



法のともしび LIGHT OF THE DHARMA

REGULAR EVENTS:

REGULAR SERVICES:

Sundays 10:30 am

JIRIKI SEITAI - Japanese Stretching

Mondays 6:00 pm

SEIZA MEDITATION:

Thursdays 7:30 pm

TRIPLE SUTRA CHANTING

Fridays 10:30 am

TAIKO: Wednesday 6:00 pm

CHOIR: Fridays 7:00 pm

YOGA with Alanna

Monday 5:30pm Hatha Yoga

Wednesday 10:00am Hatha Yoga

Saturday 9:30am Chair Yoga

COMING UP:

Sunday March 1

10:30 Shotsuki Memorial Service

Monday March 2

2:30 Maples Service

Tuesday March 3

7:30 Spring Lecture Series Starts

Sunday March 8

10:00 Dharma School Service

12:00 SBT Board Meeting

Tuesday March 10

10:00 Takarajima

7:30 Spring Lecture Series cont.

Wednesday March 18

11:00 Nikkei Home Service

Thursday March 19

10:00 Moe no Kai

Sunday March 22

10:00 Dharma School Service

10:30 Spring Higan Service

Tuesday March 24

10:00 Takarajima

7:30 Spring Lecture Series cont.

Tuesday March 31

7:30 Final Spring Lecture

Sunday April 5

10:30 Shotsuki Memorial Service

FUJINKAI TOBAN 1

Contact: Itoko Akune
604-244-7710

Spring has come! Spring has come!

Haru ga kita, haru ga kita, doko ni kita

Yama ni kita, sato ni kita,

No ni mo kita.

(From Japanese Children's song)

English Translation

Spring has come, spring has come, where has it come?

It has come to the mountain, it has come to the village,

It has also come to the fields.



Looking out from my office window, I can see the buds on the cherry tree beginning to fill out. By the time you read this article, the cherry blossoms should be in full bloom marking the arrival of spring. The introductory passage for this article is from a very famous Japanese children's song about the arrival of spring. It has a very uplifting melody as it expresses the great joy of the arrival of spring to the mountains, to the village and to the fields. As for myself, every year I sit and enjoy the view from my office marveling at the beauty of the majestic trees.

For the Japanese, the Cherry Blossoms have special meaning and one will find during the cherry blossom season, people in droves going to the parks to hold flower viewing parties or picnics. I remember when I was a student in Japan going to see the cherry blossoms only to be confronted with a park filled with people partying and it was far from the peace and serenity that I was hoping to find.

It made me curious as to why the Japanese have such a strong affinity for the cherry blossoms and I did a little research on this topic. As it turns out, there are several reasons why the sakura blossoms are so popular. First, the sakura is said to represent a new start as it usually blooms around April which happens to be the starting month for schools and is also the month when new employees are hired by the companies. The sakura blossoms symbolizes the new and fresh start. Another reason for the popularity is that the sakura tree is unique in that the flowers bloom before the leaves come out so the trees are engulfed with the radiant flowers only creating a sea of pink blossoms. Perhaps the most important reason for the popularity comes from the nature of the flowers in that they all bloom almost at the same time and stay open for a period of two weeks then just as quickly the petals fall to the ground. This beauty found in the moment of impermanence plays to the Japanese sensibility of Wabi Sabi, which is a term used to signify that all is not just what is seen on the surface. The cherry blossoms are so beautiful precisely because of their fleeting and impermanent nature. They remind us to be mindful of appreciating each and every moment as life is fleeting like the cherry blossoms.

Having said all that, this year's sakura blossom in front of our temple will take on special significance as it will be the last year before the trees are to be replaced with a new landscaping for the temple grounds. As part of the construction of the Wisteria Place Senior Housing, the City of Richmond have told us that we must reduce the number of driveways leading out to Garry St. from the present number of three driveways down to only a single access point. (Continued on P 2)

MONTHLY TOBAN GROUPS

MARCH

Sakai, Mark

– Captain 604-277-5157

Sakai-Boden, Lynn

Sakai, Sharon & Steve

Kondo, Norman

Yoshida, Dave & Arlene

Nevins, Julie

APRIL

Hamaura, Bob & Misaye

– Captain 604-590-6187

Domai, Kiyo

Domai, King, Betty

Murao, Mary

Quan, Toshiko

Hamano, Heidi

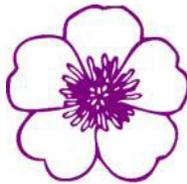
Hashimoto, Greg

Murao, Keith

Murao, Heidy

FUJINKAI NEWS

Hiroko Yoshihara



At our January AGM, we established the following structure for our Fujinkai: Toban 1 (phone contact: Itoko Akune) from February to end of May ; Toban 2 (phone contact: June Ikuta) from June to end of September ; Toban 3 (phone contact: Hiroko Kawamoto) from October to the end of January 2021.

As the size of each toban has decreased to three members each, we will have to rely more on our group of floaters.

