



法のともしび LIGHT OF THE DHARMA

NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

We are again conducting services in person as well as per ZOOM. Please contact Sensei for links.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

ENGLISH SERVICES
Sundays 10:00am

JAPANESE SERVICES
Sundays 11:30am

SEIZA MEDITATION
Thursdays 7:30pm

MORNING MEDITATION
Fridays 10:00am

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday March 6th
10am Shotsuki Service
11:30am Japanese Service
Monday March 14th
7pm SBT Board Meeting
Sunday March 27th
10am Ohigan Service
11:30am Japanese Service
Sunday April 3rd
10am Shotsuki Service
11:30am Japanese Service

Your Donations are needed and appreciated!
Donations are the single largest source of income for the temple. Although there are no scheduled events, expenses do not stop. We want to be able to restart programs as soon as possible, so we thank you in advance for your contribution.

**FUJINKAI
TOBAN 2**

Contact: Jeanne Ryan 604-230-8787
or Hiroko Yoshihara 604-277-6521

Never to be Abandoned

"Saved by the inconceivable working of Amida's Vow, I shall realize birth in the Pure Land": the moment you entrust yourself thus to the Vow, so that the mind set upon saying the nembutsu arises within you, you are immediately brought to share in the benefit of being grasped by Amida, never to be abandoned.

(From Chapter 1 of Tannisho CWS pg. 661)



Entering the month of March, I thought I was going to be able to write an article on how fortunate we are to be living in the balmy west coast where spring arrives earlier than the rest of Canada. However, when I woke up this morning, there was a dusting of snow on the ground, Russia had just invaded Ukraine, and the occupation of the streets of Ottawa had just come to an end after three weeks of protest. Not the rosier of pictures, and I didn't even mention Covid-19. One can only hope for better days to come.

For some reason, as I was thinking about the times we're in, memories of my childhood popped into my head. It was a time when everything seemed so much brighter than today. It was the late 1960s and my family had just moved to Japan because my father had decided that he wanted to go back to Japan to continue his post-graduate studies at the Ryukoku University. He received a scholarship from the government of Japan and even though it was a sizable scholarship, things were tight as he had to pay for his schooling as well as support a family of six (I have two older brothers and one older sister). We lived in a row house known as "Nagaya". I guess it could be equated sort of like a two story townhouse, but definitely not as fancy. The house didn't have a flush toilet so once a week a pumper truck called the "honey truck" would come by to flush out the toilet. The house was so small, all six of us slept in two adjoining rooms on the second floor. The rooms were so small that my brothers had to sleep in the closet where the futons were kept during the daytime. When we first moved into the house, it didn't even have a bath and we would have to go a couple of blocks away to the public bathhouse, or "Sento" in Japanese. Not being the ideal situation, my father got permission from the landlord and with the assistance of a couple of the other foreign students, built a hut with a bathtub that was outdoors beside the kitchen. Everyday when it was time to take a bath, sheets would be strung up outside so one could go from the kitchen to the hut containing the wooden bath. Whoever was taking a bath would have to disrobe in the kitchen and step outside to go to the hut beside it. At our house, taking a bath was an experience unto itself.

Even though our living standard wasn't the best, it was also not the worst. All our neighbours lived similar lifestyles as that was the way things were like in the late 1960s. I don't know if it was because I was at an impressionable age (I was turning 4 when we went to Japan), but somehow, I took to Japan like a duck takes to water. According to my mother I was speaking fluently within a few months and forgot all my English. I remember when we moved back to Canada in 1972, I had to ask my grandmother Ikuta to translate for me because I couldn't speak English with the boy who lived across the street from my grandmother's place. Come to think of it, my English must really have been non-existent as my grandmother Ikuta's English wasn't that great either. (Continued on p.3)



OBITUARY



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

Shizuko Nishi

February 19, 2022

103 Years Old

DONATIONS & Memberships

The Steveston Buddhist Temple sincerely appreciates and thanks the following for their generous donations: All donations deposited after February 24th, 2022 will be announced in the next newsletter. Any donations with notations stating that they are in memory of several individuals, these names will be acknowledged in the month that the cheque was deposited. If you wish to have the donations acknowledged in the newsletter corresponding with a particular Shotsuki month, we ask that you make donations during that actual Shotsuki memorial month. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

