



# Buddhist Thoughts

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple: 211 West 100 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101, volume 19 issue 5  
web site: slbuddhist.org

May, 2011  
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## Poop and Bonno Happens J.K. Hirano

*It is impossible for us, who are possessed of blind passions, to free ourselves from birth and death through any practice whatsoever. Sorrowing at this, Amida made the Vow, the essential intent of which is the evil person's attainment of Buddhahood.*

CWS:Tannisho, pg. 663

My family have all been incredibly stressed and on edge for the past ten days. No one is sick or dying. We are not remodeling or moving and neither Carmela nor I are changing jobs. These are usually listed as the major causes of stress in people's lives. After these past few days I can add something else to this list of stress-inducing experiences: living with little dogs.

We have had four dogs living at the house. Kacie and Taylor's dogs from their mother's house have been staying with us, since their mom and grandmother were on vacation. Although we are used to having visitors and guests staying with us, this is the first time for visiting four-legged creatures. For the past ten days we have had Carmela, Kacie, Taylor and me, our two large dogs Ponzu (75 lbs) and Peanut (100 lbs), two small dogs Chibi (5 lbs) and Snickers (10 lbs), two guinea pigs (Bieber and Usher) and our cat Baby Blue, living under the same roof. By the way, if anyone wants two wonderful guinea pigs, let Taylor know, as they have proven to be more than Taylor can handle and we are looking for a new home for them. Of the eleven sentient beings in the house, the humans have had the hardest time adjusting to this addition of two little dogs. The cat, dogs and guinea pigs see the world in an almost enlightened state. They have the ability to see the world as it is, not just as they want it to be, so home remains home for them.

We humans have this very difficult thing called "bonno" in Shinshu terminology, "Klesha" in Pali and EGO or blind passions in plain English, to contend with. The animals don't seem particularly stressed, as long as the cat and dogs don't hassle Bieber and Usher by going up to their cage looking to have live guinea pig treats. When left in their little world, the pigs eat, sleep and play, happily squeaking and "popcorning" (that's what they call guinea pigs bouncing around). Ponzu our alpha dog seems to get along with the other three dogs. The others seem to know that Ponzu our Akita is HRH the Queen and act accordingly.

The only disturbance the animals have encountered was when Chibi and Snickers first came for their visit. I don't think they have ever met a cat before and so they were quite excited to meet our cat Baby Blue. Baby Blue was not happy at all upon seeing these two new dogs that were smaller than her and now within her space. She wasn't very welcoming and ran back to her usual area in the house. Snickers and Chibi wanted to see what this new creature was, so they chased Baby Blue behind the Obutsudan. Baby then leaped from behind the Obutsudan to my desk, which had my porcelain figures of

Super Heroes on it. One cat and two little dogs killed Supergirl and Captain America. It seems that these little creatures were more dangerous than any super villain Supergirl or Captain America had encountered, more dangerous than Kryptonite. Chibi, Snickers and Baby knocked them down and decimated them.

Baby Blue has since been living in the guest area of our house. However, from what I can tell, Baby, Chibi and Snickers are quite unapologetic about breaking my valuable Super Hero statues. And do you know why that is? They can see the figures for what they are: just stuff. It is my bonno that attaches value to colored hunks of porcelain, which have no intrinsic value. In an emergency, I can't eat them, they don't keep me warm at night, I can't even burn them for fuel. I just liked to look at them because they were mine! It is my bonno that transforms these hunks of clay to valuable possessions.

In a similar vein, there was one other incident or series of incidences that drove both Carmela and I to the brink of insanity. Looking back on it now, maybe we took a little trip over the edge. It concerned the smallest of our guest, Chibi, Taylor's 5 lbs. Yorkie/Bichon mix dog. Chibi's hair is long and while at my house, she had to eat a different type of dog food from her usual food. This gave her diarrhea and poop had stuck to her fur. It was really gross for us humans, but I didn't see or sense any disgust from the other three dogs. They didn't make her play by herself; they accepted her just as she was. Clean or dirty was fine with them. The same couldn't be said for the humans. We argued and freaked out about who would clean up the poop or Chibi. We would fight about who would give her a bath or even carry her to be given a bath. This 5 lb. dog had managed to unravel our neatly put together family. Chibi is a dog and dogs poop and sometimes it sticks to their fur. Poop happens! Yet, we human beings don't seem to get it. If Chibi hadn't left, I'm sure Carmela or I would have.