With the demolition of the gym slated for March, a garage sale was held on Saturday, February 1. Revenue was slightly over \$700 with expenses of approximately \$50. Volunteer turnout was wonderful to see. The sunny day also was great. And people who came out hopefully went home with bargains. I know that my grand-daughters did!

Fujinkai ladies will also be busy tidying up the kitchen and removing items which are not needed as storage will be limited with no gym space.

Dana Day was held on February 16 with donations going to the Women's Federation. At the JSBTC WF annual general meeting in April, decision will be made on the charities which will receive the funds. If there are any suggestions, application forms will be on the bulletin board.

Kids Sangha News

Our next two gatherings will be on March 8 and 22. We hope to see you then. Your teacher will have some fun activities planned. Also with Hanamatsuri coming in April, you will be practicing for the ????????

(Sensei from P.1)

Because of this much of the front entrance to the temple grounds need to be changed and in doing so the landscaping is also affected. We had a horticulturalist come to the temple to see what trees could be used in the new landscape, and unfortunately it was deemed that the Sakura trees in front of the temple were coming to an end of their lives and it would not be possible to replant them elsewhere. It was decided that new trees would replace some of the older ones. This means that this will be the last year that we will be able to enjoy the beautiful blossoms of the present Sakura trees.

When we consider the future of the temple, the Wisteria Place construction will greatly benefit the temple, however, the new construction is not without it's sacrifices. Roy Akune Sensei has written a wonderful article on the sense of loss when the gymnasium is demolished later in the month, but the Sakura trees are also another sacrifice we are making for the new construction. Over the years the trees have provided many with the enjoyment of the cherry blossoms and one can only hope that the trees they replace them with will also grow to provide the same amount of joy.

With the Higan Equinox service being held on March 22, it is a wonderful opportunity to come out and appreciate the majestic elegance of the Sakura trees lining the front walkway to our temple. Hope to see you at the service.

Namu Amida Butsu
Grant Ikuta

UPCOMING EVENTS

Introduction to Buddhism Lectures

Are you new to the temple? Are you interested in learning about Buddhism, but have never had the chance to study? Well here is your opportunity. Rev. Ikuta will be giving his annual introductory course on Buddhism beginning on Tuesday, March 3rd starting at 7:30 pm. Subsequent classes will be held on March 10th, 24th, and 31st. There will be no class on the 17th as Rev. Ikuta will be away on that date.

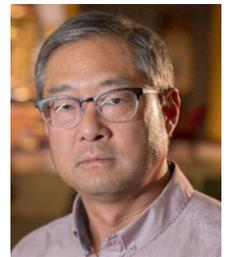
Please come and join us as we study together to learn about our teachings.

In Gassho,
Grant Ikuta

HANAMATSURI WEEKEND

APRIL 18 ~ 19, 2020

Guest Sensei: Dr. Roland Ikuta Sensei



Come join us for an event filled weekend to celebrate the birth of the Buddha. On Saturday at 3:00 pm, we will have a short service followed by a public lecture by Roland Ikuta Sensei entitled, "Buddhism and Aging". Roland Sensei is presently the assistant minister at the Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta in Lethbridge, as well as being a doctor specializing in Geriatrics. Following Sensei's talk we'll have our Hana matsuri potluck dinner starting at 5:00 pm with our special guest.

On Sunday, April 19 from 10:30 am, we will be commemorating Hanamatsuri with our guest sensei. When we enter the Hondo for the service, we immediately notice the beautiful miniature flower altar or "Hanamido" and the beautifully colored flowers offered in the main altar. These flowers are placed in the "Naijin" or altar to symbolize the birthplace, Lumbini Gardens, where the Buddha was born.

When we offer incense, we notice the small statue of the baby Buddha standing in the middle of a deep tray filled with tea, sweet tea. We pour some of this sweet tea on the baby Buddha statue, symbolizing the sweet rain, which fell on him and bathed him shortly after his birth.

As we sit quietly in the Hondo, putting our hands together in gassho and take a quiet moment to reflect, we are reminded of the signs of spring. The birds are singing, the flowers are blooming, and new life is all around us. Let's all open our eyes, hearts and minds to the meaning of Hanamatsuri. Following the service please make sure you stay and join us for the Hanamatsuri luncheon.

Make sure you come and join the celebration.

Manning Park Family Retreat

May 16 -18, 2020.

Come join us on the Victoria Day Weekend as we enjoy a fun weekend to promote fellowship between various age groups and families attending. Information about the retreat is posted on our bulletin board and Early bird registration is due on March 6th. For more information please contact Rev. Ikuta.

Naoki Sensei Thank you and Good Wishes

Come March 12th, 2020 Naoki Hirano sensei will be going to Japan to further his studies to become a Kaikyoshi Minister. Naoki sensei will be studying for a year at the Central Buddhist Academy in Kyoto. We will miss sensei's warmth and friendliness, but we also wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life.

