

Impermanence Springs Eternal

BY REVEREND HARRY GYOKYO BRIDGE

Spring Ohigan reminds us that another year has passed, another winter has ended, and another opportunity has come for us to listen to the Dharma and try and put the teachings into practice. One of these teachings is “impermanence” – not only does nothing last forever, but everything is constantly changing. This is illustrated in the following poem:

“The flowing water never stops, and yet the water never stays the same.”

These are the famous opening lines from the “Hojoki,” by Kamo no Chomei, who lived from 1155-1216 in medieval Japan (the translation is by Yasuhiko Moriguchi and David Jenkins). This is a powerful image, a wonderful illustration of impermanence in action. We normally think of a river as a self-contained object, whether we are looking at it on a map or driving over it in a car or actually sitting on its banks. Every time we look, it appears to be the same river. And yet, the water that comprises

this river is not the same, it is constantly moving, constantly being replenished.

I should point out that the rest of the poem has a bit of a melancholy, if not pessimistic, cast:

“Foam floats upon the pools,
scattering, reforming,
never lingering long.

So it is with man
and all his dwelling places
here on earth.”

This is certainly one aspect of impermanence. In Japan this is often illustrated with the image of the cherry blossoms – in spring they bloom so beautifully, and yet they fall so soon. This melancholy atmosphere can be found in much Japanese art.

But I think that impermanence can also be positive and empowering. Good times and bad times come and go, ebbing and flowing like the tides. Rather than get stuck in attachment, we can try and see things from another perspective, trying as best we can to be the best we can be in this moment under the

Continued on next page

IN THIS ISSUE

Minister's Message	1
Temple Tidbits	2
In Memoriam	2
Roof Campaign Update	2
Evening Dharma Service	3
Appreciation Luncheon	3
Momiji Kai	4
Youth Club News	4
Jr YBA News	4
Dharma School	5
Event Photos	6
Shotsuki Memorial Service	7
Donations	8
Japanese Section	
Calendar	

TEMPLE TID-BITS

SPRING FORWARD! Remember, Spring Ohigan is Sunday, March 13, at 10:00 a.m.. Daylight Savings Time begins early that morning. Set your clocks one hour forward on Saturday night or you will miss the service!

You are cordially invited to the Roof Dedication Service on March 20th at 11:00 a.m. after Family Dharma Service at 10:00 a.m.. Please join us for the Board Appreciation Luncheon which will follow. Thank you all for your support this past year, and many thanks to all the volunteers who keep the wheels of the church well-oiled and running!

RE: CITY OF OAKLAND MARCHATHON March 26-27, 2011

Jackson Street will be closed off and a possible detour at the 580 Jackson St exit like last year. Please allow extra time to attend church events on Saturday and Sunday, March 26-27.

Did you know that the Alameda County Community Food Bank sent a certificate of congratulations to the Buddhist Church of Oakland for donating 451 pounds of food last year? Thank you all for your donations. Let's keep our food donations coming! There is a collection barrel in the entry for donations anytime OR you can put your donations on the table in the Hondo on the first Sunday of each month. Unfortunately, there are many hungry neighbors, especially children, who need our help.

In Memoriam

The Buddhist Church of Oakland extends its deepest condolences to the family of the following members:

Mitsugu Hamanaka
January 13, 2011

Yoshiko Tanisawa
January 21, 2011

Katsuko Yamamoto
January 25, 2011

Tosh Shibata
January 29, 2011

May the family members find comfort and solace in the Nembutsu, Namu amida butsu.

*Minister's Message
Continued from previous page*

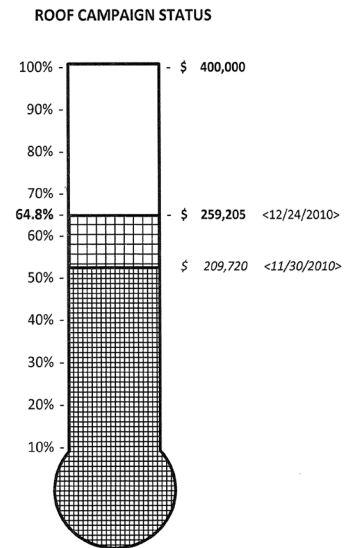
circumstances. Rather than feel trapped, we can try to see things as they are, remembering that all things are impermanent, and at the same time that all things are grasped in the compassion of the Buddha.