While in California, I bought an interesting bottle of stuff. It is very Japanese in design. It was a small bottle of clear liquid designed for women to carry in their purses. If the woman has to poop in a public bathroom, she could squirt a drop into the toilet and there would be no smell. This is so Japanese. In some public rest rooms in Japan, there is a device next to the toilet that makes the sound of a flushing toilet. It is a water-saving device. Many people are embarrassed by the sounds and smells they make when using the toilet. It is something that is natural and necessary. If you don't poop you will die. Yet, some humans are so concerned about this most natural of activities. It seems that many of us are more concerned by the smell of poop than by our bonno. Both are part of being living human beings. Without pooping we will die. Without bonno we will probably be dead.

However, wouldn't it be wonderful if we had a spray to rid ourselves of greed, anger and ignorance? What about a button to stop us from yelling? Someone cuts you off in traffic, where's the button? If anything we have buttons all over us that trigger greed, anger and ignorance. I believe that both bonno and dog poop are natural and very difficult to accept within ourselves. However, awareness of them opens our eyes to the naturalness of Truth that surrounds us. If we can see and appreciate each other with our frailties, maybe we could live in a world of harmony like the animals. Poop and bonno happens. Namu Amida Butsu!

## President's Message

### Dot Richeda

I am sorry I missed last month's newsletter because of personal matters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who came out on a Saturday morning to help with the Spring Toban Cleaning. I know there are many other things you can do on a Saturday morning. Although, we had a small group, we were able to complete cleaning both the Temple and the West Wing. Thank you to Maya Chow and the ladies who prepared lunch for us. It was delicious. Again, thank you to all and to Ernie Kyed for arranging this clean up.

I think each year our Hanamatsuri program is getting better. After service and a delicious meal of chicken, we all enjoyed a wonderful program by the Dharma School Students and by the Ogden Buddhist Temple Dharma School Students. Thank you to Tracy Akimoto-Roberson and her committee for doing a great job. It was nice to see friends from Ogden. I think we all have memories from past Hanamatsuri.

The Food Handlers class was held on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We will not receive individual cards, however, our names will be put on a list and hang in the kitchen. Any questions please let me know.

Next Temple Board Meeting will be May 12, 2011 at 6:00 PM.

## BWA News

Brenda Koga

April has certainly brought an abundance of spring showers with it, but it did not dampen our Hanamatsuri celebration or slow our ladies down. The members were very involved with the Hanamatsuri events...making the sakura mochi and musubi to accompany the chicken luncheon served for the occasion.

Thank you to all the members who participated in the preparations. The sakura mochi always is a treat and although there is never any formal planning for it, there is a mysterious group of women who make sure it is made. It is certainly appreciated and enjoyed by the congregation.

Also, special recognition to **Takeko Doi** and **Terry Fujinami** for their role in continuing to decorate the hanamido. They do a fabulous job...I know they also play a major role in the sakura mochi preparation.

By the publication of this newsletter, many of the BWA will have assisted with the general temple clean-up on April 23. The ladies will have not only cleaned that day, but also will have prepared lunch for all the workers. Thanks to **Maya Chow** for volunteering to organize the luncheon effort.

Upcoming is the Nihonmatsuri event and the BWA ladies will be busy with the bento lunches and the ohagi preparation as well as the serving and sales. **Reiko Matsuura** is not only the temple co-chair for the event, but also is heading up the food preparation for the bento boxes along with assistance from **Reiko Watanabe**.

The temple is very fortunate to have these dedicated members along with others of the BWA. In examining the functions and operations of the temple these women continue to remain in the forefront of the major events and frankly are the life's blood for the temple's existence.

At the last meeting, the BWA members expressed a desire to plan for a special activity for their recreational pleasure. The group is exploring a possible trip to the Tuachan amphitheatre in southern Utah. Please be watching for further details. Also, an updated telephone calling list is available. If you have not received a copy, please let me know.

Our next meeting will be **June 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**, just prior to Obon dance practice. If anyone ever has any questions regarding the BWA activities, please feel free to contact Brenda Koga (801-466-6552).

## **Dharma School Camping Weekend – September 2 – 4, 2011**

Come for a **FUN** end of the year/beginning of the new Dharma School year outing at the Mill Hollow Camp facility. This is open to kids and adults of ALL ages. It will be a wonderful way to bond with other members of the Sangha in a camp atmosphere without the hassle of packing for a camp weekend. All you need are your personal items, a fun attitude and your sleeping bag!!!

Meals are included. Provided will be the Dinner on Friday, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on Saturday and Breakfast and a Box Lunch on Sunday. The cost will be \$65 per adult and \$60 for youth up to age 12. A tremendous deal!

