



Music and Me

BY REVEREND HARRY GYOKYO BRIDGE

I think that most people are aware now that besides being a minister, I am also a musician. Bass guitar is my main instrument, but I can also play guitar and keyboards a little bit. I used to play in bands in high school, college, and for a while after I graduated, but stopped when I moved to Berkeley to attend the Institute of Buddhist Studies in 1996.

Fortunately, I was able to incorporate music back into my life several years later. I reconnected with my old bandmates for a while, and in 2002 started recording my own original material for the first time. Over the past couple of years I have even begun melding the worlds of music and ministry, which is even more rewarding. One of the most exciting has been performing music with Oakland's Jr. YBA for the Hanamatsuri performances. I've also been playing with **Takashi Miyaji**, aka **DJ TAKA**, after the Gotane service and at the Jr. YBA Volleyball Tournament Dance.

The response for these performances has been very posi-

tive, and I have to admit that I find them to be very exciting myself! It is very fulfilling to be able to incorporate my music into my ministry, and also to try and put a new spin on what the relationship between Buddhism and music can be. This year for the Bay District Jr. YBA Retreat in San Luis Obispo over July 4th weekend, I hope to be able to continue the exploration with our youth.

If you are interested in checking out some of my musical pursuits, go to <http://www.myspace.com/reverendharry> for music and <http://www.youtube.com/gyokyo3> for videos!

In gassho,
Rev. Harry Gyokyo Bridge ❀

President's Musings

BY STEVE TERUSAKI

It's SUMMER! With the wet and cold weather this year, it's hard to believe that we are so close to the summer solstice. But here we are in June, quickly looking at the end

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of the school year with new and exciting challenges for all those who are being promoted, and those receiving diplomas for their hard-earned achievements. Congratulations! **Kathy** and I will soon be looking forward to being “empty nesters.” Our youngest, **Kevin**, is a graduating senior and soon to be a college freshman in suburban Philadelphia. As a parent of a high school senior, the college application and admission process has been painful; I can only empathize with the students who have had to go through this stressful process. I can understand why “senioritis” sets in; although as a parent it is difficult to completely condone this 12th grade syndrome. For the upcoming high school junior and sophomores, one piece of advice: just keep it all in perspective – there is light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel to the college application and college testing process; and yes, there is a great school for each and every one of you.

June, of course means that it's Bazaar time. At the time of this writing, we are in the last gasps of preparation for this annual Father's Day event. By the time you receive this month's Busshin we will be looking back and saying, “I've survived another year!” And in that

same breath, we should also be girding ourselves to tackle our second fete for the summer season, our Obon Festival in 6 weeks on July 31st. The success of our Nikkoland Bazaar is a result of the efforts of all of our dedicated members and the community at-large who come out to support this temple. Thank you to each and every one of you who are part of this effort. I would like to especially acknowledge the efforts of our Bazaar chairperson, **Jon Takagaki**, for successfully coordinating the event. Also, an early thank you to the many chairs, organizers, people behind-the-scenes, volunteers from all of the church's organizations, who will have spent endless hours of preparation and sweat equity to make our annual Bazaar a success. And, it goes without saying that we are extremely grateful to all of our donors who contributed so generously to support this event.

On the Roof Renovation front, thank you to all the donors who have generously contributed to the Campaign. We will publish a full listing of donors who have made contributions through June 30th in next month's Busshin. The Roof Renovation Campaign Pledge/Donation form is

again included in this month's Busshin and for those who have not made a contribution; I encourage you to do so before summer actually begins. The contractor, AWT Construction Group and their subcontractor, Architectural Facades, Ltd. have been on site scoping the project. Architectural Facades recently retrieved several of the existing Roof Dragons to begin the GFRC mold process. We will soon see samples based on these existing wood members to finalize texture and color selection. I also understand that AWT will begin early work on areas that will not impair use of the church. This includes repairing the flat roof over the Little Chapel; and painting the lower portion of the Church building.

In the last few months, the church's apartment building has required more than its share of deferred maintenance expenses. Roof leakages, leaking toilets and faucets, dry rot, seismic improvements to the foundation; apartment upgrades; and the recent main sewer line breakage have kept the Business Committee very busy. Thanks to **Mark Shimamoto**, **Keiju Terada**, the office staff and the church's maintenance engineers for all

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President's Musings
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their efforts to address these multiple unscheduled events. The Business Committee is currently reviewing a new rent surcharge to recoup a portion of these expenses that can be categorized as capital improvements to the building; and is evaluating the rent structure in light of the continuing expenses to maintain the building.

