



## Spring Higan 2008

BY REVEREND SEIGEN YAMAOKA

The Spring Higan is a special time when we can reflect upon the flow of life as all things spring to life after the winter season. It is a special time when we can reflect on all the causes and conditions which help to move and grow with the flow of life.

The BCO Spring Higan Service will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2008. Our guest speaker will be the **Rev. Doei Fujii** of the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple. He will speak in both English and Japanese.

It is a special time to reflect on the Six Paramitas of Dana (Giving), Sila (Discipline), Ksanti (Patience), Virya (Endeavor), Dhyana (Meditation), and Prajna (Wisdom).

In the Dharma School Service Book each of the Paramitas has a line expressing its meaning. They are, "I shall be helpful to others" for Dana, "I shall follow the precepts of the Buddha" for Sila, "I shall be patient and understanding" for Ksanti, "I shall do my best in all things" for Virya, "I shall reflect on the teachings of the Buddha" for Dhyana, and "I shall seek the light of wisdom" for Prajna.

For every experience in our daily life we should reflect on the six to see where we are at in terms of our actions in our life process. If you have difficulty in doing this, then think of the six as calling to us in the Name known as Na Mu A Mi Da Butsu, reminding us that we cannot live alone isolated in

our own wants and desires. Only through the interconnectedness of all life are we able to live and be who we are.

Higan is a time to see things from the perspective of the interconnected to others that really help us to awaken to the truth of life. Shinran, realizing this truth, stated that "the Nembutsu (Namu Amida Butsu) is the expression of gratitude which connects us with the Wisdom and Compassion of Enlightenment-Truth Itself."

*Reflection: The changing process of life is called "Natural." We are all a part of that process. The problem is we forget the natural flow of life. ☸*

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## Message from the President

BY JUNE MASUYAMA

At the General Meeting on February 3, **Rev. Yamaoka** announced that he will retire at the end of 2008. On behalf of the Oakland Buddhist Church, it is with gratitude and compassion that we thank **Rev. Yamaoka** for his 44 years of dedicated service to BCA. Thank you, Sensei, for all you have done for our temple and BCA. We wish you joy and happiness as you plan for your retirement. ☸

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**TEMPLE TID-BITS**

**OSONAE AND FLOWER DONATIONS FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES:**

**Mrs. Itsuko Uota** for husband, son and father

**Mrs. Tomoko Endo** for husband Goro Endo

**Mrs. Janet Sekigahama** for father Masato and mother Yoshiko Hashimoto

**Ms. Alice McHugh** for friend Ms Shigeko Mizuki

The church appreciates your thoughtfulness and generosity in memory of your families.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Let's welcome new member **Doris Okano Wilson** and her son **Alex** to our church family. She is the elder daughter of **Mrs. Susan Okano** and sister to **Delia Ikeda**. Let's make her feel at home and greet her with warm handshakes and hugs.

**Spring Equinox Ohigan Service**  
March 16, 2008

The cold and wet winds of winter are changing into the warm and pleasant breezes of spring. The trees and plants are blooming sweet fragrances everywhere and early birds are flying all over. Spring Equinox means equal day and night hours and it is the perfect time to have our Ohigan Service.

Our guest speaker will be **Rev. Doei Fujii** of the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Church and he will speak to the Dharma School and to the adult Ohigan Service. Let's welcome Spring and Rev. Fujii to our church by attending the service.

For your convenience, a Dana envelope has been attached to this Busshin. Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you. ☸

**Nippongo Gakuen News**

BY EUNICE ASHIZAWA

The Gakuen winter trimester began January 12 with an Oshogatsu party immediately following class. Many thanks to **Kathy Terusaki** who orchestrated the day's menu and cooking and our thanks to the Gakuen parents and teachers for their assistance. It was a very delicious luncheon of traditional New Year foods that was enjoyed by 60 students and their families who attended. Thank you, **Kathy!**

The Gakuen would also like to thank **Soumei** and **Etsuko Miyauchi** for their generous monetary gift. It was an honor to have you both join us for our Oshogatsu party.

Classes continue on Saturday's from 9-12pm in the Issei Kaiken building. Please note that in observance of President's Day, there will be no class scheduled for Saturday, February 16. The trimester will end on March 29th. If anyone is interested in joining the classes, please contact **Jon Takagaki** or **Reiko Kataoka**.