So at Ohigan let's renew our dedication to the principles of the Buddha Path – compassion & kindness, impermanence & interdependence – and live our lives to the fullest!

In gassho,
Rev. Harry Gyokyo Bridge ☸

Roof Campaign Update

Data through 12/24/10



We've hit the two-year mark in the Roof Renovation Campaign that was kicked-off at the 2010 Annual General Meeting in February 2010. The Campaign continues into its second year with a goal to raise the remaining \$140,000 of the \$400,000 Campaign goal.

As of the end of 2010, the Campaign has raised \$259,205 or ~65% of its campaign goal. However, member participation is only ~50% which means that as we enter the final year of the Campaign, there are many members who have yet to participate in this important project for the Church.

As noted in the Annual Plan reports, the Roof Renovation has been advanced monies to cover payment to the contractors on the project as expenses incurred have exceeded the monies received to date. These advances include:

- \$29,000 to the Apartment

Fund

- \$75,000 to the Eitaikyo Fund

The \$140,000 which is still outstanding for the Campaign will be used to repay these amounts totaling ~\$105,000.

The Roof Renovation project itself is well within budget; and has been completed on time. We as the Sangha of the Buddhist Church of Oakland now need to generate the monies to complete the Campaign. With that goal met we can “pat ourselves on the back” for a project well-done; and one that will endure for the Church for decades. ❀

New Evening Dharma Service & Discussion

Wed, March 9th 7:00 p.m.

Do you know someone who would like to attend service, but can't make it on a Sunday morning? Or someone who's interested in learning about Buddhist teachings and practices, but the family orientation of the Sunday morning service doesn't suit their needs?

Please invite them to our new evening Dharma Service and Discussion on Wednesday, March 9th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.. This is the first of what will be a regular monthly event held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

Reverend Bridge will conduct a Dharma Service followed by

meditation and a study session/ open discussion. Beginners are welcome – come with your questions! The focus of this first session will be on basic Buddhism.

For more information, please go to our website: www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org. or contact the church office.

* Please note that our monthly evening services are for adults/ young adults – we cannot accommodate children at this time. ❀

BCO Appreciation Luncheon



The BCO Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Sunday, March 20th from 11:45 to 1:30 PM in our church hall. Please plan to join us. Every year the Board is responsible for putting on this luncheon to help the membership express our sincere appreciation to the many people who have made another successful year possible. In addition to those we always honor: Dharma School teachers, altar flower arrangers, office staff, Busshin staff, maintenance engineers, and gardeners there will be some special guests related to the roof campaign and roof work.

This year we are hoping to encourage more of the general membership to participate in the

event. We will honor our guests at the Dharma Service beginning at 10 and also at a luncheon following the service. We are asking all non-guest members as well as Board members to bring a favorite dish to share. It can be a main dish, a salad, a dessert, or any food item that you enjoy eating and think that the guests would like as well. The church will provide some additional food but the intent is to have a church community meal to which we all contribute. Part of the festivities of the day will include some musical entertainment by Rev. Bridge. Don't miss it!

We hope to see you there to say THANK YOU to our Guests of Honor. Please RSVP by March 14 to chairperson Donna Yokomizo so we can plan our numbers accordingly. Thank you.

Donna Yokomizo
dyokomi@comcast.net
(925) 828-6362 ❀

DEADLINE FOR April 2011 BUSSHIN ARTICLES: March 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
Sunday, March 13th by the OBWA

Momiji Kai News

By NANCY YAMAMOTO

A Happy New Year to all!!! Hopefully 2011 will be a more productive year for everyone.

The Momiji kai held its first gathering on Thursday, January 6, 2011 with **Rev. Bridge** opening the day with our first service of the new year.