We need a count of those families planning on attending. We ask that you complete the following registration form and submit a **\$10** deposit per participant no later that **May 15<sup>th</sup>** on Parent's Day. Once your deposit has been collected you have reserved your cot!!!!

Save the date and further details are forthcoming.

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Name of Adults:

Home/Cell phone numbers:

Name/s of children and their ages:

If parent is not attending, name of attending chaperone:

In case of emergency and parents cannot be reached:

Name:

Phone:

## **Dharma School**

### **Christy Fong**

Thanks to all of the Dharma School teachers and students for a great Hanamatsuri!! Special thanks to **Tracy Akimoto-Roberson** for chairing the event and to **Tina Munson** for the appreciation gifts for the performers. Kudos to the **Jr. YBA** for getting the stage in shape for the performances. It was a nice celebration day for the Sangha.

Thank you to our **5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>** grade students for helping lead the Golden Chain and Promise during services through April and May.

The Bowling party is scheduled for May 1 at Bonwood Bowl at 11:00. We're asking Dharma school families to contribute a salad for the lunch. A sign up list is provided on the bulletin board.

The Dharma School is planning an end of the year, beginning of the new year Family weekend at the Mill Hollow camp facility. We are asking that registration forms be completed and submitted with a \$10 deposit no later than **May 15** to secure your spot. Submit completed forms and deposits to Christy Fong or Brenda Koga.

If you have any photos you would like to include in our Yearbook of any Dharma School activities, please submit prints to Christy Fong no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>, Parent's Day.

Thank you for your continued support!

## **National Council Report**

### **Ivan Van Laningham**

The 2011 Ministers' and National Council Meeting was held on February 23-27 in Visalia, California. Troy Watanabe and I were selected as delegates to attend the National Council Meeting on Friday and Saturday.

A good part of Friday was spent on discussion of the outstanding loan from California Bank and Trust for building the JSC (BCA Jodo Shinshu Center) in Berkeley. Richard Endo, treasurer, informed the Council that funds to make mortgage payments would run out in 2012. A motion was made and carried (with amendments, one of which was to include a letter of apology) to request a one-time donation from the membership, in the amount of \$199.00, in order to pay off the loan. This amount was decided upon based on a membership of somewhat less than 19,000.

Other business included a replacement for the 21st-Century Campaign, which will be an ongoing Annual Giving Program, reviewing and passing the annual budget proposed by Richard Endo (which included a dues increase from \$87.70 in 2010-2011 to \$94.32 in 2011-2012), several changes to the Bylaws, and the election of three Directors-at-Large (Richard Kunisaki, Kent Matsuda and Tom Nishikawa). The budget also included money for the Communications Committee, which is the committee that manages the BCA website, as well as the *Wheel of Dharma*.

Saturday night's banquet included ministerial retirement announcements as well as a fascinating presentation on the process of making singable English translations of Japanese gathas.

## With Deepest Sympathy

Our Temple offers our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of

### Larene Yamashita

We hope that through the nembutsu teachings and the strength of your family and community, you will find comfort in this difficult time. Namo Amida Butsu.

### May Shotsuki Hoyo

May 22, 10:00 am

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>Next of kin</b>
Akita, Sam Hideo	5/17/64	Janet Thomas
Aoki, Michio Mike	5/13/92	Ruth Aoki
Atagi Tomi	5/26/89	June Seo
Fujii Fumiye	5/10	Ritsuko Hayashi
Hirano Ikuye	5/10/88	Henry Hirano
Hirano Kazuyo	5/31/92	Henry Hirano
Ishimatsu Fujie	5/13/80	Chizuko Ishimatsu
Iwasaki Tori	5/28/69	Paul Iwasaki
Minaga Taka	5/15/96	Mark Minaga
Miyake Mitsuyoshi	5/31/84	Jim Miyake
Moshizuki Kuniko	5/21/83	Takeo Mochizuki
Namba Jin	5/20/84	Kaz Namba
Ninomiya Tei	5/8/64	Yoshiko Ninomiya
Nishida Seiichi	5/15/64	Aiko Okada
Nishikawa Shigeru	5/18/98	Nancy Wayman
Nakahara Nancy	5/21/99	Lily Nakahara
Okino Masano	5/18/81	Masako Imamura
Shiba Hideo	5/4/96	Ayako Shiba
Sueoka Kame	5/15/89	Dru Sueoka
Suzuki Saku	5/31/00	Yeiko Nagata
Tanaka Hiroshi	5/6/91	Masahiro Tanaka
Tsuyuki Yoshiko	5/27/91	Mark Tsuyuki
George Nakai	5/12/01	Maryanne Nakai
Haruo Nakagiri		Shizue Nakagiri
Nishiye Sasaki	5/15/05	Shigeru Sasaki
Sumi Hattori	5/16/2006	Gary Koga
Ben Mayeda	5/20/07	Craige Mayeda
Helen Yoshinaga	5/2009	Rolen Yoshinaga

# Infant Presentation (Hatsu Mairi) May 22

On Sunday, May 22, we will be holding an infant presentation service. This service is for any child born into our Sangha over the past year. During the ceremony, the child will be brought to the front of the naijin. This service is to help begin the child's first steps along the Nembutsu path. The child is presented before the Buddha and Sangha. The child will then take part in the three treasures and be presented with a nenju. Those interested please fill in the form and return it to the temple.

