



# Buddhist Thoughts

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## A "FUN" Sangha J.K Hirano

*Always obey your parents, when they are present. This is the best policy in the long run, because if you don't they will make you. Most parents think they know better than you do, and you can generally make more by humoring that superstition than you can by acting on your own better judgment.*

*Mark Twain,*

*"speech to Saturday Morning Club, April 15, 1882"*

As usual, it has been a very interesting and busy summer. However, the summer vacation has ended and most of our Dharma School students are back in regular school. During the Dharma School summer break, our services were changed from the regular service format that begins once again on September 15<sup>th</sup>, to a mixture of a traditional Jodo Shinshu service, with the chanting of Shoshinge and new form service, with 20 minutes of meditation, followed by a Dharma talk and a discussion group. It has been interesting to see so many people attend services during the summer. It isn't our usual Sangha, which is almost 50 percent Asians to 50 percent non-Asians, with almost 100 people attending on Sundays. During the summer, we probably average about, 30 to 50 people. When Carmela and I began holding the summer service about 7 or 8 years ago, we were averaging 5 or ten people. This summer there was quite a good attendance but the breakdown is 10 percent Asian and 90 percent non-Asian. It will be interesting to see how our regular Sangha develops over the upcoming Dharma School year. On September 8<sup>th</sup> we will be having our Dharma School picnic. It will be held in my back yard at 13 West 3100 South, Bountiful, Utah. We usually have the picnic at North Canyon Park, which is about a mile from my home, however, this year the park was not available, so we hope you can join us at our home.

The question of how you teach children Buddhism is a question that Dharma School teachers and parents, throughout the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) have asked for years. Looking back on my own path, I believe there isn't anything we can really teach our children in a formal way. Although the advice I began with by Mark Twain is something I believe we should tell our children, "Always obey your parents, when they are present." The emphasis on "when they are present."

My parents never attended Dharma School with me. During my generation, Dharma School

was something children attended, not parents. I think this sent the message that attending services on a regular basis was for children, but when you were older, it wasn't really necessary. I think this may be one of the reasons our Dharma Schools are losing students. Those former Dharma School children, who don't have children of their own, don't come to service. Their parents didn't, so why should they? The Buddhism they learned as children and retain to this day, wasn't what their parents said, but what they did. It was not emphasized that we never really graduate from Dharma School, we are all students of the Dharma.

A somewhat peculiar thing my Father always told me and acted upon personally was to respect the temple and Dharma. I remember he was a board member for many years and I know there were times he wasn't happy with what was going on at the temple, but he never badmouthed the temple or Sangha. He also continually told me how important the temple was in his life. This was shown to me by his participation on the temple board. He also told me, "I am a Buddhist, but you are not a Buddhist, until you decide for yourself." Maybe my becoming a priest is linked to showing my Father that I was really Buddhist. However, it wasn't what he said, but what he did. Although he didn't attend services with me on most Sundays, the temple was the center of his social and I believe moral life.

Looking at these things, I believe that our Sunday services and temple should be an enjoyable activity for the entire family, from babies to grandparents. The one message that should be taught is "FUN" Families understanding Nenbutsu. The nenbutsu is not about words in a book or places and names. The nenbutsu is sharing life with others and the gratitude that grows from the sharing of our lives. We find that within the sharing of our lives, we share the happiness and sadness, and a deep sense of gratitude begins to open up within us. It is very difficult to see these things on our own. It is in a Sangha that we begin to see the bodhisattvas that surround us at all times. I hope that our temple will be a place that bodhisattvas abound. Bodhisattvas affect us with actions and not merely words. As we live and play within this type of environment, it is the nenbutsu that naturally begins to grow within our hearts and manifests as Namu Amida Butsu.

*On seeing a bodhisattva  
Perform various practices,  
Some give rise to a good mind and others a mind of evil,  
But the bodhisattva embraces them all.  
Garland Sutra, CWS 292*

## BWA Report & Newsletter



The BWA membership provided Keirokai box lunches for BWA members. Several members brought in various dishes to put a delicious box lunch together for 10 BWA members. It was a very nice opportunity to reconnect with our members who have not been able to participate in services or other activity.

Following this group activity, we have all focused our energies on preparations for OBON. This year, BWA will focus on Sushi and helping Shelley Doi-Taketa & Jamie Doi-Slade with somen. We hope everyone can take time to join us on preparation day (Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>). Last year, we were asked about the significance of preparation day. I thought about

it and realized that it is a very important part of our culture. It's an opportunity to learn from others how to prepare food that we enjoy at OBON and also at our homes throughout the year. As we stand, side-by-side, rolling sushi, filling the age, or squeezing the cabbage tsukemono, we share little secrets on how to make the traditional foods associated with OBON a little better than what is written in the recipe books! I remembered the first time I found myself saying- "Oh, is that how it's done!" We thank the BWA Food Committee, Reiko Matsuura and Reiko Watanabe work side by side with Junko Mitsunaga, Setsuko Nagata and others to learn the secrets of Japanese cooking and food preparation.

