

Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 31 Issue 9 October 2012

A monthly publication by **Seattle Buddhist Church**

*May peace and tranquility prevail
throughout the world*

Seattle Buddhist Church

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Office Hours

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This is a cover page.

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Seattle Betsuin Vision
*Embrace true and
real life
in Nembutsu*



Seattle Betsuin Mission
*Promote, protect, and
share the Buddha,
Dharma and Sangha*

Ministers

Rimban Don Castro

24 hours: (206) 779 -2214

Reverend Jim Warrick

Wheel of the Sangha NEWSLETTER

Editors: English - Irene Goto
Newsletter@SeattleBetsuin.com

Japanese - Machiko Wada

Newsletter-Jpn@SeattleBetsuin.com

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"Psychological Benefits of Buddhist Thought and Practice"
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8:00 pm

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Betsuin Events for October 2012

EVERY SUNDAY All are invited:

- 8:45 am *MEDITATION SERVICE at 1441 S. Main St; Sutra Chanting, 20-minute meditation, discussion.
- 10:00 am SERVICE - in Hondo (main sanctuary) includes Sutra Chanting, singing, and Dharma Talk
- 11:00 am DHARMA EXCHANGE – in dining room, Q/A, dialogue with minister and ministers assistants

EVERY WEDNESDAY **10:30 am DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP with Meditation WEEKLY

SUNDAYS *8:45 am Meditation Service Weekly!

October 7

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
- 10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE
- Youth: Rinban Castro
- Adult: Rinban Castro
- Japanese Program
- DSDX: Rinban Castro
- DX: MA Joe Schwab

11:45 am SBBWA Board Meeting

1:00 pm Sangha Award Class

October 14

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
- 10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE and CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Children: TBD

Family: Rev. Warrick

Japanese Program

DSDX: MA Irene Goto

DX: Rev. Warrick

October 21

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
- 10:00 am FAMILY SERVICE

Youth: MA Irene Goto

Adult: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

DS DX: MA Irene Goto

DX: MA Joe Schwab

1:00 pm SBBWA Memorial Service (Rinban Castro)

Sangha Award Class (Elliott Zimmerman)

October 28

- 8:45 am Meditation Service
- 10:00 am HATSUMAIRI SERVICE

Family: Rinban Castro

Japanese Program

DS DX: MA Irene Goto

DX: Rev. Warrick

11:45am SBBWA Cabinet Meeting

MONDAYS

October 15 Rinban Castro Day Off (in California)

TUESDAYS

October 9

7:30 pm Minister's Assistants Training

October 16 Rinban Castro Off (out of town)

10:00 am Shinran Shonin Monthly Memorial Service - CANCELLED

October 23

10:30 am Keiro Service (Rinban Castro)

October 30 Minister's Assistants Training

WEDNESDAYS **DHARMA SUPPORT GROUP

October 3, 10, 17, 31

7:30 pm Dharma School Board Meeting

October 17 Rinban Castro Off (out of town)

10:30 am Dharma Support Group (MA Joe Schwab)

THURSDAYS

October 4

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Castro)

October 18

1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban Castro)

7:30 pm Betsuin Cabinet Meeting

October 25

7:30 pm Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting

FRIDAYS

October 5

12:00 pm Gojikai Service and Luncheon Meeting

SATURDAYS

October 6

9:30-11:30 am First Saturday Study Group - **CANCELLED**

November 2012: Major Events

Saturday, November 3

“Psychological Benefits of Buddhist Thought and Practice” Seminar with Rev. Dr. Ryo Imamura, Evergreen College

Sunday, November 4

Eitaikyo Muen Hoyo Service with Ochigo

Sunday, November 25

Family Music Service

**November Newsletter Deadline:
Monday, October , 2012
8:00 pm**



Wheel of the Sangha

Volume 31 Issue 10 SEATTLE BETSUIN NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2012

Is Buddhism a Religion Or What?

By Rinban Don Castro

Rev. Dr. Ryo Imamura will be our guest lecturer on Saturday, November 3rd for a seminar on the psychological benefits of Buddhist thought and practice. His theme brings to mind an often asked question, "Is Buddhism a religion, philosophy or psychology?" I answer, "It's not an either/or issue." Depending upon how you define them, Buddhism is all three or none of them.