最近一年を通して法要と祥月御懇志を小切手にて一括で送られてくるケースが多くなりました。その場合は入金されたその月のニュースレターにまとめてお報せ致しますのでご了承下さいませ。尚、祥月御懇志袋上に差出人のお名前、ご住所の他、どの月の祥月御懇志かもお忘れなく記載して下さいませ。有難うございました。

General donation(\$3,045): Akizuki Eiko, Akune Ted & Rose, Berlinguette Jocelyn, Chow Nobu & Suezone, Doi Terri, Flynn Robert & Sharon, Hashimoto Junichi & Atsumi, Ikuta Teruko, Kawamoto Tobo & Hiroko, Kurita Yoshie, Kuwabara Seiya, Matsuno Tom & Yoko, Mizushima Tatsutoki & Karen, Murgatroyd Itomi, Obayashi JoAnn, Oda Jennifer, Oishi J., Oshiro Patrick & May, Ozla Devina, Sai Arisa, Sakai Sharon, Takayama Kimiko, Tanaka Eddy, Watanabe Keiko, Yamamoto Cathy, Yodogawa Naomi, Anonymous

Naijin Flowers: Nishi Kayoko

Major Worship Services (\$2,030)

Eitakyo Service : Koyanagi Yoshiko, Niguma Kazuko, Nishikihama Teruko, Tanaka Emiko

Jodo-e Service : Akizuki Eiko, Ikuta Teruko, Kokubo Alice, Koyanagi Susie, Maede Toyoko, Matsumura Laverne, Mori Koji & Judith, Morizawa Chiyoko, Morizawa Sazare, Nagata Sayoko, Nishi Chizuko, Nishikihama Teruko, Nitta Ayako, Suzuki Kent, Tanaka Emiko, Tani Kiyoshi & Mutsumi, Tomihiro Kazuko, Whittier Maya

Shusho-e Service: Ikuta Teruko

Hoonko Service : Akizuki Eiko, Akune Roy & Itoko, Akune Ted & Rose, Chow Nobu & Suezone, Hamaura Masako, Hamaura Misaye, Ikuta Denise, Ikuta Kevin & Karen, Ikuta Kuni & June, Ikuta Makoto, Ikuta Teruko, Iwata Genevieve, Kakehi Tomoko, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kokubo Alice, Kondo Kaoru, Koyanagi Susie, Mizushima Tatsutoki & Karen, Maede Toyoko, Mori Koji & Judith, Morizawa Chiyoko, Morizawa Sazare, Nagata Sayoko, Nakatsu Tsuyoshi & Chizuru, Nishi Chizuko, Nishi Kayoko, Nishikihama Teruko, Nitta Ayako, Okabe Mary, Oye Hanako, Sakai Marge, Sakai Tomiko, Sakata Hozumi, Shiozaki Masako, Suzuki Kent, Tanaka Emiko, Tani Kiyoshi & Mutsumi, Tomihiro Kazuko, Toyoda Miyuki, Whittier Maya, Yoshihara Hiroko & Ken

Ohigan, Hanamatsuri, Gotan-e, Obon Services: Nagata Sayoko

Eshinnisama(according to Fujinkai list)(\$1,335): Hashimoto Atsumi & Junichi, Watanabe Naoko, Akune Ted & Rose, Watanabe Keiko, Domai Kiyo, Ikuta Teruko, Kakehi Tomoko, Okabe Mary, Hamaura Misaye, Yoshihara Hiroko, Kariya Florence, Morishita Joy, Hamanishi Betty, Sakai Marge, Ryan Jeanne, Sakata Marge, Sakata Hozumi, Nishi Kayoko, Kawamoto Hiroko, Akune Itoko, Niguma Kazuko, Toyoda Miyuki, Ikuta June, Chow Nobu, Doi Peter & Louise, Higo Kay, Hirano Masami, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Sakai Tomiko, Chan Rob & Elsie, Hibi Mika, Koyanagi Susie, Nakatsu Chizuru, Tasaka Chieko, Tomihiro Kazuko, Tani Mutsumi, Yoshida Arlene, Iwata Genevieve, Whittier Maya