A farewell dinner is being planned for Naoki sensei. The time and restaurant has yet to be determined but if you are interested in joining us please contact Rev. Ikuta. The cost will be \$30 per person.

2020 AGM MINISTER'S OFFICE REPORT

2019 was another year filled with activities at our temple. Most of the temple activities would not have been able to function without the support from all of our members, so may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued dedication and support. The following are some of the activities that took place at our temple.

In January, we held our annual Hoonko Service with our guest being Rev. Ryo Imamura, a retired Kaikyoshi minister living in Toronto. The weekend was well attended by our members and Ryo sensei's talks on both the Hoonko Eve Service as well as during the Sunday Hoonko Service were well received.

For our Hanamatsuri service in April we were fortunate to have Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple join us as our guest minister. Kuwahara Sensei has been here before as our guest and once again provided thought provoking talks on both Saturday and Sunday. Perhaps the highlight of April was the public lecture given by renowned Neural Scientist Dr. Kenichiro Mogi. Dr. Mogi's talk happened to coincide with our Hanamatsuri date so in the afternoon of April 21st a public lecture was held with Dr. Mogi, followed by a panel discussion including our Hanamatsuri guest minister Rev. Kuwahara and Dr. Mogi. The Hondo was filled for the public lecture with close to 200 in attendance.

Summer of 2019 was another very busy time for me. In July, I had the good fortune to lead the 2019 Youth tour to Japan taking 6 youths from across Canada on a 2-week trip organized in conjunction with the Hongwanji International Youth Cultural Study program. My personal thank you to the Fujinkai for the financial assistance given to my daughter Erin. The trip went from July 9th to the 24th. (please refer to my report on the trip). The weekend following my return we held our Obon weekend with the Bon Odori being held in our front parking lot on the evening of the 27th and the Obon service on Sunday, July 28th. Our guest for Obon was Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi of the Toronto Buddhist Temple.

As per previous years, the annual Vancouver Island Obon Cemetery visitation tour was organized in August. This year the trip went from August 8th to 11th weekend. For this year's trip we added an extra day visiting Campbell River as well as all the other sites we normally visit. At the end of August, a number of us from our temple had the opportunity to attend the World Buddhist Women's Convention being held in San Francisco. The last time the WBW was held was in 2015 and it was hosted by our JSBTC Women's Federation and held in Calgary, Alberta. I was part of the working committee for that Convention and

NOTE re: 2020 AGM

As this newsletter went to press the day after the AGM, updates and notices will be published in April.

remember how busy it was to host. This time it was very relaxing as all I had to do was attend as a participant.

On the September 28th -29th weekend, the BCJSBTF Convention was hosted by the Kamloops Buddhist Temple and a group of us from the west coast chartered a bus to attend the convention. As the keynote speaker, the Kamloops temple had invited Dr. Ken Tanaka from Japan. It was the second year in a row to have Dr. Tanaka as the keynote speaker. Despite being a smaller center, the Kamloops temple did an excellent job in hosting the convention.

To end the year off, in December I was asked to go help out with the Toronto Buddhist Temple as they are currently experiencing a situation in which they are without a resident minister. Rev. Ouchi has had some issues with his Visa status and until that gets cleared up is unable to work at the temple. Because of this situation, ministers from other temples in Canada have been asked to go to Toronto to help conduct services. The temple is coordinating with their membership so that funerals and memorial services could be held during the weekends when a minister is at the temple. I was asked to go from Dec. 12th to the 15th during which time I conducted 4 funerals, 1 memorial service as well as the Bodhi Day service on Sunday morning. I have been asked to go again in March to conduct their Spring Higan service for this year.

Throughout the year, on top of all the activities that have been going on, perhaps the most prominent activity has been the construction of the new senior home facility. The official name for the facility has been chosen and it will be known as Wisteria Place Independent Senior Housing. Construction is on schedule to be completed by the end of this year, or perhaps early next year. During the course of the year we will also have a number of renovations occurring at our temple. The scope of the renovation includes the re-roofing of the whole structure, moving the main office from its present site and locating it just beside the main entrance where the Bingo storage room is presently located, creating a handicap washroom where the women's washroom next to the men's washroom is located, upgrading the women's washroom that is presently decommissioned, adding millwork to the classroom, creating a new Nokotsudo next to the Hondo on the north side, as well as some touch up work in the present kitchen. The first event in the renovation of the temple will be the demolition of the gym which will take place in March. This will mean that until the new facility is completed, we will be without a large social gathering area and will have to figure out how and where to hold gatherings during this period.

Other activities throughout the year that have occurred at our temple include 17 funerals, the "Moye no kai" Seniors' Drop in, monthly services at the Maples Senior Residence, Seiza meditation on Thursday evenings, Lectures on Tuesday evenings and the Triple Sutra Chanting on Friday mornings.

In conclusion, may I again thank all of you for your continued participation, and I look forward to continuing sharing the Nembutsu teaching together.

