



Buddhist Thoughts

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New Year's Blues and Views

J.K. Hirano

*The light of wisdom exceeds all measure,
And every finite living being
Receives this illumination that is like the dawn,
So take refuge in Amida, the true and real light*
Collected Works of Shinran; Hymns of the Pure Land 4

Goshinnen Akemashite Omedetoo Gozaimasu. There are some of you who are wondering if I completely misspelled these opening words. No, this is the Japanese phrase for “Happy New Year.” It literally means, “congratulation on the opening of a new year.” It’s an interesting way to look at the New Year. I like to think of it as the opening of a great gift. What will the New Year bring?

The Holiday season of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year is my favorite time of the year. However, it can also be a very stressful time of year. The purchasing of Christmas presents, the preparation for family dinners and parties, house guests, the noise, the lack of sleep, trying to find the Christmas decorations I put away so carefully last year, etc. etc. There were times when the stress of those problems overrode the reason I was buying presents and getting together with family and friends in the first place. What was it? Oh yeah, our love of family and friends.

The girls are out of school and Carmela is usually very busy with work, her patients can become very depressed during this time of year and if she is home, she is busy wrapping presents. Just as Elvis sings about a Blue Christmas, with all the commotion and activity, Christmas and New Year can become very blue. While we are running around doing Holiday things, my family usually forgets how messy and dirty the house becomes. One morning the stress level exceeded my limit and I started cleaning. It’s one of the things I do to help me with stress. After, I threw some heavy things around; I started cleaning the counters and windows. I had used a towel to wipe the counters down and take all of the fingerprints off the windows and glass tabletop. I was feeling rather proud of myself, when the Sun came shining through the window. It was only then that I realized how dirty the counters and windows really were.

As the Sun showed me the true nature of dirt, Amida’s light of wisdom, seemed to illuminate my own anger and frustration. The sun didn’t clean the dirty windows or counters; it showed me what needed to be cleaned. In the same manner, Amida didn’t suddenly take away my anger, the light of wisdom merely illuminated how foolish I was. I had to take steps to work on those issues myself.

I’m sure the counters and windows will get dirty again, just as I’m sure I will once again be stressed and angered. However, as Sharon Salzberg one of the founders of the Insight Meditation Center has stated in her book, The Kindness Handbook, “*As the Buddha said, Just as the dawn is the forerunner and the first indication of the rising sun, so is right view the forerunner and the first indication of wholesome states. Our view of who we are, what we are capable of, what matters in the world, molds our intentions, which in turn mold our actions. How we look at our lives becomes the basis for how we act and how he live and whether our choices are shaped by love and kindness. Transforming our understanding transforms our whole life: our happiness our degree of connectedness, our freedom. None of these are fixed in*

the particular externals of who we are, they are held in the universal potential of what we might become." Amida's light of wisdom shines within my heart and mind and directs me to begin again.

It is my deepest wish for the New Year, that all of us within our Sangha can work together in the light of Amida's wisdom and compassion. May we each take the first steps that come with right view, to work for the betterment of all, this is our practice. It sounds like it's the beginning of another wonderful year! "Namo Amida Butsu!"

President's Message

Dot Richeda

Congratulations to the new Temple Board Members for 2012-2013:

Maya Chow, Christy Fong, Sherrie Hayashi, Brenda Koga, Brent Koga, Karie-Minaga-Miya, Jane Sakashita, Paul Terashima, Karen Tohinaka, Reiko Watanabe, Troy Watanabe, Arthur Yakumo.

Board Members for 2012

David Black, Shelley Doi, Stan Endo, Bruce Fong, Dean Hirabayashi, Ernie Kyed, Reiko Matsuura, Mark Minaga, Reiko Mitsunaga, Dot Richeda, David Sekino, Ivan Van Laningham, Jeff Watanabe.

Temple Officers for 2012

President: Dot Richeda

1st Vice President: Bruce Fong

2nd Vice President: Ivan Van Laningham

Corresponding Secretaries: Reiko Mitsunaga, Reiko Watanabe

Recording Secretary: Karen Tohinaka

Treasurers: Maya Chow, Dave Sekino

Auditors: Dean Hirabayashi, Karen Seo

General Membership Meeting will be January 29, 2012. This is an important meeting, since we will be voting on the By-Laws changes.

I would like to thank Sensei , Dr Carmela and Mr Hayashi for their help during the year. Thank you to all for a successful 2011.

I hope you have a Happy Holiday season. Please be safe and I will see you next year 2012.