SBTWA Appreciation : Okabe Mary

Shotsuki Services (\$8,195):

November: Kuriyama Paul

December: Kimura Sueko, Lum George & Hitomi, McLean Jenny & Duncan, Mukai Tom, Murao Ray, Tasaka Don, Yesaki Tom, Yokota Amy

January: Akune Roy & Itoko, Butler Linda, England Carol, Go Keiko, Iwata Genevieve, John Fred & Annie, Kakehi Tomoko, Kamachi Sumiko, Kamimura Mitsuo & Sada, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kawaguchi Julie, Kemp Norine, King Hiroko, Kokubo Alice, Kuramoto Martin & Elsie, Matsubara Kiyoshi, Matsuno Seishi & Kisako, Matsuo Ken & Akiko, Morimoto John & Yumi, Mukai Dianne, Mukai Henry, Mukai Tom, Murao Mary, Nakano Alison, Nishi Eric, Nishi Julie & Solymosi Andre, Nishi Kayoko, Nishi Susan & Balevi Ben, Niwatsukino Clifford & Family, Nomura Dan & Colleen, Nomura Mark, Nomura-Rejto

Cathy, Obayashi JoAnn, O'Brien Audrey & Michael, Okabe Mary, Pasqualetto Mario, Quan Toshiko, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Sakiyama Nobby & Liz, Sameshima Masumi, Sameshima Raymond & Famey, Sameshima Teresa, Sameshima Yoshiko, Sano Masayoshi, Sato Helen, Suzuki Kent, Takasaki C., Takasaki Keith & Sandra, Takeuchi Joanne, Takeuchi Ken & Sachiko, Tanaka Emiko, Tanaka Martin, Tanaka Mel, Tasaka Kaz & Chic, Tasaka Rick & Nomi, Teraguchi Jean, Tipple Pat & Chris, Yamanaka Sachiyo, Yesaki Arthur, Yesaki Tamotsu, Anonymous February: Akizuki Eiko, Akune Roy & Itoko, Akune Ted & Rose, Baumann Elaine, Challoner Bernice, Doi Peter & Louise, Erickson Leanne, Flynn Sharon, Grant Wendy & Peter, Hamade Naomi, Hamaura Misaye, Hashimoto Junichi & Atsumi, Higo Kelvin & Kay, Hokazono Kenji & Gloria, Kaita Hiroko, Kakehi Tomoko, Kariya Florence, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kimura Sueko, Kishi Leane & Setsuko, Kokubo Alice, Komori Dick & Setsuko, Kumagai Tetsuo & Noriko, Messer Karli, Morizawa Chiyoko, Morizawa Sazare, Murakami Richard, Murao Dick, Murao Kenny, Murao Ray, Nagata Sayoko, Nakanishi Mike & Frances, Nakano Alison, Niguma Kazuko, Nishi Chizuko, Nishi Kayoko, Nishi Pat, Nomura-Rejto Cathy, Nomura Dan, Nomura Mark & Chris, Nomura-Kemp Norine, Oye Hanako, Saito Tokiko, Sakai Alan, Sakai Tomiko, Sakiyama Butch & Marilyn, Sin Phyllis, Tasaka Cheryl, Tasaka Janice, Tasaka Joyce, Tasaka Kaz & Chic, Tasaka Randi, Tasaka Susan, Toyoda Miyuki, Uyeda Elsie, Yasui Atsushi, Yesaki Arthur, Yesaki Tom

March, May, November, '22: Nagata Sayoko

Funerals & Memorial Services (\$5,740): In memory of the late

Mr. Yasuhiko Nakata: Nakata Masahiko, Tasaka Joyce

Mrs. Chieko Kondo: Esson Karen, Okabe Mary, SBTWA

Mr. Tamotsu Kondo: Ikuta Kuni & June, Maede Toyoko, Matsuzaki Hub, Mizuta Harry & Akemi, Nakade Esther, Okabe Mary, Sakai Yonny & Emy, Tanaka Tom, Tasaka Randy & Joyce, Uyeyama Tom, SBTWA