On Thursday, January 20, 2011, we had our ochazuke luncheon with prizes given to the most attractive and most unique ochawan. **Susan Tanisawa** chaired this contest with **Rev. Bridge**, **Mary Hiromoto** and **Patti Hirota** as judges. **Fusae Yoshida** won the most attractive ochawan and our okusan **Mika** won the most unique prize. Then to change the format, numbers were drawn for the remainder of the prizes. Our **Rev. Bridge** was a winner with an ochawan which belonged to his father, quite unique in its own right. Other winners were: **Terri Isono**, **Iwao Shigemoto**, **Nancy Yamamoto**, **Itsuko Uota** and **May Kleven**.

There were 21 attendees including: **Rev. and Mrs. Bridge**, **Mary Hiromoto**, **Patti Hirota**, **Hisa Kuge**, **Yosh Nakano** and his caregiver. Members brought many varied dishes to go with the rice such as a variation of tsukemono to teriyaki shrimp, shiraae, desserts, etc. It was much fun

and enjoyed by everyone.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 3, 2011 and on Thursday, February 17, 2011, we are planning to hold our New Year's luncheon at a restaurant, which as of this writing the location has not been decided.

All you eligible members please join us in our fun gatherings. We welcome you all. ❀

Youth Club News

By DAVE HIROTA

It's hard to believe but by the time you read this most of our teams will have finished their 2010-2011 basketball seasons. So it's once again time to acknowledge the people who generously donated their time to coach and manage our teams.

This season's coaches were **Sonny Kim**, **Peter Nakaso**, **Phil Li**, **Warren Kurisu**, **Eddie Yokoyama**, **Jon Casey**, **Alex Yu**, **Ken Wong**, **Yas Takata**, **Michelle Yin**, **Courtney Yin**, **Gary Lee**, **Ron Nomura**, **Les Wong**, **Alex Tellez**, **Andy Cho** and **Chris Neishi**.

Team managers were **Cathy Nakamura**, **Susan Tsukayama**, **Joanne Yoshimura**, **Eric Masamori**, **Julie Tsukahira**, **Hollis Chin**, **Tammy Yuen** and **Lianne**

Tsujimoto-Wong.

Youth Club board members included **Yinpo Wong**, **Phil Li**, **Valerie Otsuka**, **Linda Nakamura** and **Hollis Chin**.

As you can see, it takes a lot of help to run a basketball program it really is a group effort. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, thanks again to everyone.

The Youth Club Appreciation Dinner is set for Friday night March 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the main hall at church. ❀

Jr. YBA NEWS

By TAE SHIMAMOTO

Happy Spring! We hope you enjoyed the Jr. YBA Udon lunch on February 13th. The fundraiser was for a new coffee maker for the church and the Roof Renovation Project. We are planning another fundraiser lunch Sunday, April 10th, after Shotsuki service. You are all cordially invited to the lunch: menu to be announced at a later date.

The Jr. YBA parents, **Rev. Bridge**, and the OBWA really work hard to support our projects. Thank you for your guidance and sharing your experience with us. We especially thank the OBWA for their generous year-end gift to the Jr. YBA.

The Bay District Annual Ski Trip was February 5th-6th,

attended by **Ryan & Kyle Wong, Grant Tominaga, Matthew Li, Samantha & Hannah Aisawa, Alex Wilson** and **Yuki Okamura-Wong**. Many thanks to **Lianne Tsujimoto-Wong** and **Tricia Li** for chaperoning, driving, cooking, and everything. Thanks to **Mark & Tomita Shimamoto** for the snacks.

Did I mention that **Lynne Takagaki** and **Paul Noguchi** attended a Youth Advocacy Committee Leadership Summit at the Jodo Shinshu Center January 29-30? February 12th was the San Francisco Bay District meeting, and the next Bay District on Sunday, March 6th will be past tense at this printing. The Bay District Leadership Workshop was March 5th at Concord. Look for details in the next issue of the Busshin. It is quite complicated to write two weeks before an event has taken place and to report the details a month later. I'm in a time warp!

I have signed up to attend the Coast District Young Buddhist League Conference March 12th in Santa Clara at the Marriott Hotel. It looks like I will be representing our Jr. YBA. (My parents promised to go shopping or to a movie while I am at the conference.) Wish me luck! ❀

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS...

By JANET UMEZU

“Buddhism is all about change”....so the saying goes...