The adult hiragana-based classes also continues on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 in the Issei Kaiken building. We continue to search for a romaji-based adult class instructor. If anyone is interested or knows of someone who may be interested, please contact **Jon** or **Reiko**.

Jon Takagaki  
Jon.takagaki@unitedcb.com  
Phone: 510 769-2975

Reiko Kataoka  
Kataoka@berkeley.edu  
Phone: 510 526-0499 ☸



*New members Doris Okano and her son, Alex.*



Newsroom  
OBWA

BY PATTI HISAOKA

Highlights from February meeting:

OBWA wishes to thank the following for their most generous donations:

**Mr. & Mrs. Sam Yoneyama** in memory of daughter-in-law

**Mrs. Sachi Matsui** for donating materials for Onenju Workshop

**Mrs. Jean Kawata** for box of protective coverings for cards

**Mrs. Mary Hiromoto** for origami papers for cards

Thank you to **Mrs. Sachi Matsui** for conducting the Onenju Workshop. Twenty-one members attended and took home their little project.

Thank you to ladies of Toban "B" for delicious otoki lunch. Chirashi and miso shiru was enjoyed by all.

Hondo cleaning on January 11th was done quick since there were many volunteers. Thank you to **Ruby Kuritsubo**, **Chieko Endo**, **Gloria Fujimoto**, **June Masuyama**, **Lou Minamoto**, **Namie Naito** and **Carol Thunen**.

Card making to be held on Friday, March 14th at 10 a.m. The next sale will be held on Hanamatsuri.

Spring Luncheon and Welcome New Members to be held on Sunday, April 20th. Location yet to be decided.

CDs of keynote speakers at the recent FBWA Conference, **Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi** of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and **Rev. Patty Nakai** of the Buddhist Temple of Chicago are available for anyone interested in listening. Please contact **Carol Thunen**.

Next meeting will be Sunday, March 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. ☸

Ashland Howakai  
News

BY YUTAKA KOBORI

**Rev. Seigen Yamaoka** conducted the first family service of the year, Hoonko Service, at the Eden Township Community Center on Sunday evening, January 20, 2008, with **Mrs. Dorothy Yanagi** as Service Chairperson. The service was followed by our usual monthly potluck dinner. The next meeting of our Howakai will be held on February 17, 2008.

Receipt of dana from the following individuals is acknowledged with appreciation:

- Mrs. Matsuye Harada**
- M/M Donald Kaneshige**
- Mrs. Yoshiye Kawabata**
- Mr. Yutaka Kobori**
- Mrs. Ruby Kuritsubo**
- M/M Fred Miyamoto**
- M/M Shig Naito**
- M/M Ben Nakaya**
- Mrs. Sylvia Nomura**
- M/M Dick Sasaki**
- M/M James Tsurui**
- Mrs. Jane Tsushima**
- Mrs. Dorothy Yanagi**
- M/M Shichiro Yokomizo** ☸

**DEADLINE FOR  
APRIL 2008 BUSSHIN  
ARTICLES: March 3<sup>rd</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  
OBWA on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at  
7:30 p.m.**

Momiji Kai News

BY GEORGE YOKOYAMA

Many thanks to **Lou Minamoto** for her thoughtful donation.

The Farewell Funeral and Memorial Service was held for Ray Morishita on 11/27/07. It was a great loss and difficult to believe that Ray had passed since we saw him in good condition at the last Momiji Kai gathering. He was always assisting elderly ladies with their transportation requirements, servicing food delivery services for JASEB and the like.

We are also sad to see our long-time member, **Mrs. Itsuye Tsuchida**, move to Central Calif. area to live with her son.

The latest social/fun activity was at **Fusae Yoshida's** place in Rossmoor Village as most of us had not been exposed to the Rossmoor complex. It is a city within a city, population of about 9,000. An auto tour of 25 minutes was provided by **Fusae** to view the fall foliage of the deciduous trees, two golf courses (one of regulation size), shopping center, theater, swimming pools, many craft and art centers covering jewel making, wood crafts, ceramics, and many recreational and creative shops. After ending the tour, a Japanese box lunch was provided to members which was prepared by a former Yokohama Restaurant chef. Assorted Japanese box lunches are available at Tokyo Fish Market located on San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. After lunch, games and prize drawing were held. **Fusae** was kind enough to explain all the priceless pictures hanging on the wall. The house itself is on a single level dream house for retirees. No stairs or steps both inside and outdoors in the patio area. The furniture was very practical and provided a comfortable/liv-

*Continued on next page*



Momiji Kai News

continued from previous page

able feeling without a formal feeling. Since parking facilities were limited in the residential area, 3 drivers, **Digger Sasaki**, **Ted Tanisaswa** and **Yosh Nakano**, were kind enough to provide transportation. In addition, **Jean Nakazono** and **Sachi Matsui** provided additional transportation. Also, thank you to **Sachi Matsui** for the tree ripened persimmons. Many thanks to **Jean Nakazono** and her committee members for arranging the Rossmoor gathering which we all enjoyed. Thanks to **Fusae** for accommodating us.

