



## Letters in Running Water

Recently, I had an opportunity to attend the inter-faith conference hosted by the Moslem community. After a presentation by each representative on the theme “The Concept of Salvation” there was a “question and answer” period. One of the questions we were asked to respond to was “How can we deal with our enemies?” That is, “How can we get along with those whom we hate?”

“Love your enemy.” is a well known phrase. We all know this but it is not easy to practice.

Buddhists talk about oneness of all life. We talk about a life of inter-dependence and inter-connectedness. In this respect there is no “enemy” from the beginning. Our dualistic thoughts create the world of “two-ness” or duality, I and you. Then we say, “I like you.” or “I hate you.” “Enemy” is our own creation by the thoughts of self-centered mind. Our “enemy” is actually can be found within us! Our self centered mind and thoughts are our enemy. After I responded, I asked myself, “How can we deal with the enemy within?”



It is said in Buddhism that there are three kinds of people in the world. The first are those who are like letters carved in rock; they easily give way to anger and hate and retain their thoughts for

a long time. The second are those who are like letters written in sand; they give way to anger and hate also, but their thoughts quickly pass away. The third are those who are like letters written in running water; they do not retain their passing thoughts. They let abuse and uncomfortable gossip pass by unnoticed. Their minds are always pure and undisturbed.

Those who are like letters written in running water represents Buddhas, awakened ones whose minds have no thoughts of “I”, “Me” and “Mine”. To which kind of people do I belong, then? I must admit that I belong to those who are like letters carved in rock, probably until I die. My mind and thoughts are tainted badly with a strong attachment of self-centeredness. This is the reason that Buddhas, whose essence is the spirit of oneness and a heart of great compassion, are illuminating and nurturing my life every day. I must hear and return to this mind, pure, real and sincere.

I remember the words of my teacher: “The bountifulness of great compassion makes possible our spiritual liberation from the iron cage of our own making.”

Namo Amida Butsu  
Yasuo Izumi, Minister-Kaikyoshi  
Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta

## 「時の流れ」

最近、新しく建てられている私達のお寺を視察するため、本願寺から要職の方々が来られました。私は、その方々をレスブリッジ飛行場に出迎えたのですが、その内のお一人は、以前、私がバンクーバーに駐在している時に、ステイブストンのお寺に駐在し、その後日本に帰られた先生でした。約15年ぶりの再会で、その方の頭髪は真っ白になっていました。「頭が真っ白になったねー!」が私の最初の挨拶でした。本当に驚きました。15年の歳月が流れているのですから、当たり前のことです。その方もまた「先生の頭も真っ白じゃないですか!」が最初の挨拶でした。

私は自分の顔を毎日鏡で見えていますから、人が歳をとったことは驚いても、自分が歳をとったことには驚かなくなっています。人に言われて、改めて「全く自分も歳を取っているんだ」と気がつきました。「年々歳々、人(私を含め)同じからず」です。仏法には明日ということあらず、といわれます。元気なうちに、み教えに耳を傾け、大悲のお心に目覚め、日々感謝お念仏をさせていただきましょう。合掌

泉康雄(開教使)

### June 2008

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# BTSA President's notebook

Late on Monday, May 19, 2008, Fujikawa Socho and three visitors from the International Department of Hongwanji, Governor Deguchi, Rev. Kiribayashi, and Rev. Hayashi arrived in Lethbridge from Japan to take a look at what we were doing with amalgamation. The next day several board and temple members who were available met for breakfast and then a meeting at the north temple in order for us to show them how we are proceeding. They were interested in how we are managing the amalgamation of four temples because they say that there is the possibility of additional amalgamations in other regions. We showed them our governance documents and had a frank discussion about finances for building the new temple. At the site of the new temple we were shown what is happening by the framer. We had further discussions at the south temple. At this point Fujikawa socho had to return to Vancouver. Additional discussion and visits to the Nikka Yuko garden and Coaldale temple followed

lunch. It was an honour for us to be the only visitation site for the visitors who were on their way to a meeting in San Francisco.

On May 25, 2008 we held a special general meeting to address a few changes to our by-laws that would bring them into compliance with the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission requirements for a casino license and with a request by our accountant for an indemnification clause. Additional changes from the floor were also made. The changes were all passed by the 29 members attending. A quorum, 5% of the membership, was easily achieved. If you would like a copy of the amended by-laws please contact me or any board member.

