

August 2023 Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter

Web-Edition

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Guidelines

The Padma welcomes articles from sangha members.

Articles should be around 500-600 words typed. Word documents are best; PDF documents are discouraged.

Please include your name, a title for the article, and include any photos. Cite references if quotes are used.

Articles will be reviewed for content and length, and should contain information relevant to Buddhist teachings, the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, and/or the Buddhist Churches of America. Publication will be at the discretion of the editorial board.

Email submissions to padma@BerkeleyBuddhistTemple.org



August - A Time to Rest!



August is a quiet month at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. There will be a service on August 6th. It will be a Dharma Family and Shotsuki (monthly memorial) for the months of August and September. Then we will take a month-long hiatus, resuming regular services and opening the new Dharma School year on September 10th.

Please take the time to enjoy the long summer days and come back refreshed!

Our Vision

A Community Where Our Spiritual Life and True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission

To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share The Dharma With Others

August 2023

the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMP	LE	212	1 CHANNING WAY,	BERKELEY, CA 9470	04	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family &	7	7:00p Board of	9	10	11	12 Padma Articles Due
Shotsuki Memorial Service		Director's Meeting				r adma Articles Due
No Service	14	Padma Newsletter Production	16	17	18	19
No Service	21	22	23	6:30p Dharmanar	25	20
No Service	28	29	30	31	berkeleybudd info@berkeleyb facebook.com/berl	Femple (510) 841-1356 Ihisttemple.org uddhisttemple.org celeybuddhisttemple eleybuddhisttemple



Dates to Remember

J U	Tue 25 July	Virtual BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Contemplation Sutra)
L Y	Tue 1 Aug	Sign-up Deadline BBT Oakland A's outing/tailgate, Saturday, Sept. 2, against superstar Shohei Ohtani and the Los Angele's Angels!
A U G	Sun 6 Aug	Livestream & In-person Shotsuki Memorial Service (August & September)
U S T	Thu 24 Aug	Virtual BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Amida Sutra)
2 0 2 4	Sat 15 Jun	2024: Save-the-Date Rev. Dr. David Ryoe Matsumoto Tribute & Retirement Celebration Mountain View Buddhist Temple

During this month of rest, consider this contemplation, selected by Edythe Vassall.

Writing in the Sand

I stand on the beach and gaze upon the waves breaking on the shore.

The waves roll in and out at fixed intervals without a moment's pause. The sea rocks itself in nature's cradle. In the whispering voice of the water as it touches the shore, we can hear the stirring of our own hearts.

A sand castle built on the shore is completely engulfed by a wave. It recedes, melting the tower. Soon all signs of the castle have been erased.

Human inspiration, effort, and fame are like letters written continuously in the sand. And all of those, too, will surely disappear. Meanwhile, the waves continue their playful game of washing everything away and no one ever tires of it.



This year's BBT Oakland A's outing/tailgate is Saturday, Sept. 2, against superstar Shohei Ohtani and the Los Angele's Angels!

Tickets are priced at \$24 each for the second deck.

In addition, a parking pass costs \$20 per vehicle — a discount from the regular \$30.

Pre-order Musashi bentos will be available for pickup at the tailgate area. (We are urging a BYOB — Bring Your Own Bottle — policy for the game. The A's do allow plastic water bottles and/or soft drinks into the game.)

Sign-up Deadline is August 1st!

Questions? Contact Jon Kawamoto:



SAVE THE DATE!

Rev. Dr. David Ryoe Matsumoto Tribute & Retirement Celebration

June 15, 2024 II:00 am Tribute Service I2:00 pm Luncheon

> Mountain View Buddhist Temple 574 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View, CA 94043

Join us to celebrate & pay tribute to IBS President, Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto on the occasion of his retirement.



* Registration information to come in the Fall of 2023.



Minister's Message by Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



Always With Us

Obon is an annual event observed at many Japanese Buddhist Temples in July or August. People especially enjoy Obon dancing. I briefly explained the origin of Obon in my Dharma message for the July 9th service. The video of this service is available <u>here</u> on the BBT YouTube channel. (*The Dharma message begins at minute 44*.)

While Obon is a Buddhist observance, it has become deeply connected with Japanese culture. It is an important occasion which Japanese family members and relatives together, like Thanksgiving in the US.

Obon originated from a story in Indian Buddhist scripture. However, as Buddhism spread into China and Japan,

it became associated with ancestor worship. People believed that ancestors who passed away before them come back from hell or the realm of the dead once a year for the 3-4 days of Obon. Many people were farmers in those days, and Obon was observed during the summer break after the busy season of rice planting. Because the agricultural schedule differs from region to region, Obon is celebrated at various times in July or August,.

