



Spokane Buddhist Temple

AUGUST 2007

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Announcements

August Sangha Services—Our Sangha Service (Sangha is the Sanskrit word for Buddhist community) is a traditional Jodo Shinshu service with chanting led by a Doshi. We meet after service for refreshments and discussion.



Dr. Gordon Bermant – BCA President to speak at the temple on Sunday, August, 5th. Dr. Bermant and his wife are visiting the area and he was kind enough to agree to present the Dharma talk. He is a dynamic speaker on not only BCA issues, but Buddhism in general and especially Jodo Shinshu.

Summer Retreat with Dr. Kenji Akahoshi – Friday through Sunday, August 17-19. You must be pre-registered to attend. There is a flyer enclosed if you would like to register. The retreat is entitled: "Nembutsu Journey – A Path to Wholeness". It will be held at Mukogawa Fort Wright. There are a limited number of slots available, so sign up now to save your spot. Kenji will also give our Dharma talk at the service on Sunday, August 19th, please note also that the service begins at 2:00 pm.

Dues and Donations

The Spokane Buddhist Temple gratefully acknowledges the following dues and donations. Please notify Fumi Uyeji or Liat Parker of any omissions or errors. Dues are acknowledged when received and are often time for a few months or paid yearly.

June 19—July 16, 2007

Dues

Leo & Yuriko Kiyohiro
Kazuko Kuwada
James Lea & Judi Davis
Greg & Leanne Sapp
Paul & Karen Vielle
Jefferson Workman
Jeff Zahir
Tosh Kirihara
Karl Boettner & Elizabeth Coyote
Tom Lande

Jenifer Johnston
Joni & Tim Michels
Todd & Ellicia Milne
Leo & Yuriko Kiyohiro
Leslie Green
Marcelline Burdett

Donations

Paul & Karen Vielle
Tom Lande
Jenifer Johnston
Celeste Sterrett
Paul & Midori Gow
Jim & Shirley Bennett

Craig Sweat
Obon
Leo & Yuriko Kiyohiro
Chris Marr
Paul & Karen Vielle
Doug Heyamoto
Satoshi & Mary Terao
Anonymous
Kam & Fumi Uyeji
Jim & Shirley Bennett
Janet Tamura
Hatsue Konishi
Liat Parker

Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

Supervising Minister:
Rev. Don Castro
Seattle Betsuin
Minister's Assistant:
Paul Vielle

Board of Directors

Christine Marr, President
Leslie Green, Vice President
Ann Heineman, Secretary
Liat Parker, Treasurer
Fumi Uyeji, Auditor
Janet Tamura, Board Member
Jefferson Workman, Board Member
Bonell McLeish, Board Member
Jun Yugawa, Board Member

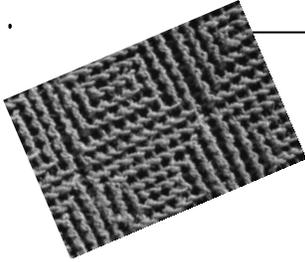
Newsletter Editor

Leslie Green

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Marking Time With An Address Book

Last week I bought a new address book to replace the aging, tattered one I've used for nearly twenty years. I sat down and started leafing through the old one, page by page deciding which names to transfer to the new book. It proved to be an instructive, if not slightly melancholy exercise; an occasion to reflect on how everything changes over time.

When this address book was new, I was still very much the family man, well established in a successful career, an avid cyclist and private pilot --and living in an old South Hill home near Manito Park. How different things are after twenty years! Today, I'm retired, remarried, living on the north side of town and spending a lot of time reading about the dharma. All the while, this battered old book accompanied me, recording the changes.

Several names didn't make it into the new book. Nine people (my parents included), --people I loved or considered good friends had passed away. Other names were work-related colleagues that I had lost touch with since retiring. Old army buddies, fellow pilots, and people I used to ride bicycles with, shirt-tail relatives, neighbors who had moved away and many others -- didn't make the cut either. Priorities change. People move on. New interests develop.

I came upon the name of Dr. Charles "Chuck" Galloway, my mentor and thesis advisor when I was a university student. This man, more than anyone, taught me how to write and to cherish 'truth' above all. "Knowledge costs always," he use to say, "and the true scholar pays kindly." I took a chance and dialed the old number, hoping to thank him again for the thinking skills he had given me. The lady who answered said no one named Galloway lived at that number. I searched the internet hoping to pick up his trail, but I cannot find him. How keenly I feel this disappointment!

Certain shops and businesses, I had frequented over the years were gone too. My barber had retired. A florist shop, hardware store, lumber yard and a restaurant were no longer in business either. People I depended upon for certain goods and services had been replaced by new names. New relationships had developed.

I am grateful I can still transfer the names of my two children, my siblings and those of several long-time friends. I am thankful too for the many new dharma friends I've made in the Buddhist community. The Sangha is part of my extended family now; --a source for instruction, nurturing, friendship, inspiration, guidance and service. This is one book I do not want to loose!

Interesting -- that over the years I haven't erased old names in a timely way. New names were added but the no-longer-needed-names stayed. Was it inattentiveness, laziness or more deeply, an unwillingness to separate emotionally from people I'd lost? Deleting a name is to be reminded of my impermanence and dependence on others. There's no getting around it; as I grow older my dependence on others becomes evermore evident. My wellbeing arises from the collective actions of numberless people: my parents, spouse, children, siblings, teachers, friends, acquaintances, service people and even complete strangers.

