenment.”

There was a very serious criticism against Honen Shonin who independently established Nembutsu Teaching from “traditional teaching of Buddhism.” It was the criticism that Homen-Shonin denied “awakening the mind aspiring for enlightenment.” In old days, when a person wanted to learn Buddhism, the person renounced the world, left home and society, joined a Sangha or monastery, and learned and practiced under great masters. In short, there was only one way for the person to learn Buddhism: To become a priest.

### Open up Buddhism for everyone equally

Consequently, there was no chance for laypeople to learn Buddhism. Although Honen-Shonin was called “the wisest priest at Mt. Hiei,” he could not realize a clear path to enlightenment until he experienced the heart and mind of Immeasurable Working of Wisdom and Compassion.

His struggling before Nembutsu Teaching went as follows: I have been learning the Teaching of Buddha for years. But nothing happened to me. I don't attain enlightenment, yet. I am empty. What's wrong with me? Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion is equally given to anyone. If so, what is it? How can I know it?

Finally, he came to realize the heart and mind of Amida: Nembutsu alone covers any kind of person - equally without asking any question. Amida's Dharma already contains necessary virtues and power to take me to the highest enlightenment. Then, he started sharing the Nembutsu Teaching mainly with laypeople.

### Teaching of Buddha

It is said that Buddhism is the Teaching of Buddha and Buddhism is the Teaching to lead people to enlightenment. I would like to add one more: Buddhism is the teaching for us to realize truly what we have been looking for in this life. To learn Buddhism is to learn myself by and through Wisdom and Compassion.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Doei Fujii



September  
Buddhist  
Holiday

Autumnal  
Ohigan

# Monthly Salutations

from Rev. Diana Thompson

*'Truly we know: It [Amida's Primal Vow] is a great torch in the long night of ignorance; why should we sorrow that our eyes of wisdom are dark?'*

Hello everyone, welcome to September! And what a busy month it will be. We observe Autumnal Ohigan and the first day of Dharma School on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and the Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial on the 28<sup>th</sup>. It is also the time of year when kids head back to school. The latter may elicit much wailing and gnashing of teeth from the kids but we send them because we want them to be educated. We know that by gaining wisdom, they will be able to make the most of their lives in the future, this, in contrast to ignorance, which will surely hinder their future progress. As parents and caregivers, we tell our children to study hard and encourage them in their interests in order that they may find careers that make them happy and secure. They may find it difficult at times, but we continue to help them along because we know it will benefit them.

In Buddhism we also seek to dispel ignorance and gain wisdom. The wisdom that we talk about is the great wisdom of enlightenment which allows one to see things 'just as they are'. This means seeing things with the mind of non-discrimination wherein nothing is labeled and no particular feeling is attached. This wisdom is known as 'absolute truth' and is contrasted with the 'relative truth' which is ignorance. We refer to relative truths as 'ignorance' because relative truths are those which are colored by our own personal experiences. Though each of us lives a life that has been shaped by many different people and factors, we often think of ourselves as independent beings. However, when we

gather at the temple to observe services such as those mentioned above, we are doing so to remind ourselves of the people and factors that existed before us that helped to bring us to where we are today.

The Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial honors the wife and daughter of our founder, Shinran Shonin; they taught alongside Shinran and established our organization. The Ohigan services (held in both Spring and Fall) are observed for the purpose of focusing our thoughts on Amida and the Pure Land of enlightenment. These observances help us to begin to gain wisdom as each helps us to see that we are connected through a long chain of many people and happenings throughout time and we start to understand that as a part of this chain, we should try to act in ways that will help to guide others towards the great wisdom and compassion that exists for each one of us. Wisdom comes from many places and, while we are looking very forward to another year of sharing the teachings of Buddha with all of our Dharma School families, we also look forward to their questions and opinions that come from their own learning and experiences. Each day at school will teach our children something new that will broaden their knowledge and help them on their way to understanding the world and in the same way, we hope that every day at Dharma School will help them to take that knowledge and turn it into the great wisdom that sees this vast world as part of ourselves.