Infant's name:

Date of birth:

Parent's Names:

Address:

Phone:

Temple Member      Yes                  No

## APRIL DONATIONS 2011

(Missed acknowledgements)

Mitsuko Hirota	35	Hoonko
Mitsuko Hirota	35	Shotsuki Hoyo
Mitsuko Hirota	25	Nokotsudo
Mitsuko Hirota	25	Goodie Bag

OHIGAN --

Setsuko Nagata	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
Maxine Furubayashi	25	Kristine Clifford	25
Masako Imamura	20	Ruby Doi	25
Nanae Taketa	25	Jane Sakashita	20
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	Mitsuko Hirota	25
May Akiyama	20	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	25
Terry & Mits Fujinami	25	Bruce & Christy Fong	25
Tomiye Ishimatsu	25	Brenda Koga	25
Dot Richeda	30	Kazuko Terasawa	30

Karie Minaga-Miya	70	1 yr memorial for Kozo Minaga
Hisa Minaga	200	1 yr memorial for Kozo Minaga
Nikkei Center	30	Use of gym
Misao & Elsie Doi	300	Special awards
Jun & May Sudoku	100	Building Fund
Aiko Okada	25	Hito Okada memorial
Jr Jazz team	300	Use of gym
Misuko Shimada	100	Rent of temple
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special
Bruce & Christy Fong	20	Shotsuki Hoyo -Seiko Kasai
Nanae Taketa	50	Shotsuki Hoyo
Tomiye Ishimatsu	50	Shotsuki Hoyo -Otaichiro
Chizuko Ishimatsu	100	Shotsuki Hoyo
Kathy Terashima	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Ada Koseki
Yoshiko Uno	20	Shotsuki Hoyo -Amy Brauwer
Kayo & Jeannette Hayakawa	25	Shotsuki Hoyo-George Sakashita
Grace Kasai	25	Shotsuki Hoyo-T Sueoka
Grace Kasai	75	Shotsuki Hoyo-Seiko Kasai
Mark & Gail Minaga	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Kozo Minaga
Grace Oshita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Rae Fujimoto
Alice Hirai	10	Shotsuki Hoyo -Lillian Sekino
Alice Hirai	10	Shotsuki Hoyo -Shizue Rae Fujimoto
Tamiko Adachi	25	Shotsuki Hoyo- Shizue Adachi
Tina Munson	100	Shotsuki Hoyo -Eva Aoki
Nanae Taketa	25	Shotsuki Hoyo
Tracy Akimoto-Roberson	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Shizue Adachi
Lynn & Marilyn Shimada	30	Shotsuki Hoyo -Tai Oishi
Misuko Shimada	30	Shotsuki Hoyo
Robert & Tami Tokita	20	Shotsuki Hoyo -Shizuko Mitsunaga
Tom & Fran Akimoto	70	Shotsuki - Kiyoshi Akiyama & Chotaro Matsuura
Chic Terashima	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Kiyoyuki Terashima
Nobuo Aoki	50	Shotsuki Hoyo
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	30	Shotsuki Hoyo -Shizuko
Tracy Akimoto-Roberson	50	Shotsuki Hoyo - Landon Akimoto
Jane Sakashita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -George Sakashita
Dave Sekino	50	Shotsuki Hoyo
Stan Endo	50	Shotsuki Hoyo
David & Josephine Shiraiwa	50	Shotsuki Hoyo -Chiyo Jinzaburo Matsumiya
Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -George Sakashita
Craige Mayeda	40	Shotsuki Hoyo -Ben Mayeda
Nancy Takagi	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Hachisuka
Aiko Okada	25	Shotsuki Hoyo -Hito Okada
Setsuo Takenaka	50	Shotsuki Hoyo - Yoso Takenaka

### HANAMATSURI

Rose Watamura	25	Aki & Neil Chow	50
Dave & Holly Black	20	Phillip & Connie Sakashita	30
Judy & Troy Watanabe	30	Todd Matsuda	25