Lastly, in recalling these names and remembering previously held convictions and attitudes, I realize

that what I had considered the "certainties of life" were nothing but shallow fictions of my mind. Reliance on intellect alone is risky business. Everything changes! Wisdom abides in appreciating things as they are, --and not in how I expect them to be.



The old address book sat on my desk for several days. This morning I threw it out. No need to keep it. *Minimize attachments*, the Buddha advised. All that's needed is simple appreciation and gratitude for the millions and millions of people who have helped bring me to *this* moment in life. *Namo Amida Butsu!*

Paul Vielle
Minister's Assistant

"Knowledge
costs always,"
he use to say,
"and the true
scholar pays
kindly."



Obon Service with Rimban Matsubayashi

In July (14-15), we had a special visit from Rev. Dr. Yoshihide Matsubayashi, who is Rimban at the Seattle Betsuin. On Saturday night, he gave a public lecture entitled "Taking the Mystery out of Buddhism", which was well received. The following day he conducted our annual remembrance service at Greenwood Cemetery and later, our Obon service at the temple. Rev. Matsubayashi was a big hit with the children, who enjoyed his

dharma talk featuring his "Peach Boy" hand puppet. In all, we had



Rimban Matsubayashi

over 55 people attending the service! We hope he and his wife Kyoko will visit our temple again in the near future.



September Service in Moses Lake

The Spokane Buddhist Temple will be closed for two weeks in late August-early September. There will be no services on August 26 or September 2 (the Labor Day Weekend). However on September 2, a group from the Spokane Sangha will be driv-

ing to Moses Lake to participate in their service. Paul Vielle our Minister's Assistant will conduct the service, which will be the first joint service of our two Sanghas. Here's a chance to meet renew old acquaintances and meet new dharma friends. After the ser-

vice, there will be a dharma exchange followed by a no-host buffet lunch at the Best Western Hotel in Moses Lake. If you're interested in going, please talk with Paul Vielle. To save fuel costs, we will travel in car pools as much as possible.

Reminder!

August 17-19

"Nembutsu journey—a path to wholeness"

A Retreat with

Dr. Kenji

Akahoshi

Good Turn-out for Toban

On Saturday, July 14 a total of sixteen people showed-up for our Summer Toban (temple cleaning). They went to work with brooms, mops, rakes and pruning shears to give the temple a thorough cleaning from top to bottom, inside and out. It's amazing how quickly work gets done when many hands pitch in. Our thanks to:

- Fumi & Kam Uyeji
- Mary Naber
- Cherryl Uyeji & Tim Ward
- Mike Brady
- Barb Braden
- Mike Regan
- Alex Southworth
- Kathy Butler
- Liat Parker
- Anne Paulin
- Joni Michels
- Jefferson Workman



Toban cleaning crew

Looking A head . . .



September

Rev. Don Castro and his wife Shuri Saigusa will present a half day workshop entitled: "Static Buddha, Dynamic Buddha". It will be held at the temple from 10:30 to 3:30, Saturday, Sept. 15th.

Rev. Castro will also lead our O-Higan service on Sunday, Sept. 16th.

November

Dr. Hanada will be in Spokane on November 17th and 18th. He will present a lecture but the specific time and date have not been finalized. Stay tuned in upcoming newsletters.

Haiku

"Butterfly
Sleeping
On
the
temple
bell"
Yosa
Buson



"Heat waves
shimmering
One or two
inches
Above the dead
grass"
Basho

Donations *(continued from page 1)*

In Memory

Greg & Leeanne Sapp
In Memory of Ed Parker

Janet Tamura
In Memory of Sho Higashi

Doug Heyamoto
In Memory of Fumi Heyamoto

Liat Parker
In Memory of Ed Parker

Leslie Green
In Memory of Ed Parker

Leslie Green
In Memory of Jerry Potvin

Say What By Tom Lande

Others have said, essentially: Let's not make a problem for others. They are dependent upon my contribution. Money, job and family are the main concerns. Verbal action and financial support of social action groups is plenty we think. Daniel Berrigan said "Of course, let us have the peace, we cry. But at the same time, let us have normalcy, let us know neither prison, nor ill-repute, nor disruption of ties."

Speech, music, poetry, literature, etc. are not valued in a complacent place. Most accepted authorities dismiss expressed outrage, unless they see it as actually jeopardizing the political -economy. Violent action does not really jeopardize the political-economy; on the contrary, it gives juice to a society that presumes that violence is valuable. This society needs an enemy for its existence.

As long as someone must be the object of the obvious violent propensity of this society; as long as somebody must be seen as "the enemy" - let me be it.-let all blame be focused on me. Is this attitude and are these words too dramatic? I'll take that risk because I already have a little "disrepute" I have very few ties to disrupt, however, nobody can know the worldwide impact of their actions. The habitual drive to do something invariably blinds us to a full appreciation of any situation right in front of our face. Our innumerable governmental horrors are symptomatic, personal nightmares. We can only choose to act in worldwide kindness. In regular life-choices dramatic gestures must be suspect.

