## Tacoma Buddhist Temple タコマ仏教会

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# MYOKYO 明鏡



(MYOKYO, the Bright Mirror of Buddha Dharma always illuminates our LIFE)

## **April**, 2012

#### Completion of Unhappiness

Rev. Kojo Kakihara

We are all living precious given lives now here. However, we may think that it is natural to be alive now. Or it may be too natural and we may not think of being alive. And when someone passes away, we tend to think it is an accident to die, thinking like "He died of a cancer, he was unlucky", or "She was killed by an accidental car accident unfortunately." However, Buddhism doesn't say that we

die accidentally. In Buddhism, to be alive now, is accidental, hard to happen, and grateful. And it is natural and inevitable for us to die.

This is based on a story by a Japanese doctor.

When we think that it is natural for us to be alive, we come to lose feelings of joy and appreciation for our being alive. Although our lives are given by taking countless other lives, we take it for granted, and moreover, we seek more looking for something to be happier. A philosopher says as following; 'We all think that we want to be happy in spite of that no one teaches it.'

Now, when we think what it means to be happy, we try to collect as many advantages as possible, and as less disadvantages as possible for our happiness. For example, we think like, good health is an advantage for our happiness, a disease is a disadvantage, useful person for us is an advantage, but useless person is a disadvantage...to give a trouble is a disadvantage, to be kind is an advantage...And we live every day seeking for happiness with advantages that we collect in our life.

However, although we all keep trying hard to collect many advantages for our happiness in our lifetime, what do you think happens when we get old as a result?

He(this doctor) sees many elderly patients at my hospital. Many of them talk their complaints each other all over, like "There is nothing good now when I got old. My daughter in law is mean to me", "I have a lower back pain", "My hearing is getting poor", "My eyes have grown blurred with age", "I don't' want to die yet"...

When we are caught by "Old Age", "Disease", and "Death" (in Buddhism, these are four major sufferings with "Birth" which we experience), these are all disadvantages for our happiness seeing from the viewpoint of my scale of "advantage" or "disadvantage." It is "Old Age", "Disease", and "Death" that we end up after all our efforts to collect advantages to become happy. Because these are all disadvantages to happiness, it is, so to speak, "completion of unhappiness." Then is "happiness" that we seek by collecting more "advantages and less "disadvantages", the true happiness? Do we know what the true happiness is? Buddhism has already been teaching four sufferings of our birth, old age, disease, and death since 2500 years ago. And Buddhism makes us realize how happy and precious we are just as we are living now, here whether we are young or old.

We will have Hanamatsuri service at 2pm on Sunday, April 8 to celebrate the birth of Sakyamuni Buddha who taught Buddhism.

Gassho,

Announcement: We have Study Class Wednesday night almost monthly. The Study Class in April will be about "History of Buddhism" on April 4, at 7pm.

## ふこう かんせい **不幸の完成**

かきはらこうじょう

たたし、いま 私たちは今、ここに尊いいのちをいただいて生きています。

しかし、ついつい、生きていることが「当たり前」と思ってしまいます。あるいは、当たり前すぎて、 考えることもないかもしれません。

そして病気になって死んでいくのは、「あの人は癌で亡くなった。逆が悪かった」、「たまたま こうつうじこ 交通事故にあって亡くなった」というように、死ぬのは偶然と思いがちです。

しかし、仏教ではそうは言いません。

生きているのが偶然、「有ることが難しい」、「有難い」ことであり、死ぬのは当たり前、死ぬのは かんが 必然だと考えるのです。

ある外科のお医者さんのお話です。

私たちが生きていることを「当たり前」と考えると、生きていることへの喜びや、感謝というものはついついなくなってしまいます。多くの命をいただいて生かされていることを当然として、その上にさらに「行か良いことないかな」と求めていくわけです。

ある哲学者がこう言っています。「私たちは誰からも教えてもらわないのに、みんな幸せになりたいと思っている」と。

そこで「幸せになる」ということはどういうことかと考えるてみると、私たちは幸せのための
ずられている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。
ないなっている。

健康はプラス、病気はマイナス。役に立つ人間はプラス、役に立たない人間はマイナス。迷惑をかけることはマイナスであり、迷惑をかけないことはプラス、というように考えていく。

そしてプラスの価値を集めて、みんな幸せになりたいと思って日々を生きているわけです。

しかし、そうやって、みんな幸せになれるはずだ、とがんばってきたのに、病院の診察で接する <sup>こうれいして</sup> 高齢者の方々が今どうなっているか。

多くの患者さんが「年をとって何もいいことないですね、腰は痛くなり、単はうすくなり、耳は遠くなる」というふうに愚痴を言うわけです。

ということは、私たちは幸せになりたい、必ず幸せになるのだ、と曽指しながら、結局、行き着くところは老病死。マイチスのマイチスのマイチスですから、幸せを求めた結果は、言わば「不幸の完成」なのです。では、私たちが求める「幸せ」とは、本当に幸せなんでしょうか。。