Religion used to be defined in terms of a belief in God or "recognition on the part of man of a controlling superhuman power entitled to obedience, reverence, and worship." Today, the word religion includes such definitions as, "a particular system in which the quest for the ideal life has been embodied" which brings to mind the old Buddhist gatha "The Quest for Life."

So called "fundamentalists" tend to categorize Buddhism as a philosophy because, I believe, they don't understand the Greek origins and true meaning of the word as "love of wisdom." A more extended definition is, "the study or science of the truths or principles underlying all knowledge and being (or reality)." I especially tell young people (who are too often ready to turn their back on Buddhism) that it is hard not to be a Buddhist because Buddhism is just about getting in touch with reality and who wants to

be out of touch with reality? In my experience, the reason fundamentalists like to dismissively categorize Buddhism as a philosophy is because, in their misunderstanding of the term, they think of philosophy as just a strategy for living as in the popular expression "a philosophy of life." I've heard fundamentalists say, Buddhism is **just** a philosophy of life. It's not a **real** religion" by which they mean it doesn't have a belief in (their) God.

Finally, let's address the issue of Buddhism as a psychology, which is defined as, "the science of mind, or mental states and processes; the science of human nature." The opening line of the Dhammapada states, "With our mind we make the world." In this sutra as in so many Buddhist texts, the Buddha instructs us about healthy and unhealthy states of mind and their consequences. Most importantly, and most practically I think, Buddhism is a psychological method that, when applied properly (the Eightfold Path, the Ten or Six Paramitas, etc.) leads to a host of positive mental/psychological benefits. I am "psyched up" to hear Rev. Dr. Imamura speak to this theme. I hope you will register and join us.



President's Message By Yukio Morikubo

The Fall is when we traditionally ask our members to renew their membership with the Seattle Betsuin, and that is what we are asking of you yet again. Why should you be a member? Here are three great reasons.

First, by supporting the Seattle Betsuin through your membership, you are making Jodo Shinshu Buddhism available to others in Seattle and the Northwest. To be sure, there are other places in the region to learn about Buddhist philosophy first hand and to engage in Buddhist practices. But the Seattle Betsuin is among the largest and most established institutions in the area serving this need. So, it is an important resource for individuals and families who would benefit from learning about the Buddha Dharma and about Jodo Shinshu in particular. In short, your support helps



people in our community find meaning in their day-to-day lives.

Second, and I firmly believe this, your support of the Seattle Betsuin enables our young people become better, happier people. As a lifelong Jodo Shinshu Buddhist, I realize that many children and teens who grow up in the church will not return as adults. But I know many who, even though they don't regularly attend service, still think of themselves as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists and who cope with the ups and downs of life by leaning on the core beliefs instilled in them by their families at home and at the temple. Add to that, those young people who do return with their kids in tow, who actively live the life of the Dharma, and I can confidently say that by supporting the Betsuin

continued on page 9...

NOTES FROM DHARMA EXCHANGE

August 26, 2012 - Irene G. led the DX and added more information on the upcoming seminar, Saturday, Sept. 29, "Women in Buddhism." The seminar is open to everyone. She commented on a book given to her in 2008 by Alice Unno called *Women Practicing Buddhism*. It was edited by Peter N. Gregory and Susanne Mrozik and is available online. . . Kemi related that internists attend a yearly event, and the title of one of the offerings is "Women in Medicine." . . A participant concluded society is divided by race, economics, culture, gender, etc. He said to heal those divides the Buddhist Temple of Portland and other Buddhist temples conduct a yearly event, "Change Your Mind Day." . . Other participants offered their own stories about their feelings of alienation in and outside the temple.

Sept. 2 - Rev. Jim Warrick elaborated on his Dharma talk regarding anger. He said Jodo Shinshu gives us a way to deal with anger. . . A participant recalled the anger he felt when speaking at least 16 times to the company that installed his garage door incorrectly. . . Another participant offered a new word, "hangry," to describe being angry and hungry simultaneously.

