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<https://www.facebook.com/VancouverBuddhistTemple2016/>



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Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

May, 2017, Issue #408

How far do we go?

Rev. Dr. Leslie Kawamura asked many years ago, “How many of us would even walk from our homes to the Vancouver Buddhist Temple to hear the Dharma?” He reminded us that there was a time when monks sailed from Japan to China or others would walk from China to India to hear the Dharma. That took real effort! Today, here in Canada, there are twelve Jodo Shinshu temples and most people either drive their cars or take the bus to temple to hear the Dharma message. Most of us are grateful that it is relatively easy to attend temple. But at the same time, it is easy to take it for granted.

After Dr. Kawamura’s talk, discussion centered around the question, “How many of us would even walk from our homes to come to the temple to hear the dharma?” There were several interesting experiences people had that brought them to the Dharma. Then another question came up. “So, how do we become a Buddhist?” My response was to simply share what I have heard from so many people over the years. It is this. “One day I wake up and feel that I have been a Buddhist all my life and did not know it.” It is really as simple as that. When we realize that Buddhism is truly a sensible and meaningful path to take in life, that we find ourselves feeling, “This is for me.” And what makes it truly wonderful is that, “there is nothing to believe -- there is nothing to fear”.

As I have often said, “All we need to do is open our eyes, and we will see that the whole world is constantly teaching us the Dharma. It doesn’t always have to be in the temple hondo (altar hall) to receive the Dharma.

As most people know, the name “Buddha” means, “One who is Awake”. In other words, a Buddha is “One whose eyes are open” and with our Dharma eyes open we cannot help but see things as they truly are. Again, “nothing to believe, nothing to fear!”

So how do we become a Buddhist? One day we just open our eyes and realize, I think I have been Buddhist all my life and did not know it.” Once we do know, it is virtually impossible to live with our eyes closed again.

We are not Buddhist because our parents and grandparents were Buddhist. We are not Buddhist because we come from many generations of Buddhist ministers or having been born into a temple family. We realize we are Buddhist because, one day our eyes are opened and we see that we have been looking for the path. We had always been on *the path and never knew it*.

“How far do we go to hear the Dharma?”

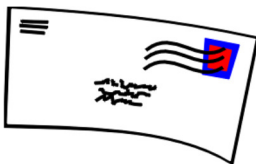
Gassho.

Robert Akune



Bodhi Mind Newsletter

\$20/year to receive Bodhi Mind Newsletter by mail (Jan 1, 2018)



Hello Vancouver Buddhist Temple Members and other Bodhi-mind newsletter recipients. Last year we started a list of people who want to receive a copy of the Bodhimind by email. Also, both the English and Japanese newsletters are posted for free download from our website, vancouverbuddhisttemple.com and are available at the temple. Anyone who wishes to receive their newsletter via email is asked to email Hiroko at temple.vbt@gmail.com and indicate which language editions they wish to receive.

Beginning January 1, 2018, the Temple will cease to mail the Bodhimind newsletter by Canada Post to non-members of Vancouver Buddhist Temple and Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Members. Non-members can subscribe to have the English and/or Japanese Language paper edition(s) mailed to them for \$20 per calendar year. Please print and complete the table below and either email, mail or drop off at the temple. Payments may be included by cheque payable to Vancouver Buddhist Temple, by PayPal on the website or at the temple.

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BCJSBTF Convention

This year's BCJSBTF Convention, "The Four Gates—Finding the Nembutsu Path" will be on September 15-17 in Langley, BC. The hosts, Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple, have engaged Rev. James Martin of the Calgary Buddhist Temple as the Guest Speaker, and are in works to organize a stimulating and engaging weekend of Dharma.

More information to come!