During the summer months, regular Sunday Family Dharma services are on hiatus; however, there are numerous activities and events that continue. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Church Picnic on July 18th; and to Obon odori practices starting the second week in July; and remember the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) seminars and workshops at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley throughout the summer. ❀

TEMPLE TID-BITS

• The rains brought sinkholes to the church garden...thank you to **Makoto Otsuka**, one of the unsung garden volunteers, for filling that big sink hole.

• Many thanks to **Mark Shimamoto** for buying and installing a proper mail slot on the office door.

• Did you know that the Magnificent Seven became nine wonderful volunteers on May 20th? **Tom Yokomizo, Cliff Yokomizo, Al Kanzaki, Don Kaneshige, Dennis Katayama, John Minamoto, Aki Morimoto, Shig Naito,** and **Mark Shimamoto** volunteered to install fire alarm batteries, check the apartment building for further leaks and repairs, and install sprayers in the church kitchen sink, re-key some locks in the apartment building and the Issei Kaikan, paint out graffiti on the church property, and administer some TLC to our church property. Arigato times nine!

• Guess who rocked out with the Bay District Jr. YBA? **Rev. Bridge** and **Taka!** Many thanks to **Robin McGuire** and **Sheila Wakida** from Berkeley Temple who decorated our main hall for the Bay District Jr. YBA dance held here Saturday during the tournament. They transformed the hall into a dance contest and games arcade. A big thank you to Berkeley Jr. YBA parents who hosted the dance at BCO. Thank you **Steve & Lynn Chung** for coordinating the Bay District Volleyball Tournament at Alameda Point over the Memorial Day Weekend. A big shout out to all the

Jr. YBA parents who brought their teens to the tournament and dance!

• The Buddhist Church expresses gratitude to the following volunteers who kept the church open for visitations during the Memorial Day Weekend: **Daisy Tsujimoto, Lou Minamoto, Doris Okano,** and **Tomita Shimamoto.**

• Murphy's Law came into play during the Memorial Day Weekend. The sewer pipe from the apartment building broke Thursday night. When the basement and courtyards flooded, Mr. Rooter came to the rescue Saturday night. The repair and clean-up process will be ongoing. Thank you to **Mark Shimamoto** who made himself available all weekend to verify and coordinate the crews.

• A Guide to Funeral and Memorial Service Procedures booklet is now available in the Church office. Stop by the office and pick one up. If you would prefer to have a copy mailed to you, please call the church at (510) 832-5988 or email your request to bco825@aol.com. Please be sure to provide your name and mailing address. Thank you! ❀

City Recognizes BCO as a Landmark

On May 4, 2010, the Oakland City Council adopted an ordinance to designate the Buddhist Church of Oakland as an Oakland landmark. The landmark designa-

tion reflects the City's recognition of BCO's contributions to Oakland's fascinating history and diverse community. **Joanne** and **Holly** also took a tour of the temple. We could not have successfully worked through the landmark designation process without their advice and guidance. Many thanks to Joanne and Holly!

meetings. **Mark**, we appreciate your efforts!

Now that city landmark designation has been received, the temple plans to research the process to obtain state and national status. ☸



The announcement of BCO attaining status as a landmark destination was made at the Fujimatsuri service on May 16.

At Fujimatsuri, on May 16, two representatives from the City of Oakland, **Joanne Pavlinek** and **Holly Pearson**, attended service and helped us announce the attainment of landmark designation. **Joanne** is a member of the Landmarks Preservation Board with the City and guided us through

cy. **Joanne** and **Holly** also took a tour of the temple. We could not have successfully worked through the landmark designation process without their advice and guidance. Many thanks to Joanne and Holly!

We also would like to thank **Mark Shimamoto**, who initiated the landmark designation process with **Joanne** and spent countless hours in completing the application, preparing presentations, and attending city

Hatsubon

Sunday August 1 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

The Buddhist Church of Oakland expresses deep condolences to the families of the following members who have passed away since 2009 Hatsubon:

Billie Takako Watahara
 Pat Yokomizo
 Yoshio Negi
 Kasumi Toji
 Mary Okamura
 Sachiko Umemoto
 Yukiye Yamamoto
 Misae Murakawa
 Ruri Kitabayashi
 Yosh Maruyama
 Wesley Endo
 Isamu Matsutani

Hatsubon Service will be Sunday, August 1, 2010, at 9:30 am. May the family members find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu.

NamuAmidaButsu. ☸

Bazaar Donors

(Note: this is the donor list at Busshin press time)

Thank you to the following for their generous donations and contributions to the success of our annual Nikkoland Bazaar:

North American Food Distribution Co., Inc.

JFC International

Ybusaki's Dwight Way Nursery

M O C H A (Museum of Children's Art)

Shotgun Players (theater)

Ashkenaz

Sunset View Cemetery

Adachi Florist

Cal Shakes

Grand Lake Theater (Renaissance Rialto Inc)

Children's Fairyland

Nation's Food Service

Dr. John Neishi

Sherry Hirota

Yoshi's Embarcadero

Peet's Coffee & Tea

Ray's Sushi, Inc.

Bette's Oceanview Diner

Dr. Tommy T. Hayashi

Downtown Berkeley YMCA

Bay Area Beverage Co.

Fat Slice of Berkeley

Sue Johnson Custom Lamps & Shades

Brushstrokes

Garibaldi's

Oakland Canyon Swim

School

Oto Bailey Fukumoto & Mishima, Inc.

About Face & Body

Hana Japan

Frank Hashimoto

Kid's in Motion

Kamakura Restaurant

The Natural Grocery

La Mediterranee

Cooperative Cleaning

All in One Fitness ❁

Momiji Kai News

BY NANCY YAMAMOTO

On Thursday, May 20, our **Rev. Bridge** started us with his usual a.m. service. After a brief meeting, **Ms. Patti Hirota** led us with our usual yoga exercises. We are eternally grateful to **Patti** who works hard to see that we all remain as physically fit as is possible.

After our yoga class, we were all ready for the potluck luncheon under the able chairmanship of **Jean Nakazono** and **Chieko Endo**. The food was supplemented by additional chow mein and chicken salad dishes thanks to the Momiji kai treasury.

We were requested by **Mrs. Nakazono** to bring our infant and young teen pictures as we would be playing a, "Who am I" guessing game with prizes

to be awarded. **Fusae Yoshida** won the top prize guessing 7 pictures correctly. There were also three others who tied with 3 names each. We would like to thank our ever personable **Rev. Harry**, who brought several of his infant pictures, for participating in the picture game and also **Steve Terusaki** our Board President for his participation. Also many thanks go to **Jean Nakazono** and **Chieko Endo** for a truly fun luncheon and all the hard work and time expended in putting this event together.

Our long time member **Mrs. Tsuyako Mizusaki** was injured in a fall while gardening at her home sometime in April. She suffered a pelvic fracture but after being hospitalized and into rehab is now recuperating at home. We all wish **Mrs. Mizusaki** a speedy recovery and our thoughts are with you.

Our next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 03, 2010 from 10 a.m. The scheduled meeting for Thursday, June 17, 2010 is being cancelled due to preparations for the upcoming Bazaar. The Thursday, July 01, 2010 gathering will take place from 10 a.m.

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Momiji Kai News
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Plans are being formulated for a visit to Colma, south of San Francisco; Kokoro Assisted Living in the city; and then the all important lunch in Japantown. We would like to visit the Jodo Shinshu center again and other locations of interest at another time.

As usual, we are open and welcome anyone wishing to join us for two days of fun per month. It is great to get out and meet with our friends for a few hours. ❀

**DEADLINE FOR
August 2010 BUSSHIN
ARTICLES: July 1st**

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 **Tomita Shimamoto** at the church office.

BUSSHIN COLLATION by the Dharma School on Saturday, July 17th after service by the Jr. YBA

www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org

Did you know we have a website? Go to www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org!

In today's world of technology, every organization and business has a website on the internet. And, not to be outdone, so does the Buddhist Church of Oakland.

The Buddhist Church of Oakland website can be found at www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org. The BCO website provides a way to communicate quickly and efficiently with our church members and general public.

Visit the BCO website and see information on our resident minister, **Reverend Harry Bridge**. Look at information on the various church organizations, including the Dharma

School, Oakland Buddhist Women's Association, Youth Club, and Nippongo Gakuen. There is an Upcoming Events section that has information on church events and activities. And, the current and past editions of the Busshin are posted so, in case you misplace your mailed Busshin, you can quickly get the latest church news.