Suga Takako: Mehl Rainer, Akune Roy & Itoko, Cameron Mari & Huston, Chow Nobu & Suezone, Domai Kiyo, Gossen Kayoko, Harrop Kaoru, Harvey Junko, Hirose Mary, Ikuta Kuni & June, Ikuta Makoto, Iwai Mayumi, Japanese Dementia Support Association, Kenney Loan, Lim Siew Lee, Miki Ken & Yoko, Murray Tomoko, Nakatsu Tsuyoshi & Chizuru, Nakatsuru Sherry, Narbett Naoko, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Takayanagi Nariko, Trinh Julie, Tsuji Naoko, Wang Kazuko, Weil Frederick, Wickens Mitsuyo, Yoshihara Hiroko

Mrs. Kyoko Niwatsukino : Niwatsukino Clifford, Akizuki Eiko, Akune Roy & Itoko, Doi Peter & Louise, Hibi Mika, Higo Kelvin & Kay, Ikuta Kuni & June, Ikuta Makoto, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kokubo Alice, Komori Kazu & Akemi, Kondo Kaoru, Maede Toyoko, McDougall Kari, Murao Mary, Murao Ray, Murao Tom, Nagata Sayoko, Nakamoto Joyce, Narukami Don & Chiyo, Nishi Chizuko, Nishi Kayoko, Okabe Mary, Oye Hanako, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Sakai Marge, Sakai Tomiko, Sameshima Yoshiko, Steveston Kendo Club, Tasaka Randy & Joyce, Uyeyama Tom, Yamasaki Yoko, SBTWA

Ms. Jean Sakamoto: Sakamoto Bud, Akune Roy & Itoko, Hamada Satoshi & June, Hamaura Misaye, Ikuta Kuni & June, Kamikura Roger & Joyce, Kurita Yoshie, Lum Hitomi & George, Miki Ken & Yoko, Murao Lila, Murao Mary, Nakanishi Mike & Frances, Nakatsu Tsuyoshi & Chizuru, Nagata Sayoko, Quan Toshiko & Ernest, Sakata Hozumi, Sakata Marge, Sameshima Raymond & Famey, Tasaka Rick & Naomi

Mr. Mits Tanigami: Yesaki Tom

Mrs. Setsuko Yamashita: Akune Roy & Itoko, Chang Margaret, Igari Toru & Noriko, Nomura Daniel,

Mr. Mitsuo Koyanagi: Koyanagi Susie

Mr. Masanobu Yamamoto: Nomura Daniel

Mr. Edith Tatebe: Okabe Mary

Mr. Milo Ilich: Sakata Marge

Mr. Nobuo Domai: Quan Toshiko & Ernest

Mrs. Sakiye Tanaka: John Fred & Annie

Mr. Joji Yamasaki: Sameshima Yoshiko

Sunshine Fumie Sato: Ohori Joe

4th year of the late Mr. Doc Tomihiro: Tomihiro Kazuko

25th year of the late Mrs. Yoshiko Sakai: Esson Karen

27th year of the late Mr. Hiroshi Niwatsukino : Koyanagi Susie, Tomihiro Kazuko

Membership 2021 paid: Doi Terri, Kasbekar Durgesh, Tanaka Eddy

*Our apologies for the delayed notice in some donations.

(Sensei. from P1)

Back to my memories of Japan, it was a land that introduced me to Godzilla, Ultra Man, and all sorts of creepy and crawly things such as lizards, Semi (Cicadas), and Kabuto mushi (Rhinoceros Beetles). In other words, it was a perfect world for an inquisitive 4-year-old boy. I had a real fascination with all the insects and other living creatures to the point where our neighbours would even bring over creatures that they found around their house knowing that I would enjoy it. Roy and Itoko Akune can attest to my love of insects.

There was an occasion when they were visiting Kyoto while we were living there. My parents took them out for the evening, and I guess they ended up going to a Matsuri of some sort. Roy says he remembers my mother buying a rhinoceros beetle from a street merchant as a gift for me. The funny part is that my mother didn't have a cage or anything to carry the beetle, so apparently, she just put it in her purse. Every time she would reach into her purse to get something, the beetle would try to crawl out. It left quite an impression on Roy as he still talks about it to this day.

Anyway, the point of all this nostalgia is to show how although our world today is so much more advanced in many ways, somehow it has become a harsher and colder world than before. Our humanity seems to be waning as we try to fulfill our desires and wants. Moreso than ever, we need to listen to the Buddha Dharma to see what is true and what is real.

The introductory passage of this article comes from the Chapter 1 of the Tannisho and has been said by many scholars to be the most concise summation of the Jodo Shinshu teachings. The basic understanding of the passage is the moment we receive the entrusting heart and desire

to say the name of Amida Buddha (Nembutsu), we are grasped never to be abandoned. Receiving the entrusting heart it to awaken to the mind of the Buddha, which the Contemplation Sutra of Amida Buddha describes as, "The mind of the Buddha is the mind of Great Compassion".

In other words, the desire to say the Name of the Buddha (Namu Amida Butsu) arises because we are moved by the working of the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha. The late Rev. Jitsuen Kakehashi, who was one of the foremost authorities of Jodo Shinshu, wrote in an article on the Tannisho, that this awakening to the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha can be compared to the love between a mother and her child. It is only after the mother has comforted the newborn infant over and over again that the baby responds to the mother's love and when its vocal chords develop over time, the first words that come out are "Ma-Ma" or mother. Similarly, the desire to recite Namu Amida Butsu comes from the past conditions that have brought it about. It is the working of Amida Buddha. The teachings help us reflect on our own life to see the foolish self, yet at the same time to see how we are grasped by the Buddha.

On March 27th, we will be observing the Higan or spring Equinox service. During the time of the equinox, the length of day and night are equal as we move from winter to spring. It is reflecting the balance within the universe. It is also said that it is a perfect time to listen to the Buddha Dharma. I hope we can take some time to reflect on the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha that is constantly reminding us that we are grasped never to be abandoned, just as we are.

In Gassho,
Grant Ikuta

MARCH 2022 MEMORIAL SERVICE

(Please bring your "Homyo".)

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

APRIL 2022 MEMORIAL SERVICE

(Please bring your "Homyo".)

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



STEVESTON Buddhist Temple

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www.steveston-temple.ca

Would you like to receive your own copy of Dharma Light?

Send an e-mail to: events@steveston-temple.ca and ask to be added to our mailing list.
(All members automatically receive a copy via e-mail, hand delivery or Canada Post.)

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



FUJINKAI NEWS

Hiroko Yoshihara

In February, some of the toban members toured the kitchen next to the Wisteria multi-purpose room, the two storage rooms across the hall and the underground parking spaces being used to store Obon equipment and other items. The plates, cutlery, rice cookers and food warmers in the Fujinkai storage room will be moved eventually over to the Wisteria kitchen. Any other suggestions will be welcomed.

Also several Fujinkai ladies gathered to make dough for karinto in the temple kitchen. They will meet again to cut, fry, glaze and package the finished product. This activity may be ongoing as we need to raise funds to assist delegates going to the 2023 World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto.

With the easing of pandemic restrictions and warmer weather, outdoor garage sales will be held in March or April. There will not be advance notice of the date, but it will be on a sunny Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. Closer to the date, ads will be placed on Craigslist and Kijiji and street signs will be put up near the temple. If you prefer notification by email, please let Hiroko know at hi.yosh@telus.net and she will do her best to let you know by Friday prior to the garage sale.

Hopefully, you are all keeping safe and busy during these unusual times.

Japanese Groceries Available at the Temple

Fukujinzuke brown
Genmai cha (1 kg)
Inari/age (40 pieces)
Mentsuyu (1 litre)
Onigiri nori (box of 5 pkg)
Shiro miso (1 kg)
Takuan
Tamari sauce
Umeboshi (5 varieties)
Yaki nori (gold)

SENBEI:

Ajinorakuen
Gomasuki
Sakura arare
Teriyaki senbei

Contact: Hiroko Yoshihara
at hi.yosh@telus.net
or at 604.277.6521
if you are interested.
in making a purchase.