Now a comment on membership. As you know from past newsletters our members were all "grandfathered" in from the amalgamation on January 1, 2007. In 2008 our membership fee was set at \$50 per member. This is a transition year for us because members in different temples had differences regarding

membership fee. We have a membership committee that has been reviewing our list. Not everyone has rejoined the BTSA so unfortunately at some point we will have to release the non-paying members from our list. There is a financial reason for this; we pay a \$55 per year assessment per member to the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) and we have to pay postage for a newsletter each month that amounts to a further \$6 per member. If you are not sure what your status is, please contact me and I will let you know what our records indicate. We don't want anyone cut off so please let us know. I also want to emphasize that we understand that there are different situations. For any member who is not able to renew their membership for any reason, please contact me or a member of the board. We are not charging memberships for any seniors who are infirm or who otherwise are not able to get in touch with us.

— David Major

## Coming Events — Everyone Welcome

### June 5: South Temple Inventory

8:30am: Come and help take inventory of cutlery, dishes and furniture

### June 8: North Temple Closing Service

10:30am: Final service at north temple featuring SA Buddhist Choir. In the days and weeks to follow, the temple will be cleared of its furnishings and store; and the butsudan will be dismantled and stored at the Coaldale temple. All this will be completed by July 1, the date the new owners take possession.

### June 23: Golf Tournament

11:00am to 5:30pm followed by dinner  
Registration: contact John Dubbelboer or Roland Ikuta  
Cost: golf: \$26.00 \$32/cart (double occupancy);  
dinner: about \$20.00

### June 28: Strategic Planning Workshop

9:30am to 4:30pm – lunch will be provided  
Facilitator: Renae Barlow  
Location: Lethbridge Public Library Community Room  
Goals: –develop and encourage teamwork  
–Provide opportunity to know each other's

strengths & weaknesses

–Review and amend BTSA committee structure

–Develop committee profiles

–Identify skills needed for each committee

–Identify leaders

### July 6: BTSA Shotsuki & picnic

10:30am: service followed by picnic

Place: Elk's picnic shelter (Indian Battle Park –river bottom)

Pot Luck

BTSA will provide chicken, rice & Takuan

Refreshments, plates & chopsticks provided

Games – for children and adults

Bring your lawn chairs/ sunscreen and hats!

### Sept. 13: Yard Sale, Bazaar, Currie Dinner

This will be a fundraiser – we will need plenty of help

### Sept. 21: South Temple Closing Service

10:30am: Final service at south temple and member recognition

–lunch will be provided following the service

# BTSA Fundraising Drive: Please support our new Temple



Artist's rendering of new temple

## PLEDGE FORM



I WISH TO SUPPORT THE BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal /Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTRIBUTION

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Monthly Instalments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_ years      \_\_\_\_ Yearly Instalments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_ years

\_\_\_\_ One-time Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Notation: (Eg., In memory of) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I wish for my contribution to remain confidential

Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta  
C/O Treasurer Robert Takaguchi, Box 1249,  
Raymond, Alberta T0K 2S0

# BTSA Fundraising Update

to mid-May, 2008

The BTSA now has an official status as a charitable organization. Official tax receipts can now be issued by the BTSA for any charitable donations. Any one wishing to donate to the building fund can make a one time donation or pledge their donation over the next 3-5 years. A plaque with the donors name will be included in our donor wall. The target for the fund raising committee is around \$750,000. The donor levels are as follows:

Diamond = \$25,000 or greater

Emerald = \$17,500 to \$24,999

Platinum = \$10,000 to \$17,499

Gold = \$5,000 to \$9,999

Silver = \$2,500 to \$4,999

Bronze = \$1,000 to \$2,499

(New donors indicated in italic)

## Diamond Level Donors

- Rev. & Mrs. Yasuo Izumi
- Richard & Sue Kanegawa - In memory of Mr & Mrs Sakuji Kanegawa & Mr Stan Kanegawa
- Noris & Sachiko Taguchi & daughters Louise, Patricia, Teresa & Karen
- Mrs Aiko Yoshihara & Family - In memory of Motoharu Yoshihara.
- Family of Muneo & Toshiko Takeda