In Gassho,
Grant Ikuta, Minister
Steveston Buddhist Temple

DHARMA LIGHT

The Steveston Buddhist Temple sincerely appreciates and thanks the following for their generous donations: All donations received after Feb.21st, 2020 will be announced in the next newsletter. *Please write your full name with your address clearly on your donation envelope.

General: Akune Ted & Rose, Chow Suezona & Nobu, Erickson Craig & Leanne, Foster Sharon, Harada Jack, Ikuta Makoto, Kakehi Tomoko, Kurita Yoshie, Morishita Elmer, Morizawa Chiyoko, Nishimura Grace, Sameshima Yoshiko, Sakamoto Bud, Sakata Hozumi, Sakai Alan & Carol, Whittier Maya, Yamashita Setsuko, Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple (\$685)

Naijin Flower Donation: King Hiroko, Mori Atsuko (\$125)

Celebration of Mr. Toshio Murao's 100th Birthday: Murao Toshio, Doi Peter, Fukawa Masako & Stanley, Higo Kelvin & Kay, Maede Toyoko, Murao Ray, Sakiyama N., Dr. Tanaka Jim, Tasaka Bruce & Nan, Tasaka Randy & Joyce, Terai Isao (\$1150)

Keiroukai donation: Hama Helen, Ikuta Kuni & June, King Hiroko, Matsuno Seishi & Kisako, Matsuno Tom & Yoko, Mizushima T & K (\$345)

Dharma Service: Akune Itoko, Ikuta Kuni & June, Oki Hiroshi, Watanabe Keiko, Yoshihara Hiroko, Anonymous (\$65)

January Shotsuki Service: Anonymous (\$130)

February Shotsuki Service: Akizuki Eiko, Akune Aaron & Vicky, Akune Robert & Molly, Akune Roy & Itoko, Akune Ted & Rose, Challoner Bernice, Doi Peter & Louise, Domai Kiyu, Flynn Bob & Sharon, Grant Peter & Wendy, Hamanishi Yoshio & Betty, Higo K., Higo Hiromi, Hamade Naomi, Hori Gail, Kakehi Tomoko, Kariya Florence, Kawabata Jack, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kemp Kevin & Norine, Kimura Sueko, Kishi Leane & Setsuko, Kokubo Alice, Komori Setsuko & Dick, Kondo Tamotsu & Chieko, Kumagai Tetsuo & Noriko, Maede Stacey, Matsumoto Y., Mayede Don & Connie, Morishita Dennis, Morizawa Chiyoko, Morizawa Leonard, Morizawa Paul, Morizawa Sazare, Murakami Richard, Murao Toshio, Nagata Sayoko, Nakata Yasuhiko, Nakanishi Mike & Frances, Nakano Alison, Nakata Yoshiyasu, Niguma Kazuko, Nishi Albert, Nishi Kayoko, Nishi Kazumi & Chizuko, Niwatsukino Betty, Niwatsukino K, Nomura Mark & Chris, Nomura-Rejto Cathy, Oye Hanako, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Saito Tokiko, Sakai Alan, Sakai Tomiko, Takasaki Sonoko, Tasaka Chuck, Tasaka Janice, Tasaka Cheryl, Tasaka Kaz & Chic, Tasaka Randy & Joyce, Tasaka Rick & Naomi, Tasaka Susan, Toyoda Ruby, Tomihiro Kazy, Tsumura Tuck & Elaine, Yamamoto Sue, Yamashita Muneichi & Kazuko, Yasui Atsushi, Yoshihara Ken & Hiroko

May Shotsuki Service, November Shotsuki Service, Obon Service, Gotanye Service, Ohigan Service & Jodo-e Service: Nagata Sayoko
2019 Jodo-e Service: Kondo Tamotsu & Chieko, Nishi Kazumi & Chizuko, (\$2330)

Hoonko Service: Akizuki Eiko, Koyanagi Susie, Nagata Sayoko, Nishi Kazumi & Chizuko, Tanaka Emiko, Tani Kiyoshi & Mutsumi, Sakai Terry & marge, Tomihiro Kazuko, (\$190)

In memory of the late:

Mr. Manabu Sakamoto: Sameshima Ron

Mrs. Tomiko Kawaguchi: Akune Roy & Itoko, Higo Kelvin & Kay, Sakamoto Bud, Toyoda Ruby, Morishita Linda, Yesaki T., Sio Phyllis

Mr. Doc Tomihiro: Koyanagi Susie

Mr. Fred Obayashi: Nagata Sayoko (\$1135)

Your Donations are needed and appreciated!

Donations are the single largest source of income for the temple, and allow us to create our programs, which we hope you also can enjoy, so we thank you for your contribution.



Note: Few members have not paid their membership fee for 2019. Please make a payment at your earliest convenience.



OBITUARY



We would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to the family members of the following deceased:

Shiro Yesaki February 8, 2020 80 Years Old

敬弔

次の方がご逝去されましたので、生前のご苦勞を偲び、謹んで敬弔の意を表します。

江崎 四郎 様 2020年2月8日寂 80歳

MARCH 2020 MEMORIAL SERVICE (Please bring your "Homyo".)