Message from the VBT Board

Recently our temple celebrated Hanamatsuri (Flower Festival), the occasion of the birth of baby Buddha some 2500 years ago. Rev. Patricia Usuki from the San Fernando Buddhist Temple gave a very interesting Dharma talk. The service included a Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation) ceremony officiated by Aoki Sensei, to introduce two young infants, Ema Satomi Komori Gladstone and Nobushige Kurobe Macfarlane, to our Shin Buddhist sangha. Following the service everyone sat down for the annual Keirokai lunch to recognize the dedication and support to our temple by our seniors, 75 years and better. Included amongst the Kiju (77) and Beiju (88) celebrants were two members who continue living the good life over 100 years. They are Fumie Nakagawa (100) and our oldest member, Sayo Hattori (104 in August). The occasion concluded with several fun games of Bingo.

Please be reminded of the special general meeting of members on May 6 at 10:00am followed by our bi-monthly Toban meeting.

Gassho,
VBT Board of Directors

Important information about Donations

When the VBT receive donations, our aim is always to receive them with care, and to make sure donors are recognized for their generosity. This is done through the temple newsletter, but also through issuing official donation receipts for Income Tax purposes.

- In the case of **cheque donations**, VBT is only able to issue the receipt in the name of the account holder of the cheque
- In the case of **cash donations**, VBT will issue the receipt in the name indicated on the envelope. Please make sure the name of the donor is written clearly.
- In both cases, please make sure the mailing address is written clearly

We are deeply grateful for the generosity that allows our temple to function from day to day as a place for people to gather in the Dharma.



2017 OBON Cemetery & Temple Services

July 2 (Sun)

- 9:30 AM Forest Lawn フォレストローン
 10:00 AM Ocean View オーシャンビュー
 10:30 AM Mountain View マウンテンビュー@ North
 10:40 AM @South by the crematorium



July 2 (Sun)

- 4:00 PM Valley View (Surrey) バレービュー
 4:40 PM New Westminster ニュー・ウェストミンスター
 5:00 PM Coquitlam コキットラム

July 4 (Tue) ○

- 10:00 AM Maple Ridge メープルリッジ
 10:30 AM Whonnock ウォーノク
 11:00 AM Hatzic (Mission) ミッション

July 4
 Do you need a
 ride to Fraser
 Valley?

July 8 (Sat)

- 2:00 PM Aldergrove Cemetery オルダググローブ
 3:00 PM FVBT Obon Service & Bon Dance
 フレイザーバレーお盆・盆踊り

July 9 (Sun)

- 2:00 PM Vancouver Obon & Shotsuki Service
 バンクーバーお盆・祥月法要
 4:00 PM Vancouver Bon Dance バンクーバー 盆踊り

July 4 Cemetery Sites' Services

VBT office is arranging a carpool for people who wish to attend the cemetery services on July 4. Please sign up or call to the VBT office by June 29. We will leave from Vancouver Temple at 9:00AM (please bring your own lunch).



Guest Speaker

Rev. Kojo Kakihara

(Tacoma Buddhist Temple, USA)

講師：柿原興乗先生

OBON Services お盆法要日程

July 8 (Saturday)

- 3:00 PM Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple
 "Hatsubon, Obon, and July Shotsuki"
 (Guest Speaker: Rev. Kojo Kakihara)
 フレイザーバレー仏教会お盆法要
 (講師：柿原興乗先生)
 6:00 PM FVBT Bon Odori フレイザーバレー盆踊り

July 9 (Sunday)

- 2:00 PM Vancouver Buddhist Temple
 Hatsubon, Obon, and July Shotsuki
 (Guest Speaker: Rev. Kojo Kakihara)

バンクーバー仏教会

初盆・お盆・7月祥月法要

(講師：柿原興乗先生)

- 4:00 PM Vancouver Bon Odori
 バンクーバー 盆踊り

July 15 (Sat)

- 5:00PM Steveston Bon Odori

July 16 (Sun)

- 10:30 AM Steveston Buddhist Temple "Obon Service"
 ステイブストン仏教会 お盆法要 Tel: (604) 277-2323



Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Buddhist Youth Tour to Japan 2017 Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (YBICSE)

Dates of Trip: July 10-23, 2017

Cost of Trip: CDN \$2,000

(plus Travel Insurance arranged for by the participant)

Candidate Qualifications

- ✓ Jodo Shinshu Buddhist
- ✓ Between the age of 15 and 25
- ✓ In good health

Application Deadline: **May 5, 2017**

Application form is available from your local temple.

If there are any questions regarding the tour, please contact
 Rev. Tatsuya Aoki (JSBTC Group Leader).

Vancouver Buddhist Temple: (604) 253-7033

or

E-mail: rev.aoki@gmail.com



Meeting Dharma Friends from Hawaii, Buddhist Churches of America, South America, and Japan!



Greetings from the Valley

Welcome to the valley.... Spring has been slow in coming, but Hanamatsuri can be joyfully celebrated despite the cooler weather. We gratefully decorated our hanamido with the dozens of daffodils again donated by the Miyagi family. The golden hanamido shone at the front of the hondo much to the pleasure of Reverend Usuki. We enjoyed the dharma talk of Reverend Patricia Usuki as she retold the story of Siddhartha Guatama's birth and shared with us a bit of her life. We laughed as we celebrated the kei-rokai gifts with our senior sangha and enjoyed tea and refreshments with all. A reminder again that we will be hosting the 2017 BCJSBTF annual general meeting and convention this fall in Langley on September 15 – 17th weekend. The theme of the convention will be The Four Gates. Watch for updates on this theme. Our own temple annual general meeting will be held after the next service on May 13th so please join us.

In Gassho, Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

**April 8, 2017 Hanamatsuri & April Memorial
Shotsuki Service**

Mitsuo Saito, Genevieve Iwata, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, May Mukaida, Chieko Takasaki, Denise Cork, Hiroshi & Ruth Honkawa, Irene Rohrer, Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming, Ritsuko Okada, Amy Nagamatsu

Daffodils from the Miyagi Family

In memory of Jack & Kenny Yoshioka: Hideko Yoshioka, Sam & Pat Yoshioka, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka

In memory of Gilbert & Kayemon Shikaze: Naomi Shikaze

Memberships: Carole Hamanishi, Amy Kawamoto, Hideko Yoshioka, Sam & Pat Yoshioka, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, Irene Rohrer

**In Gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple**



Toban Groups

The following activities in **May** are the responsibility of **Toban #1**

May

- Sat. 6th—10AM Toban and Board Mtg
- Sun. 14th—9AM Gotan-e & Shotsuki

Mrs. Tsuki Aratake
Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Asaoka
Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Bishop
Mrs. Naoe Bradley

Mrs. Haruyo Chiba
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Chor
Ms. Catherine DeRobert
Mr. & Mrs. Denny Enjo
Mr. Yoshio Fujimoto
Mrs. Shizue Hamaguchi
Mrs. Nancy Hamanishi
Mr. & Mrs. Yutaka Harada
Mr. Toshi Haraguchi
Mrs. Sayoko Hattori
Mr. & Mrs. Noboru Hayashi
Mr. & Mrs. Shigeru Hirai

Mr. Tim Hirata
Mrs. Kay Komori
Mr. & Mrs. Kazu Komori
Mr. & Mrs. Teruo Koyanagi
Mr. Rick Macdonald
Dr. Jessica Main
Mr. & Mrs. John Nakata
Mrs. Miyoko Nose
Mrs. Reiko Omoto
Mr. Edward Oyama
Ms. Marie Oyama
Mrs. Fumiyo Saruya
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Shirahama

Mr. & Mrs. Yukihiro Shoji
Mrs. Chieko Suzuki
Mr. Roy Tatsumi
Mrs. Etsuko Tsuji
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Uyesugi
Mr. & Mrs. George Uyesugi
Mr. Sho Uyesugi
Mr. & Mrs. Susumu Uyesugi
Mr. & Mrs. John Wong
Mrs. Frances Xu



**Hanamatsuri (Flower Festival)
Celebration of the Birth of Sakyamuni Buddha**

Infant Presentation (Hatsumairi)

(Left) Best wishes to the families of Ema Satomi Komori Gladstone (left) and Nobushige Kurobe Macfarlane (right) who were presented to the sangha (community) of the Vancouver Buddhist temple on April 9. Congratulations!



(Right) Guest minister Rev. Patricia Usuki (San Fernando, Buddhist Churches of America) presenting a lecture on the occasion of the birth of the Sakyamuni Buddha. It is tradition in Shin Buddhism to mark notable events of the year by engaging in an important practice for Shin Buddhists: listening to the teachings of the Buddha and Shinran Shonin.

May Shotsuki (Memorial) List

1957

*NAKAMURA, Miss
*SUGIHARA, Shichisaburo

1958

*NAKASHIMA, Eikichi
*OHASHI, Yuno
*OHTA, Masu
SAIMOTO, Kunimatsu

1960

*HAMADE, Yoshigoro
*NAKANISHI, Mitsugu

1961

*SHIRAKAWA, Hidehiko

1962

*NISHIKAWA, Usaburo

1964

*MARUMOTO, Kamen
*YABUNO, Sutekichi
*YURUGI, Choichiro

1965

*INOUE, Kandai
NAKATA, Norman

1966

*MATSUSHITA,
Nagashige

1967

MADOKORO, Hiroye
*YOSHIDA, Isamu

1969

*OGINO, Chozo
*ONO, Matsu

1970

*SUZUKI, Isono
*TANAKA, Hisa

1972

*MISHIMA, Tsurukichi
YADA, Kiyoshi

1973

*TANAKA, Haru

1974

HORII, Sumiye
*INAMASU, Suye

1975

*KITANO, Jyutaro
*KOYANAGI, Toyohisa
*MAYEDA, Kiyokazu
*UYENO, Ei

1976

HAMAGUCHI, Fumio
*TAKEDA, Iwao

1977

KONDO, Yoshio

1979

NAKAMURA, Genzaburo
*NISHIMURA, Aiko

1980

*WAKITA, Hajime
*YOSHIDA, Yoshi

1981

*AYUKAWA, Kaoru
*TAKAHASHI, Kazuo
TANAKA, Miki
*YABE, (baby)
YAMAKAMI, Shotaro

1982

*KAWAGUCHI, Yoshio
*OHTA, Takezo
TANAKA, Ichijiro

1983

*KITADE, Yaeko
*NAGAMATSU, Denshin

1984

*HANADA, Yoshio
*OKEGAMI, Hidehiro
*SAKIYAMA, Hiroshi
*TAKEMOTO, Matsuyo
*TERANISHI, Fuji

1985—33rd Year

*KAWAHIRA, Imiko
YAMADA, Yukio

1986

*EGAMI, Hikotaro
*HAMADE, Toyo
*MORI, Nobuo
*NISHIMURA, Hiroshi
*NOSE, Tazo

1987

*HORI, Mika
*KITAGAWA, Naka
*YURUGI, Moto

1988

*TSUJI, Gen

1989

*KUROMI, Suino
*MIURA, Kaoru

1990

*GREEN, Jordan
HIRAI, Ken
*NISHIKAWA, Mitsuye

1991

HAYA, Haruko
*MIYAGAWA, Ito
OKADA, Kazuko

1992

*NODA, Misaho
*ONO, Yoichi
*SOGA, Zenya
UYESUGI, Fumio

1994

*MATSUBA, Shige

The May Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on **Sunday, May 14 at 10:30 am**

1995

SHIMABUKURO, Nabe
*UYENO, Shigeo
YAMADA, Takaichi

1996

*ITAYA, Masaye

1997

SHOJI, Tadashi
TAKEMORI, Akiko
TANAKA, Masao

1998

*MARUYAMA, Bill
YAMADA, Kazuye

1999

HAMAGUCHI, Hiroshi
*KUNIMOTO, Akiko
YAMADA, Hiroshi

2000

IMAI, Eichi
KAKUTANI, Kiyoshi
NISHI, Yukio
YAMASHITA, Toshio

2001—17th Year

WAKAHARA, Tomohiko

2002

FUKUI, Hisako
NAKAMURA, Miki
SAMESHIMA, Tadayuki
WATANABE, Hiromi

2003

*NAKATSUI, Toyoko

2004

KITAMURA, Shizuko
OMOTO, Noboru
OYA, Chie

2005 - 13th Year

GRIMSHAW, Rebecca

2006

*SATO, Yoshiaki

2007

HAMAGAMI, George
KITAGAWA, Kotoma
MORISHITA, Hatsumi
NAKAMURA, Amy
NAKATSU, Toshiye
WADA, Seiji

2008

KAWASAKI, Ryota
KOYANAGI, Hiroyuki
TANAKA, Keiichi
TANAHARA, Yoshihide

2011

FUJIYAMA, Kie
YAMADA, Miyoko
KADO, Tokuyo

2012

OKADA, Katsuko
TSUJI, Yoshiaki
WATANABE, Isao

2013

--

2014

YAMASHITA, Tsunaye

2015

--

2016—First Year

KAWAMOTO, Hisako
SUGA, Yuriko

Gotan-e (Birth of Shinran Shonin) service.

May's monthly memorial Shotsuki service will be observed in conjunction of Gotan-e.

This observation celebrates the birth of our founder Shinran Shonin who was born on May 21, 1173. Reviewing Shinran Shonin's life, he did not live a fortunate life filled with happy environmental conditions. Both his parents were gone at an early age and he encountered many hardships throughout his life. But his spiritual experiences which evolved under many trying conditions and in many places, have given the many followers of the Buddha's Teachings and answer to the purpose of life in this world.

Shinran Shonin spent his simple and modest life of ninety years with no thought of making himself spectacularly prominent and impressive among the people. But millions of Nichiren Buddhist followers are rejoicing over his way of life through the guidance of Amida Buddha and his Teachings.

(from the Nishi Hongwanji L.A. website)





May 2017



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4 12:00 PM Noon Howakai & Seniors' Club	5	6 10:00 AM Toban meeting with special VBT Board Meeting (voting on By-Laws)
7 10:30AM VBT English Dharma Service	8	9	10	11 12:00 PM Noon Howakai & Seniors' Club	12	13 2:00 PM FVBT Go-tane & May monthly memorial Shotsuki service (Rev. Grant Ikuta)
14 10:30 AM Gotane and May monthly memori- al Shotsuki Ser- vice	15	16	17 11:00 AM Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Grant Ikuta)	18 12:00 PM Noon Seniors' Club	19	20 Manning Park Family Retreat May 20-22
21 NO service at VBT	22 Victoria Day - Office Closed	23	24	25 12:00 PM Noon Seniors' Club	26	27
28 10:30AM VBT English Dharma Service	29	30	31	<i>June 1</i> 12:00 PM Noon Howakai & Seniors' Club	2	3 9:00 AM Manju making
4 9:00 AM BC Chil- dren's hospital Fundraising Child Run NO SERVICE at VBT	5	6	7	8 12:00 PM Noon Howakai & Seniors' Club	9	10 10:00 AM VBT Board Meeting 2:00 PM FVBT Parents' Day and Shotsuki (Rev. Grant Ikuta)
11 10:30 AM Parents' Day and Shotsuki	12	13 7 PM Bon Odori Practice	14	15 12:00 PM Noon Howakai & Seniors' Club 7 PM Bon Odori Prac- tice	16	17

* Rev. Aoki will be in Kyoto to attend meetings and services at the mother temple, Nishi Hongwanji from **May 15 to 25**.

Should you require emergency Makura-gyo (Pillow-side) services during this time, please contact Rev. Grant Ikuta of the Steveston Buddhist Temple at 604-908-4140. If Makura-gyo is not required, Rev. Aoki will be able to make arrangement by phone (604-880-2654) while in Kyoto.