



LAST MONTH'S EVENTS

Shigemi Okamoto Memorial

Nembutsu Seminar

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

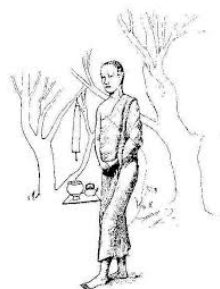


The guest speaker at the seminar was the Rev. Orai Fujikawa. Rev. Fujikawa is Resident Minister at Salinas Buddhist Church in California. Prior to the current assignment, he

served for 40+ years as a Jodo Shinshu minister in Canada – part of the time as the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of Canada. He was born in Miyoshi, Hiroshima, Japan.

SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Relating Buddhist teachings to psychology of the mind: Rev. Fujikawa talked about: a) **shiki**, the uppermost layer of human consciousness, and its five senses from the organs of eyes, ears, nose, tongue, body. b) **nana-shiki** (seventh 'consciousness') or **mana-shiki** – the inner spiritual world. c) **'Alaya consciousness'**: What Siddharta Gautama achieved through deep meditation on that December 8 long ago. d) The deepest layer of consciousness, which Rev. Fujikawa equated with 'enlightenment', Buddha-nature, peace of mind – "from which Namoamidabutsu was born".
- Experiencing three types of meditation: 1) **Seiza**: quiet sitting in meditation; 2) **Nembutsu meditation**: recitation of nembutsu 20 times, slowly; and 3) **Walking meditation**: slow walking.



OHIGAN SERVICE



Rev. Ai Hironaka, MC Earl Zaan, Speaker Rev. Shinkai Murakami

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Tale of *dana*: about a man who came across a homeless man outdoors on a cold, windy day. Having no money to give to that man, the first man held the homeless man's hands to warm him. The giving man in return received great energy from his *dana*.
- Talk about the plight of the early Issei settlers in Hawaii. In spite of hardships, they discovered light from the temples. Their dreams had changed from making fortunes and returning to Japan – to raising their children as best as they could, in Hawaii.
- The concept of "*kokoro no me*" – the ability to see the truth if we open our inner hearts.

SPRING BAZAAR

Although the bazaar is a routine yearly event, it takes a lot of time and labor, thinking and rehashing, and coming up with innovative ways to have it all run smoothly. MAHALO to:

- Folks who worked hard for weeks to plan, prepare for and finally 'stage' the event.
- Donors of time, ingredients, plants, rummage.
- Pre-sale ticket sellers and distributors – especially Bob Kawaguchi.
- Friends and relatives who turn up with big KOKUA every year.
- Bazaar attendees who supported our fundraiser.

SINCERE APOLOGIES to people who had tickets for chow fun, learned that the item was sold out, and accepted substitutes. We messed up, we'll fix it, and we are very sorry.

BAZAAR – Behind the Scenes

Carrot Crew: Doris Fujii , daughter Claire, Megumi Hironaka



Hoken Hironaka shreds carrots.



Daikon Peelers Azusa, Jeanne N., Vivian I.



Konbu Knotters Kazue Z., Emi F., Violet N., Kokoro



Sushi Rice Preppers Sharon N., Kristen N., Barbi O.



Sushi Rollers Jocelyn, Phyllis R., Asaye A.

Nishime Gang: Alan T.,
Neal F., 'Herbie' N.



Andagi Duo: Earl Z., Claire





Mention must be made of the tireless and red-eyed (smoke) Huli Chicken Crew. They labor for hours at the Veterans' Hall grilling the chicken, packaging and packing it up for delivery to church site.

Other 'stars' who contribute much time / labor for the event:

- Mango Crew: Bob Kawaguchi and assistant pickers Alan K. and 'Herbie' N.
- Shoppers & Gatherers of Donated items: Dawn/Derrick F., Neal F., 'Noosh' N.
- Craft ladies who work on Tuesday a.m. year-round and who do 'homework' to get craft goods done.
- Early-Bird Rice Guys Wayne K. and Bobby N. and Gals Shirley T., Violet N., Sharon N., Kristen N.

UPCOMING EVENTS



MAUI UNITED BWA Hospital Visitations and SPRING ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

Bus leaves from LHM 9:00 am.

Lahaina BWA to visit Kahului Hale Makua.

Assembly / Luncheon at Wailuku HM.

11:00 am



West Maui Buddhist Council sponsors:
HANAMATSURI

Host Temple: LAHAINA JODO MISSION
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015

Let's join in fellowship with our "Buddhist cousins" - members of Lahaina Jodo Mission and Lahaina Shingon Mission.



Lahaina Hongwanji BWA sponsors:

ESHINNI – KAKUSHINNI DAY

APRIL 19, 2015 – 9:30 Service

Guest Speaker: Yukari Murakami



MADCC WORKSHOP

What: Medicaid / Medicare

When: **APRIL 30, 2015 – 9:00 am**

Where: Lahaina Hongwanji Temple



NEWS FROM RELATED LINKS

Buddhist Churches of America

WHEEL OF DHARMA

NCM 2015: Dharma-Centered! [direct quote]

"The Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) National Council Meeting for 2015 initiated a format different than in recent years to open up opportunities for workshops and seminars focusing on the Dharma. The day before the meetings, a symposium on Buddhism and Counseling was presented by the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) and the BCA Center for Buddhist Education (CBE)"

Friday and Saturday business meeting time concluded around 2:00 pm each day. Then a "Dharmathon" was held, in which one minister from each of the eight BCA Districts gave a brief dharma talk. Workshops and breakout sessions followed (see photos for details).