## Emerald Level Donors

- Hideko Oishi & family in memory of Yoichi Oishi
- Sumi, Ken & Jim Tsukishima - In memory of Mitsugi (Father), Sagami & Hisataro Tsukishima (Gr&parents), Kaisuke & Yoshino Hironaka (Gr&parents)
- Saburo & Kimino Nishi - In memory of Taichiro & Eda Nishi & Bonnie Masako Nishi.
- Louise Nishiyama, Jackie & Barrie Robb, Brian J. Nishiyama & Rod Nishiyama - In memory of Jack Nishiyama
- *Rocky & Jean Oishi, Sut & Neva Oishi, Jitsuya & Rae Oishi, Mistuko Oishi, Gilbert & Rose Oishi, Hideko Oishi, Yoshiyuki & Lily Oishi, Roy & Luri Nagata, Osami & June Oishi. - In memory of Saneyoshi & Chika Oishi*

## Platinum Level Donors

- D.J. Major & the Hamabata family in memory of Kamasuke Hamabata & Cheryl Prins
- S.K. Ikuta & Family
- Tak & Jan Okamura
- Fujiye Kariatsumari & Family in memory of Tokiyoshi & Katsuo Kariatsumari
- Mas & Miyo Sunada
- Mrs Sadae Kanegawa in memory of Stan Kanegawa
- Akira & Lorita Ichikawa -In memory of Michael Tatsuya Ichikawa
- Tak & Mitsuko Oga
- Yuichi (Posthumous) & Shizuka Akune & family in memory of Ichirohe & Kin Hisaoka
- Tom & Tsuyako Tajiri
- John & Alice Kanashiro
- Floyd & Yuki Okubo - Bountiful Utah
- Shigeru Kounosu - Lethbridge - In memory of Heidi Kounosu.
- Fujiko Okamura & Family in memory of Masaru Okamura

- Kinji & Fuji Takeda
- *Generations Funeral Home*
- *Mas Terakita - In memory of Jane Terakita*
- *Makoto Ikuta*
- *Children of the Fujita Family - in memory of Harutaro & Tamiko Fujita*
- *Akira & Lorita Ichikawa - In memory of Miachael Tatsuya Ichikawa*
- *Jack & Rie Nagai family - In memory of Masako Nagai*
- *Morison Tanaka, Glen & Pam Tanaka, May & Cliff Thomas - In memory of Asako Tanaka*

## Gold Level Donors

- Pat & Roy Sassa in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Tomomi C. Okutake & Mr. & Mrs. Tsuneki Sassa
- Kaz & Setsuko Ohno
- Tomiko Kobayashi
- Calgary Buddhist Temple
- Mr & Mrs Mas Fukushima - In memory of Kiyomi & Mume.
- Koji & Sumiye Itaya in memory of Shizue & Shunji Araki
- Ken & Hiroko Yoshihara in memory of Shintaro & Hisa Fujita, Harutaro & Tamiko Fujita & Harumi Fujita
- Sam & Betty Taniguchi - In memory of Mr & Mrs Yoshiharu Miyada - Mr & Mrs Kizo Taniguchi
- Hirano & Heaton Architects Ltd.
- Tak & Yoko Tsujita
- Jim & Joan Nakagawa
- *Jiro & Mae Sasaki*
- *Ayako Imahashi - In memory of Tanekichi Imahashi*
- *Joe & Sumiko Tomiyama*
- *Hajime (Harry) Sugimoto*
- *Jim & Daisy Oshiro - In memory of our deceased family & friends*

## Silver Level Donors

- *F. Okamura & Family in memory of Ichirohe & Kin Hisaoka*

## Bronze Level Donors

- Mitsuyo Ohno
- Tom Ohno - (Carp, Ontario)
- Mrs Toshiko Hase
- Mrs Kay Higa - In memory of George K. Higa
- Dr. Valerie Boras
- Shinako (Sheila) Higa in memory of Nori Higa
- Gr&children of Harutaro & Tamiko Fujita in memory of Harutaro & Tamiko Fujita & Uncle Harumi Fujita
- *Les Higa*

## Other Donors

- Duane & Karen Yoshihara in Memory of Harumi Fujita
- Tosh & Joyce Saruwatari - Gordon & Joy Saruwatari In memory of Juzo & Aiko Saruwatari - Kohei & Hashime Taguchi
- Tucker Hironaka
- Joanne Tomiyama & Allard Everdingen - Calgary
- Yoshiko Imahashi & Carolyn MacDonald - Calgary
- Ted & Sue Koyata