なっきょう けで はか まな 仏教は、既に 2500年も前から、この人間が生まれて老いて病気で死んでいくという、生老病死の四苦 の課題に取り組んでいます。

低さまの教えは、若くても年を取っても、今ここにいる私が、どれほど幸せで尊いものであるか、 ということに気付かせてくれます。

なりますだぶって南無阿弥陀仏

お知らせ:毎月最後の日曜日 (変更することもあります) は、通常の日曜礼拝の後に にほんご ほうか 日本語の法話をいたします。4月は29日です。皆さんどうぞお聴聞ください。

#### **Future Schedule**

Wednesday, April 4 Omigaki Clean-up at 1pm

Study Class at 7pm

Friday, April 6 Movie Night at 7pm

Sunday, April 8 Hanamatsuri Service at 2pm

Sunday, April 22 Open House at 12pm

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Congratulations to Rev Kakihara and Masayo on the birth of their daughter, Satone. We look forward to seeing Masayo and Satone in May.

A special thank you goes out to Debby Abe for being able to get an article about our Sukiyaki Dinner fund raiser published in the Tacoma News Tribune. Based on feedback from people attending, a lot of new people attended because of the article.

The article help make this Sukiyaki the most successful in recent memory.

I extend my thanks to Dr. Kenji Akahoshi for being our guest speaker at our March 18 Ohigan and Pet Memorial service.

Our Hanamatsuri Service and potluck will be on April 8, 2012 at 2 pm. I hope everyone will be able to attend.

Wendy Hamai (hamaistoll@harbornet.com) has agreed to head up developing a Temple e-mail distribution list. If your e-mail is not in the current Temple Phone Directory, please send Wendy your e-mail address. Having this list will help facilitate getting information out to the Temple members in a more timely manner than just the monthly Myokyo. An example of this is Dr. Akahoshi being a guest speaker at our Hoonko/Pet Memorial Service. Dr. Akahoshi happened to be available, so we took advantage of this on short notice, but was not able to get the word out to everyone. With the E-mail list, we would have been able to get the information more widely distributed. For those without e-mail, please let Wendy know this too. We'll compile a list of members that do not have e-mail and make sure that someone contacts you.

Gassho, David Yotsuuye

### Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) Donation Relief Fund

The campaign to raise funds to reduce the debt for the BCA Jodo Shinshu Center will be ending at the end of May 2012. If you have already contributed, thank you. If you have not had the opportunity to donate or can contribute more, I encourage you to do so.

So far \$1.5 million of the bank debt has been retired, but there is still about \$2.1 million left. As this debt is reduced, funds for other activities become available, rather than for servicing the debt.

You can go to this website to donate:

http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/donations/drf

Some information about the JSC is available here:

http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/jodo-shinshu-center

I have not been to JSC personally, but those that have, say that it is a great place to learn more about Jodo Shinshu and bring up the next generation.

David Yotsuuye President, Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Kojo Kakihara, Resident Minister, Tacoma Buddhist Temple

#### **Buddhist Women's Association News**

I would like to extend a big thank you to EVERYONE who helped to make this year's Sukiyaki fundraiser a successful one. It was wonderful to see everyone working together at the temple. Also, special thank you to Tom and Lynrae Hubble for chairing the 50<sup>th</sup> year's event.

On March 17, the BWA made Daifuku mochi for refreshment for the Spring Ohigan/Pet Memorial and the Annual Buddhist Women's Association Memorial Service on March 18. Thank you to everyone who came out to prepare and serve the tea and mochi after the service.

Sneaking up on us is Hanamatsuri on April 8. There will be a potluck dinner after the service. On this occasion the BWA ladies are asked to help in the kitchen area along with the March/April temple tobans. Your temple toban will be making contact with you.

We held our first BWA meeting of the year on February 26. Two issues that were discussed were a fundraiser project and the annual bus trip. It has been decided to have a PORK CHOW MEIN plate fundraiser on JUNE 3 after the service and Temple Clean-up. The plate menu will consist of Pork Chow Mein, Rice, cabbage tsukemono and mochi cupcake. Tickets are \$10 and will be available soon. Please contact any BWA member to reserve your plate.

**SAVE THE DATE**: On June 30, the annual bus trip this year travels to Port Townsend, riding the ferry to Whidbey Island via Coupeville and a tour of the island, riding the ferry from Clinton to Mulkiteo then heading to the last stop at Tulalip Casino/Outlet Mall before returning to the temple. We will be taking reservations soon; prices are the same: BWA members and children, no charge; \$25.00 for spouses and Temple members; and \$35.00 for non-Temple members. Please inform me or your toban head person if you are interested in taking this trip.

I also have copies of the "2012 BWA Calendar of Activities" available for members who are interested. Please call or see me if you would like to receive one.

Congratulations to Sensei and Masayo on the birth of their baby girl. We are all looking forward to meeting Satone and catching up with Masayo. In meantime, there are projects in the parsonage that needs to be done. Thank you to Tracy Ling for taking the initiative to get it started with the estimates. We are looking forward to seeing the completed rooms.

Gassho, Patti Wong

#### BWA sponsored cooking class

#### **Udon noodles**

for dharma students and adult who are interested

#### When: April 29th after service

In order to determine amount of ingredients please contact Tracy Ling by April 22 253-370-0933 or tling2005@comcast.net



#### **Buddhist Education Committee News**

In the three years that I have been a member of the temple's Buddhist Education
Committee, I leave many meetings feeling that it is I who is getting the Buddhist education.
As Henry Stoll so nicely outlined in last month's Myokyo, the BEC committee's focus is in
essence to help guide the all aspects of the temple's schedule for services in the upcoming year, along
with thorough planning to make these occasions take place as smoothly as possible.

All this sounded pretty straightforward to me when I joined. Seemed like membership in BEC would involve the qualities I had honed through my experience in business. Setting priorities and objectives, reviewing options, making decisions and moving things forward.

Except it wasn't like work. Decisions weren't made "lickety-split" as in the world of business, but after very thorough discussion, with input from all members. At first I wondered why things took so long, but ultimately came to understand they simply lacked the impatient ego-driven nature of such discussions familiar at work. That inclusiveness took time. And over these last couple of years I've come to appreciate humbleness and ethical value of this conduct.

People on the committee come with divergent ideas, but decisions are made without someone being right, at the expense of someone else needing to be wrong. Again, initially an alien concept, but one that I have come to see as the wisdom of – making decisions while being grounded in the right view and intention.

So today I find it interesting contemplating my time on the committee, not by the value I have provided, but rather by the enlightenment I have gained from others by serving on it.

John Inge

#### **Dharma School News**

Congratulations to Rev. and Masayo Kakihara on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Satone. She will be a wonderful addition to our Lumbini class!



Thanks to all the Dharma School children and parents for their help with the Sukiyaki dinner. It was so busy! Everyone had to work extra hard to keep up with the huge crowd. You all did a great job, and every helping hand, big or small was certainly needed!

Our Dharma School classes are busy preparing for the upcoming Hana Matsuri program on April 8. The service begins at 2 pm, with program and potluck dinner to follow. Please join us for this special service!

Our Northwest Dharma School Teachers League will focus on community service as an "all district" Dharma School lesson in the month of April. Look for more ideas and information to follow.

Gassho,

Donna Sasaki

#### From Your Facilities Committee

The month of February has been yet another busy one for the Facility Committee, with Jim Endo and Henry Stoll getting the hondo and the Dharma school rooms ready for services...one of the members, Denise Cline in getting the Kojo sensei's mail noticed one of the upstairs bathroom windows broken



and informed the group so we were able to fix a temporary repair, until the warmer days so we can take the window out for repair....thanks Denise.

The long awaited new rice cooker and extra propane tanks have been obtained and put in place for the Sukiyaki event that just took place and from the comments I have received from the guests that came and had 'rice', they thought it was great rice.....ditto the 'sukiyaki and the other menu items...

ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST IS THAT NO ONE SHUT THE COMPRESSOR UNDER THE STAIRS LEADING TO THE OFFICE BE TURNED OFF....IT HAS TO BE RUNNING AT ALL TIMES!! SO PLEASE DO NOT TURN OFF THE OUTSIDE COMPRESSOR....THANKS.

During the past Convention at Spokane....the vehicles parked in our fenced area was under watch to make sure all vehicles were secure. The Shinnen-kai event went as planned due to the Board members under the guidance of David Yotsuuye setting up the social hall for that annual event....

City of Tacoma has documented the meters in our pantry and the hood extinguishers for our gas range in the kitchen have had their annual upgrade. The kitchen dishwasher area and new shelving seemed to be working great during our sukiyaki event...thanks to Jeff Hirro, Frank Mizukami and Tad Kajimura for the new shelving! What teamwork throughout the temple....thanks to everyone involved.....

from the Facilities Committee of Gary Ichinaga, Henry Stoll, Fudge Fujita, David Campbell, Tad Kajimura and Jim Endo.

in gratitude and gassho

#### **Toban Committee News**

#### **Toban listing:**

Please note that <u>all toban heads</u> will be asked to call their respective toban group for the Hanamatsuri potluck.

#### April & May Toban Groups:

Toban heads are responsible to call group members for **set up and clean up** for certain Temple events held during the two month period. The chairs for each two month period will coordinate with each other to set up the actual dates of the **monthly clean up** for those able in their group.

*April Members*: Yasuko Morita – Chair, Kiku Morita, Renee Moriguchi, Frank & Violet Mizukami, Glenn Morita, Richard Hanlon & Tim Schroeder, Hiroshi & Kats Fujita, Kikuye Hara

*May Members*: Tom & Lynrae Hubbell – Chair, Ken & Lynne Tanino, Frank Kawasaki, Ed & Kimiko Fujinaga, Kim & Cindy Nakamura, Pauline Yamashita, Minoru & Toyoko Nakagawara, Eichi Mizumoto

<u>ALL TOBAN CHAIRS:</u> Initiate Phone Tree for Hanamatsuri Potluck (You will be given directives from Toban Committee)

#### -April Responsibilities:

**Monthly Clean Up with March** 

Sukiyaki Dinner: Provide snacks for Sukiyaki Set Up Thursday evening and Saturday

Hanamatsuri: Help with set up and clean up with BWA

#### -May Group Responsibilities:

**Monthly Clean Up with June** 

Sukiyaki Dinner: Provide snacks for Saturday and Tuesday evening Clean Up after Fundraiser

Hanamatsuri: Help with set up and clean up with BWA



#### Sukiyaki Report

Dear Temple Members/Sukiyaki Volunteers,

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Sukiyaki Dinner was a jammed pack event with lots of new people showing up for our delicious sukiyaki and chicken teriyaki meals. We attribute the larger than normal turnout to the article in the TNT, to the superb weather (not too hot, not too cold and NO RAIN) and to you for selling those extra tickets. Our volunteers came through with flying colors under the additional pressure though we did have a few hiccups here and there – nothing that a few stitches or a roll of paper towels couldn't fix. Kudos also to the committee chairs who worked together so smoothly and helped us out when we didn't know what to do, to the set-up and take-down workers who showed up Thursday and Tuesday, and to all the volunteers that helped prepare the food Saturday. As co-chairs for the event, we relied entirely on your expertise and hard work to pull this off – thank you!

In Gassho, Tom & Lynrae Hubbell

P.S. If you still have unreturned Sukiyaki tickets or have not yet turned in the monies from sold tickets, please return them to us as soon as possible; this saves us a reminder call to you. Thanks.

#### This Month's Bookmark

# The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching Transforming Suffering into Peace, Joy& Liberation

By Thich Nhat Hanh



In *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching*, Thich Nhat Hanh brings his gift of clear and poetic expression to an explanation of the Four Noble Truths, the Noble Eightfold Path, and other basic Buddhist teachings. Thich Nhat Hanh's extraordinary contribution to Buddhism and to life is the way he makes these teachings and practices accessible to everyone, showing us how the very suffering that is holding us down can be the path to our liberation. This comprehensive guide to basic Buddhist teachings is for everyone.

Thich Nhat Hanh is a Vietnamese Buddhist monk, poet, peacemaker, and author of more than 35 books. He lives in France, where he heads the monastic community known as Plum Village. Since the early 1980s, he has come to North America regularly to lecture and give retreats on the art of mindful living.

This book can be found in the General Buddhism section of our Temple Library.

## Centennial News (April 2012)

Reverend Yukawa and I held our first Centennial Meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup> in the Reverend Pratt Room after service. After some discussion, it was decided to have our celebration in

April or May, 2014 with a luncheon and program after Sunday service, and celebrate our accomplishments throughout the following year. Reverend Yukawa is researching places and times in the Tacoma area. We will be inviting past ministers and recognizing our Keiro honorees at the luncheon. We are in the process of deciding upon a **Centennial Temple Project**, so if you have any ideas or suggestions, please share them with Reverend Yukawa, David Yotsuuye or myself.

Cynthia Sasaki and I are planning to complete the next *Temple Cookbook* to commemorate our past 100 years as well. We are also asking EACH member to submit *a favorite recipe* of theirs for a smaller version of our 100 Favorite Recipes to embellish our table décor. Please submit those to Cynthia or myself, or let Cynthia know if you have already submitted this recipe for our first cookbook.