Tom & Eiko Kishimoto	20	George & Yuko Aoki	25
Haruko Moriyasu	50	Charlie Sasaki	20
Misuko Shimada	30	Dean & Rise Hirabayashi	25
Alice Hirai	20	Brian & Tammy Fukushima	200
Ichiro & Takeko Doi	100	Stephanie Sueoka	20
Bruce & Christy Fong	40	Stan & Elaine Endo	25
Ruby Doi	50	Faye & Jim Eng	100
Jeanne Konishi	50	Yoshiko Uno	20
Sandy Iwasaki	25	May Akiyama	25
Maxine Furubayashi	50	Karen Tohinaka	25
Jerry & Carmela Hirano	100	Henry Hirano	75
Dot Richeda	30	Yuriko & Carl Dennison	30
Kazuko Yakumo	50	May Koike	50
Kayo & Jeannette Hayakawa	25	Nancy Sudoko	25
Sadie Kato	30	Ayako Tohinaka	25
Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	50	Donna Sato	25
Bill & Shigeko Mizuno	50	Tammy & Henry Kuramoto	30
Masako Imamura	25	Kazuko Terasawa	30
Gary & Ryoko Okamoto	25	Suzan Yoshimura	25
James Aoki	20	Paul & Kathy Terashima	50
Ruth Schriock	20	Kris & Steve Yamada	20
Betty & Kirk Yamashita	20	Buster Mayeda	25
Naomi Kageyama	50	Chic Terashima	25
Lynn & Marilyn Shimada	25	Jane Sakashita	50
Gerald Iseda	25	Lisa Matsuda	25
Setsuko Nagata	50	Helen Mitsunaga	50
Lisa Imamura	50	Mitsuko Hirota	35
Mark & Gail Minaga	25	Tracy Akimoto	25
Tamiko Adachi	20	Sherrie Hayashi	30
Sachiko Tohinaka	25	Karen & Paul Seo	25
Linda Oda	20	Kathleen Hirabayashi	30
Grace Oshita	100	Richard & Lynne Doi	50
Misao & Elsie Doi	50	Shelley & Chris Taketa	25
Alice Hirai	20	Nanae Taketa	50
Phillip & Connie Sakashita	50	LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	50
Reiko & Ken Matsuura	50	Chie Sugaya	20
Brenda Koga	25	Robert & Tami Tokita	25
Reiko Mitsunaga	25	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	100
Nobuo Aoki	50	Masami & Ritsu Hayashi	100
Lisa Joko	25	Tina Munson	100
Nancy Takagi	25	Dorthie Conway	25
Aiko Okada	25	Brent & Sherrie Koga	25
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	50	Kiyoko Olsen	20
Karie & Marcus Miya	30	Dave Sekino	50
Jun & May Sudoko	35	Kristine Clifford	25
Samuel & Akemi Dean	20	Mits & Terry Fujinami	100
Chizuko Ishimatsu	25	Asako Mori	30
Kiyomi Ryujin	25	Ken Nodzu	25
Alice Ogura	40	Joseph & Rose Kamaya	100
Yutako Ikegami	50	Ruby Doi	50

MEMBERSHIP DUES PD IN APRIL

Buster Mayeda	Nobuo Aoki	Geraldine Chappell
Sandy Iwasaki	Rick & Susan Spehar (Sydnie)	
Tracy Akimoto-Roberson (Trevor, Justin, Jordan)		Hasue Masuda
Masami & Ritsu Hayashi	Karen Tohinaka (Kelsie)	
Kiyomi Ryujin	Aiko Okada	Misao & Elsie Doi

BWA

Hisa Minaga	50	1 yr memorial for Kozo Minaga
Grace Kasai	100	Special
Nakano Family	100	Memorial for George Nakano
Lynne Doi	10	Tsumitate

Membership dues paid -

Mitsuko Hirota	Cindy Thomas
Masako Imamura	Sadie Kato
Frances Akimoto	Stephanie Sueoka
Alice Ogura	Tammy Kuramoto
Rose Watamura	Ann Takasaki
Elsie Doi	Ruby Doi
Lynne Doi	Grace Oshita
Grace Kasai	Ayako Tohinaka

DHARMA SCHOOL

Bruce & Christy Fong	20	Ski Outing
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YBA

Hisa Minaga	50	1 yr memorial for Kozo Minaga
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JR YBA

Hisa Minaga	50	1 yr memorial for Kozo Minaga
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SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED TO THE JAPAN TSUNAMI RELIEF FUND -A  
CHECK FOR \$9,111 WAS SENT TO THE BCA