Namo Amida Butsu

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple  
1947 Lawrence St.  
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Autumnal Ohigan

## *Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples*

1947 Lawrence Street  
Denver CO. 80202

(303)295-1844

FAX (303)295-1952

Email: [dinouye@tsdbt.org](mailto:dinouye@tsdbt.org)

Newsletter articles are due 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](http://www.tsdbt.org)

## 私だけは大丈夫

今頃は男女を問わず結婚詐欺（さぎ）にひっかかる。昔は男が女をだますのが普通だったが、今頃はなんでもありとなった。これは万国共通らしい。ひどいになると金品を獲ってから相手を殺す。親切づらして寄ってきて甘い言葉でだます。人間は本来疑い深い者なのだが、簡単にだまされるのはどうしたことだろうか？統計によるとだまされる者のほとんどが「私だけは大丈夫」との自信のある者が多数をしめるらしい。だまされた後で「こんなはずではなかった」となげくが、もう遅い。また「うますぎる話にはのらない方がいい」とは誰でも知っていることだが、易々と「うまい話」にからめとられて後は怒ったり泣いたりとなる。これとて同じで「私だけは大丈夫」と思っているから、やられる。

例えば、次のような統計がある。アメリカン・フットボール（プロ）で活躍した選手のうち、引退後二年以内に自己破産する選手が78%。プロ・バスケットボールの選手は、引退後5年以内に自己破産する選手が60%だと報告されている。彼らは若くして巨額を得て後に引退する。私が一生涯働いても彼らの一年分の収入にも程遠い額を彼らは平気で手にできるご身分だ。ではなぜ多くが破産するのだろうか。その理由は次のようなもの。（1）投資話（うまい話）（2）派手な夜遊び（楽しい話）（3）ギャンブル（おいしい話）がその理由だという。つまりは、私だけは損をしない、私だけがもてる、私だけがもうける、と思っているから破産する破目になる。

えらそうに言うこの私も「うまい話」に二度ほどだまされたことがある。一つは、運動不足だったのでその解消方法を考えていた時だった。テレビで「腹にまく電気ベルト」の宣伝を観た。そのベルトは電気が腹筋を刺激するので、オフィスにいて、座ったままで、腹筋が付き、しかも腹がへこむ、という代物。早速買った。ところが食欲は増し、体重が増え、腹はへこまない。宣伝とは真反対の結果となったので、止めにした。もう一つは「ニンニク切り」で、手を汚さずにニンニクが簡単に切り刻まれるのをテレビで観て、早速買った。ところが一、二回まではレバーを上下させれば切れるのが、それ以上は細かく切れない。ニンニクのあのネバネバが刃にくっつくからで、この代物も捨てた。

この「おいしいお話」はどこにでも転がっている。では有効な対策はあるのだろうか。そこで、仏様のお智慧を拝借。すると仏様は「全ての出来事を想定内にしなさい」という。そうすれば「この私が騙されるなんて！こんなはずではなかった！これは想定外だ！」と怒り狂うことはなくなる。どういう方法かと言えば、「私はおいしい話に弱いからだまされ易い、と己の愚かさを知りなさい」と教える。騙されても「やっぱりやられたか。だが、これは想定内だ。生きている内は騙され続けるのが私なんだ」と己の姿を知ることだが、何だか頼りない話に聞こえてしまうが、この根本には「仏の智慧をもって己を知ること」が基本にある。「私だけは大丈夫」と思っている人が簡単に騙される。「私はもろい」と知った人は「騙されてやる」のではなかろうか。

合掌。  
藤井道栄

# A New School Year is Here - Please Meet Your New Dharma School co-Superintendents. . .



## Naomi Nguyen

Hi! I'm one of the co-superintendents for Dharma School. I'm looking forward to another fun year even though it will be my last year as co-superintendent!

My name is Naomi Nguyen. I currently live in Platteville with my husband, Dat, and our daughters, Rebeka (18) and Emily (16). I work full-time at Platteville Public Library as the program director, which means I am paid to make noise in a place where people go for silence.

I try to be quiet in the Hondo, however, as I listen to the teachings of the Buddha. There have been times when I needed clarity and direction, and Buddhism brought me the peace I needed to make tough decisions. In times of less stress, the Buddha has taught me to have gratitude for my happiness. As a child, I attended Ft. Lupton Buddhist Temple. My parents, Harry and Terry Matsushima, would drive us from our farm in LaSalle every week, even when it was just my folks, my sisters, and me. Both Ft. Lupton and Denver Buddhist Temples are places of comfort to me, and I am very grateful for my experiences in these places.

I look forward to seeing you all again after summer vacation. Thank you for your support and cooperation! Okagesama-de!

## Rachel Davis

Hi Dharma School. My name is Rachel Davis and this is my first year as co-superintendent. Recently my family and I moved to Westminster from Wheat Ridge. My husband is Sam, our daughter Maya (12) and son Miles (6). I am a K-5 visual art teacher at Steck Elementary in Denver.