Next Temple Board Meeting: January 12, 2012 at 6:00 PM.

BWA NEWS

Brenda Koga

If you have been in the kitchen lately, I hope you have noticed that the utensils and equipment were all in their respective storage areas. Also, the stoves were clean

and everything was tidy. This was due to the work of the BWA ladies who reorganized and cleaned the kitchen on December 4.

The members were also contributors of the delicious luncheon for Bodhi Day on December 11, 2011. Thanks to all those who helped out and brought dishes for that event.

As the year comes to a close and the new year begins, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the women of the BWA for their support and efforts this past year. Thanks to **Rev. Hirano, Carmela** and **Masami Sensei** for their services to the temple and guidance for our organization.

My deepest appreciation to those who were willing to serve as officers: Vice Presidents: **Reiko Matsuura** and **Christy Fong**, Secretaries: **Maya Chow** and **Karie Minaga-Miya**, Treasurer: **Reiko Watanabe** and Auditors: **Gail Minaga** and **Connie Sakashita**. Thanks to the board members and the committee members who continually step up to help in any way they are able.

Congratulations to our new officers for 2012: **President: Reiko Matsuura, 1st Vice President: Christy Fong, 2nd Vice President: Gail Minaga, Secretaries: Karie Minaga-Miya and Connie Sakashita, Treasurer: Reiko Watanabe and Auditors: Karen Seo and Holly Black.**

Thank you to the Nominating Committee: **Maya Chow, Christy Fong** and **Reiko Matsuura**. **Reiko Watanabe** volunteered to print the mailing labels.

Again, my deepest gratitude to the ladies of the BWA for their support and assistance for the past two years. We have contributed much to the success and efforts of the temple.

Our next meeting will be **January 8, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.** Your attendance is appreciated.

Dharma School Happenings

Brenda Koga

The Dharma School continues to blossom and thrive with new students attending services and a multitude of activities ongoing. In December the Dharma School sponsored the Bodhi Day luncheon with the assistance from the BWA. Thanks to **LaVerne Kyed** and **Ryoko Okamoto** for planning and organizing that event. Thanks to all the families for contributing side dishes

for that great meal.

On December 18, **Judy Watanabe** and **Holly Black** organized and directed the students in decorating the **Goodie Bags** for the shut-ins and seniors. The YBA and Jr. YBA students assisted in this project.

Just a reminder to all families that we are requesting 3 dozen items to be donated for the contents of the bags. If possible we would like the items to be delivered to the temple by **January 8, 2012**. Also, we are asking members assistance in delivering the bags after the HoOnko service and luncheon on **January 15, 2012**. If you have questions regarding this project, please contact **Gail Minaga, Holly Black or Judy Watanabe**.

The Dharma School will be assisting the BWA with the HoOnko luncheon on the 15th. Thus, we are asking families to bring a salad or dessert for that event. Please contact **LaVerne Kyed or Ryoko Okamoto** if you would be interested in contributing a dish.

Thank you to **Maya Chow** for arranging to have our pianos tuned up. Please know that we are doing this on a periodic basis, and would appreciate parental assistance to keep these instruments operating properly.

Upcoming in February will be our bowling outing and our skiing outing follows in March. Please be watching for more details.

The next Dharma School teachers and board meeting will be on January 22, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.

Jr. YBA December 2011

Mark Minaga & Jim Eng

After a two year commitment, Mark Minaga and Jim Eng have stepped down as Jr YBA Co-Advisors, but we are delighted to announce that Lisa Imamura and Tina Munson have graciously accepted the positions. We are sure that all the kids and their parents are excited and pleased to see Lisa and Tina continues this exceptional Jr YBA program.

The primary goal of the Jr YBA is to develop friendships through involvement in community projects, temple activities and fund raisers. For all the Jr YBA members, the culmination of the fund raising efforts from 2009 -2011 was a long awaited bus trip to Southern California in July 2011. The trip included Knottsbury Farm, Disneyland, a guided tour of the Japanese American Museum, participation in the LA Obon festival, tour of the LA Higashi Honganji Temple, day at Newport Beach and staying five incredible days at the Orange County Buddhist Church.

In closing, Mark and Jim would like to sincerely thank the previous advisors Bruce and Christy Fong for their advice and guidance, Trey Imamura for his leadership as President, all the Jr YBA

officers, members and their parents. We would also like thank all those whom generously supported the Jr YBA for the last two years and hope that you continue to do so in the future.