So, if you want to confirm your assigned bazaar work shift day and time or if you are talking to someone who asks you for general information about the temple, please refer to www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org. You will be pleasantly surprised and pleased with all the information available on the BCO website! ❀



Fujimatsuri

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS...

By JANET UMEZU

Greetings and I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of their summer break. Dharma School officially had their last class for the 2009-2010 on June 6. It was also a time to reward students who put their best effort in trying to attend Dharma School regularly. Recipients who attended 30 days or more received an attendance pin and certificate. Those who attended 22 – 29 days received Certificate of Merit awards. A

special thank you goes to **Mollie Yoneyama** who each year gets the certificates and pins ordered and prepared. Don't forget, you can get attendance credit during the summer by working at the bazaar, one credit for each day worked, attending the service at the July Church Picnic, dancing in Obon and attending Obon Service on Sunday. Hope we will see you at these events.

Dharma School teachers, the Center for Buddhist Educa-

tion, ABC for Dharma School Teachers seminar will be held August 13-15th at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, CA. Registration fee is \$25.00 for teachers and \$100 for the general public. **Dr. Nobuo Haneda** will be the guest lecturer. It is open to anyone who wants to expand their knowledge on Buddhism, teachers and parents alike. Teachers, if you would like to attend, please contact **Maya Lawrence**. The Dharma School will subsidize the \$25.00 registration fee. Also save August 29th for the BCO Teachers Seminar.



Again happy birthday to our July Babies: **Keiko Masamori, Nicole Masaoka and Jenna Kwong**. Birthday Sunday for them was celebrated on June 6.

To the donors who generously support our Dharma School a very big Thank You. Donors this month are:

M/M Ron Nomura – Kiyomi & Mayumi birthday

M/M David Hara – Hatsu-mairi presentation for grandson **Aiden Hara**.

Everyone please have an enjoyable summer and see you in September. ☸



Ben Morgan celebrates his birthday

**Buddhist Church of Oakland
Roof Renovation Project and Campaign**



My Gift to the Roof Renovation Campaign

I/We would like to pledge to the Roof Renovation Campaign a total of \$ _____ ;

offered over a period of one (1) year, or;

offered over a period of two (2) years.

I/We have enclosed a first pledge payment of \$ _____.

in addition,

I/We have previously made a donation to the Roof Renovation Campaign of \$ _____ ;
this donation is to be included in my/our total pledge.

OR:

I/We are enclosing my/our one-time gift of \$ _____.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

(_____) _____
Telephone

E-mail

PLEASE RETURN TO: BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND
825 Jackson Street
Oakland, CA 94607

July Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, July 11, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Sermon by Reverend Harry Gyokyo Bridge