- Miyuchi Family - In memory of Shizuo & Tomiko Miyuchi
- Reverend Tomofumi Fujii
- Natsuko Sawada
- Dr. Bruce Todd - In memory of Lorraine Aiko Hinatsu-Todd
- Robert & Judy Takaguchi - In appreciation of the Raymond Pioneer Members
- George & Sharon Nyhoff
- *Martha Katsuta - In memory of Yoichi Oishi*
- *Yuse & Chiyomi Matsuno*
- *Tanaka family - in memory of Gene Tanaka*
- *Keiko Tsukishima - in memory of Tsutomu (Tom) Tsukishima & Emiko Catt*
- *Yosh & Martha Akune*
- *Setsuko Matsugi*
- *Fukushima Family - in memory of Hiroshi (Harry) Fukushima*
- *Tosh & Marian Ibuki - in memory of Saichi & Shizuo Ibuki*
- *Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada*
- *Janet & Neil Hinatsu - In memory of Roy Hinatsu and Lorraine Hinatsu-Todd*
- *Haruko Ikeda*
- *Ron Kanashiro*
- *Bishop Orai Fujikawa*
- *Hiroshi Kitagawa*
- *Doug Mikado*
- *Kaz Takaguchi, Michael Takaguchi, Leanne & Earl Fisher In memory of Yoshifumi Takaguchi, Kichizo & Kimi Takaguchi, & Kobei & Hashime Taguchi*
- *Hiroaki Ohmae In memory of Heidi Kounosu*
- *Peter Oka In memory of Asako Tanaka*
- *Hiro & Yoshiko Okishita*
- *Mary Osaka*
- *Tomomi Saka - Edmonton*
- *Seville Land Corporation*
- *Kaz & Nobs Sugimoto*
- *Trimark Engineering*
- *Guek-Yang Tan & MS Guek-Chwee Tan*

The BTSA greatly appreciates the contribution from the above in starting the fund raising drive.

To make a contribution or pledge please contact Jim Tsukishima (327-1279) mtsfarm@telus.net, Rol& Ikuta (317-0078) Rolikuta@shaw.ca or send cheques to Robert Takaguchi (P.O. Box 1249 Raymond, Alberta T0K-2S0).



## PITCH-IN CANADA

In May, members of the BTSA gathered at the South temple to clean up the grounds. This coincided with Pitch-In Canada, a national program to improve the environment. Thank you to all those that came out, especially to Bob Hironaka for all the pruning and suggesting we contact Pitch-In Canada to be official participants.



**If you would like to be added to the Dharma Class email list or need further information, please contact Brenda at 317-0078 or Maya at 380-4330.**

**Bottle Drive** The choir is hosting a bottle drive on **Monday, June 16**. If you have recycling to donate, meet at the **South Temple at 1:00 pm** to caravan to the bottle depot. For those who would like to meet at the depot, the address is 1610 - 29th St. N. (tel. 329.3911). Proceeds to the BTSA.



The Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir, singing children's songs, participated in the activities for Children's Day at the opening of the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden, May 10. The Choir will finish its season at the BTSA North Temple Service on Sunday, June 8 at 10:30 a.m. This will be final and closing service at the North Temple.

## June & July Schedule 6月と7月の予定表

### June

- 01 (Sun) 10:30 am .... Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service at NT  
11:15 am .... Study/Discussion Group  
2:00 pm ..... Coaldale
- 08 (Sun) 10:30 am .... Closing Service (Lethbridge Buddhist Temple)
- 10 (Tue) 7:00 pm ..... Bon Odori Practice at ST
- 11 (Wed) 7:00 pm ..... BTSa Meeting at ST
- 15 (Sun) 10:30 am .... Regular Service (ST)  
11:15 am .... Study/Discussion Group
- 17(Tue)-20(Fri) ..... Rev. Izumi is away for the BCA Ministers' Seminar
- 22 (Sun) 10:30 am .... Regular Service (ST)  
11:15am .... Study/Discussion Group
- 29 (Sun) ..... Summer Break

### July

- 06 (Sun) 10:30am .... BTSa Picnic & Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service at Elks Community Kitchen (picnic site reserved for the BTSa from 9:00am to 5:00pm)
- 13 (Sun) 10:00am .... Cemetery Visitation (Magrath)  
11:00am .... Cemetery Visitation (Temple Hill)
- 20 (Sun) 11:30am .... Cemetery Visitation at Brooks  
12:00 Noon . Obon Service at Brooks Heritage Motel
- 25 (Fri) 7:00pm ..... Bon Odori at Galt Gardens
- 27 (Sun) 1:00pm ..... Cemetery Visitation at Mt.View Cemetery  
2:30pm ..... BTSa Obon Service together with August Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service at ST