In Deepest Condolence

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

Ayako Tohinaka

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 Buts\

Tentative 2012 Schedule

January	15	Hoonko, Shotsuki Hoyo, New Year's Party
	29	General Meeting
February	19	Nehan E, Shotsuki Hoyo
March	18	Ohigan
April	8	Salt Lake Hanamatsuri
	10	Ogden Hanamatsuri
May	6	Gotan E
June	3	Lagoon Day
	10	Graduation
July	14	Obon Dance
	15	Obon/Hatsubon
	21	Honeyville Obon/Hatsubon, Ogden Dance
	22	Ogden Obon/Hatsubon
Aug	6-9	BCA Minister's Fuku
September	9	First Day Dharma School
	15	100 Year Buddhism in Utah Celebration
	16	Ohigan/Shotsuki Hoyo
October	28	Halloween Party
November	17-18	Holiday Boutique
	18	Eitaikyo
December	2	Bodhi Day
	31	Joya E

Bodhi Day is one of my favorite days at church. We always have a fund guest speaker and a great lunch after service. This year was great because the guest speaker was a teenager. It was fun to hear what he had to say about Buddha's enlightenment.

Callahan Black

6th grade Dharma student

Sunday Movie Afternoon
Sponsored By The Salt Lake YBA

Best Film

Best Actor

Best Director



Best Supporting Actor

Best Screenplay

Sumo Do, Sumo Don't

When: January 22, 2012

Where: Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Gymnasium

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Food will be available for purchase from 12:00 p.m.
All proceeds will go to the YBA to help pay for their cost to the YAC Summit Conference at the Jodo Shinshu Center

January Shotsuki Hoyo

10:00 am, January 15

Deceased	Date of Death	Next of Kin
Akita Uheiji	1/21/62	Janet Thomas
Hirota Harry	1/28/97	Mitsuko Hirota
Honda Nobuyoshi	1/18/95	Honda Family
Inouye Kinsaku	01/2/94	Tom Inouye
Inouye Sashichi	1/18/75	Sharen Carmichael
Iwamoto Sei	1/19/57	Takeo Iwamoto
Iwamoto Masakichi	1/19/72	Takeo Iwamoto
Kaizumi Hannah	1/15/93	Craig Kaizumi
Matsuda Ei	1/5/96	Matsuda Family
Mayeda Tadao	1/5/72	Yoshiko Kido
Mitsunaga Buntaro	1/7/67	Tomio Mitsunaga
Mori Carol	1/10/88	Asako Mori
Mori Masakiyo	1/27/80	Ko Mori
Nakamura Tane	1/16/75	Takae Nakamura
Namba Matsuno	1/8/56	Kaz Namba
Ninomiya Yasaeuemon	1/11/41	Yoshiko Ninomiya
Oishi Ginzo	1/31/62	Victor Oishi
Oishi Yoshino	1/11/83	Victor Oishi
Kanekichi Okino	1/3/48	Masako Imamura
Saito Masano	1/24/54	Yoshiko Ninomiya
Saito Yoshinaga	1/10/59	Yoshiko Ninomiya
Seo Tommy	1/25/93	Paul Seo
Shiba Miyoe	1/15/92	Shiba Family
Shimada Shoichi	01/2/92	Yoneko Shiba
Takata Raisaku	1/18/86	Teruko Takata
Takehara Sumiko	1/19/93	Dick Takehara
Taketa Shintaro	1/16/85	Shizuko Taketa
Tsutsui Kiyoshi	1/12/91	Tsutsui Family
Nakai Yoshiko	1/23/98	Lily Havey
Imada Shizuko	1/26/02	Helen Mitsunaga
Miyake Mary	1/14/04	Jim Miyake
Matsue Kasubuchi	1/7/07	Robert Kasubuchi
Yasuzo Minaga	1/11/78	Karie Minaga-Miya
Sachi June Minaga		
Kadowaki Schneider	1/22/09	Karie Minaga-Miya
Ruth Mitsuye Aoki	1/15/11	Sharen Carmichael

2011 NOVEMBER DONATIONS

Ayako Tohinaka	50	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Misuko Hirota	25	Eshinniko	
Misuko Hirota	50	Bazaar	
Fred Tamagawa	50	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Frank Tamagawa
May Koike	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Robert & Tami Tokita	40	Shotsuki	- Ruth Mitsunaga/John Imada
Charlie Sasaki	20	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Ivan Van Laningham	50	Special	
Linda Oda	20	Halloween Party	
Kathleen Hirabayashi	20	Halloween Party	
James Aoki	25	Halloween Party	
Elaine Fukushima	100	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Helen Mitsunaga	40	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Ivan Van Laningham	50	Special	
Eleanor Kobayashi	25	For Naoki Kobayashi	
Jane Sakashita	20	Fumi Hasegawa	Shotsuki
Terry Omura	50	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Michiko Omura
Fran & Tom Akimoto	50	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Genevieve Akiyama
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Kazuko Yakumo	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Ryujun Yakumo
Lisa Imamura	20	Shotsuki Hoyo	- Toby Ikegami
Nancy Takagi	40	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Sachiko Tohinaka	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Bob & Akiko Sugino	20	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Mitsuye Sugino
Paul & Kathy Terashima	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	-T Koseki
Brenda Koga	20	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Sumiko Hattori
Maxine Furubayashi	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Dave Sekino	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	20	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Michiko Omura
Amy Tomita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	-Shigino Fujii
Amy Tomita	25	Buddhist Thoughts	
Koyo Restaurant	100	Special	
Reiko & Byron Watanabe	25	Seminar	
Paul & Kathy Terashima	20	Seminar	

EITAIKYO --

Yoshiko Uno	35	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	30
Mark & Gail Minaga	25	Setsuko Nagata	25

Nobue Sudoko	25	Mits & Terry Fujinami	25
Brenda Koga	25	Brian & Tammy Fukushima	50
Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Kazuko Yakumo	25	Dave Sekino	50
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25		

DHARMA SCHOOL

Halloween Party --

Cori Kato	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Bruce & Christy Fong	25	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	25
Lynne Doi	25	Grace Oshita	20
LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	20	Kirk & Betty Yamashita	25
Maya Chow	20	Rise & Dean Hirabayashi	20
Rise & Dean Hirabayashi	10	Olivia's birthday	

DECEMBER DONATIONS

Masami Hayashi	500	Memorial for Ritsuko	
Asako Mori	100	Memorial for Shigemi Mori	
Ivan Van Laningham	10		
Stan & Elaine Endo	200	Special	
Ken Nodzu	500	Year end	
Ivan Van Laningham	25	Special	
Akiko & Bradford Hare	500	Special	
Rev Kaz & Keiko Niho	200	Visit from Japan	
Keizo Kobayashi	250	In memory of Noriko Kobayashi	

Bodhi Day --

Buster Mayeda	25	Faye & Jim Eng	20
Jerry & Carmela Hirano	100	Tina Munson	50
Dot Richeda	30	Brenda Koga	25
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Jeanne Konishi	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
James Aoki	20	Jane Sakashita	25
Paul & Kathy Terashima	50	Bruce & Christy Fong	25
Dave Sekino	25	Terry & Mits Fujinami	25
Chizuko Ishimatsu	25	Setsuko Nagata	25
Reiko & Ken Matsuura	25	Chie Sugaya	20
Tom & Fran Akimoto	25	Aiko Okada	25
May Akiyama	20	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	25
Karie & Marcus Miya	50	Tracy Akimoto	25
Philip & Connie Sakashita	50	Mark & Gail Minaga	25
Stephanie Sueoka	20	Chic Terashima	25
Brian & Tammy Fukushima	100	LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	50

SHOTSUKI HOYO --

Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Aiko Okada	30	Reiko Mitsunaga	25
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	100	May Akiyama	25
Robert & Tami Tokita	40	Christy & Bruce Fong	20
Kazuko Yakumo	50	Charlie Sasaki	20
Karen Tohinaka	25	Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	25
Ken Nodzu	25	Faye & Jim Eng	40
Helen Mitsunaga	50	Terry Omura	50

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF RITSUKO HAYASHI

Salt Lake Chapter JACL	Grace Hatano
Ethel Bradford	Bob & Mary Lou Keefe
Nancy Keefe	Sachi Matsumoto
Lorraine Hiramoto	Ann Hashimoto
Reiko Mitsunaga	Judy Komatsu
Jeff Itami	

BWA

Masami Hayashi	300	Memorial for Ritsuko
Ken Nodzu	50	Year end

DHARMA ACHOOL

Masami Hayashi	200	Memorial for Ritsuko
Ken Nodzu	50	Year end

YBA

Masami Hayashi	100	Memorial for Ritsuko
Ken Nodzu	50	Year end

JR YBA

Masami Hayashi	100	Memorial for Ritsuko
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Dobo Gakko

Masami Hayashi	100	Memorial for Ritsuko
Stephanie Sueoka	100	Special awards donation

FOUNDATION ACCOUNT:

Ken Nodzu	500	Year end
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