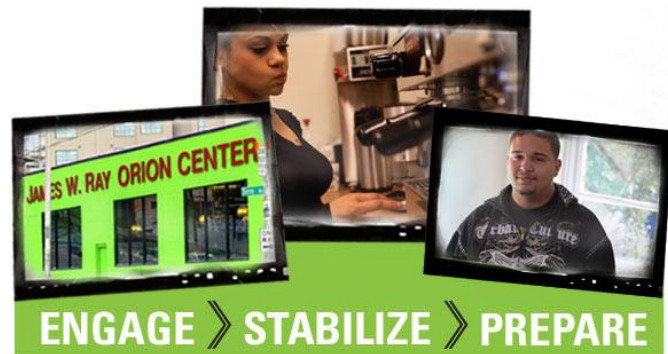
Sept. 9 - Rinban Castro commented on Dr. Mark Blum's presentation of the Nembutsu with videos of dancing. Sensei indicated Bon Odori with dancing of the Nembutsu started before Shinran's time. . . The late Rev. Dr. Alicia Orloff Matsunaga of the Reno Buddhist Temple is responsible for a 2 Volume *Foundations of Japanese Buddhism*, which is available in our dining room bookstore. . . Nembutsu translates to "thought of the Buddha." . . Jean reported that her mother-in-law Caucasian roommate in a nursing care facility heard the Nembutsu so many times that she began saying it as well!

Sept. 16 - Irene Goto gave the Dharma talk today with able assistance from Rosalie and Matt, who ran the Dharma Exchange later. . . They said an interfaith group comprised of Christian, Jewish and Muslim members all agreed that given the choice of religion they would choose Buddhism. . . Rosalie and Matt asked for input about compassion, and a participant who is involved in social justice (he works with prisoners) provided information on that subject. If anyone would like to visit a prison with him, advise Rosalie and Matt. . . Margaret talked about the Orion program that prepares a meal for young homeless people on the third Friday of the month. It is near the Greyhound Bus Depot on Denny and Steward. To raise funds they sell Entertainment Books. Margaret's group would appreciate help in preparing meals and money for purchasing the ingredients. Please see her for more information.

In gassho,
Pat Bobrow



Help Wanted for YouthCare's Orion Center Meals – Third Friday of Month



We are in need of individuals and groups to plan and prepare these monthly meals. Meals occur on the 3rd Friday of each month at YouthCare's Orion Center. We currently need volunteers for meals scheduled for Oct 19, Nov 16 and Dec 21, 2012, and all months for 2013.

For more information on volunteering for the Meals Project or the coupon book sale, please contact Mike Teramoto at 206-369-5986 or mteramoto@yahoo.com

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's

Association submitted by Joan Nakano SBBWA President's Message Submitted by Janet

Baba SBBWA continually strives to meet our goals, to give service to Temple, our Sangha, and the community. So many members contribute to carry out our mission.

Kitchen Clean up: We recently completed our 2nd kitchen clean-up of the year. Sixteen members and 5 men cleaned the kitchen until a comment was overheard, "the kitchen was sparkling clean." We are asking all temple members to join us in keeping the kitchen in good, clean, healthful order. Thank you for the following participants who helped with the kitchen clean-up on August 18: Ken and Yoshie Dodobara, Eileen Hamamoto, Ritsuko Kawahara, Masako Kawamoto, Irene Mano, Yukio Morikubo, Judith Nakamura, Joan Nakano, Tomi Okano, Janie Okawa, Dennis Shibata, Ben and Etsu Shimbo, Darlene Shimizu, Fran Shintaku, Kiyo Takashima, Miyoko Tazuma, Susanne Umeda and Norio and Miyoko Yamazaki.

Service to Members: Our Activity Committee continues to provide opportunities for our members to learn new skills. Previously, manju/mochi and nimono classes were held. Last month, our members learned about Shojinryori, vegetarian cooking class taught by Miyoko Tazuma. Cooking skills as well as learning about nutrition are valuable. Future classes are Takikomi Rice Class with instructor, Norigiku Horikawa on Oct. 10 and Medicare Update by Cho Shimizu on Nov. 7. See the clipboard across the temple office for the signup sheets.

Ukulele Class: Our members have been taking ukulele lessons taught by Mas Tamekuni, with help from Amy Shibuya. Our ten members with 5 men are learning new skills while enjoying the camaraderie, all recommended for good health. The class is taught on Sundays with hopes to enjoy performing in the future. See Fran Tamekuni for more information.

Outreach Service to Community: Our members have served three dinners to homeless youths at

downtown's Orion Center this year. We take turns with other organizations within our temple to provide dinner every third Friday of the month. A full dinner to 40-45 youths are prepared and served. Some of our members have knitted hats & scarves for the youth in past winter months. Our many members work together to help our outreach community.