The Dharma School has decided to try something different for Family Night. Instead of Family Night in March, we will have Family Day on Sunday, February 27 after a short service. A fun activity has been planned for all ages. All I will say is that it involves white soft stuff with some delectable edibles. Hope you will be able to join us.

Of course, when March starts rolling in, it is time to think about Hanamatsuri. We ask that during the month of March that you have your child attend each Sunday as much as possible, as they begin to rehearse for their performance. Hanamatsuri will be April 3rd. Please let your teacher know if your child will not be in attendance.



More importantly Sunday, March 6 means Birthday Sunday. The Dharma School would like to wish **Kevin Horii, Madison Ikeda, Jordan Kim, Bryant Lee, Matthew Medeiros** and **Kevin Nakaso**, a very Happy Birthday. We hope to see you all

on Birthday Sunday.

The Dharma School also hopes that families will attend the Board Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon after Service on March 20th. It is a good time to recognize and say thank you to all the behind the scenes personnel who generously give of their time to help keep our church running and looking great... from the Maintenance Crew, the gardeners, the people who do the altar flowers, the Dharma School Teachers and office staff, just to name a few. Who knows you might be inspired to volunteer your services as well.

Speaking of appreciation. The Dharma School would like to gratefully acknowledge the following donors:

Pamela Kato-Craig Lang - **Joshua's** birthday

Daisy Tsujimoto - **Ryan's** and **Kyles's** birthday

M/M Kenneth Aisawa - **Samantha's** birthday

M/M Gary Tominaga - **Grant's** birthday

M/M Norman Abrahamson - **Henry's** birthday

Due to the generosity of many, the Dharma School is able to continue to bring the Buddhist teachings to our students. ❀

Recent Events



Church Thank You to Miharu



Youth Minister Assistants

March Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, March 6, 2011 at approximately 10:45 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, April 10, 2011 at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Genmatsu Aikawa	Miss Nancy Kuwahara	Mr. Fujio Okawa
Mrs. Shizuko Aikawa	Mr. Shigeki Kuwahara	Mr. Shigenobu Okawachi
Mr. Larry Choi	Rev. Kenyu Masuyama	Mr. Joe Okumura
Mr. Sadajiro Fujii	Mr. Kojiro Matsui	Mr. Ryuichi Otaguro
Mr. Motojiro Fukuda	Mrs. Tayo Matsui	Mr. Baiseki Otsuka
Mr. Richard Goto	Mrs. Hagino Matsuoka	Mr. Asataro Otsuka
Mr. Masato Hashimoto	Mr. Minoru Matsumoto	Mrs. Shigeru Sakaki
Mrs. Catherine Fumiko Hata	Mr. Tarobei Minamidani	Mr. Kichimatsu Satake
Mr. Ryokichi Hayashida	Mrs. Kame Mitsuda	Mrs. Misao Satake
Mrs. Ayako Hirai	Mr. Kohei Miyamoto	Mr. Shokichi Satake
Mrs. Asano Hirota	Miss Kiyoko Mizuki	Mr. Tetsuo Shigaya
Mr. Tom Honda – 7th year	Mr. Masao Mori	Mr. Zenichi Shimamoto
Mr. Edward Tatsuo Hori	Mr. Yoshimatsu Mori	Mr. Bennosuke Sugiyama
Mr. Jitsuo Horimoto	Mr. Zeichiro Morimoto	Mrs. Shin Takahashi
Mr. David Hoshide	Mrs. Matsuye Morishita	Mr. Jeffrey Takagaki
Mr. Juntaro Ichikawa	Mrs. Tayo Morishita	Mrs. Ishi Takata
Mrs. Shigeko Ide – 3rd year	Mrs. Misao Murakawa – 1st year	Mrs. Masue Tanaka
Mrs. Unoe Inouchi	Mr. Toshio Murakawa	Mr. Suekiyo Tanisawa – 50th year
Mrs. Kotoku Inouye	Mr. Zenkichi Murakawa	Mrs. Matsuyo Toji
Miss Debra Ishida	Rev. Gyosei Nagafuji	Mr. Unkichi Toyofuku
Mrs. Beverly Ishizu	Miss Yoko Nagafuji	Mrs. Isoko Umeki
Mr. Yoshio Isono	Mrs. Hatsu Nakai	Mr. Sadato Ushijima
Mr. Sukejiro Kamano	Mr. Junji Nakashima	Mr. Jintaro Yamamoto
Mrs. Masame Kanagaki	Mr. George Nakatani	Mr. Saikichi Yamamoto
Mr. Heiji Kano	Mrs. Tsuneko Nakatani	Mr. Yoshizo Yamamoto
Mr. Tsutomu Kasai	Mr. Yasutaro Nakatani	Mrs. Yukie Yamamoto – 1st year
Mrs. Umeyo Kasai	Mr. Alexander Negoro	Mrs. Sono Yamashita – 13th year
Mrs. Fujiyo Kataoka	Mrs. Michiko Nehira	Mr. Motoichi Yanagi
Mr. Yohei Kataoka	Mr. Hiroshi Neishi	Mr. Totaro Yokoi
Mrs. Su'e Kawabata	Dr. Mitsugi Neishi – 7th year	Mrs. Tane Yokoi
Mrs. Tsuru Kawabata	Mr. Kyoichi Nobori	Mr. Eisaku Yoshida
Mrs. Hideko Kida	Mr. Masami Nobori	Mrs. Haruno Yoshioka
Miss Martha Kido	Mr. Terashi Nomura	Mrs. Tsurue Yoshisato
Mr. Jutaro Kubota	Mrs. Sueko Norimoto	Miss Fusako Yuto
Mr. Umejiro Kuritsubo	Ohata Family	Mrs. Jitsuyo Yuto
Mrs. Kiyoko Kuwahara	Mr. Sadao Okai	Mrs. Kayoko Yuto