Akizuki, Tom Fumitaka	Horikoshi, Taro	Mukai, Teruo	Nishi, Takeshi Bill	Suzuki, Shigeo
Amadatsu, Tsunemori	Inouye, Susumu	Murakami, Asamatsu	Nishihama, Mankichi	Takasaki, Toshiko
Atagi, Kaya	Kakehi, Makoto	Murao, Kimiyo	Ogawa, Tsurue	Tasaka, Arizo
Baker, Alice	Kariya, Sonoye	Murao, Yoshiyuki	Ogawa, Masaharu	Wakayama, Tamio
Domae, Toyokazu	Kitagawa, Tadao Tad	Murao, Nagako	Ojiro, Anthony Kusuo	Yamamoto, Hajime
Domai, Hisae	Kobayashi, Harue	Nagata, Kazuo	Omae, Kinuyo	Yamamoto, John
Furukawa, Jun	Koyanagi, Tadatoshi	Nagata, Toshiko	Omura, Yukiko	Yamamoto, Nuiko
Hamade, Lorne	Kurahashi, Tomiko	Naka, Satsue	Sato, Rex Hiroyuki	Yamanaka, Takao
Hamakawa, Yukiko	Kurahashi, Yoneji	Nakano, Chitose	Sakamoto, Aiko	Yoshida, Kazuo
Hamanishi, Hiroichi	Lee, William	Nakata, Masayo	Sakamoto, Makoto	Yoshida, Yoshio
Hamanishi, Kazumi	Maede, Yoneharu	Nakata, Minosuke	Sakamoto, Roy	
Handa, Noriyuki	Maeno, Hajime	Nakatsuru, Satoru	Sameshima, Toshio	
Hashimoto, Masaaki	Matsumura, Seitaro	Niguma, Toshio	Shirakawa, Hatsune	
Hori, Masami	Morishita, Shigeo	Nishi, Masao	Shiyoji, Dennis	

APRIL 2020 MEMORIAL SERVICE (Please bring your "Homyo".)

Atagi, Kazuko	Ikari, Tsuru	Kitagawa, Michiko	Nishi, Misako	Tani, Seikichi
Atode, Yasutaro	Ikari, Senichi Roy	Koyanagi, Mutsuo	Nishi, Nancy	Tezuka, Michihiko
Ayukawa, Margaret	Rev. Ikuta, Kyojo	Maeda, Toshimatsu	Nishi, Shigeo	Uyeyama, Tokue
Etori, Chiyo	Ito, Tamotsu	Matsumura, Matsuo	Nogami, Mieko	Yamaguchi, Junshiro
Fukakusa, Akio	Kakino, Chiyoko	Matsuo, Kametaro	Ohara, Masao	Yamaguchi, Nobuyue
Hama, Kenzo	Kariya, Ayako	Miyazaki, Susie Shizuko	Oikawa, Hisashi	Yamashita, Harry
Hamada, Chiyoko	Kariya, Chiyoko	Morishita, Masaharu	Oura, Chiye	Yamashita, Heijiro
Hamade, Tokuno	Kariya, Isamu	Morizawa, Choichiro	Oye, Yasuo	Yesaki, Sunae
Hamano, Kiyoshi	Kariya, Sadasuke	Murao, Mon	Sakai, Ei	Yokota, Ayako
Hamanishi, Shinjiro	Kariya, Yonekazu	Nakamura, Miyuki	Sakamoto, Hirotaka	Yokota, Shige
Hashimoto, Shizue	Kawasaki, Takeo	Nakanishi, Harue	Sameshima, Margaret	Yoshida, Mitsu
Haya, Yoshimatsu	Kimura, Yoshio	Nakatani, Sam	Shiyoji, Koito	Yoshida, Kinoo
Hikita, Takeo	Kishiuchi, Yoshiko	Nakatsu, Tsunenobu	Shoji, Matsue	
Hikita, Tatsuo	Kitade, Sute	Narukami, Teruo	Suzuki, Richard	

Heart of Japan

Japanese Instrumental Concert



FRIDAY
APRIL 17

Door open 7pm, Starts 7:30pm
Steveston Buddhist Temple



Niya

Tsugaru Shamisen

\$20 : General admission

\$15 : SBT member

Free: Children 12
and under

For Details, please go to our website
<http://steveston-temple.ca/concert/>

Heart of Japan

Japanese Instrumental Concert



4月17日 (金)

開場 午後7時・開演 午後7時30分

スティーブストン仏教会



忍弥

Niya

津軽三味線奏者

大人 \$20

仏教会会員 \$15

子ども(12歳以下)無料

For Details, please go to our website
<http://steveston-temple.ca/concert/>



法のともしび

桜

散る桜
残る桜も
散る桜
(桜の俳句より)



三月に入り、春の訪れを感じ季節と窓から外をた。事務所の窓からは桜のつぼみが見える頃には桜の木が咲き始めています。春の象徴として知られています。私生活では、桜が咲く頃には公園で花見をする人が多いです。私も何度か学生時代の留の宴をしました。

見ると桜の木が咲き始めています。春の象徴として知られています。私生活では、桜が咲く頃には公園で花見をする人が多いです。私も何度か学生時代の留の宴をしました。

しかし、なぜ日本人は桜を愛するのでしょうか？以前は入学や入社、また、桜の木が咲く4月は新しい学年や新入社員を歓迎する時期です。そして、もう一つの特徴は桜の花が散っていく姿が美しい瞬間であると思っています。

ところで、そのお寺の桜の花を見るのは今年で最後になるのを皆さんご存知でしょうか？新しいWisteria Place シニアホームを造るためにRichmond市役所よりお寺の駐車所に入ってくるドライブウェイを現在の三つから一つへと数を減らさなければならぬと言われたのです。結果として一番西側にあるドライブウェイだけを残り、あと二つがなくなることとなりました。そして、それに伴って表の庭の手入れもなくなり、庭師の判断により、桜の木を植え替えることになりました。

お寺の将来を考えるとWisteria Placeシニアホームの建設は非常に良いことだと思いますが、発展のために犠牲するものもあります。多くのイベントやビンゴを行ってきた体育館もその一つであり、長年この季節に多くの方に喜びをもたらした桜の木もその一つであります。

「散る桜、残る桜も、散る桜」と上記の俳句に述べられていますが、お寺の桜は散ってなくなってもいつまでも心に残る桜であります。春の彼岸会法要が3月22日に行われます。ちょうど桜も満開ごろだと思います。いかがでしょうか、お参りの花を観に来ませんか？

合掌
生田真見

婦人会からのお知らせ 吉原ヒロコ



1月の婦人会総会で婦人会の構成が次のようになりました。当番1（電話連絡：阿久根イトコ）2月から5月末まで。当番2（電話連絡：生田ジューン）6月から9月末まで。当番3（電話連絡：カワモト・ヒロコ）10月から1月末まで。それぞれの当番は3人しかいませんのでフロッターをお願いすることが多くなりそうです。

3月に体育館の解体が始まりますので、2月1日（土）にガレージセールを行いました。必要経費約\$50を引いて\$650ちょっとの収入です。多くのボランティアが来て下さった上にお天気も良かったので助かりました。買って下さった人達も欲しいものが手に入ったことでしょう。私の孫も買いたかった物を買って喜んでましたよ。

ダーナデイの法要が2月16日（日）にあり、その時のご寄付は浄土真宗カナダ教団（JSBTC）婦人会に渡されます。4月のJSBTC婦人会総会でどの慈善団体に寄付するかが決まりますが、ご提案のある方は掲示板に申し込み用紙がありますのでそれをお使い下さい。体育館のスペースがありませんので婦人会でキッチンの不必要な品物の整理をします。

花祭り

2020年4月18日～19日

御講師：生田ローランド先生

4月18日～19日週末にお釈迦様の誕生を祝う花祭り週末が行われます。18日の土曜日は午後3時より御講師の生田ローランド先生（生田先生のお兄様）の英語の講演会が行われ、題名は「Buddhism and Aging」です。先生は現在南アルバーターのお寺の補教使でありながら、老人専門の医者でもあります。講演会の後に生田先生を歓迎する持ち寄り食事を午後5時より開きます。



19日（日曜日）午前10時半より花祭り法要を勤修いたします。本堂の御内陣には花御堂と言う小さなお御堂が設けられます。花御堂にはお釈迦様の誕生された時の御像を皿の中央に安置し、甘茶を頭の上からかけます。これを「灌佛」と申しまして、お釈迦様が生誕された時、天より降られた甘い雨を表しています。また、花御堂は多くのお花で飾り付けられますが、これはお釈迦様の誕生されたルンビニ荘園の様子を表しています。本堂で静かに合掌しながら、鳥の鳴き声や多くの花の輝きなどで春祭りの訪れを感じさせられます。花祭りの法要にお参りされたい申しあげます。



平野先生 ありがとうございます。そして頑張ってください。

3月12日より平野直樹先生が開教使になるための勉強に1年間京都の中央仏教学院に留学することとなりました。いつもお寺のために貢献していただき、お別れするのは残念ですがこれから勉強に励む直樹先生を応援したいと思っています。先生、頑張ってください。

尚、先生のお別れ会を開こうと計画していますので、興味のある方は生田先生にご連絡をお願いいたします。レストランと日にちは未定ですが、一人当たり\$30を考えています。

Saying Goodbye to Our Gymnasium

In March, the Gymnasium (Gym) – its walls, the roof and the foundation will give way to the construction of our Seniors Independent Living Apartment. The Gym was designed by Mr. Arnulf Petzold and built in 1973. (He was also the architect of the temple built in 1963.) The Gym, constructed of brick and mortar, was a multi-purpose facility to serve as a recreational hall for our youth to play basketball, floor hockey, volleyball and other indoor sports. It served as the site of our weekly Wednesday Bingo, the major fund-raising activity; it accommodated Funerals and Memorial service receptions and spring and fall Bazaars, the annual Keiro and Bonen Kai, Craft and Garage sales and Obon Odori practices. At each function members and friends gathered in abundance. Moreover, this was where special events as Wedding Banquets, Annual General Meetings and Kenjin-kai and Gate-ball gatherings were hosted. And, more recently, the Takarajima children drop-ins were held.

For forty seven (47) years, the Gym was the Hub of activities of this temple and, in fact, it became an integral part of the Steveston community with the Gym rented out for Federal and Provincial Elections.

From, a personal perspective, the Gym was not seen just as a building - an in-animate place, where people gathered for certain events. It was more than that to me. It has brought to my mind the feeling of Natsukashii that permeates the Japanese culture. It is a Japanese word that evokes fond memories of the past. Natsukashii derived from the verb “natsuku” means to become close to and become fond of. It brought Joy and Gratitude of the past.

The Gym, through the Bingo, broadened our fellowship with many of the seniors and community friends who looked forward to their weekly games. It was in this building that funerals and memorial services brought the extended family and friends and classmates together, in a reunion of sorts. Through the bazaars, it created an opportunity for one to meet and make new acquaintances. These experiences along with many others conjured a feeling of intimacy and melancholy. Indeed, the Gym will be missed! It brought us together, in Oneness!

In Saying Goodbye to our Gymnasium, I think the words of Shakespeare best describe this feeling, “Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow”.

Gratefully, Roy Akune

Visit to the Thrangu Monastery – Tibetan Buddhism

On Sunday, January 26, in place of our regular Sunday service, twenty members and friends, including six children from Kids' Sangha attended the Thrangu Monastery, a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery of Karma Kagyu lineage. Twenty of us carpoled to the temple located on “Highway to Heaven” on No.5 Road.

As one entered the second floor Chanting Hall, one was immediately made aware of the central figure – the statue of the large golden Buddha. Some sat “Seiza” style on a cushion with our legs tucked under while others stood. And, as one gazed around, one's eyes were directed to the twelve hundred encased golden Buddhas in different postures. Then, the sound of chanting captured one's attention. To listen to the monastic chanting was an experience particularly for those who are accustomed to the Jodo Shinshu chanting. The chanting included the sounds of a trumpet.

Following the chanting, the hosting monk obliged with an explanation of Tibetan Buddhism. He explained that the chanting is a recitation of the Buddha's Dharma. He stated, “The chanting reminds us of our own liberation. What is Liberation? It is the freedom from suffering that is part of our on-going cyclic existence”.

The visit to the Thrangu Monastery was indeed worthwhile, giving us exposure to another tradition of Mahayana Buddhism.

In the future, other visits will be planned.

Gratefully yours, Roy Akune

体育館よ、さようなら！

3月から自立生活型シニアホームを建てるため体育館（ジム）の解体工事が始まり、土台も、壁も、屋根も取り壊されます。1963年にお寺を設計したアーヌルフ・ペッツォルト氏が1973年にジムを設計しました。レンガとモルタルで造られたジムは様々な用途に使われました。バスケットボール、フロアホッケー、バレーボール等のスポーツや、毎週水曜日のビンゴ、敬老会、忘年会、盆踊りの練習、お葬式の後のおもてなし、そして主要な資金集めの春と秋のガラージェールや食品バザー等いろいろです。さらに、結婚式の披露宴、お寺の年次総会、県人会やゲートボールの集まり、また最近では宝島のお子さんたちのお遊びの場にもなりました。実際、47年の間ジムはお寺の行事の中心の場所であり、また、連邦政府や州政府の選挙の際にも使われスティーブストンにとっても必要不可欠の場所でした。

ジムはこのようないろいろな行事をする場所であっただけでなく、これらの行事を通して会員だけでなく、地域の皆さん、シニアの方々、家族や友達が集い、新しい友達を作り、また来たくなるような喜びをもたらしにくる「なつかしい」思い出が沢山詰まった場所でもあります。過ぎ去った過去に感謝の念を呼び起こし、私たちは皆一緒、一つだ、という思いを私たちの胸に届けてくれたジムが無くなるのは本当に名残惜しいです。

「別離はなんて甘い悲しみなんだろう」というシェイクスピアの言葉がジムにさよならをする時にピッタリです。

ありがとうございます。

阿久根ロイ

チベット仏教のスラング僧院を訪問

1月26日（日）はいつもの日曜の法要の代わりに日曜学校の6人のお子さんも交え全部で20人の会員と会友がカルマ・カギウ系のチベット仏教の僧院であるスラング僧院を訪問しました。「天国へのハイウェイ」と呼ばれるNo.5 Roadにある僧院に私たちはカーブールをして行きました。