In Gassho, Janet

Calendar:

Sunday, October 7	SBBWA Board Meeting
Friday-Sunday, October 12-14	FBWA Conference in San Jose
Sunday, October 21	SBBWA Memorial Service
Sunday, October 28	SBBWA Cabinet Meeting



Sayeko A., Mary S. & Sunkie O. attend ukulele class



SBBWA members cleaning and organizing the pantry

ACRS Thank You The Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association (SBBWA) coordinated an effort to help raise funds for the Asian Counseling & Referral Service in their *Walk for Rice* held at Seward Park on June 30, 2012. The following is a letter of appreciation sent by ACRS Development Coordinator, Narita Ghumman. The walkers from the Betsuin would like to extend its sincerest appreciation to the Sangha for their financial support for this event. Submitted by Joyce Kato

See Letter on page 10...

THE SEATTLE BETSUIN SPECIAL SERVICE donations will be listed in the next issue. - HL

BETSUIN KITCHEN CLEAN-UP In the past SBBWA members have had the responsibility for cleaning the Seattle Betsuin kitchen at cleanup work parties. The ensuing years have brought a number of members who no longer are able to participate in the physical labor required for the clean-ups. Requests for men to help have been positive but any Betsuin member would be welcome to relieve our elderly participants who have maintained our kitchen and pantry for years.

The clean-ups are scheduled every few months, and the dates will be published as soon as they are available.



Dennis S., Norio Y. and Ben S.
provide valuable assistance



Irene M. and Tomi O. organize kitchen drawers

2013 Coupon Book Supports the Monthly Meals Project for Homeless Youths.

2013 coupon books are being sold again this year to provide funding for the Temple's Monthly Meals for Homeless Youth Project. These familiar coupon books provide tons of ways for you to save \$\$ at places that you shop. Books are only \$30 each, and will be available on Sundays at the temple through September and October. Fifty percent of the proceeds from each book sold help to fund meals prepared by temple members for homeless kids. Ask your friends, family and co-workers to purchase a coupon book and they'll be supporting a great cause at the same time.

We are also in need of individuals and groups to plan and prepare these monthly meals. Meals occur on the 3rd Friday of each month at YouthCare's Orion Center. We currently need volunteers for meals scheduled for Oct 19, Nov 16 and Dec 21, 2012, and all months for 2013.

For more information on volunteering for the Meals Project or the coupon book sale, please contact Mike Teramoto at 206-369-5986 or mteramoto@yahoo.com

Simple Things To paraphrase the Seattle Times educational page, "Shade grown" coffee beans equal "animal friendly" in that those trees are not cut down. Coffee was grown in the tree canopy but farmers find that they can grow more beans without tree shade. So look for those words when buying coffee. The birds, animals and the tree itself are protected when you buy "shade grown."

What do you do with those laminated cards you get in the mail? You can use them as coasters (well, maybe not for 'company') or as straight edges for crafts and drawing. - Submitted by Gail Kaminishi

The Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations for August - September 2012

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

Namiji and Sadako Kodama – In Memory of	\$ 1,000	George Kodama
Ralph Iboshi – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000	Patricia Iboshi
Tatsuya Yamamoto – Funeral Service	\$ 1,000	Richard Yamamoto
Dick Yoshimura – 49 th Day Memorial	\$ 1,000	Lisa & John Duff
Yaeko & Tatsuya Yamamoto – In Memory of	\$ 500	Yoshie Nakagawa
Dick Hara – 3 rd Year Memorial Service	\$ 300	Reiko Hara
Nokotsudo for Dick Hara	\$ 300	Reiko Hara
Ralph Iboshi – 49 th Day Memorial Service	\$ 300	Patricia Iboshi
Joseph Hamanaka – 1 st Year and Interment Services	\$ 300	Yoko Hamanaka
Joe Wakazuru – In Memory of 1 st Year	\$ 300	Barbara Wakazuru
George, Lillian & Nancy Mizumori – Memorial Service	\$ 250	Sheri Mizumori-Canfield
Toshiko Enomoto – Interment Service	\$ 200	Robert & K.E. Hinz
Ronald Deane Hanada – 49 th Day Service	\$ 200	Marie Hanada
Hiroyuki Suganuma – In Memory of	\$ 120	Aiko Suganuma
Yoshiko Kihara – In Memory of	\$ 100	Alice & Shuzo Takeuchi

Given by:

