

VBT Bodhi Day Service

The word "Buddha" means "Enlightened One." Buddhism teaches that all things have Buddha-nature, the potentiality to become Buddha. Yet to our knowledge there has been no one outside of Gautama, in over 2,500 years of Buddhism, who has attained the state of Enlightenment of Buddhahood. Not even Shinran Shonin was able to attain Buddhahood while he was alive.

It was on December 8 that Siddhartha Gautama was "born" as Sakyamuni Buddha. While sitting in meditation beneath a Pippala tree, Gautama made a firm resolution not to move from his sitting position until he attained Enlightenment. Since Enlightenment is known as Bodhi in Sanskrit, December 8 is called "Bodhi Day".



Please join us on Sunday,
December 6 at 10:30 am for
Vancouver Temple's
Bodhi Day Service.

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



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Bodhi Mind

Vancouver Buddhist Temple

December 2015, Issue #395

"A three-year old child may well know the Way"

Welcome to the month of December! I cannot believe how time passes so quickly. We quietly look back over the year of 2015, and we should feel grateful that we are able to live each day, each moment, and each breath. When I talk about Buddhism to people who have never heard of the teaching, I usually shares the following story. During the time when Bai Juyi was a Qian Tang Jiang (government official) in Hangzhou. he one day passed by the Green Creek Bridge and saw a crowd gathered before a Buddhist monk to hear him talk. He thought it strange that people would come to such a remote countryside to listen to a monk. The monk must be very learned, he thought. So, he rode his horse in the direction of the crowd.

When Bai came face to face with the monk, he said: "Master, the place where you are seated is quite dangerous." The Buddhist monk was the famous Bird's Nest Monk. Just one glance at Bai and he could see that he was an arrogant and conceited elitist. So Bird's Nest said to Bai, "It is your position that is in danger."

Bai was quite thrown off by this remark and said, "My position is one that is rooted in the country. How can it be in danger?" The monk replied, "Worries and pressures alternate with each other and the conscience is put to an unending test. Neither the body nor the soul can get any rest. Isn't that dangerous?"

Then Bai asked Bird's Nest, "Please tell me, Master, what is the essence of Buddhism?" Bird's Nest decided to teach him a moral lesson: "Do no evil deed and engage in deeds of kindness." Bai, who knew a little about Buddhism, immediately retorted, "I've known this for a long time. Not only I know it, even a three-year old child knows it." Seeing Bai disparaging Buddhist teachings, Bird's Nest said to him, "A three-year old child may well know the Way. But an eighty-year old man may no longer have the energy to practice it."

When Bai heard that, he could read between the lines and knew that Bird's Nest was right. He felt ashamed of himself. Then he said to Bird's Nest, "You've opened my mind. I hope to learn more about Buddhism from you. One day I will come again to be your follower." And he left.

Bird's Nest knew that Bai had a receptive heart towards Buddhism. But after almost a year, Bai still did not turn up for his lectures. So one day Bird's Nest paid a visit to Bai's residence but found that Bai was out on an appointment. He took a pen-brush and wrote down this poem for Bai:

Highlights from the VBT November Board Meeting

November 7, 2015

- 1) Motion passed to upgrade heating/cooling system of temple with grant from City of Vancouver.
- 2) Motion passed to accept proposal for storage rental to Powell Street Festival committee.
- 3) 2015 Fall Bazaar: Thanks to all who helped for another successful event. Must address concerns with declining numbers of helpers and sustainability of event.
- 4) BCJSBTF: propose to federation that annual convention should be held every other year.
- 5) Intro to Buddhism Course: at time of meeting 55 people signed up.
- 6) JSBTC: VBT passed motion not to support increase of assessment in order to fund full-time bishop.
- 7) VBT Membership: motion passed to increase VBT membership to \$100 per member/year.

The next board meeting will be held on **Saturday, December 12 at 10:00 am**. Everyone is welcome to join the meeting and participate in the running of our temple.

2016 VBT Membership

The VBT Board has made the decision to raise the membership dues to \$100 for individual members starting 2016. It is the first time the dues have been raised in many years, and reflects the naturally increasing costs of running the temple.

Please return the enclosed 2016 membership form and dues to the temple at your earliest convenience.

In Gassho,

VBT Board of Directors.



The Hongwanji announced the birth of a baby girl to the Gomonshu-

sama, Kojun Otani and his wife the Urakata-sama, Ruzumi Otani. Their daughter, named Akiko Otani, was born on October 6, 2015.

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple congratulates the Otani family on the safe arrival of their daughter.

BC Insight Meditation Winter (www.bcims.org) Sangha Celebration

Sunday January 17th, 2016 held at Vancouver Buddhist Temple 6pm to 8:30pm.

Adrianne Ross Senior Dharma teacher at BCIMS has invited Vancouver Buddhist Temple members and friends to a winter celebration event. Participants in in BCIMS classes, sitting groups, Westcoast Dharma and BCIMS retreats get together for an evening of sitting meditation, chanting and setting personal intentions for the new year finishing with pot luck finger food. The session promises to be educational. Please sign-up at the temple or on the website. Cost of the session is by Dana of \$15 per person or \$5 for unemployed. Proceeds will go to the Vancouver Buddhist Temple and the BCIMS Scholarships.



VBT Mochitsuki

Sunday December 13, 2015

**9:00am in the VBT Social Hall,
10:30am Service in the Hondo**

To prepare mochi, many pounds of steamed sweet rice are pounded rhythmically in a stone bowl with wooden mallets. With each pounding of manual force and energy, the rice transforms into an elastic, sticky treat called mochi, which is then shaped into komochi rounds. This kagami set of two rounds of mochi is arranged on an altar, which is placed to represent wishing for longevity.

After the year-end service, a light lunch featuring mochi will be served. Every participating household will receive one kagami set, with a little extra to enjoy on New Year's Day. So that we know how much mochi and lunch to prepare, please sign up at the VBT office or online at the VBT website. Come and join in the fun of tradition of pounding mochi.



Image courtesy of Oregon Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

Oct. 3, 2015 Oct. Shotsuki

Joe & Ryoko Tateyama, May Mukaida, Merv & Daisy Araki, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming, Amy Nagamatsu, Lori North, Mak Ikuta
In memory of Fumi Honkawa: Hiroshi & Ruth Honkawa, Reiko Honkawa
In memory of Dad 17th yr: - Byron Kagawa, JoAnne McAllister

Nov. 14, 2015 Eitaikyo & Nov. Shotsuki

Denise Cork, Teruko Ikuta, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, May Mukaida, Chieko Takasaki, Jean Nakatsui, Lori North, Jenny Fujita, Mr. & Mrs. J.S. Kamimura
In memory of Fusae Nishimura: R. Nishimura, Judy Hanazawa
In memory of Amy Muraki: Stan & Lucy Yoshioka



Toban Groups: Our Temple is Our Responsibility

From lunches at our monthly Shotsuki services, to wiping down tables and cleaning the washrooms, the temple would

not be the warm and welcoming place for gathering if it were not for the dedicated hard work of our members. When people come to the temple—whether it's for the first time or the 100th time—the care we put in our temple expresses how precious we hold the Teachings of the Buddha.

The following activities in are the responsibility of **Toban #3** (Members listed below):

December

Sunday 6— 10:30 am Shotsuki

Sunday 13— 9:00 am Mochitsuki

Thursday 31—10:00pm New Year's Eve Service (VBT)

Mr. Tei Domitsu
Mrs. Kazue Egami
Mr. Derek Iwanaka
Mr. & Mrs. James Leung
Ms. Lorene Macdonald
Mr. & Mrs. Akiyasu Masuhara
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Matsuda
Mrs. Kikuye Matsui
Mr. & Mrs. Otokazu Matsui
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. M. Matsushita
Mr. & Mrs. Ray McDonald
Miss Frances Minato
Mr. Harry Minato
Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Minato

January

Friday 1—10:30 am New Year's Service

Sunday 10—10:30 am Hoonko & Shotsuki

Saturday 16—10:00 am Toban & Board Mtg

Mr. Hitoshi Mitsui
Mrs. Tsugi Miyashita
Mrs. Karen Mizushima
Mr. & Mrs. H. Morimoto
Miss Orrin Morishita
Mrs. Yukie Morishita
Mrs. Fumie Nakagawa
Mrs. Shoko Nakagawa
Mrs. Kazumi Nakano
Mrs. Yachiyo Nishi
Ms. Tomi Niwatsukino
Ms. Asako Nomura
Mr. & Mrs. David Ohori
Mrs. Junko Ohori
Mr. & Mrs. Norio Renovich
Mrs. Karen Stewart

Mrs. Kazuko Takahara
Mr. & Mrs. Mikio Takeda
Mr. & Mrs. Shizuo Tanaka
Mrs. Seiko Tanami
Mrs. Michiko Tanizawa
Mr. Kaoru Tatara
Mrs. Etsuko Tsukishi
Mr. Yasuo Uyenno
Mr. & Mrs. K. Uyeyama
Dr. Hiroko Watanabe
Mrs. Taeko Yamamoto
Ms. Takiko Yamamura
Mr. & Mrs. T. Yamazaki
Mr. Kazuo Yanagisawa
Ms. Joanne Yuasa

2016 Northwest Buddhist Convention hosted by IDAHO-OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

FEB 12-14 '16

"Seeking the True and Real"

Adults \$110.00

Youth/Student (grade 6 through college) \$80.00

Children (kindergarten through grade 5) \$60.00

Children (age 3 through preschool) \$45.00

Banquet Only, for non-registered guests \$50.00

Bento Box (Sunday) \$12.00

Registration deadline: January 15, 2016

Late registration: \$15 extra charge per registrant, subject to availability

Cancellation policy (registration only): cancel by January 31, full refund cancel Feb 1 and after, penalty 50% of registration

Hotel cancellation penalties are as defined by the individual hotels

Submit to: Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple Questions? Please contact convention chairman Mike Iseri, mikeiseri@fmtc.com, 541 889-8691

Friday, February 12, 4PM - 9PM, registration formalities and hospitality will take place at the Temple, 286 SE 4th St.

Saturday, February 13, 8AM, registration open at Four Rivers Cultural Center, 676 SW 5th Ave.

Transportation

The nearest airport to Ontario is Boise, Idaho, about 55 miles away. For those arriving by plane, transportation to/from Ontario will be provided. Please make note on your registration and we will coordinate transportation for you. Rental cars are also available at the airport, advance reservations recommended.

Your chartered buses typically will transport you between your hotel and Four Rivers Cultural Center. However, for transportation needs beyond their normal schedule or if you are otherwise without transportation, Idaho-Oregon will provide transportation between the convention site and your hotel for you.

Transportation to your hotels will be provided for those attending Friday meetings whether they occur at the Temple or at Four Rivers Cultural Center.

If you wish to attend the NorthWest Convention, please contact Gina at the Temple 604 253-7033 at your earliest convenience to register, as I will forward registration to Temple.

December Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The December Shotsuki/monthly memorial service
will be held on **Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 am**

1959

*HIROSE, Tanejiro
MATSUYAMA, Iyo

1960

*HARA, Matsuji
*NAKAZEKI, Ihachi
*NOGAMI, Sankichi
*UYEYAMA, Yoshiye

1961

*IWABUCHI, Ichio
*SHOJI, Kojiro

1962

*NAITO, Ise

1963

*MIZUNO, Tsuru
*SAKATA, Yone

1964

*NAKAMURA, Hikoso
*OHASHI, Gengo
*OYE, Tomi

1966—50th Year

*ARAKAWA, Sute
*KOHARA, Shirayu

1968

*FUJIOKA, Kenji
*TAKIMOTO, Yojiro

1970

*MAEDA, Ko
*OOKA, Fusaye
*YANO, Kenichi

1972

*KARIYA, Gorokichi
MATSUI, Sadajiro
*NEHA, Tomonori

1973

*MORI, Bun
*NAGASAWA, Kinsaku

1974

INOUE, Teru
NAKAMURA, Keizo

1975

*MIYATA, Ninosuke
*UYEDA, Shige

1976

*KOYANAGI, Kyuichi

1977

*HIGO, Hajime
*MATSUNO, Takao

1978

NAKATSU, Gen
*ROBINSON, Robert

1979

*AJIMOTO, Haruye
HAMANISHI, Kentaro
KOYANAGI, Jun

*MASUHARA, Yohei

*NAKASONE, Yoriko

*YAMANOUCHI, Keiji

1980

SHOJI, Tamiko

1982

*NAKATSU, Kanichi

*YOSHIDA, Makio

1984

*MORI, Kenji

*SHIBATA, Yasuhiro

1987

*TAKAHASHI, Tsusaburo

1988

*KITADE, Yoshiharu

*MORISUE, Kazuo

1989

MUKAI, Mine

1990

*FUJITA, Kiyoshi

*NAGASAWA, Tatsu

NATSUHARA, Sawaye

OHORI, Masa

*SUGAWARA, Yoshiko

*TAKASAKI, Takeo

1992

*BABA, Masako
HAMANISHI, Toshi

*TAKAGI, Nobue

1993

*MINAMIDE, Toshiye

*ONO, Suye

*YAKURA, Ko

1994

TAKATA, Takeo

1995

HAMAGUCHI, Kisako

1996

*KITAGAWA, Sotojiro

1997

HONDA, Kazuo
*KAWAMOTO, Masao
NISHI, Yoshiko
YOSHIDA, Yoshie

2000

*ASAOKA, Takashi
IWASAKI, Mitsuji
KOYANAGI, Saburo
*MASUHARA, Wakako
OKAMOTO, Yukio
TOMANEKI, Machiye

2001

*AKASAKA, Minoru
MURAO, Yasukichi
TAKAI, Nobue
TAKENO, Hisae
YAMAMOTO, Ei

2002

HARA, Miyoko
HARAGUCHI, Masanobu
*NISHIKIHAMA Sawae

SEKIYA Mitsuo

2003

KOYANAGI Suyeko
TATARA Eiko
NISHIMOTO Kumeko
HATTORI Allan

2004

TAKEMOTO, Yasuye

2005

KAGETSU, Hide
TAKEMORI, Ichiro
YONEDA, Minoru

2006

MIYAZAKI, Yoshie

2007

KOMORI, Edward
NATSUHARA, Kaoru
KITANO, Ken

2008

SAKATA, Kazuma
HAYASHI, Shigeko

2009—7th Year

GOMYO, Yuichi

2010

YONEDA, George
OKABE, Hitoshi

2011

NUKINA, Roy Masami

2012

NOMURA, George
MARTIN, Hunter
SAKIYAMA, Mitsuyo

2013—Third Year

HAYASHI, Kotaro
UEGAKI, Takuo
SHIKAZE, Emiko
MATSUNAGA, Takao

2014—First Year

TAKATA, Etsuko

Passings

Our deepest condolences
go to the families and
friends of

Mrs. Sayomi Uyeda
(Sept. 22—88 yrs)

Mrs. Matsui Kikuye
(Sept. 23—97 yrs)



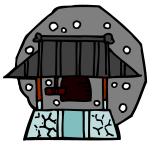
Mr. Kenji Shibata
(Oct. 3—79 yrs)

Mrs. Sumi Kobayakawa
(Oct. 19—96 yrs)

Mrs. Chiyoko Fujii
(Nov. 6—94 yrs)



December 2015

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	<i>Seniors' Club Year-end Bonenkai Party</i> <i>Thu, December 10 at 11:30 am</i> Please forward \$15.00 for lunch to Chieko Nishi or Kazuko Takahara by Thur, December 3.				4	5 <u>11:00 am</u> FVBT Bodhi Day/ Shotsuki/ 60th Anniversary Service (Rev. T. Aoki)
6 <u>10:30am</u> Bodhi Day and December Shotsuki Memorial Service	7	8	9	10 <u>11:30 am</u> Seniors' Club Year- End Party 	11	12 <u>10:00 am</u> Board Meeting
13 <u>9:00 am</u> Mochi-tsuki <u>10:30 am</u> Year-end Service	14 DUE: Articles for next issue of Bodhi Mind	15	16 <u>11:00 am</u> Nikkei Home- Service (Rev. Aoki) 7:00PM Dharma Circle	17	18	19
20 No Service	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Holiday [Office Closed]	26 Boxing Day
27 No Service	28	29	30	31 <u>10:00 pm</u> New Year's Eve Service (VBT) <u>11:30 pm</u> Bell-ringing (UBC)	<div style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;"> <p><i>In front of (UBC) Asian Studies Building 1871 West Mall Vancouver, BC</i></p>  </div>	



Free Public Lecture
Friday, January 8
 at 7:00 pm
**"The Rhythm of Great
 Compassion:
 Seasons of Life and Death"**
 by Rev. Dr. Mark Unno

VBT's guest minister for 2016 Ho-onko is Rev. Dr. Mark Unno. He is a professor of Religious Studies at the University of Oregon specializing in East Asian Religions, and a prolific writer in the Buddhist academia. Dr. Unno is a highly respected and renowned scholar of Buddhism, but complements it with a sincere and personal approach to sharing the joy of the Dharma as a Jodo Shinshu minister. His heartfelt Dharma Talks make him a very popular speakers, so we are grateful to have him speak on the occasion of Ho-onko, the most important Jodo Shinshu Observance of the year.

January 2016

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1 <u>10:30 am</u> New Year's Service	2
3 NO SERVICE at VBT	4	5	6	7	8 <u>7:00 pm</u> Public Lecture by Dr. Mark Unno (see in- side this issue for details)	9 <u>11:00 am</u> FVBT Hoonko and Shotsuki Monthly Memorial
10 <u>10:30am</u> Hoonko and January Shotsuki Memorial Service	11 DUE: Articles for next issue of Bodhi Mind	12	13	14	15	16 <u>10:00 am</u> Toban and Board Meeting
17 NO SERVICE At VBT 10:30am Hoonko Service @ Ste- veston Temple 6pm BCIMS Win- ter Celebration Meditation and Potluck	18	19	20	21	22	23

[continued from page 1]

Having penned your ideals as an official for forty years; (笔刀为官四十年)

While drowning yourself in countless disputes; (是是非非有万千)

One family is well-off while thousands others live in misery; (一家保暖千家怨)

Half your life brings fame but invokes woes in a hundred after-lives. (半世功名百世冤)

When Bai returned home and saw the poem written on the wall, a strong sentiment suddenly took hold of him. It dawned on him that after all these years he had always wished to take up Buddhism, but had never committed to doing it. He was so consumed by his daily affairs and by the constant distraction of social gossip. He felt he was struggling to stay afloat in a pool of unending conflict. The poem awakened him to his cherished wish and so he decided to leave his job to become a secular follower of Bird's Nest.

May we all continue to listen to the Dharma and with the approaching cold season, please stay warm.

Namo Amida Butsu Tatsuya Aoki