Next social gathering is a "Dim Sum" lunch at a near-by Chinese restaurant on 12/6/07. Future bookings include a "Chazuke Lunch" at BCO. Each is required to furnish their own 'chawan.' ❁

## Youth Club News

BY DAVID HIROTA

By the time you read this Busshin, the 2008 Youth Club pancake breakfast will only be a memory of a great meal. The club would like to thank donors Berkeley Bowl, Monterey Market, Fujii Melon, Fair Deal Market, Trader Joe's and West Coast Produce for their continuing generosity. The club would also like to acknowledge **Jensen Wong**, **Laurie Nakaso** and **Vicki Wong** for their hard work organizing the fundraiser. The Youth Club is planning a year end dinner in late March on a date to be announced. Youth Club members who register for the 2008-2009 season at the dinner will receive a special "early bird" registration fee rate. Most of our teams are finishing up their league schedules and are heading off to various post season tournaments. This season we had approximately 90 players 25 of which are church members. ❁

## DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS...

BY JANET UMEZU

On Sunday, January 27, the Dharma School presented a play about the Life of Shinran Shonin. The presentation was a culminating activity of what the students learned about Shinran Shonin's life. Thank you **Maya Lawrence** for organizing the activity.

February's theme will be the Eightfold Noble Path. Stay tune to upcoming activities. Many thank yous to **Lou Minamoto** for gluing the loose the song sheets & sutra, "Gassho to Amida" in the Dharma School Gatha books in the hondo pews. Now there will be no excuse for not being able to sing or chant. ❁

Besides being busy in the classroom, many of the teachers are also on the planning committee for the Federation Dharma School Teachers' Conference to be held in May so have been attending workshop meetings. If anyone is interested in being a moderator, please contact **Maya Lawrence**.

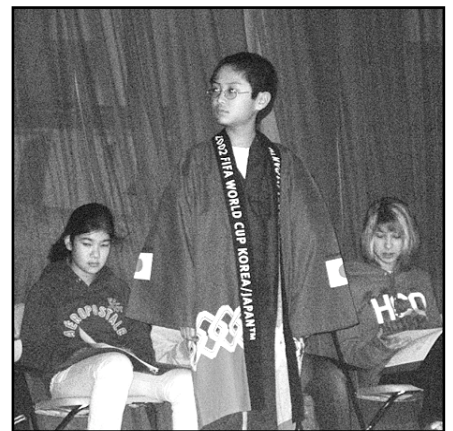
Dharma School would like to thank the following families and individuals for their dana:

**Joseph Costarella-Sumi Shohara** – Ko's birthday

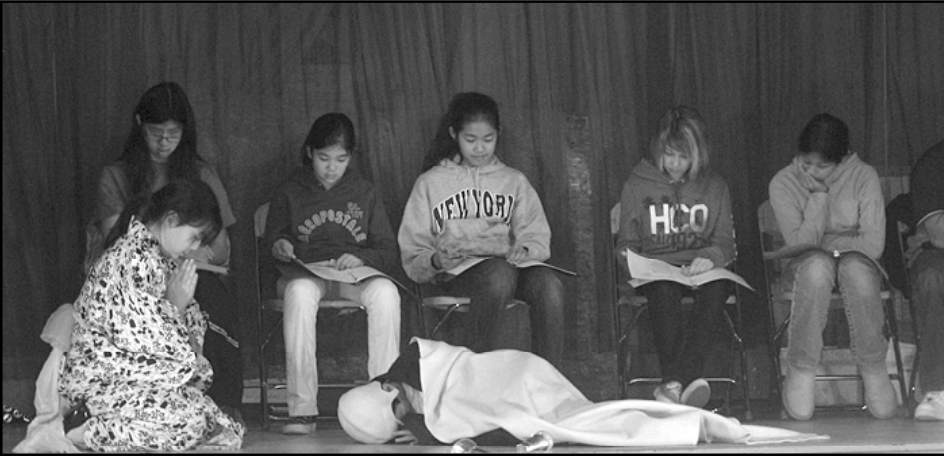
**Daisy Tsujimoto** – Grandsons **Kyle** & **Ryan Wong's** 12th Birthday