Remembrances for:

Ronald Deane Hanada	Mitsuko Fukuhara; Peggy Hanada; Jean Taketa
Terry Kaneko	Kemi Nakabayashi
George Kobayashi	Setsuko Harada
Asamitsu Maeshiro	Joe & Hideko Terada
Grace McLeod	Rosalie Jacobson
George, Lillian & Nancy Mizumori	Michael & Janet Tahara-Gates; Masaru & Anna Tahara
Dick Yoshimura	Gene & Yuki Arinobu; Linda Chinn; Setsuko Harada; Yuriko Kamada; Osamu Kano; Sanaye Kawamura; Dale & Karen Kodama; Sakie Matsuda; John & Deborah McCallum; Terry Nakano; Nakashima Family (Pat Hokama, Dai Nakashima, Garnet Nakashima); Gerald & Fail Oyabe; Roy & Kazumi Shimizu; Kimi Tanaka; Robert & Toyo Tanaka; Miyoko Tazuma; Davie & Dina Uchida; Thomas Yamaguchi; David & Gloria Yoshino; James & Tomiko Zumoto

Given by:

Temple Supervision:	Yakima Buddhist Church	\$ 100
	Spokane Buddhist Church	\$ 100

Other Donations:

<u>Donor:</u>	<u>For:</u>
Dr. Hunter and Rumiko Arakawa	General Donation
Norman Kaneko	General Donation
Yukio & Karen Morikubo	Onenju Repair
Tom & Beverly Sakamoto	Onenju Repair
Sue Fujino	In Honor of Saeko Akada's 88 th Birthday
Nina Tomita-Kato	Appreciation for use of Walk-in Cooler

Seattle Betsuin Camp Fire Submitted by Dana Nakashima It's the start of a new school year and Camp Fire! We are registering new and returning Camp Fire members, now! Note that registering with Camp Fire requires TWO registrations: (1) with the Puget Sound Council, and, (2) with the Seattle Buddhist Temple's Group #699.

Returning members: "Council-level" registration forms were sent by mail last Spring/Summer. If not already done, please complete and return the form and registration fee to the Puget Sound Council Office. Group #699 forms are available at Church. Pick them up from your group leader. Complete and return the #699 registration form and fee to your leader or Dana Nakashima by October 31, 2012.

New or Prospective Members: "Council-level" and "Group #699" registration forms are available on the Temple website's Camp Fire webpage. Or, contact the Group #699 Registrar, Dana Nakashima, at campfire@seattlebetsuin.com.

Calling all children interested in the upcoming Ochigo Procession - November 4, 2012

This year's Ochigo procession will be held on November 4, during the Muen Hoyo service.

If you have a child who is interested in participating in this memorable event, please pick up a participation form in the foyer and return to Yvette Terada by October 21.

You may also contact her at smileyfuji@comcast.net.



2011 Ochigo participants

ABA Mahjong Oct 21 and 28 from 12-2pm Beginners and experienced players are welcomed to join us for mahjong in the library on Sundays. This month: Oct 21 and 28 from 12-2pm. –Gail Kaminishi

Dharma School submitted by Joyce Tsuji

Tsuji Welcome back everyone!! The first day of Dharma School got us all off to a wonderful start with the hondo and halls filled with lots of excited children. We look forward to a terrific year. Thanks to everyone who came, registered their children and provided refreshments.

Classroom Reports

Pre-K/K Classroom The Pre-K/K teachers welcomed all returning and new students to their classroom. On the first day of Dharma School, the students listened to a story about life's lessons and discussed how they could relate these lessons to the classroom. The following week, the children listened to a story about the onenju and how to care for it. They each frosted a cookie and decorated it with a candy onenju. We look forward to a fun and exciting year exploring the Dharma.

1st/2nd grade We've started off the first two Sundays with some very enthusiastic, bright kids. We began by introducing ourselves, learning each other's birthdays and some of our favorite snack foods. Yum! Next we read Yoko and discussed good rules to have for the rest of the year so we can all be safe, considerate of each other and have fun. After a lively discussion we have agreed on the ones we like and will be signing our class contract soon. We are excited to welcome our incoming 1st graders and a new student to our class!