Keirokai Notice

To our Keirokai (Senior Appreciation) recipients, we hope this newsletter finds you healthy and well. As many of you know, March has been the month in which we have traditionally held the Keirokai (Senior Appreciation Luncheon), however last year we had to cancel the celebration due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This year, we are planning on holding the Keirokai but instead of in March, we would like to hold it later in either the summer or the fall. Even though the BC government has recently lifted much of the restrictions around social gathering, the temple board felt it was still a bit premature to hold a large gathering at this time. Please keep an eye out in the coming issues of the newsletter for notice for the Keirokai.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.
Gassho

Moe No Kai

Keiko Go

We thank you very much for being very patient with us. Finally, we have decided to restart Moe No Kai in April. Two years ago in March, our volunteers and I were planning for its 10th year anniversary. Unfortunately, due to pandemic we were unable to hold one and nobody has imagined that pandemic would last this long. However, in order to keep our communication, I have decided to write The Kizuna regularly and it was nice to hear from some of you during this very difficult time. For those who are new to Moe No Kai, it runs on the third Thursday of the month from 10am to noon with Rev. Grant's dharma talk. We do simple crafts, play games and watch Japanese movies once in a while. We also do light brain and physical exercises to sustain our healthy life style. It runs by donation basis. We will be announcing more in the next newsletter so please keep an eye and we hope to see new faces as well. Thank you and see you soon.

Pet Memorial Proposal at the Temple

The Steveston Buddhist Temple Board of Directors have received a proposal to create a Pet Memorial on the temple grounds, just north of the Nokotsudo Columbarium. The board is interested in receiving expressions of interest if a memorial were to be created. If you think this is a good idea or would be interested in joining a committee to organize the formation of a memorial, please contact either Keiko Go at our temple office or Rev. Grant Ikuta. -- Thank you.



法のともしび

懐かしい京都の思い



いつの間にか、早くも3月に入りいつもだったら春の訪れについて書くことが多いのですが、先日また雪が降ったことを考えると、今年の春はもうしばらくみたいです。

話は一变しますが、皆さん今放送中のNHKの朝の連続テレビ小説を見ておられますか？2週間くらい前から番組は1960年代の京都を設定に話が進んでいるので、懐かしい思いで見えています。1960年代後半、父の二度目の留学のために私たち家族全員が日本に引っ越すことになったのです。父は龍谷大学の大学院に入学したので、私たちは山之内御池通り当りに住んでいました。番組に出てくる嵐電線の近くに

住んでいましたので母と乗った覚えがあります。私たちは二階建ての長屋に住み、家には水洗トイレもありませんでした。週に一度「ハニートラック」と呼ばれるポンプトラックがトイレ掃除のためにやって来ました。また、住んでいた家はとても狭くて、夜寝るときに兄二人は昼間布団が置かれていた押し入れで寝なければなりません。引っ越した頃はお風呂さえなかったのです。そのうち、父は大家さんの許可を得て、他の留学生的の助けを借りて、台所の外にお風呂付きの小屋を建てました。お風呂に入る時は台所で裸になり、横の小屋に行かなければなりません。よそから見えないように必ずシーツが張り巡らされていました。我が家では、お風呂に入ることもアドベンチャーでした。私たちの生活水準は決して贅沢ではありませんでしたが、悪くありませんでした。周りの皆も同じような暮らしをしていました。