**M/M Jensen Wong** – **Ryan** & **Kyle's** 12th Birthday ❁

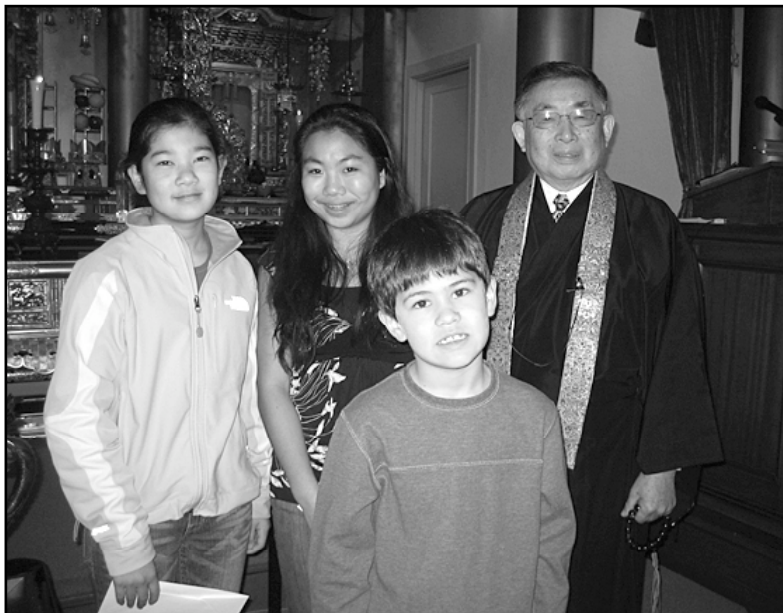
## The Life of Shinran



## The Life of Shinran



## February Birthdays



## Dharma School Collection



The Dharma School is collecting change for the Jodo Shinshu Center. Please donate your change into the water bottle!!!

## OBWA

### Email Call Outs

Would you like to receive your call out information via email instead of telephone? The OBWA is considering testing this form of communication. Members without internet access or who wish to be notified by telephone will still have that option.

If you're interested in receiving Email Call outs, please contact **Carol Thunen** at:

[c.thunen@comcast.net](mailto:c.thunen@comcast.net).

# March Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, March 9, 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 April 13, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Genmatsu Aikawa  
Mrs. Shizuko Aikawa  
Mr. Larry Choi  
Mr. Sadajiro Fujii  
Mr. Motojiro Fukuda  
Mr. Richard Goto  
Mr. Masato Hashimoto  
Mrs. Catherine Fumiko Hata  
Mr. Ryokichi Hayashida  
Mrs. Ayako Hirai  
Mrs. Asano Hirota  
Mr. Tom Honda  
Mr. Edward Tatsuo Hori  
Mr. Jitsuo Horimoto  
Mr. David Hoshide  
Mr. Juntaro Ichikawa  
Mrs. Unoe Inouchi  
Mrs. Kotoku Inouye  
Miss Debra Ishida  
Mrs. Beverly Ishizu  
Mr. Yoshio Isono  
Mr. Sukejiro Kamano  
Mrs. Masame Kanagaki  
Mr. Heiji Kano  
Mr. Tsutomu Kasai  
Mrs. Umeyo Kasai – 17th Year  
Mrs. Fujiyo Kataoka  
Mr. Yohei Kataoka  
Mrs. Su'e Kawabata  
Mrs. Tsuru Kawabata  
Mrs. Hideko Kida  
Miss Martha Kido  
Mr. Jutaro Kubota  
Mr. Umejiro Kuritsubo  
Miss Nancy Kuwahara