I look forward to this year of dharma school and I'm very excited to be a part of a great team.

You can reach me at:  
720-560-2303  
raychotai@gmail.com

## Greetings from your new superintendents

Welcome back, students and families! We are getting ready for another fabulous year of Dharma School for children ages 0 through 18 (high school). Each Sunday starting September 7, we will meet in classes following the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service. Our first day coincides with DBT's Ohigan service.

Class assignments may change depending on enrollment and the availability of teachers. If in doubt, ask Naomi Nguyen or Rachel Davis where your child/children should be placed. We will have registration forms available starting Sept. 7 for all students.

We have a few vacancies among teaching staff. We need a 1<sup>st</sup> grade teaching team and a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teaching team. If you are even slightly interested, please contact Naomi or Rachel. Many people are afraid they don't know enough about Buddhism to teach. Please don't let this stop you! Chances are, you know more than you think you do. We have excellent resources in Reverend Fujii and Reverend Thompson, both of whom are very approachable, knowledgeable, and kind. We also have a variety of books and materials, as well as curriculum guides that you can tailor to your own comfort level. You won't be alone, and the benefits of working with these kids stay with your heart. This is a fun and rewarding way to give back to the temple.

As is tradition, the first bake sale of the "new year" (Sept. 7) will be hosted by the Dharma School teachers and staff. Please support our school by purchasing delicious food items or by donating frozen goods to be shared each week. We have a few vegetarians and vegans in our Sangha, so please remember them in your purchases when you can!

# Buddhist Women's Association (BWA)/Fujinkai News

by Kathy Kuge

The annual Japanese American Association of Colorado picnic was held on Sunday, August 3. Once again, the BWA made the onigiri (rice balls) for the picnic goers (What's a picnic without onigiri?). Thank you Lesli Hirokawa for helping me wash the rice on Saturday and thank you to everyone who came early Sunday morning to help. A special thanks to Michiko Fujii for turning on the rice cookers at 7:00 a.m. Because we had a great turnout, we finished in record time and everything went smoothly. Also, I just want to say that several ladies took the initiative to wash coffee cups and cleanup after the family service. Usually Michiko Fujii ends up doing it all by herself. This is not her job or assigned duty, so if she doesn't selflessly do it, the coffee cups would be stacked by the sink. I hope when you walk through the kitchen to leave the Temple, you thank the person who is cleaning up in the kitchen or wash the cups on the sink. We all need to pitch in to keep the Temple clean.

September is turning out to be a busy month for the BWA. First, the BWA will be making a quilt for the TSDBT 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To prepare to make the quilt, two BWA members, Lillian Miyazawa and Elaine Tsumura, will be hosting several quilting classes. The classes will be held on the following dates:

Saturday, Sept 6 9:00 a.m. – noon  
Saturday, Sept 27 9:00 a.m. – noon

If you are interested in learning how to quilt and about the 100<sup>th</sup> Year Quilt, please contact Lesli Hirokawa at 303-921-6386 for more information. If she doesn't answer, please leave a message.

Sept 28 is Eshinni Service and Luncheon in the Auditorium. The luncheon will be provided and is for current and new/interested members. More information will be announced during Sunday Services.

The BWA Board is planning more activities in the future and the activities are not just cooking. The BWA is a service organization that supports the Temple as well as organizes educational opportunities on various topics of interest to both women and men. We hope more females, 18 years and older, will join the BWA this coming year and participate in the activities to be announced in the future.

## SAKURA SQUARE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

In conjunction with Sakura Square's future redevelopment plans, qualified individuals are now being sought to fill the following job positions:

- Operations Manager
- Facility and Maintenance Supervisor
- Executive Administrative Assistant

Interested candidates should submit their qualifications to Sakura Square General Manager, Gary Yamashita at [gary.yamashita@comcast.net](mailto:gary.yamashita@comcast.net).

## Read The Teachings; Join the Temple Book Club

by Rev. Diana Thompson

Starting in October, I would like to gather participants for a monthly book discussion at the Denver Temple. There will be a new book every month to read and discuss; these books will be available through the Temple Bookstore. If you are interested in a particular month's selection, please contact me in advance so that we can order the books through the Bookstore.