Concurrently on Friday evening and Saturday, the Young Leaders Today (YLT), a group of about 13 college and high school aged sangha members, held their activities. These included teambuilding workshops with guidance from Rev. Ryuta Furumoto and Rev. Michael Endo, and a Saturday panel discussion. Nearly 300 people, including 140 delegates, attended the banquet dinner Saturday evening. Entertainment was provided by talented local Sangha members.

The National Council Meeting concluded with an Eitaikyo service held at the beautiful Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Rev. Patricia Usuki, who gave the English Dharma talk, pointed out that hers was the thirteenth of 14 Dharma talks given during the event. Rev. Takata gave the final Dharma talk in Japanese. The 2015 BCA National Council Meeting ended with high hopes for a better organization."

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#### **President's Message: The State of the Buddhist Churches of America**

[ from Dr. Kent Matsuda, BCA President, Enmanji Buddhist Temple ]

[Following is one significant part of Dr. Matsuda's message.]

Last year, the Delano Buddhist Church closed its doors. Being a very small church, I do not think many people were surprised to see that. What may come as a surprise is that there are other churches and temples in the BCA that are having financial difficulties. Some are having a difficult time paying their bills and BCA dues. To that end, the BCA is trying to keep the dues as low as possible; hence, the budget deficit mentioned above. In addition, we are working with churches and temples having financial difficulties. In the end, this may make a significant impact on our budget. This places greater importance on our fundraising efforts. Should any more temples close, our Archives Committee reminds us that they are willing to look at any temple artifacts to see what might be appropriate for the BCA collection at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, in order to preserve the history of our temples.

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#### From **KORIN** – Orange Co. Buddhist Church

1. "Now, we have a functioning Buddhist counseling center, that we call "The Mindfulness Center," and I hope that if any of you feel the need for assistance with an issue in life, that you will not hesitate to call our Mindfulness Center. .... We are still in the early stages of our Mindfulness Center, but I have no doubt about the value and significance of it for the future. The Mindfulness Center and the Buddhist Education Center can work together, hand in hand, in the sense that those who come to learn about Buddhism, who have issues in life, can seek counsel from the Mindfulness Center. The Mindfulness Center, in turn, can encourage those who are dealing with life's issues, to study and learn about Buddhism, as a positive step towards understanding and thus resolving their problems." [Rev. Marvin Harada]

2. "What are we going to do about the deficit? We do not have any immediate changes, but need to explore and analyze options in a number of areas.

- **Income** Festival Income, e.g. food prices increases; Membership dues increases Facility usage fees increase
- **Expenses** Keep scrutinizing expenses

# Streams of Light: Shin Buddhism in America

[ From website: <http://www.streamsoflightmovie.com> ]

## SYNOPSIS:

In 1898, a group of young Japanese immigrants founded the religious association “Soko Bukkyo Seinen-kai” (Trans. “San Francisco Buddhist Youth Association”) Responding to their request, the Nishi Hongwanji Temple in Kyoto, Japan, headquarters of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha school of Buddhism, began to dispatch Japanese priests known as Kaikyoshi to the USA the next year. In the years that followed, a national organization called the Buddhist Mission of North America (BMNA) would take shape, eventually growing to become one of the largest Buddhist organizations in the United States with over 60 temples nationwide.

During the Second World War, Japanese immigrants and their American-born children were designated as enemy aliens and were forced to relocate to internment camps. As a Japanese Buddhist organization, the BMNA also experienced tremendous setbacks during the war years. During the internment, the name of the organization was changed to the “Buddhist Churches of America (BCA)” in 1944, marking the start of a new era in the history of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America.

Over the course of 114 years of BCA history, more than 300 Kaikyoshi priests from Japan have crossed the Pacific Ocean to share the Dharma in the United States. Furthermore, over 70 native-born Americans have received Jodo Shinshu Buddhist ordination, many going on to serve as Kaikyoshi priests.

Many BCA temples continue their long history of Buddhist education for children through Sunday morning Dharma School activities. In order to nurture clergy to lead an American Buddhist organization capable of responding to the pressing issues in American society, a graduate school of Buddhism and Buddhist seminary was founded in Berkeley, California and programs have been developed for training Buddhist chaplains. However, in temple communities where Japanese-Americans form the core of the membership, there are some who continue to express doubts about the potential for Jodo Shinshu Buddhism to be widely propagated beyond its historically ethnic framework in North America.

This documentary film explores the history of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America through archival materials jointly maintained by the Buddhist Churches of America and the Japanese American National Museum (JANM), as well as interviews with priests who are actively serving temples in the United States.

Through the efforts of the Kaikyoshi priests who have served over the past century, we see streams of the Dharma light that illuminates the past, present, and future of the transmission of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America.

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*Produced in cooperation with: Buddhist Churches of America, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Ryukoku University, Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha.*

*DVD now available at the BCA Bookstore: <http://stores.buddhistbookstore.com/Detail.bok?no=3455>*