March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Busshin Articles Due	7:00 p.m. Board Meeting	10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen		9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 a.m. OBWA Meeting 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 10:45 a.m. Shotsuki Service	1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	7:00 p.m. EBYAL Meeting	7:00 p.m. NEW Evening Dharma Service/ Discussion	6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen 7:30 p.m. Concord Howakai		9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen 2:00 p.m. Ikebana
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:00 a.m. Spring Ohigan Service Otoki (Toban B) Busshin Collated by the OBWA	10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	7:00 p.m. Fukuoka Sister City	Home/Hospital Visitations Oakland	10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen		9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 11:00 a.m. Roof Dedication 12:30 p.m. BCO Appreciation 6:00 p.m. Ashland Howakai	1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	7:30 p.m. Youth Club Board Meeting	Home/Hospital Visitations 7:00 p.m. Bazaar Coordinating Committee Meeting #1	6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen	6:30 p.m. Youth Club Appreciation Dinner	9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen
27	28	29	30	31		
10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 10:45 a.m. Adult Study	10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke			6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen		

April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen 1:00 p.m. Floral Prep for Hanamatsuri
3 10:00 a.m. Hanamatsuri, Otoki & Program	4 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	5	6 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting	7 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen	8 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Busshin Articles Due</div>	9 9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen 10:00 a.m. Jr YBA Lunch prep 2:00 p.m. Ikebana
9:00 a.m. OBWA Mtg 10 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 10:45 a.m. Shotsuki Service 12:30 p.m. Jr YBA Lunch <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Busshin Collated by the Youth Club</div>	11 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	12 7:30 p.m. EBYAL Meeting	13 7:00 p.m. NEW Evening Dharma Service/ Discussion	14 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen 7:30 p.m. Concord Howakai	15	16 9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen
17 10:00 a.m. Pet Memorial Service 10:45 a.m. Adult Study OBWA Spring Luncheon 6:30 p.m. Ashland Howakai	18 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	19 7:00 p.m. Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Mtg	20 Bazaar Shifts Due	21 10:00 a.m. Momiji Kai 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen	22	23 9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen 1:30 p.m. BDBWL Meeting
24 10:00 a.m. Family Dharma Service 10:45 a.m. Adult Study	25 10:00 a.m. Wanto Shodo Kai 1:00 p.m. Line Dance 7:30 p.m. Karaoke	26	27 7:00 p.m. Bazaar Mtg #2, Obon Coordinating Mtg #1	28 6:30 p.m. Adult Gakuen	29 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">FDSTL Conference, Fresno</div>	30 9:00 a.m. Nippongo Gakuen