家族が日本に引っ越した時、私は4歳ころでした。不思議なことに、日本の暮らしが性に合い、母によると、私は数ヶ月以内に流暢に日本語を話していて、英

語を完全に忘れるくらいでした。日本は幼い男の子にとって夢の世界でした。当時の映画館にはゴジラや、テレビではウルトラマンなどが流行っていました。それより私にとって日本は何よりも昆虫大国でした。カナダで見たことのない多くの昆虫は私に宝ものみたいでした。籠と網をもって宝探しの日々の暮らしでもした。しまいに近所のおばちゃんたちが自家分の家で虫を見つけたらわざわざ我が家の虫好きのことが有名になっていたので私の虫好きが証明できます。私は覚えていないのですが、ある時彼らが日本にいらした時に両親が夜の祇園祭に案内したらしいのです。その時に母が私のためにお土産として、屋台でカブトムシを買ったのですが、母は籠や箱など持っていかなかったの、仕方がなくそのままハンドバッグに入れたそうです。ロイさんいわく母がハンドバッグから何かを取り出そうとした時にカブトムシが脱出しようとしたので、母は虫が逃げないように気を付けながらもものを取り出していたらしいのです。その光景はいまだに忘れられないと彼は時々話してくれます。

さて、なんでこんな懐かし話をしているかというと、なんとなく今と比べてもっと優しい暮らしの時代であつたように思ったからです。今の世の中は困難の多い時代であります。だからこその阿弥陀様のお導きが必要ではないでしょうか？3月27日に彼岸会法要を執り行います。お彼岸はお聴聞するのにと昔から言われています。皆様もこの機会にご参加いかがでしょうか？

合掌
生田 真見

萌の会 郷 恵子

皆様、大変お待たせいたしました。早速ですが来月に萌の会を致します。萌の会は2020年で10年目を迎えました。丁度10周年記念を行う企画をしていた頃にパンデミックに突入し丸2年が過ぎてしまいました。その間、皆様とのコミュニケーションが取れなくなるため『ザ絆』を書き出しました。初めての方に、萌の会はシニアの方を中心に生田先生の短い法話を聞いた後、簡単なクラフトや、軽い頭やフィジカルの体操、ゲームを楽しんだり、たまには日本の映画鑑賞も致します。毎月第3週目の木曜日午前10時から正午までの2時間、月1回お寺のクラスルームでドネーションベースで行われております。初めての方でも大歓迎です。是非いらして下さいませ。改めて来月のニュースレターにて4月に行われる萌の会の日程をお知らせ致しますので、お見逃さなく楽しみにして下さいませ。

敬老会のお報告

毎年敬老会にご出席されている皆様、いかがお過ごしでしょうか。お寺のイベントとして3月に行われていた感謝の意を示す敬老会昼食会は、去年は残念ながらパンデミックの影響で開催することができませんでした。従って今年こそ是非復活させたいのですが、BC州のコロナ規制が緩和されたばかりで留意する必要があるため、3月から9月の初旬頃に延期することが役員会により決まりました。よって今後のニュースレターに敬老会のお報告が再度記載されますので、注意を払うようお願い致します。皆様のご理解有難うございます。

合掌

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。

西 静子様 2022年 2月 19日寂 103歳



婦人会からのお知らせ 吉原ヒロコ

2月にお当番の人たちがウィステリアブレースの多目的ルームの端にあるキッチンと、ホールの反対側にある2つの倉庫、それとお盆に使う様々な道具等をしまっているパーキング場を見学しました。

現在婦人会の倉庫にしまっているお皿、ナイフやフォーク、炊飯器、フードウォーマー等はいずれはウィステリアブレースのキッチンに移すことになります。皆さまはどう思われますか。ご意見をお聞かせください。

先日、婦人会会員が何人か集まりお寺のキッチンでカリントウの生地を作りました。後ほどまた皆で集ま

り、生地を切り、油で揚げ、照りをつけ、袋に詰める予定です。これは2023年の京都での世界仏教婦人会議に参加する人たちを援助するための資金集めですので、カリントウ作りはまだしばらく続くと思います。コロナウィルス感染症の規制が弱まり、気候も暖かくなってきましたので3月に外でガレージセールを行う予定です。前もって日にちの連絡はいたしません、お天気のいい土曜日の10時から1時までです。その日が近づきましたら、Craigslis と Kijiji、またお寺の近所の通りにも広告を出します。イーメールで連絡をしてほしい方は吉原ヒロコ (hi.yosh@telus.net) までお知らせ下さい。前日の金曜日までにお知らせするよう努力致します。このような異常な時期ですが、どうぞお元気でお過ごしください。



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