6/7/8 grade The 6/7/8 grade class started off with Ice Breakers, sharing of new information we learned about each other, and "ideas" for the teachers. They are a brilliant group of students and we are excited about our year together. They would like to have snacks but we do have gluten allergies and peanut intolerance, so fruit might be the route to take. Parents, we would love someone to set up a snack schedule for us...any volunteers? If any parent would like to join our team to help teach, our door is open.

...**President's Message** continued from page 3 you are making the life of at least one child in our temple today better and more rewarding for him or her, for that child's future life partner and for that child's future children, than it otherwise would have been. In fact, it's likely that your membership will positively affect more than just one child. What's that worth?

Finally, by supporting the Seattle Betsuin with your membership, you affirm to the world that you are cool. The world is full of people who live their lives on the sidelines and who don't stand for anything other than the sports teams that they root for and the labels they wear. But you are not one of them. You know that your life path is your own to chart, and that a good life is a one enriched by wisdom, compassion and gratitude, not one chasing the many shiny objects that float past us every day. That's cool, and that's why you should renew your membership for the Seattle Betsuin.

Gassho, Yukio

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE... We would like to “**thank**” the following **regular members**, for contributing at least the minimum annual Ijikai dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). This is a list of those paid members that have paid for the 2012 fiscal year since our last posting:

Mary Akada; William Anthis; Janet Baba; Gwen Florence; Kazumi Janice Goshu; Ellen Hale; Jane Hamatani; Ritsuko Kawahara; George & Kayoko Kakiuchi; Malcom & Eileen Kanemoto; Marc & Jan Keltner; Frances Kobayashi; Esther Kojima; Yoshie Mikami; Fumiko Nakamura; Tomiko Okano; Nancy Okawa; George & Karen Sakamoto; Kengo Sakamoto; Dave Scattergood & Joyce Tsuji; Leslie Sumida; Mas & Frances Tameknuni; Allan & Kayoko Terada; Florence Terami; Robert Umeda; Shizue Yahata; Charlene Yoritsune

Study Groups at Seattle Buddhist Temple Due to the fact that the *Being Buddhist in A Christian Society – Focus on Women* seminar falls on September 29, we have decided to cancel our Buddhist Study Group in October. We will continue up again on November 3. – Leonora Clarke
Third Tuesday Study Group will meet on Tuesday, October 16 at 7:00PM. – IHG

HATSUMAIRI or “First Visit” is a Jodo Shinshu tradition that acknowledges the baby's first visit to the temple. Parents present their children before the image of Amida Buddha and members of the Sangha as an expression of their gratitude and desire to expose them to the teachings of the Buddha.

The Hatsumairi ceremony will be held during the 10:00 a.m. Family Service on October 28, 2012. Although this ceremony identifies the presented as infants, children of all ages are welcome. If you would like to present your child(ren) at this joyous occasion, please complete the registration form below and **return it to the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church, 1427 S Main St, Seattle, WA 98144** or call the temple office by **October 21, 2012**. A Dharma School representative will contact you with details. If you have any questions, please direct them to the temple office at (206) 329-0800 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. -JN

.....
2012 Hatsumairi Registration

Child's Name Boy/Girl Month/Day/Year of Birth

Parent's Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City State Zip Code

Phone _____ E-mail _____

...continued from page 5 **Letter from Asian Counseling and Referral Service**

Dear Seattle Buddhist Church,

\$200,000! For the first time in Walk for Rice history, we've broken the \$200k mark, and it's all thanks to your help and support! We were excited a few months ago when we broke the old record (\$188k), but it's safe to say you've helped us set a new standard for our annual Food Bank fundraiser.

And more than anything, that's the point. With the ACRS Food Bank taking on more new clients than ever, it's important that we keep up the momentum. We're running a race far longer than just 2.5 miles.

Special thanks, by the way, to the person who put us over the top. A few days ago, after tallying up matching donations and other last minute donations, we found ourselves just a few hundred dollars shy of our goal. That's when board member JoAnne Kennedy stepped in and told us she'd make up the difference.

However, JoAnne's story is hardly unique. Over and over, we've heard about how thousands of you have mobilized friends, families, co-workers and complete strangers in an effort to feed King County's hungriest.

Fighting hunger. Increasing happiness. That's what you've done, and continue to do. Thanks for that. Because Every Grain Counts.

Sincerely, Narita Ghumman, ACRS Development Coordinator, 206.695.7551

AKI MATSURI 2012 - Betsuin booth The Eastside Nihon Matsuri Association's annual Aki Matsuri was held on September 8 and 9, 10:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday, and 10:00am to 5:00pm on Sunday. It had an attendance of over 20,000 people, adults and children. It showcased many aspects of Japanese culture. The area churches are represented every year, as is Seattle Betsuin. This year, we had a large new banner and we featured a simple game for the children. Those who helped plan, develop, setup, takedown the display and man the booth were: Yukio and Karen Morikubo and Mike, Shirley Shimada, Mae Yamasaki, Dennis Shibata, Alan and Fumiko Groves and Aimee Hasegawa. We had more inquiries this year than the previous years. The draw was the "fishing game" for the children, but it also brought the adults, courtesy of Nina Tomita Kato. We gave out over 180 prizes. We featured our youth activities as well as the adult meditation classes and seminars in Japanese and English.



Submitted by Fumiko Groves

Boy Scout Troop 252 In September, Troop 252 started their weekly meetings. The theme for the month of October is Camping/Hiking (Outdoor Skills). In October, we will learn how to build survival kits, make tarp tents, and learn how to survive in the wilderness. The Troop also looks forward to starting the Sangha award class with Rimban Castro. Finally, we plan to have a beef bowl fundraiser on September 30 and October 14 during Chibichan basketball. Gassho, Alex Sakamoto

Upcoming Events: October 5-7 Thunderbird District Camporee @ Camp Pigott; October 14 Troop Meeting- Tarp Tent Building- Beef Bowl Fundraiser; October 21 Troop Meeting- Survival Kit Building; October 28 Troop Meeting- Wilderness Survival Skills; November 3-4 Camping @ North Bend Property.

ASIAN MIXED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE OF SEATTLE The Seattle Betsuin has three teams participating in this league, currently made up of 11 teams. We play every Friday night from October through April or May, at the Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church/Lee Center. The purpose is to have an hour of EXERCISE mixed with fun by way of an organized game of competition that RESEMBLES volleyball.

We play 'middle set,' no blocking or spiking, no overhand serves, a female must touch the ball at least once when the ball is on their side. There are other rules/regulations. The hope is that the games will be played with a FRIENDLY CONCERN FOR OTHERS (even the opponents), and that everyone will get to know each other better through this activity. Besides the SBC, there are teams from the Japanese Baptist Church, the Nichiren church, Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, and the Filipino Methodist Church.

The minimum age for men and women (with the exception of the Clergy and spouse) is 30 years old. The average age for men on the TEAM ROSER is 45 years. One female age 25-29 years can join a team provided the age of all females average 35 years. Spouses are allowed to play regardless of age as long as one spouse is already qualified for the age limit.

If you are interested in joining the SBC group, please contact Donna Nobuyama (d_nob@comast.net) or Steph Ojima (stephoj01@comcast.net). League play starts on October 12.

Join us for a seminar at Seattle Buddhist Temple

Speaker: Reverend Ryo Imamura, PhD
"Psychological Benefits of Buddhist Thought and Practice"
November 3, 2012 10:00am – 4:00pm



Dr. Imamura is a Jodo Shinshu minister who has served various temples in Buddhist Churches of America and in Hawaii. He is currently Professor of East-West Psychology at Evergreen State College in Olympia. He has served as the Director of the Buddhist Study Center at the University of Hawaii and was a cofounder and National President of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship.

Expertise: counseling, psychology, Buddhist studies

Background: B.A., Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, 1967; M.S., Counseling, San Francisco State University, 1981; Ed.D., Counseling/Educational Psychology, University of San Francisco, 1986

Interest: Child development, communication, cultural studies (Asian American, Japanese), ethics, family studies, gerontology, health and healing, human development, Japanese studies, mediation and conflict resolution, psychology, educational psychology, East-West psychology, race/class/gender studies, religion, social service, counseling.

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Guest Speaker:
Reverend Yuki Sugahara**

This program conducted in Japanese only

The 6th Annual Baby Boomers' Seminar 27 Reasons to be a Buddhist ... Saturday, November 10, 2012

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Jodo Shinshu Center

2140 Durant Ave.
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Guest Speaker:

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Midwest Buddhist Temple

*Register online at BCA website or download form and mail in. **Registration: \$75 Deadline: October 31, 2012 Early Registration: \$50 if received by September 30, 2012** Email: director@cbe-bca.org Phone: (510) 809-1460 Visit www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org*

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-IHG