### October:

#### *Buddha's Wish for the World*

by Monshu Koshin Otani

discussion, Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm

### November:

#### *Ocean* by Kenneth Tanaka

discussion date and time TBA

*Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations  
and offerings received from July 1, 2014- July 31, 2014:*

**Hatsubon Service**

Cindy Horiuchi ..... for Andrew Horiuchi  
 Aaron & Kallie Horiuchi ..... for Andrew Horiuchi  
 Kim & Matt Jones ..... for Andrew Horiuchi  
 Ben & Diana Matsumoto ..... for Ayako Matsumoto  
 David & Shari Revier ..... for Ayako Matsumoto  
 Melody Fujimori ..... for Chiyo Nakayama  
 Denny, Dean, David Nakayama ..... for Chiyo Nakayama  
 David & Debby Tanigawa ..... for Frank Higa  
 Nancy, Milt & family Domoto ..... for Frank Hiraoka  
 Gladys Hiraoka ..... for Frank Hiraoka  
 Eddie, Sue & family Hiraoka ..... for Frank Hiraoka  
 Steve, Cheryl & family Hiraoka ..... for Frank Hiraoka  
 Ron, Jan & family Marshall ..... for Frank Hiraoka  
 I.G. Tsutsui ..... for Haruko Kimura  
 Bill & Jean Cuseo ..... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Stanley Y. Doida ..... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Elenn, Stan Jr., Maggie, Scott Doida .... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Dennis & Sharon Ioka ..... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Darren & Christi Ioka ..... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Ryan Ioka ..... for Matsuye M. Doida  
 Miyuki Mabel Googins ..... for Roy Yoshimura  
 Clint & Kim Morehouse ..... for Thomas Tamaki  
 Janice Harada ..... for Ugi Harada  
 George & Sadami Tateyama ..... for Ugi Harada  
 Kazue Ajisaka  
 Susie Asano & Family  
 M/M Allen Bauer & Family  
 Family of James T. Fukuhara  
 Kim & Allen Inouye  
 Mary Omoto & Family  
 M/M Yo Shimamoto & Family  
 Mel & Carol Shimono

**Obon Service**

Ben & Bessie Konishi ..... for Frank & Isayo Yoshida  
 Judy Yamakishi & Lee Vernon ..... for Frank & Isayo Yoshida  
 Melody Fujimori ..... for Kenzo & Yasuko Fujimori  
 M/M Justin Smith ..... for Kenzo & Yasuko Fujimori  
 Family of ..... for Sus Matsumoto & Jerrie Tsuruta  
 Richard & Michiko Yoshida ..... for Taisho  
 Timothy & Anna Anderson  
 Glenn & Michelle Asakawa ..... Testuo & Sadako Iwahiro  
 Junko Asakawa ..... Kenso & Peggy Kagiya  
 Brighton Buddhist Sangha ..... Ayako Kimura  
 Robin Burchardt ..... Manabu & Junko Kimura  
 Josh & Kathy Catlin ..... Hiroko Kondo  
 Michiko Chikuma ..... LaJara/Alamosa Buddhist Sangha  
 DBT Choir ..... Mabel Miyasaki  
 DBT Minyo Club ..... Lillian & Phillip Miyazawa  
 Kay Takako Hatanaka ..... Frank Miyazawa  
 Sachiko Sue Hisamoto ..... Ruby Miyazawa  
 Kenzo & Shirley Horiuchi ..... Dennis & Kazuko Munetake  
 Gene Horiuchi ..... Bill & Ann Murphy

**Osaisen**

Gordon, Lynne & Ryan Fletcher  
 Yoko Mooney  
 Kumiko & Takeshi Ohtake  
 Offering Box donations

**Facilities Usage**

DBT Craft Class  
 Wed Nite Bball

**Ault Sunset Hakamairi**

Tatsuo Matsuda  
 Jim & Jeanne Matsuda  
 Mike & Sharon Matsuda  
 Mary Matsuda  
 Unsigned envelope

**CBF Donation**

Sharon Brooks  
 Susie Asano  
 Shirley Tsuchimoto  
 Tom Koshio

Tom Nakata  
 Nancee Nishimi  
 Marie Nishimoto  
 Alice Nishimoto  
 Calvin & Donna Noguchi  
 Akira Sue Ogawa  
 George & Kiyomoto  
 Stacey Umemoto Ospina  
 Charles & Teri Ozaki  
 David & Joni Sakaguchi  
 Sedgwick Buddhist Temple  
 Rose Shibao  
 Dora Shibata  
 Ken & June Tagawa  
 Glenice Tani  
 Michio & Hisae Taniwaki  
 Betty Yamashita  
 Gary & Setsu Yoshida  
 Kevin Yoshida

*Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings received from July 1, 2014- July 31, 2014:*