Mr. Shigeki Kuwahara  
Rev. Kenyu Masuyama  
Mr. Kojiro Matsui  
Mrs. Tayo Matsui  
Mrs. Hagino Matsuoka – 25th Year  
Mr. Minoru Matsumoto – 17th Year  
Mr. Tarobei Minamidani  
Mrs. Kame Mitsuda  
Mr. Kohei Miyamoto  
Miss Kiyoko Mizuki  
Mr. Masao Mori  
Mr. Yoshimatsu Mori  
Mr. Zeichiro Morimoto  
Mrs. Matsuye Morishita  
Mrs. Tayo Morishita  
Mr. Toshio Murakawa  
Mr. Zenkichi Murakawa  
Rev. Gyosei Nagafuji  
Miss Yoko Nagafuji  
Mrs. Hatsu Nakai  
Mr. Junji Nakashima – 13th Year  
Mr. George Nakatani  
Mrs. Tsuneko Nakatani  
Mr. Yasutaro Nakatani  
Mr. Alexander Negoro – 7th Year  
Mr. Hiroshi Neishi – 7th Year  
Dr. Mitsugi Neishi  
Mr. Kyoichi Nobori  
Mr. Masami Nobori  
Mr. Terashi Nomura  
Mrs. Sueko Norimoto  
Ohata Family  
Mr. Sadao Okai  
Mr. Fujio Okawa  
Mr. Shigenobu Okawachi – 33rd Year

Mr. Joe Okumura  
Mr. Ryuichi Otaguro  
Mr. Baiseki Otsuka  
Mr. Asataro Otsuka  
Mrs. Shigeru Sakaki  
Mr. Kichimatsu Satake  
Mrs. Misao Satake  
Mr. Shokichi Satake  
Mr. Tetsuo Shigaya  
Mr. Zenichi Shimamoto  
Mr. Bennosuke Sugiyama  
Mrs. Shin Takahashi  
Mr. Jeffrey Takagaki  
Mrs. Ishi Takata  
Mrs. Masue Tanaka  
Mr. Suekiyo Tanisawa  
Mrs. Matsuyo Toji  
Mr. Unkichi Toyofuku  
Mrs. Isoko Umeki – 13th Year  
Mr. Sadato Ushijima  
Mr. Jintaro Yamamoto  
Mr. Saikichi Yamamoto  
Mr. Yoshizo Yamamoto  
Mrs. Sono Yamashita  
Mr. Motoichi Yanagi  
Mr. Totaro Yokoi  
Mrs. Tane Yokoi  
Mr. Eisaku Yoshida  
Mrs. Haruno Yoshioka  
Mrs. Tsurue Yoshisato  
Miss Fusako Yuto  
Mrs. Jitsuyo Yuto – 17th Year  
Mrs. Kayoko Yuto



# April 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting	3 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	4	5 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 2:00 p.m. Build Lumbini Garden 6:00 p.m. Ashland Howakai Hanamatsuri
6 10:00 a.m. Hanamatsuri Service	7 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke Busshin Articles Due!	8 7:00 p.m. EBYAL	9 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	10 7:00 p.m. Concord Howakai	11 WYBL Conference	12
13 9:00 a.m. OBWA Meeting 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma & Shotsuki Service. DS Nenju making program WYBL Conference	14 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	15 7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City Ass'n	16	17 7:30 p.m. Busshin Collating by the Youth Club	18 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	19 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
20 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma & Pet Memorial Service 11:30 a.m. Jr YBA Donburi take out lunch sale 12:00 p.m. OBWA Spring Luncheon	21 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	22 7:00 p.m. Youth Club Mtg.	23 7:30 p.m. Bazaar Schedule Meeting	24 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	25	26 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
27 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service	28 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	29	30			



March 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 a.m. Japanese School <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2/29 - 3/2 BCA National Council Mtg</div>
2 9:00 a.m. OBWA Mtg 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service	3 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Busshin Articles Due!</div>	4	5 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting	6 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	7	8 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 10:00 a.m. BD Jr YBA Mtg
9 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma and Shotsuki Service	10 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	11 7:00 p.m. EBYAL Meeting	12 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	13 7:00 p.m. Concord Howakai <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30 p.m. Collate Busshin by OBWA</div>	14	15 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
16 10:00 a.m. Spring Higan 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 10:00 a.m. OBWA Home-Hospital Visitation	19 7:00 p.m. Bazaar Co-ordinating Meeting	20 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	21 10:00 a.m. OBWA Cypress House Project	22 9:00 a.m. Japanese School 7:00 p.m. Family Night Event
23 No Service	24 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	25 7:00 p.m. Youth Club Meeting	26	27	28	29 9:00 a.m. Japanese School
30 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service, Adult Study	31 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke					