



## Senior Appreciation Day

BY REVEREND SEIGEN YAMAOKA

The Buddhist Church of Oakland's annual Senior Appreciation Day (Keirokai) will be observed on Sunday, October 19, 2008 from 10 a.m. New Keiro members who have turned or will turn 75 years of age will be honored at the service. Also honored will be all the Keirokai members in attendance.

Following the service there will be picture taking of the new Keiro members and a group picture of all the Keirokai Members. Bento lunch will be provided to all Keirokai members.

Honoring our senior members is very important, but most are not aware of what the seniors had to go through to provide us with the temple that we presently have.

When the first generation came to this country and to Oakland, they came with a suitcase and the clothes on their backs. They began their lives here without funds, facing a hostile community, and having to eke out a livelihood doing back breaking work for less than minimal pay for their labor.

In the destitute lives that they were living, they longed for some connection with their loved ones in their home country to which they had no hopes of returning. The only thing that they could hold on to was the teaching of the Nembutsu. A teaching which connected them to their loved ones back home, but also gave them

the strength to live and persevere to find meaning for their lives.

The Nembutsu teaching was so important to them that they wanted to leave this simple religious life to their children who would continue to face the difficulties of living in America. They wanted to leave something tangible and meaningful for their children. They knew that this would be more valuable than material goods that they could not give to their children.

A hundred years ago it is said that the average hourly income was 22 cents an hour. That was for the general society living in America. Our pioneers probable received less than half that amount per month. Yet, they began the earnest task of leaving something tangible for their children and gave whatever they could from their earnings. They gave while many living a life of poverty because of their dreams to leave the Nembutsu teaching for future generations. It is a teaching which gave them comfort in the lonely and desperate times of their lives.

Senior Appreciation is a time when we reflect on the struggles of the past so that we can find meaning for our lives today.

*Reflection: The struggle of the past is the foundation upon which we stand today. We need to be mindful of those struggles and find the meaning of gratitude for what we have received. ☸*

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## Temple Tid-Bits

### Osonae and flowers for Memorial Services:

**Kimiye Ozawa** – Itsuo Ozawa  
17th Year \$50

**George Yokoyama** – Sachiko  
Yokoyama 1 Year \$50

The church appreciates your generosity and thoughtfulness.

### Electric Typewriter:

Does anyone have an old electric typewriter that you don't use any more? The office can use one to make address labels for correspondences. The computer doesn't make envelopes fast enough. If you can donate it to the church, we will be most grateful.

Thanks.

## Message from the President...

BY JUNE MASUYAMA

Hope you all had a wonderful, restful summer! As you know, Rev. Yamaoka is retiring at the end of the year. His retirement party is on Saturday afternoon, 11/15/08 at Scott's Seafood Restaurant at Jack London Square. Everyone is invited, so save the date! Watch for announcements which should be coming out shortly. We encourage everyone to celebrate, have fun and give thanks to Rev. Yamaoka for his many years of dedicated service to BCA and the Buddhist Church of Oakland. THANK YOU, Rev. Yamaoka. I look forward to seeing many of you at the party!! ☸

## BCA 21st Century Campaign

The BCA 21st Century Campaign continues to go forward in an attempt to secure the future of Jodo Shinshu in America.

Since moving to the Jodo Shinshu Center, the IBS has enjoyed a growth in the number of students. At the August 15th Trustee Meeting it was announced that in the fall 2008 Semester, there are 14 IBS students and 29 students from the Graduate Theological Union attending Buddhist classes. There is the establishment of a chaplaincy program at IBS through association with two Buddhist Chaplain Centers. A major step has been taken to work toward the accreditation with the Western Association of Colleges and Universities.

The Center for Buddhist Education continues to develop strong programs for BCA members. In a month, four or five programs are presented with great response from the BCA membership at large. Programs for youth, Dharma School students and teachers, young

adults, temple leaders are being conducted.

There is activity and growth because the BCA has a campus which focuses and enhances the programs being conducted.

The members of the Buddhist Church of Oakland have always supported the educational programs of the BCA. Our church members have pledged/donated \$676,016.00 since the start of the BCA 21st Century Campaign. This total was achieved by the generous donation by 253 members out of 376 BCA members. That is 67.28% of our membership. Some members continue to donate over and above their original pledge. We are grateful to all the members who have contributed to the great cause of educational programs at the Jodo Shinshu Center.

The campaign continues. We ask all of our BCO members to participate in the great endeavor of securing the future of our Buddhist Teaching in the United States.

Please support the campaign. ☸

## OBWA Cookbook



Do you have a favorite recipe that you are willing to share? OBWA is collecting recipes for a new cookbook. Please send your recipes along with any interesting notes about the recipe to JoAnne Hayashida c/o Buddhist Church of Oakland, 825 Jackson Street, Oakland, 94607.

## Nippongo Gakuen News

BY EUNICE ASHIZAWA

The Oakland Nippongo Gakuen will begin its Fall session on Saturday, September 13. The Japanese language program is focused on teaching Japanese to non-native speaking children generally from 1st grade through high school age. Classes are assigned by age level and Japanese language proficiency, with instruction tailored to individual students. Tuition is \$225 for the fall semester (September-December) and \$175 for each of the winter and spring semesters. Classes are held on Saturdays, from 9 am – 12 Noon, in the Issei Kaikan building.

The Gakuen also offers adult classes. The beginning adult class meets on Saturday mornings from 10:30 – 12 Noon. This class focuses on learning basic grammatical concepts and vocabulary, together with sharing cultural experiences and conversation. The advanced class meets weekly on Thursday evenings. Students are challenged to apply their skills to everyday conversational situations; e.g., talking on the telephone or ordering food in a restaurant. Learning to write is included in all the Gakuen classes. Tuition for either of the adult classes is \$125 for the fall semester and \$100 for each of the winter and spring semesters. Depending on the level of interest, additional adult classes may be considered.

If you are interested in enrolling in any of the Gakuen classes, please visit the temple website ([buddhistchurchofaakland.org](http://buddhistchurchofaakland.org)), contact the temple office, or contact **Jon Takagaki** at 510-769-2975 (home) or by e-mail, [LTAKAGAKI@yahoo.com](mailto:LTAKAGAKI@yahoo.com). ☸

## Picnic 2008

BY RON NOMURA

This year's picnic at Pleasant Hill Park was held on July 20th and the summer weather was nowhere to be found. It felt more like fall, with overcast skies and a cool breeze. It was later on in the day when the weather started to warm up and the afternoon ended being perfect. **Reverend Yamaoka** started the day with morning service and then we all sat down for lunch. I would like to thank the following people who, without their help, bread and water would have been on the menu – **John Minamoto, Harry Berglund, June Masuyama, Maya & Gary Lawrence, Gail & Rick Inada, Shigeko Yamaoka, Keiju Terada, John Takagaki, Anne Tominaga, Derek and Colin Chung.** After lunch, the Jr. YBA headed by **Miharu Okamura**, came through again to put together games to entertain the kids. I remember when I was growing up and my parents took me to picnics that had games like the Jr. YBA put on - how those memories have stayed with me all these years. I really appreciate the hard work the Jr. YBA put into the games and made it an enjoyable day for all. Special thanks go out to **Lynn Chung, Bonnie Okamura and Steve Terusaki.** My thanks go out to **Valerie & Tak Otsuka** for again coordinating the game prizes. We then were treated to bingo and raffle prizes with **David Hirota and Digger Sasaki** – Thank you Digger and David – who had to call out bingo without the use of the microphone, which broke down at the beginning. I hope everybody had a good time. Thank you to those who stayed and helped cleaned up and loaded the trailer. I'd like to thank **Yosh Nakano** for reserving the picnic

site, which he has been doing for years. This picnic site has worked out great for us. Many thanks go out to **Lori & Darrin Wong, Digger Sasaki, Clare & Don Kaneshige** and Coach Sushi for their generous donations. On behalf of the church it was nice to see those of you that came out to the picnic and hope to see more of you at next years. Arigato Gozaimasu to all, for the hard work and your continued support which you have given to the church. ☸

## Keirokai, Honoring Our Seniors

Please inform the office of any members who are or will be 75 this year 2008, January to December. We are giving them a party on October 19 at the KEIROKAI, and we need the names to prepare gifts for their achievement. The earlier we have the names, the easier it will be to prepare the gifts. Thanks for your assistance. ☸

## Bay District Council "Amida's Family Gathering" Conference

The Gathering will be held at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple on Saturday, November 8, starting from 8:45 am with registration. The program for the day is on the attached flyer, together with the registration forms, so join us at the Gathering. Please sign up as soon as possible, because the deadline for registration is September 15. ☸

# October Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, October 5, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Sermon by Reverend Seigen Yamaoka

Family and relatives are invited to attend this monthly memorial service for those listed below. If any errors appear in the list below, please notify the church office at (510) 832-5988 at your earliest convenience. Next month's Shotsuki Service will be held on November 2, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Kane Aochi  
 Mr. Shigeru Asakura  
 Mrs. Kane Baba  
 Mrs. Ichi Chiyoda  
 Mr. Hachiro Endo  
 Mr. Heitaro Fujii  
 Mrs. Kikuno Fujii  
 Mr. Fred Fujii  
 Mr. Rikizo Fujinami – 33rd Year  
 Mrs. Marie Miyako Fujino  
 Mr. William Furuta  
 Mr. Miyao Harada  
 Mr. Sunao Harada  
 Mr. Katsuji Harano  
 Mrs. Seki Hayashi  
 Mrs. Saki Hirao  
 Mr. Horizo Horimoto  
 Mrs. Kiyoko Idehara  
 Mr. Jukiji Igaki  
 Mr. Tomenosuke Inouchi  
 Mrs. Fusayo Inouye  
 Mr. Shokichi Isono  
 Mr. Seitaro Iwamoto  
 Mr. Jitsugo Iwata  
 Mrs. Yuki Kamano  
 Mrs. Tatsumi Kanada  
 Mr. Seiso Kanesaki  
 Mr. Shonosuke Kato  
 Mrs. Hatsu Kawabe  
 Mr. Tokichi Kawamoto  
 Mr. Shuichi Kawaoka  
 Mr. Ichiro Kayatani  
 Mr. John Kido – 17th Year  
 Mr. Meiji Kido  
 Mrs. Teiko Kido  
 Mr. Takashi Kimoto  
 Ms. Setsuko Kimura  
 Mrs. Shige Kisanuki  
 Mr. Kokichi Kiya  
 Mr. Tameji Kobori  
 Mrs. Yoshiye Kume  
 Mr. Karoku Kuramoto

Mr. Kumaichi Kuramoto  
 Mrs. Tamayo Kuramoto  
 Mr. Yoshimitsu Kuramoto  
 Mrs. Tama Kuritsubo  
 Mrs. Tamae Kurotori  
 Mr. Shoroku Kuwahara  
 Mrs. Sachi Masuyama  
 Mr. Gary Matsumoto  
 Mrs. Misty Minamihara  
 Mrs. Tomiko Minamoto  
 Miss Yuki Minamoto – 13th Year  
 Mr. Tomijiro Miyagawa  
 Mrs. Kazue Mori  
 Mr. Gene Tatsuo Moriki  
 Mrs. Taki Nagafuji  
 Mrs. Yukiko Nagafuji  
 Mr. Kohachi Nakao  
 Mrs. Satsuki Nakao  
 Rev. Juko Nakashima  
 Mrs. Tsuneno Nakatani  
 Mr. Torataro Nakayama  
 Mr. Yaichi Nakazono  
 Mr. Alan Neishi  
 Mr. Tsunekichi Niizawa  
 Mrs. Toshiko Ninomiya  
 Mr. Sam Hoyo Noma  
 Mr. Seizo Nomura  
 Mrs. Tamayo Norimoto  
 Mrs. Miyeko Okamoto – 3rd Year  
 Mrs. Sei Okawa  
 Mrs. Sueno Oki  
 Mrs. Fujie Oniki – 1 Year  
 Mr. Ted Hitoshige Sakaki  
 Mr. Kumashichi Sakamoto  
 Mrs. Kikue Sameshima  
 Mrs. Hisa Sasaki  
 Mrs. Tomiye Satake  
 Mr. Tomekichi Satake  
 Mr. Hidemi Seiji  
 Mrs. Tomiye Seta  
 Mr. Yasumatsu Shigaya  
 Mr. Harvey Shinomoto

Mr. George S. Takahashi  
 Mrs. Tame Takahashi  
 Mr. Shinobu Tani – 7th Year  
 Mr. Masayuki Terada  
 Mr. Loren Teramura  
 Mr. Eiya Ugai  
 Mrs. Misao Watanabe – 17th Year  
 Mr. Wataru Watanabe  
 Mrs. Ruth Miyoko Wong  
 Mrs. Dai Yamabe  
 Baby Yamamoto  
 Mrs. Miyuki Lois Yamamoto  
 Mrs. Tatsuyo Yamamoto  
 Mrs. Chizuko Yamanaka  
 Mr. Kuhachiro Yamaoka  
 Mrs. Tsuya Yamashita  
 Mr. Choshiro Yokoyama  
 Mrs. Yoshino Yokoyama  
 Mrs. Ino Yoshida  
 Mrs. Misa Yoshida  
 Mr. Yozo Yoshida  
 Mrs. Grace Yoshioka  
 Mr. Shosaburo Yoshioka ☸

**DEADLINE FOR  
 NOVEMBER 2008 BUSSHIN  
 ARTICLES: October 6<sup>th</sup>**

Articles submitted after this date may not be printed. Send articles to **Joyce Yokomizo**:

email: joyce@yokomizo.com

fax: (415) 970-0810

You can also send articles to **Sam Yoneyama** at the church office.

**BUSSHIN COLLATION by the  
 Dharma School on Thursday,  
 October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**



THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND  
IS SPONSORING

# Rev. Dr. Seigen Yamaoka Retirement Luncheon

Saturday, November 15, 2008  
11:30 am – Hospitality Hour  
1:00 pm - Lunch  
Scott's Seafood Restaurant  
Jack London Square  
2 Broadway  
Oakland, California

Please detach and submit the form below to the Buddhist Church of Oakland.

----- cut here-----

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

Phone Number: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Price	Item
	\$40.00	Sliced Beef Tenderloin and Grilled Salmon
	\$35.00	Vegetarian Plate
	\$20.00	Child's Plate (13 years old and under)

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to the BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND.



## Otsukimi Moon Viewing Festival

Please join the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association and the Golden State Bonsai Collection North for an evening of Japanese food, entertainment and moon viewing.

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### **Sunday, October 12, 2008 - Free + Open to the Public**

Lakeside Park Garden Center  
666 Bellevue Avenue  
Oakland, CA  
(Entrance on Grand at Fairyland)

#### **Program**

##### **5:30 pm - Bonsai Garden & Bento Dinner\***

Open House by the Golden State Bonsai Collection North 5:30 - 6:30 pm  
Japanese "bento" box dinners (sushi & skewered meats/fish) created by Musashi of Berkeley. Vegetarian Bentos available upon request  
Come see our magnificent Torii Gate (Dedicated in the Memory of the late Oakland Council Member Frank Ogawa 1917-1994).

##### **6:30 pm - Entertainment**

Tokyo Swing – Jazz group  
Tatsumaki Taiko – Taiko drums  
Performances by the delegates from Asian Pacific Children's Convention

##### **7:30 pm - Moon Viewing**

Telescopic viewing of the Moon and other celestial points of interest provided by the Eastbay Astronomical Society

\*To reserve your Japanese dinner, please send a \$15 check payable to:  
Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association (OFSCA)  
P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, CA 94661-3022  
(\$10.00 for members of OFSCA)  
Deadline to reserve a dinner - October 3, 2008

Questions – Call 510.482.5896 or email [info@oakland-fukuoka.org](mailto:info@oakland-fukuoka.org)

# October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting	2 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	3	4 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 1:00 p.m. Hiroshima NikkeijinKai Bingo
5 9:00 a.m. OBWA meeting 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma and Shotsuki Service	6 9:30 a.m. BCO Golf Tournament 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai Busshin Articles Due!	7	8 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project 7:30 p.m. OBWA Nomination Mtg.	9 7:00 p.m. Concord Howakai	10 7:00 p.m. Board Nomination Committee Mtg.	11 9:00 a.m. Japanese School BCA FBWA Delegates Meeting 2:00 p.m. Ikebana
12 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 10:45 a.m. Adult Study	13 Holiday Office Closed 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	14 7:00 p.m. EB YAL	15	16 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai 7:30 p.m. Collate Busshin by Dharma School	17 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project 5:00 p.m. JASEB Bingo at SACBC	18 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
19 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service, Keirokai 6:00 p.m. Ashland Howakai	20 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	21 7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City Ass'n 7:00 p.m. Youth Club Mtg.	22	23	24	25 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
26 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service and Halloween Party	27 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	28	29	30 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	31	

November 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
2 9:00 a.m. OBWA Mtg 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma & Shotsuki Service	3 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	4 Busshin Articles Due!	5 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting	6 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	7	8 8:45 a.m. BD Family Gathering at Palo Alto 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 2:00 p.m. Ikebana
9 No Service 2:00 p.m. Kagoshima KenjinKai General Meeting	10 11:00 a.m. Fukuoka Kenjinjai General Meeting 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	11 6:00 a.m. Calendar Coordinating Mtg 7:00 p.m. EBYAL	12 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	13 7:00 p.m. Concord Howakai 7:30 p.m. Busshin Collating by the OBWA	14	15 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 11:30 a.m. Rev. Yamaoka's Appreciation Luncheon
16 10:00 a.m. Eitaikyo Service 6:00 p.m. Ashland Howakai	17 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	18 7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City Ass'n	19	20 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	21 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	22 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
23 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service	24 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:00 p.m. Youth Club 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	25 7:00 p.m. Youth Club	26	27 HOLIDAY Office Closed	28 HOLIDAY Office Closed	29 No Japanese School
30 No Service						