It is important to remember that OBON is a time to reflect on those who have laid the foundation for the present. Those who have passed away and all they have done to allow us to enjoy the freedoms, opportunities and successes that we now have. No matter our current issues, they are most certainly small compared to the challenges of our ancestors. The BWA or Fujinkai has always been the heart and soul of the Temple. We invite each one of you to join us and move our Temple forward.

In August, the BWA is sponsoring a bus to Las Vegas to help celebrate their OBON. On August 9, 10, 11, 12- Jane Sakashita will, once again, journey with the bus load of BWA members and friends to the warm and inviting Las Vegas OBON. The spots filled up fast, so if you don't have a spot, you'll have to wait until next year.

On Sunday, August 25, 2013, the BWA Picnic at Sugarhouse Park will allow us to gather for a delicious steak fry. We will have a short BWA meeting just before we eat (at 4:00 p.m.) so plan to come join us. This year has continued to go by so fast. Don't get left out, come join us for fun and food!

Gail Minaga & Karie Minaga-Miya

## THANK YOU JULY TOBAN GROUP

Thank you so much to the July toban group for their hard work and efforts in cleaning the temple. Since it was after the Obon festival the main building and the West Wing were both in dire need of cleaning.

Our appreciation is extended to those who came to help: Adam Cooter& Pamela Miller, Kyla and Abigail; Li Fam; Christy, Bruce & Kenny Fong; Debbie and Wes Koga; Maya, Samantha and Keith Chow.

Thanks again...the place looked terrific!

Dave Sekino and Brenda Koga, Co-chairs

# Obon Report

Paul Terashima and Aaron Froemming

The Obon is over, for a while it looked like we would be in trouble. First at 1:00 p.m. when we started serving food there wasn't a line in the hall waiting to buy the food. The food sale was slow but steady all afternoon. Then around 6:00 p.m. it started to rain and boy, did it rain! Everyone outside came into the temple to wait out the rain. I guess that since they were in the gym, those who haven't had anything to eat, decided to eat. With the help of the rain, we sold out of the food.

The rain stopped in time for the Ogden Taiko drummers to perform. The rains cooled the evening and the dancers had a great time. The Obon was a great success. Thanks to all the hard work of all the chairs and their volunteers: Judy Watanabe-advertising; Troy Watanabe/Robb Farr-Master of ceremony and sound system set-up; Maxine Furubayashi, Sandy Iwasaki, Tracy Roberson, Emily Iwasaki-Dance Instructors; Sherrie Koga, Elaine Endo, Joni Sueoka, Susan Furubayashi, Joy Furubayashi-SLBT Foundation, Sales and Activities; Dot Richeda-Entertainment, EMT medical; Troy Watanabe-Chapel tours; Wes Koga, Marcus Miya, Steve Koga-Yagura Set up and take down; David Black-Dishwashing; Byron Watanabe-Coke products; Troy Watanabe; Maya Chow-YBA coordination; Faye Eng, Rise Hirabayashi-Raffle Coordination, Dave Sekino-Petty cash, cashier; Reiko Mitsunaga, volunteer coordination; Reiko Matsuura, Gail Minaga, Karie Minaga-Miya-BWA food coordination; Jeff Watanabe, Reiko Matsuura- Rice bowls; Brenda Koga-gyoza; Shelly Taketa, Jamie Slade-Somen; Junko Mitsunaga-sushi; Reiko Watanabe-Asian Salad; Adult study class-fruit salad; Laverne Kyed-Spam musubi; Sherrie Hayashi-meatball rice bowls; Reiko Mitsugana-Water, tea; Craige Mayeda, Bob Kasubuchi-Chicken teriyaki Bar-BQ.

Thank you everyone for making the Obon such a successful event.

## August and September Shotsuki Hoyo

September 23, 10:00 pm

<b>Deceased</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>Next of Kin</b>
Akimoto Hideko	8/8/82	George Akimoto
Akiyama, Takeo	8/26/85	Francis Akimoto
Doi Sekizo	8/27/67	Ichiro Doi
Hirase Torae	8/5/89	Eunice Yamane
Imada Izumi	8/2/52	Imada Family
Kano Dessie	8/12/94	Paul Seo
Kuwahara Alice	8/12/84	Arnold Kuwahara
Matsuura Hana	8/26/45	Greg Matsuura
Ninomiya Tasuo		Yoshiko Ninomiya
Sakashita Etsuno	8/24/73	Hiroshi Aramaki
Sakashita Fukutaro	8/2/55	Hiroshi Aramaki
Sakinada Shoji	8/29/85	Henry Haraguchi
Sugita Denzo		Mark Tsuyuki
Takenaka Matsuzo	8/5/67	Takenaka Family

Tersawa Kuniko	8/2/91
Akino Hideshima	8/14/00
Fred Toshiyuki Seo	8/11/01
Milja Park-Yea	8/12/01
Mitzie Tsuyuki	8/13/02
Wallace Doi	8/28/67
Mitsuno Hata	8/11/88
James Konishi	8/25/04
Rhu Toru Sueoka	8/21/08
George Doi	8/20/10
Toshiko Mayeda	8/21/10
Chiyoko Nishimura	8/22/11

### September

Akimoto Fukuichi	9/24/54
Akimoto Setsuko	9/1/83
Date Tsune	9/9/70
Doi Emiko	9/11/70
Endo Yoshiko	9/10/87
Fujii Naka	9/2/92
Fujinami Kichi	9/26/95
Fukunaga Koma	9/27/92
Hirase Hikotaro	9/11/53
Inouye Mika	9/5/33
Iwata Chubei	9/13/66
Kasubuchi Isa	9/12/68
Kasubuchi Otomatsu	9/19/28
Kato Kikuyemon	9/1/49
Masuda Haruko	9/22/85
Masuko Hisao	9/28/68
Mitsunaga Masami	9/13/34
Mori Masumi	9/20/83
Niwa Shozo	9/19/83
Sudoko Kotomi	9/20/94
Takagi Michael	9/3/89
Tsuyuki Kimiko	9/20/62
Usui Fumiko	9/17/84
Endo Michiye	9/26/00
Hiroshi Mitsunaga	9/24/03
Shizuye Susie Nakai	9/4/04
Hiroshi Ikegami	9/27/04
Carol Matsuura	9/29/97
May Mitsuko Matsuda	9/6/2012

Kazuko Terasawa
Tad Hideshima
June Seo
Evelyn Matsumura
Mark Tsuyuki
Mary Doi
Suzanne Hata
Jeanne Konishi
Sumi Sueoka
Ruby Doi
Yoshiko Uno
Setsuko Schock

George Akimoto
George Akimoto
Faye Eng
Ichiro Doi
Xan Matsuda
Masami Hayashi
Mitsuru Fujinami
Ben Fukunaga
Eunice Yamane
Miye Aoki
Imai Family
Robert Kasubuchi
Robert Kasubuchi
Dan Tsukamoto
Edna Shiotani
Robert Kasubuchi
Tomio Mitsunaga
Marilyn Bouyer
Pat Ninomiya
Jun Sudoko
Nancy Takagi
Mark Tsuyuki
Nancy Hikoeda
Stan Endo
Faye Eng
Eleanor Sasaki
Rick Ikegami
Greg Matsuura
Richard Matsuda

## 2013 JULY DONATIONS

Brenda & Robert Watanuki	100	Shotsuki for Bob Watanuki & Terry Johanson
Ray & Diane Nishikawa	200	Hatsumari
Bob Sugino	20	Shotsuki Hoyo
Micky Morinaka	200	In memory of Hideo & Masako Morinaka
Jeanette & Tats Misaka	50	In memory of Buddhist ancestors
Tadao Winward	5	Hatsubon
Nanae Taketa	25	Nokotsudo
Jane Sakashita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo - Yoshio Beppu
Amy Tomita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo - Yukiyei Tadehara
Amy Tomita	25	Shotsuki Hoyo- Daijiro Masaru Fujii
Keiko Mochizuki	20	Shotsuki Hoyo-Jiro Mochizuki
Judy Komatsu	25	In memory of Chad Tohinaka
Mike, Karen & Kelsi Tohinaka	50	Hatsubon -Chad Tohinaka
Jerry & Laura Oki	100	Hatsubon -Toshi Oki
Chris Oki	100	Hatsubon -Toshi Oki
Richard Matsuda	30	Shotsuki Hoyo
Bob Sugino	50	Hatsubon

### Hiroshi Mitsunaga and Masami/Shizuko Mitsunaga memorial

Faye & Jim Eng	100	Mitsunaga Memorial
Robert & Tami Tokita	60	Mitsunaga memorial
Kathy Gage	60	Mitsunaga memorial
Mariko Kuwahara	150	Masami/Shizuko Mitsunaga memorial
Mariko & Joe Kuwahara,		
Scott & Mari Ann Ishii Family		
Dr. Joseph & Ramona Kuwahara Family,		
Louis & Joanne Di Meglio Family	1000	Foundation Fund (formerly building fund)

### OBON –

Osamu Hideshima	200		
Craige Mayeda	50	Helen Mitsunaga	50
Kiyomi Ryujin	25	Bob Sugino	50
Yuriko & Carl Dennison	50	Alice Ogura	50
Ichiro & Takeko Doi	100	Nanae Taketa	50
Tammy & Henry Kuramoto	25	Asako Mori	30
Nancy Takagi	25	Sandy Iwasaki	25
Maxine Furubayashi	50	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	100
Jane Sakashita	50	Setsuko Nagata	50
Ruby Doi	100	Tom & Fran Akimoto	50
Masami Hayashi	100	Setsuko Schock	50
Dot Richeda	30	Carmela & Jerry Hirano	100
Nobuko Kobayashi	75	Nobuo Aoki	25
Takae Nakamura	25	Chic Terashima	100

Sachiko Tohinaka	20	Paul & Kathy Terashima	50
Keiko Mochizuki	20	Karie & Marcus Miya	100
Reiko Mitsunaga	25	Chris Oki	25
Richard Matsuda	100	Tad Winward, Janet Thomas, Mits Ushio	125
Todd Matsuda	50	Tammy & Brian Fukushima	100
Amy Tomita	25	Dorthie Conway	25
Pam Stillman	50	Ivan Van Laningham	500
Koyo Restaurant	100	Kiyo Nakamura	50
Sherrie Hayashi	50		

#### BWA

Miyuki Nakano	25	Bento appreciation	
Grace Oshita	25	Bento appreciation	
Faye & Jim Eng	50	Mitsunaga memorial	

#### DHARMA SCHOOL

Faye & Jim Eng	50	Mitsunaga memorial	
YBA			
Faye & Jim Eng	50	Mitsunaga memorial	
JR YBA			
Faye & Jim Eng	50	Mitsunaga memorial	
DOBO GAKKYO			
Faye & Jim Eng	50	Mitsunaga memorial	

#### OBON DONATIONS

Renee Matsuura	50	Jun Sudoko	30
Brent Koga	25	Max Hirabayashi	30
Shelley Doi Taketa	100	Robert Kasubuchi	30
Yoshiko Uno	25	Linda Omori	25
Terry Omura	150	Christie Jenn	25
Faye Mitsunaga	100	Jeannette Hayakawa	25
Richard Doi	100	Nobue Sudoko	25
Grace Oshita	100	Ken Nodzu	25
Stan Endo	100	Aiko Hamada	25
Mits Fujinami	100	Neil Chow	25
Ivan Van Lanningham	100	Hatsue Matsuda	20
Joe Kamaya	100	Yuriko Iwamoto	25
Thomas Endo	100	May Akiyama	25
Torao Nakagawa	100	Ciyoko Takemoto	100
5 Buck Pizza	60	Shirley Farr	50
Cindy Thomas Yamada	50	Lynn Shimada	50
Hiroshi Aramaki	50	Christine Munson	100
Bill Mizuno	50	Misuko Shinada	30
Haruko Moriyasu	50	Kauko Yakumo	25
Dave Sekino	50	Misao Doi	75
Kazuko Terasuna	35	Karen Nakagiri	10

Obon Service			
Dave Sekino	50		
MEMORY OF			
Ken and Judy Yamane	20	for Kay Harada	
Eunice Yamane	20	for Kay Harada	
BWA AUGUST DONATIONS			
Sego Matusmiya	25	In memory of Dr. Jun Kurumada	
Steak Fry donations ---			
Reiko Watanabe	25	Kathy Terashima	25
Grace Oshita	25	Chic Terashima	25
Jeanne Konishi	25	Maya Chow	25
Elsie Doi	50	Nobuo Aoki	50
Ruby Doi	25	LaVerne Kyed	30
Alice Ogura	15	Tammie Kuramoto	25
Connie Sakashita	25		

**2013 Fall Study Class**  
**“Siddhartha’s Legacy: Buddhism from East to West**  
*“In case you are wondering, just \*ASC (Adult Study Class)*

September 10:	Who was Siddhartha?	Birth, Legends, Life, Enlightenment
September 24	What he Taught: Buddhism 101	4 Noble Truths, 4 Seals, Tripitaka
October 8:	What he Taught: Buddhism 102	Emptiness, Impermanance, Realms of Existence, Karma
October 22:	Major Sects and Spread of Buddhism	
November 5:	Relevant American Buddhism	
November 19	Issues in American Buddhism	

*EVERY OTHER TUESDAY 7-8:30 PM*

**SALT LAKE BUDDHIST TEMPLE**  
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