**Obon/Hatsubon Service**

Mary Omoto ..... for John Sadahiro  
 Sawaye Hirokawa  
 Beulah & Tsutomu Kagiya  
 Jack & Alice Kimura  
 Art & Tamiko Koyano  
 Hank & Irene Shibao  
 Betty Shimamoto  
 Elaine & Ted Tsumura

**Obon Odori Practice**

Kristi Ryujin  
 Cindy Horiuchi  
 Frank Miyazawa  
 Michi Kajiwara  
 Kay Takahashi  
 "she" who dances well  
 Wayne & Deb Berve  
 David & Gayle Goto  
 Dat & Naomi Nguyen  
 Ron & Karen Matsushima  
 Georgianne Campbell  
 Matt Waltz

**In memory of Gene & Haruko Sasa AND Masaki & Mata Tashiro**

Bryan & Phyllis Nakagawa  
 Paul & Janet Sasa

**In memory of Gene & Haruko Sasa AND Ted Hada**

Ruby Hada

**In memory of George & Sumie Kagohara AND Masaki & Mata Tashiro**

Russell Kagohara  
 Bob Kagohara  
 Peggy Kagohara

**In memory of Keebo Kinoshita**

Lily Goto  
 Jack & Jeanine Kuge  
 Roy & Sachiko Shibata

Alice Nishimoto ..... funeral; Hugh Nishimoto  
 Annette Ward ..... funeral; Masae Kawabe  
 Thomas Yokooji ..... inurnment; May Yokooji  
 Betty Inamasu ..... in memory of Ed Nakagawa  
 ..... In memory of Akio Sameshima  
 ..... In memory of Mae Doida  
 Randy Matsushima ..... in memory of Eiko Matsushima – 7<sup>th</sup> yr  
 ..... In memory of Johnny Mizunaga – 3<sup>rd</sup> yr  
 Floyd & Carol Sasa ..... in memory of Gene & Haruko Sasa  
 Tochiara Family ..... in memory of Jim N. Tochiara  
 ..... In memory of Yasuko Tochiara  
 Fudge Tashiro Family ..... in memory of Masato & Ed Tashiro  
 Thomas Yokooji ..... in memory of May Yokooji – 49<sup>th</sup> day  
 Yutaka & Mieko Yaguchi ..... in memory of Mitsuye Koshiyama – 33<sup>rd</sup> yr  
 Stuart & Michelle Tashiro ..... in memory of Sam & Jane Tashiro  
 Barbara & David Tashiro ..... in memory of Tosh Tashiro  
 Estate of Ed Nakagawa ..... TS/DBT Endowment Fund

*Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership offers congratulations to the newly married couples and their families:*

*Lisa Bilotta & Joe Montoya  
 June 14, 2014*

*Courtney Ozaki & Moch Shannon  
 July 26, 2014*

<i>Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership offers condolences to the family and friends of:</i>	<i>Nancy Yokomizo November 7, 1939 to June 7, 2014</i>	<i>Kimiko Kato January 11, 1916 to July 24, 2014</i>	<i>Henry Kiyoshi Nakata January 18, 1920 to August 12, 2014</i>
	<i>Yuichi Roy Yoshimura May 7, 1941 to April 30, 2014</i>	<i>Tatsuo Matsuda January 26, 1918 to August 9, 2014</i>	<i>Henry Saburo Katayama January 17, 1930 to August 12, 2014</i>

# TSDBT's Guide to Financial Giving

by Rev. Diana Thompson and Donna Inouye

The temple is fortunate to have members and friends who volunteer their time and energy to support our activities. While this physical support is critical, there is a need to ask our members to consider financial support, as well. These solicitations come in several forms and, at times, may seem confusing. The following is a guide to some of our more common forms of financial giving.

## Membership Dues

Membership dues go towards the operating budget of the temple, including, but not limited to, ministerial and staff salaries, utilities, maintenance, assessment payments to the national and district organizations. Dues are collected from individual Denver Temple members; currently, Denver Temple membership dues are set at \$300/adult/year (there are senior and student rates available) Quarterly membership payments from outlying temples (Brighton, Ft. Lupton, Greeley, LaJara/Alamosa, Sedgwick and Scottsbluff, NE) are paid to BCA and MSD as their part of TSDBT assessment dues.

## Monthly Buddhist Holidays

We generally observe the major holidays (Hoonko, Nehan-e, Hanamatsuri, Gotan-e, Obon, Ohigan [spring and fall], and Bodhi Day), on the first or second Sunday of each corresponding month. These special services are notated in the monthly newsletter with a reminder of making a Special Offering and, on that particular Sunday, plain, white envelopes are made available at the lobby table for those willing to make a donation. These offerings fall within the giving realm of \$5 - \$200.

Special Service offerings are intended for the hosting of Guest Speakers. It is not unusual for the Budget Committee to plan for two guest speakers per year. But, as you can well imagine, rising costs of transportation, lodging, dining and Orei can sometimes outstrip donation income thus limiting our guest hosting for any particular year.

## Offering Box

The Offering Box resides in the Hondo, generally at the head or foot of the center aisle – so you can make an offering as you enter Service or when offering incense (oshoko) at the close of Service. These offerings are generally anonymous (no names attached) and can be within \$1.00 - \$100.00 (seems

to depend upon frequency of attendance and/or the significance of weekly Teachings in one's life). Osaisen (offering box donations) is earmarked for the purchase of incense, candles and flowers – onaijin items. Fortunately, one Sangha family has taken on a lifelong commitment of supplying flowers on a weekly basis. Even spared this cost, the remaining onaijin consumables are not inexpensive (i.e. one, high-quality tapered candle can cost \$20.00). Charcoal, incense and candles are burned on a weekly basis – sometimes more. Please consider the importance of ritual, symbolism and ambience as integral parts of Dharma sharing when you make this donation.

## In Memoriam Donations

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist traditional practice of "Gratitude and Compassion" relies heavily upon an individual's ever-widening perspective which includes an awareness of deeds and lives of the past. For this reason, we observe scheduled remembrances of loved ones who have died within the recent and far past. Generally, at this time, a family and individual chooses to make a temple donation in memory of his/her beloved. The general range for In Memoriam Donations falls within \$10.00 to \$2,000.00 and is largely dependent upon one's relationship/connection to the deceased.

## Special Donations

Due to the generosity and foresight of past donors, TSDBT has the privilege of managing an Endowment Fund. This fund is managed by a dedicated and knowledgeable group of Sangha members who understand difficulties of retaining income to generate income. For transparency, legal and common-sense reasons, the Endowment Fund is handled outside the temple office realm.

Through sound management, these funds generate scholarships, special projects AND quarterly disbursements towards temple operating costs. The Endowment Fund corpus has allowed us to be rather lax in soliciting all the donations listed above, however, with escalating inflation and increasing maintenance costs, we cannot afford to drift along while straddling the broad shoulders of our past. Temple members are asked to re-evaluate how and when they are willing to give financial support with

*(continued on page 9)*

# TSDBT's Guide to Financial Giving

(continued from page 8)

the understanding that your decision to give honors the past, holds steady our present and promises our future.

TSDBT will always welcome Endowment Fund donations. If you wish to make an Endowment Fund donation, please notify the office who can provide you with a procedure and/or contact person.

## Other Fundraisers

Currently, the Temple has one ongoing fundraising effort (the Centennial Fund) and one annual (budget sustaining) fundraiser (Cherry Blossom Festival). The Centennial Fund was started in 2007 with the intent to provide financing for major building repair/renovations without further reduction to our Endowment Fund base. Within a matter of a few months, the Temple's exterior walls were re-painted, a new roof was installed, the front fence was renovated, a new gate was built and the Endowment Fund was enhanced. Currently, the Temple is transitioning the Centennial Fund name to The 100 Year Anniversary Fund; these funds will be used, not only for the 100 Year celebration but also, for further building maintenance and the immediate construction of our Temple Nokotsudo (SEE: article on page 10). Cherry Blossom Festival funds provide financing for daily operational costs of running a Temple. Hand-in-hand with the Membership Dues mentioned at the beginning of this article, CBF funds insures the

Temple's presence from year to year.

Other Temple organizations often sponsor "short-term" fundraisers and you are always invited to participate. i.e. Dharma School, YBA, BWA, etc. – bake sales, Turkey Bingo, breakfasts, dana projects, etc.

Ultimately, the Temple has been fortunate enough to enjoy the generous support of countless individuals and organizations. While fundraising is a necessary component of temple life, it is not meant to be our primary focus. As a non-profit organization, our budget is designed to break even.

TSDBT publishes donors and donation types in each temple newsletter. The temple does not publish donated amounts because all donations, regardless of size, are gratefully and equally accepted.

It is now up to each of us to continue this tradition of selfless giving. Together with our new members and those who will join us in the years to come, the future remains bright.

## Arigato Gozaimasu

Thank you to the following crew members who folded and fastened last month's newsletter mailing copies: Shirley Tsuchimoto, Dora Shibata, Kay Takahashi, Michiko Kajiwara, Judy Smith, Kazue Ajisaka and Richard Yoshida. Side note: we ended up with a couple of really tasty food recipes ☺

Thank you to all the Ladies and Gentleman of Minyo Club for teaching and leading us through Obon Odori. I hope next year's Rockies' game schedule allows us a few more practice sessions during the week. Even as many are able to learn the dances in a short time, I miss the multiple nights of gathering everyone together for practice and the building excitement for the eventual, real, final Obon Odori night.

Thank you to Wayne Berve and Kent Yamasaki for keeping dancers in motion by cueing music and imparting your DJ repartee. Thank you to Cynthia Kiyotake for selling odori merchandise (fans, kachi kachi, sasara, etc.) during the practice sessions. Thank you to YBA, BWA, Ikebana, DBT Judo for providing food and drink sales. Thank you to Sakura Square Management and Pacific Mercantile for closing off the open air parking lot on a Saturday afternoon/evening so that we could hold our celebration outside on a beautiful summer evening.

The ukulele was introduced by Portuguese "cowboys" who settled on the Big Island of Hawaii in the 1800's to teach the local Hawaiians how to raise cattle. The name of the ukulele comes from the word "uku" which in Hawaiian means 'fleas' and fleas, of course, are those small and pesky bugs.

For those who want to learn to play this fun little instrument, come to an introductory ukulele class on Sunday, September 14th at 11:30 AM upstairs in the Cry Room. We will have an informal session just to introduce you to the different types of ukes and the sounds they make.

Our Humu Humu Ukulele Group meets twice a month. We meet at the Temple on the first Sunday of the month from 11:15-1 PM and again on the third Tuesday of each month from 7-9 PM. Please come to the introductory class and have some fun. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.

Hope to see a lot of new faces!

Shirley Tsuchimoto

303-688-2774 or shirleytsuchimoto@gmail.com



Nokotsudo Design Rendering by Kelly Yamasaki

## Temple Plans Construction of Nokotsudo

The recently formed Nokotsudo Committee is pleased to convey the Temple's decision to build a new Nokotsudo. It has been a long-time goal of the Temple to create an expanded, formal Nokotsudo. It was designated as a project of the Centennial fundraising effort started several years ago to which many Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple members and friends have contributed.

Did you know that the Denver Temple currently houses a Nokotsudo (columbarium)?

The current Nokotsudo's confined space does not allow for services to be conducted or for family and friends to visit. The new nokotsudo, which was designed by Temple members, will be built in the apartment space behind the auditorium stage. The expanded space and design will allow for services and visitation/meditation in a place of serenity.

As a Temple member, you may choose the Nokotsudo as your final resting place; as a Temple family, you may choose the Nokotsudo as your final family gathering place. Although construction is not yet complete (target completion date is 2015), Temple members may reserve niche(s) immediately so that the space is available when needed.

The Nokotsudo Committee members have carefully considered and discussed the many aspects of purpose, procedure and continuity of housing a Nokotsudo. Your decision to commit an eternity in the Nokotsudo no doubt creates many more questions than can be answered in a single newsletter article.

Fortunately, each committee member is dedicated to providing you with information and forward-thinking ideas. They will continue to disburse information through mailings, Sunday service announcements, newsletter articles and Sodan (funeral planning) meetings. Meanwhile, you are encouraged to take the initiative and reach out to individual committee members – each is available to meet with you privately and at your convenience to discuss your options.

*A Nokotsudo is a special area for the storage of ashes of loved ones. Urns are placed in individual niches. There is an altar within the nokotsudo where family members may offer incense and flowers in a quiet setting.*

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple Nokotsudo Committee: Steve Nitta [720.318.6434], Charles Ozaki, Dennis Ioka, Randy Sasaki, Rebecca Steinebrey, Gail Ida, Joni Sakaguchi, Gary Yamashita, Gary Matsuda, Kelly Yamasaki, Donna Inouye

### Religious Services

SUN	Sept 7	DHARMA SCHOOL BEGINS! Autumnal Ohigan 8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma Family service 10:15 am Adult Service
MON	Sept 8	Sedgwick & Scottsbluff
FRI	Sept 12	11 am Shinran's Day service
SAT	Sept 13	11:30 am Hoji - offsite
SUN	Sept 14	9:30 am Dharma Family Service 10:15 Adult service 9:00 am Brighton Sangha service 11 am Ft. Lupton service
WEDS	Sept 17	6 pm LaJara/Alamosa Sangha service
SAT	Sept 20	1 pm Greeley service w/Hoji
SUN	Sept 21	8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 am Dharma Family Service 10:15 Adult service
SUN	Sept 28	Eshinni/Kakushinni Service 9:30 am Dharma Family service 10:15 am Adult Service 12:30 Hoji - offsite



### Mountain States District Conference November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple

This year, the Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple will be hosting the Mountain States District Conference. This conference is meant to bring together the sanghas from the Colorado and Utah Temples for the purpose of sharing the Dharma. Ministers and Minister Assistants from the various temples will be giving presentations on the Myokonin, or 'wondrous people' whose great respect for the teachings of Buddha brought them to lead wondrous lives in the Dharma and inspired others to do the same. There will be activities for both children and adults with lunch (Saturday and Sunday) and dinner (Saturday) will be provided. For more information or to sign up, please contact Rev. Thompson [dthompson@tsdbt.org](mailto:dthompson@tsdbt.org). Hope to see all sangha members there!

### Dharma School Schedule

#### **Bake Sales**

Sept. 7	Teachers and staff
Sept. 14	Jr. YBA
Sept. 21	5 <sup>th</sup> grade
Sept. 28	4 <sup>th</sup> grade

Dharma School teachers and staff will chair service during family services in September. We'll celebrate August and September birthdays on Sept. 21. Look for the sign-up sheet for bringing treats for future Birthday Sundays (usually observed on the third calendar Sunday of each month).

We look forward to seeing you and your children in September!

### Gym Schedule

SUNDAY	11:30 am Karate
MONDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Aikido 6:30 - 8 pm Judo
TUESDAY	7 pm Volleyball
WEDNESDAY	7:30 pm Basketball
THURSDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Aikido 6:30 - 8 pm Judo
FRIDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Family Aikido Judo (every other week)

# September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>R</b> = Rockies' game	<b>1 R</b> Diana Sensei out-of-town	<b>2 R</b>	<b>3 R</b>	<b>4</b> 6 pm Dharma Discussion	<b>5 R</b>	<b>6 R</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service	<b>8</b> Sedgwick Scottsbluff	<b>9</b> 6 pm Dharma Discussion	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 11 am Shiran's Day Service (F)	<b>13</b> 11:30 Hoji - offsite
<b>14</b> 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 9 am Brighton 11 am Ft. Lupton 11 am Humu Humu	<b>15 R</b>	<b>16 R</b>	<b>17 R</b>	<b>18 R</b>	<b>19 R</b>	<b>20 R</b> 1 pm Greeley w/Hoji
<b>21 R</b> 8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult Service 11 am Dharma Discussion 11:30 am TSDBT Board mtg	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7 pm Humu Humu	<b>24</b> 6 pm Dharma Discussion 6 pm LaJara/Alamosa	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Eshimi/Kakushinni Service 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 11 am Dharma Discussion 12:30 Hoji - offsite	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

# October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Rev. Tamai Memorial Seminar
5 Rev. Tamai Memorial Seminar 8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 1 pm Sedgwick	6	7	8 7 pm JACGP mtg	9	10 11 am Shinran's Day Service	11 8 - 5 DBT Judo Tournament Tagawa Memorial Shiai
12 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult Service 9 am Brighton service 11 Ft. Lupton service	13	14 6 pm Book Discussion	15	16	17	18 1 pm Greeley
19 8:30 am Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 11:30 am TSDBT Board mtg	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 11 am YBA Aki Matsuri	27	28	29	30	31	

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples  
1947 Lawrence Street  
Denver, CO 80202

Address Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
DENVER, COLO.  
PERMIT NO. 521

## **Dharma Discussion**

Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple  
1947 Lawrence Street  
Denver, CO 80202

**Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.**  
**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m.**

Please join us here at the temple for evening dharma discussions. We will cover topics such as Amida Buddha and the Pure Land, basic temple etiquette, onajin objects and other concepts related to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. We would also like to encourage participants to bring in their own questions and topics in order to keep the discussions lively and relevant ☺.

**Dates and times are subject to change. Signing up ahead of time is highly recommended if you wish to park in the Sakura Square lot and also so that we may keep you informed of schedule changes or cancellations.**

Contact:: Rev. Diana Thompson  
(303) 295-1844  
dthompson@tsdbt.org