Family and friends 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 Sunday, August 8, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Jun Ted Ajari	Mrs. Tamae Kawata	Mr. Morris Nomura
Mrs. Umeno Ajari	Mrs. Masako Kayatani	Mr. Hisakusu Ogawa
Mrs. Akiyoshi	Mr. Kiyoshi Kimura	Mrs. Misao Ohara
Mr. Takamichi Akiyoshi	Mr. Hakuichi Kinoshita	Mrs. Konoe Ota
Mr. Carlton Doi	Mrs. Kimiko Kobori	Mrs. Hisae Okemoto
Miss Taeko Endo	Mrs. Shina Kobori	Mr. Kenji Kamana Rossi: 7th Year
Mrs. Kiku Fujii	Mr. Kent Masao Koizumi: 3rd Year	Mrs. Fusa Sato
Mr. Takao Fujii: 33rd Year	Mrs. Hina Maeda	Mr. Genjiro Sato: 50th Year
Mrs. Yasuko Fujimori: 7th Year	Dr. Roger Matoi	Mr. Masao Sato
Rev. Hogen Fujimoto	Mr. Shigeru Matsuda: 33rd Year	Mrs. Masako Shibata
Mr. Hideo Fukuya	Mr. Chikara Matsui	Mrs. Mineko Shigematsu
Mr. Chogoro Harada	Mr. Chosaburo Matsui	Mr. Juhei Takata
Mrs. Take Harada	Mr. Minoru Matsumoto	Mr. Ken Takayama
Mrs. Kiyo Harano	Mr. Gisaburo Matsutani	Mr. Harunori Tamichi: 7th Year
Mr. Yoshinori Hatakeyama	Mr. Isamu Matsutani: 1st Year	Mrs. Fuji Tamori
Mrs. Konoye Hirota	Mrs. Yachiyo Matsutani	Mr. Shigeoki Tanaka
Mr. Yoshito Hiyama	Mrs. Matsuko Minamidani	Mr. Hisayoshi Tanizawa
Mr. Brian Honda: 25th Year	Mr. Arthur Misaki	Mr. Yone Terada
Mrs. Ei Hori	Miss Kieko Mitsuda	Mr. Harold Tsujimoto
Rev. Satoru Hori	Mrs. Yaeno Mizuki	Mrs. Billie Takako Watahara: 1st Year
Mrs. Kishiko Hoshide	Mrs. Haruko Mizushina	Dr. Hisao Wehara
Mr. Kwando Ikeda	Mr. Takichi Motomura	Mr. Kakutarō Yamabe
Mr. Minai Ikeda	Mrs. Itsu Mukuno	Mr. Ichiro Yamamoto
Mrs. Tsukiko Ikeda	Baby Muranishi	Mrs. Katsuyo Yamamoto
Mr. Chuichi Inouchi	Mrs. Mitsuko Nagafuji	Mrs. Miharu Yamamoto
Mr. Kensuke Inouye	Mrs. Ima Nagai	Mrs. Misao Yamamoto
Mr. Sadaichiro Isono	Mrs. Maki Najima	Mr. Shichirouemon Yamamoto
Mr. Katsumi Kaida	Mr. Mokichi Nakagawa	Mrs. Toyo Yamamoto
Mrs. Yasuko Kameyama	Mr. Wakichi Nakai	Mrs. Miyuki Yamasaki
Ms. Aki Kanada	Mr. Tadashi Nakamura	Mrs. Shin Yasuda
Ms. Jean Kanesaki: 7th Year	Mr. Frank Nakao: 7th Year	Mrs. Michie Yokomizo
Mrs. Takeno Kanesaki	Mr. Tsunetaro Nakaya	Mr. Mitsuo Yokomizo
Mrs. Fusayo Kaneshige	Mrs. Yoshi Natsuhara	Mr. Motoemon Yokomizo
Mrs. Sakae Rose Kaneshige: 13th Year	Mrs. Tora Negi	Mr. Giichi Yoshioka
Mr. Toshio Kano	Mrs. Julia Neishi	Mr. George Yoshisato ☸
Mrs. Miyeko Kawabata	Mr. Torao Neishi: 7th Year	
Mr. Glenn Kawamoto	Mr. Hiroshi Noda	
	Mr. Bob Shoichi Nomura	

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	2	3
				Busshin Articles Due	BD Jr YBA SLO Retreat	
4 No Service	5 Office Closed	6	7 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	8	9	10 2:00 p.m. Ikebana
BD Jr YBA SLO Retreat						
11 9:00 a.m. OBWA Meeting 10:00 a.m. Shotsuki Service	12 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	13	14 7:00 Bazaar Critique & Obon Committee Meeting 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	15 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	16	17 Busshin Collated by the Jr YBA
18 10:00 a.m. Church Picnic at Pleasant Hill Park No Service	19 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	20 7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	21	22 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	23	24
25 No Service 9:00 a.m. Church Clean Up 2:00 p.m. Hiroshima Kenjinkai Memorial	26 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	27	28 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	29 7:30-9:00 p.m. Obon Practice	30 7:00 a.m. Obon Preparation: All day	31 3:00-9:00 p.m. Obon Festival

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 a.m. Hatsubon Service 10:00 a.m. Obon Service, Otoki	2 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Busshin Articles Due</div>	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:00 a.m. Shotsuki Service	9 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	10 7:00 p.m. EBYAL Meeting (Boys)	11	12	13	14 2:00 p.m. Ikebana <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Busshin Collated by Jr YBA</div>
15 No Service	16 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	17 7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City	18	19 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai	20	21
22 No Service	23 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	24 7:30 p.m. Youth Club Board Meeting	25 6:00 p.m. Calendar Meeting	26	27	28
29 10:00 a.m. Dharma Teachers' Seminar	30	31				