### Study/Discussion Group

Please feel welcome to join in the BTSa study/discussion group on Sundays right after the morning service. The purpose of meeting is to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Buddha's teachings, study the Dharma and facilitate discussion. Each study/ discussion group session will be preceded by a brief chanting lesson.  
Please contact Renae Barlow (renaeb@telus.net) or Rev. Izumi (382-7024)

## Buddhist Memorial Service 仏教徒の年忌

### Year of Death (死亡年)

- 2007 ..... First annual memorial ..... 1 year from death  
2006 ..... 3rd anniversary memorial ..... 2 full years from death  
2002 ..... 7th anniversary memorial ..... 6 full years from death  
1996 ..... 13th anniversary memorial ..... 12 full years from death  
1992 ..... 17th anniversary memorial ..... 16 full years from death  
1984 ..... 25th anniversary memorial ..... 24 full years from death  
1976 ..... 33rd anniversary memorial ..... 32 full years from death  
1959 ..... 50th anniversary memorial ..... 49 full years from death

A memorial rite marking the death of the deceased not only calls for the adornment of the shrine and the reading of the sutra but also is a precious occasion for recalling the cherished memories of the beloved and the most of all to realize the blessings of the Light of Wisdom and Life of Compassion which embrace us all. (from Jodo Shinshu Handbook for laymen)

## Obon Schedule

### July 13 (Sun)

- 10:00am Magrath Cemetery  
11:00am Temple Hill Cemetery

### July 20 (Sun)

- 11:30am Brooks Cemetery  
12:00 Noon Obon Service at Heritage Motel in Brooks

### July 25 (Fri)

- 7:00pm 5th Annual Bon Odori at Galt Gardens

### July 27 (Sun)

- 1:00pm Mt. View Cemetery Visitation  
2:00pm BTSa Obon Service

### August 03 (Sun)

- 10:30am Bowl Island Cemetery Visitation  
1:00pm Taber Cemetery Visitation

### August 10 (Sun)

- 2:00pm Coaldale Obon Service

### Regular Events

#### Taiko Class

Tuesday 6:30-8:30pm at ST. (note - from starting June 11, practice is Wednesdays)

#### Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir

Thursday, 7:00pm-8:30pm at ST.

#### Bon Odori Practice

Starts on June 10 at 7:00pm at ST  
Every Tuesday at 7:00pm at ST until July 22

### Thank-you for the Donations

Thanks go to the following who made a Memorial Donation from May 1-24, 2008. A total of \$655 was donated during this period.

Dr. Shigeru Kounosu • Ms. Gaye Takao • Ms. Joyce Shigemi • Mr. & Mrs. Roy Sassa • Mrs. Hideko Oishi • Mrs. Kariatsumari • Mr. & Mrs. Masato Sunada • Mr. & Mrs. Yutaka Matsuno • Mr. & Mrs. Mac Nishiyama • Mr. & Mrs. Takumi Oga • Mr. & Mrs. Noris Taguchi • Mr. & Mrs. Robert Takaguchi • Mrs. Toshi Nakahama • Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hagihara • Mrs. Sadae Kanegawa

### Learn To Roll Sushi

Saturday, June 14 at 1-4 pm at the South Temple (3611-Forestry Avenue South)

Fee: \$10 per person; pay at the door

Instructors: Kaz Sugimoto and Aya Hironaka

Please bring to the class cutting board, knife, sushi mat (sudare) and a food container, apron (optional)

If you're interested please register early- space is limited.

No drop-ins please.

Contact: Denise @ 381-1187 or detakao@telus.net

# INVITATION TO BTSA GOLF

MONDAY, June 30, 2008



**REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION:** Complete and forward the following registration form or contact one of the committee members listed below, to register for the event.

John Dubbelboer 381-7643  
 Ken Takeda 345-3171  
 Roland Ikuta 317-0078



**PLACE:** Land-O-Lakes Golf Course, Coaldale

**FORMAT:** Scramble tournament

**TIME:** Golf: 11:00 p.m. (limit of 40 players)  
 Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

**COSTS:** Golf: \$26.00 / person  
 LOL members \$10.00  
 Golf carts: \$32.00 each (cart payment directly to Land-O-Lakes)  
 Dinner: \$24.00 golfers and guests

Forward registration form **by June 23, 2008**, with cheque to:  
 Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta  
 Golf Committee  
 3611 Forestry Avenue, Lethbridge, AB T1K 3L5

Name	Phone	Golf Information		Dinner	Total
		Handicap	Avg. Score		
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$