2階の本堂に入ると正面の大きな金色の仏像がまず目に入ります。本堂には厚いクッションが敷いてあり、私達は正座したり、足を組んで座ったり、または立ったままでお参りしました。周りを見回すと、1200ものいろいろな姿勢をした金色の仏像がケースに納められ三方の壁を埋めています。また、浄土真宗の読経を聞きなれた私達には、この僧院の読経を耳にするのは全く新しい経験です。読経にはトランペットも合奏します。

読経が終わった後、僧侶がチベット仏教のことを説明して下さいました。仏の教えを皆で唱えて読経しますが、「読経によって自らを自由にするを思いおこします。自由にすると輪廻転生の一部である苦悩からの解放です」ともおっしゃっていました。スラング僧院の訪問は大乗仏教の別の宗派を垣間見せて頂く事ができ、実に貴重な経験でした。

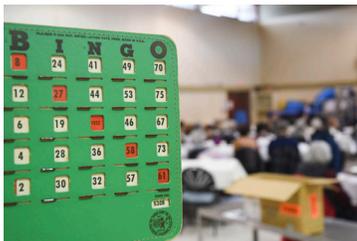
将来、他のお寺の訪問も考えてみます。

どうもありがとうございました。

阿久根ロイ



The Tibetan Monastery is very colourful, and sitting on the floor was a challenge for some of our participants.



Keirokei was the last function in our gym, before we cleaned it out and got it ready for demolition. Flowers were given to the oldest Lady, Gentleman and Couple. Everyone enjoyed Bento, the Choir sang some beautiful songs, and there was a lively session of Bingo.

Moe No Kai Go Keiko

Due to installation of new computers in the office, I was not able to attend our monthly Moe No Kai held on Feb. 20th. However, Kazuko Niguma was able to take over the class along with other volunteers to make creative flower vase. I was very impressed to see so many pretty original flower vases made by seniors. Towards the end of the class, we took few photos with their vases and later had an enjoyable time playing Shiritori game in Japanese. Spring like weather was perfect for the seniors to come out. I thank you for Kazuko Niguma and our volunteers for supporting the class held this month and most of all, I thank the seniors for attending Moe No Kai once a month. Our next Moe No Kai will be held on March 19th at 10am. Please try to avoid the crowd from catching terrible contagious viruses that has been spreading worldwide. Stay healthy and happy. See you next month.

萌えの会 柳恵子

2月20日に行われた萌の会では、オフィスの新しいたコンピューターの設置のため、私は参加出来ませんでした。熊和子さんがリーダーとして、使用済みの缶詰の缶で花瓶を作りましました。皆さん夫々に個性の可なりな作品が完成されました。最後に写真撮り、その上盛りつけました。お天気に恵まれ、春の訪れを感じるとも清々しい日でした。和子さんのはじめ、ボランティアの皆さんは皆、今月も無事に萌の会を開きまして、その後も皆様に楽しんでいただく機会を待ちます。流行り病を避け、いつまでも健やかに過ごして下さいませ。来月の萌の会は、3月19日午前10時からです。有難うございました。



Moe No Kai crafted vases at their session this month



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MEMBERSHIP: If you would like to become a member, please come to the office and complete the membership form.

Join the Sangha and spread the Dharma

CALENDAR OF EVENTS			March & April 2020			
Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 1, 2020	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:30 am Shotsuki Montly Memorial Service	2:30 pm Maples Service 5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai	7:30 Lecture: Introduction to Buddhism	10:00 Hatha Yoga	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:00 am Kids Sangha 10:30 am Regular Service	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai 7:00 SBT Board Meeting	10:00 Takarajima 7:30 Lecture Series #2	10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	REV. IKUTA IN TORONTO	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
REV. IKUTA IN TORONTO			10:00 Hatha Yoga 11:00 Nikkei Home Service 6:00 pm Taiko	10 am Moe no Kai 7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga
10:30 am Regular Service	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00 Kids Sangha 10:30 Spring Higan Service	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai	10:00 Takarajima 7:30 Lecture Series #3	10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga
29	30	31	April 1st	2	3	4
10:30 am Regular Service	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai	7:30 :Lecture Series #4	10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 am Kids Sangha 10:30 am Shotsuki Montly Memorial Service	2:00 Maples Service 5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai	10:00am Takarajima	10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Japanese Concert	9:30 am Chair Yoga
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:30 am Regular Service 1:00 Board Meting	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai		10:00 Hatha Yoga 11:00 Nikkei Home Service 6:00 pm Taiko	10:00 Moe No Kai 7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		National AGM in Lethbridge. Rev. Ikuta Away				
10:00 am Kids Sangha 10:30 am Regular Service	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai	10:00am Takarajima	10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
National AGM						
10:30 am Regular Service 1:00 pm SBT AGM	5:30 Hatha Yoga 5:45 Jiriki Seitai		10:00 Hatha Yoga 6:00 pm Taiko	7:30 pm Meditation	10:30 am Sutra Chanting 7:00 pm Choir	9:30 am Chair Yoga