At Hanamatsuri, Richard Hanlon will begin taking *individual photos* of those attending the service, program and potluck. Lynne Tanino will help organize these photos for the booklet. We will also be having an in-house *Bake Sale* to help pay for some Centennial incidentals prior to 2014.

(continues to the next page)

If you have **photos** from your grandparents' or great grandparents' albums of events that took place at the temple from 1915 forward, would you let us scan them for our booklet? The pictures will be returned. Please put your name, the names of the people in the photo, and the date of the photo on the back. We are also seeking home videos as well. Our next Centennial meeting will be on **May 6th** in the Reverend Pratt Room. If you would like to be part of the discussion of events, please join us after service.

Reverend Yukawa and June Akita

#### **GREETERS SCHEDULE**

April	1	George Tanbara & Greg Tanbara	
	8	Shinobu Inoue & Nancy Butterfield	
	15	Kevin Ikeda & Mike Shiogi	
	22	Hiroshi Fujita & Frank Kawasaki	200
	29	David Yotsuuye & Darlene Matsumoto	((3)
May	6	Karen Yoshitomi & Ed Matsumoto	Direction of the second
	13	Gary Ichinaga & Kiku Morita	Welcome!
	20	Bob Nakayama & Elsie Taniguchi	
	27	Wendy Hamai & Bob Yoshioka	

## 2012 Yearly Memorial Services

#### General Memorial Service Years for 2012

1st Year - 2011	17th Year - 1996
3rd Year - 2010	25th Year - 1988
7th Year - 2006	33rd Year - 1980
13th Year - 2000	50th Year - 1963



#### May 2012:

1st Year	Bollick, Ronald Michael	Shaku Jo-Sen	May 21, 2011
7 <sup>th</sup> Year	Mizumoto, Michiko	Shakuni Mi-Chi	May 20, 2006
25 <sup>th</sup> Year	Arima, Yoshito	Shaku Jun-Nin	May 26, 1988
50th Year	Asahara, Yoroku	Shaku Ho-Ju	May 17, 1963
June 2012:			
50th Year	Kosai, Gizo	Shaku Myo-I	June 28, 1963
July 2012:			
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Shigio, Mitsuye	Shakuni Bi-Ko	July 5, 2010
7 <sup>th</sup> Year	Masumoto, Irene Kinuye	Shakuni Ji-Sen	July 29, 2006
33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Kosai, Yoshio	Shaku Shin-Etsu	July 19, 1980
	Tamaki, Seiichi	Shaku Sei-Kyo	July 19, 1988
	Tamaki, Tora	Shakuni Myo-Sen	July 30, 1988

#### CORRECTIONS; from the last newsletter

The date of birth of Mrs. Chizuko Shigio who passed away January 22, 2012, is April 10, 1923.

Also the donation of \$1000 made to Temple by Vivian Hiroo is in memory of Chizuko Shigio.

We apologize for our mistakes







Successful

March 4

Sukiyaki !







TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE

WisWelcomes You







BWA Daifuku Mochi Making for Ohigan March 17







# Study Class

# Wednesday, April 4 at 7pm in the Rev. Pratt Room "History of Buddhism"

# MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 6 AT 7 PM

## "Seven Years in Tibet"



An alpinist (Brad Pitt) meets him true self and what is truly important through life in Tibet.

# OPEN HOUSE

## SUNDAY, APRIL 22 12PM TO 1:30PM



We would like to invite anyone with an interest or curiosity about Buddhism. There will be a brief discussion about Buddhism, the Jodo Shinshu tradition, and temple etiquette.

#### DHARMA KIDS PUZZLE PAGE

So you guys.....let's test your Japanese skills a little bit, OK? Below are two delicious things to eat. Which one would you like to have? If you have a Kana dictionary or chart you can figure it out. You can use the internet too!

Like always, let your mom and dad or grandparents help. I want everyone to get a prize! You know where they are at.

Remember, the words are spelled from top to bottom. I will fill in one clue for you!

Fill in the blank spaces after each character, bon appétit.



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# This is printed on the back for your brother or sister! TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE - DRIVE TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

We'll send your hard copy to others who might be interested in joining the temple.

If <u>YES</u>, give us your Name:

**Email:** 

**SAVE A TREE!** Would you like to receive the Myokyo via email?

ES,	_	•					-		ing the Myokyo?
==> Please pr	ovide us	with th	eir nam	e/addres	s and w	e'll send	them a	copy!	
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Other Info									
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Name3:									
Address3	:								
Other Info									

Please return to Bobby Yotsuuye, Les Hitsman, Dr. Richard Ling or Debbie Abe.