Have you ever seen these vegetable animals? On the left is an eggplant cow and on the right is a cucumber horse. Those who watch Japanese dramas or who are familiar with the culture may know them. Some people decorate their home altar (Jpn. *Obutsudan*) with them around the Obon season.

People make the cucumber horse with the wish that their ancestors will come back to this world as fast as possible. Once Obon is over the ancestors need to go back to the realm of the dead. The eggplant cow embodies the wish that their ancestors return slowly.



I personally like the cucumber horse and eggplant cow and think they nicely represent the feelings of the surviving family and friends. However, we Jodo Shinshu Buddhists don't need these vegetable animals. This is because, according to the teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, our ancestors and loved ones who passed away are always with us. They don't just come back once a year for a few days.

Jodo Shinshu Buddhism teaches us that once a person completes this life with the guidance of Amida Buddha and the recitation of Nembutsu, they will be liberated from the life of suffering in samsara and attain Buddhahood in the realm of nirvana. This person, however, won't stay there, but will return to embrace their loved ones, who are still suffering in this samsara, and guide them toward liberation and the attainment of Buddhahood. In other words, our ancestors and loved ones who passed away before us are always with us. We are in their constant embrace

and guidance. Therefore, in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition, Obon is an occasion for our family members get together and appreciate what the guidance we have received from our those who have passed away before us, and especially our encounter with the Buddha Dharma.

In gassho (palms together), Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



"Right Speech: When Disagreement Becomes Unavoidable" by Diane Ames

"I'm worried about your Great-Aunt Henrietta," said Chicken Little's mother over the phone. "She's sick and has Covid symptoms, but she refuses to be tested for Covid. She wants so much to believe that Covid is over that she hasn't gotten her boosters. And at her age, with her health problems ,,,"

"She's at high risk of severe Covid," agreed Chicken Little. "I'll try talking to her. Give her the phone."

"So now the family Covid alarmist is all worked up about my cold too!" said Henrietta. "You're just like your father, may he rest in peace."



"Dad proved to be right about the avian flu," sighed Little. "It is fatal to birds, including Dad. But as for Covid, cases are down, but it won't ever go away. Everyone with Covid symptoms should be tested for it, especially if they're at high risk of severe Covid like you. If you have it, Paxlovid, taken promptly, can keep you out of the ICU."

"And how do you know this, Mr. Know-It-All?"

"I listen to the weekly Covid podcasts of Dr. John Swartzberg, Professor Emeritus of Infectious Diseases at UC Berkeley." (https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/kpfa-corona-calls/id1679702963)

"In my day, youngsters listened to their elders! I helped to hatch you!"

Little took a deep breath. "Yes, you did. We love you, Aunt, and we're worried about you. The home test won't hurt, and we'll have results in fifteen minutes."

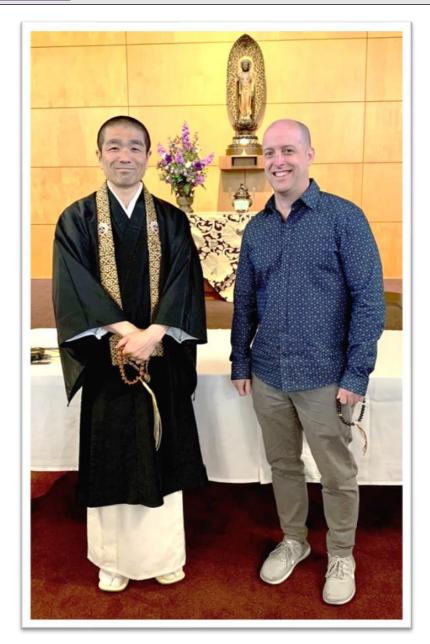
"Oh, all right, if it will make you feel better!"

(Fifteen minutes later) "SQUAWK! GET ME PAXLOVID!"

Buddhist moral: When disagreement becomes unavoidable, try to stay calm and reasonable and to consider the other person's feelings.



Temple News



The BBT welcomed former Sangha member and MA John Mullins back for the June 18th service. John was attending the summer Tokudo prep classes at the BCA's Jodo Shinshu Center for admission into Tokudo training in Japan in December. John now makes his home in the Las Vegas, Nevada, area, where he attends and is active with the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha. (Courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)



Dr. Scott Mitchell, 1BS Dean of Students, and Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto, IBS President.

On June 18th, the BBT was treated to a special appearance by IBS Dean of Students Dr. Scott Mitchell and IBS President Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto, a former minister at BBT. Dean Mitchell gave a presentation on his new and critically acclaimed book, "The Making of American Buddhism," and Rev. Dr. Matsumoto moderated the discussion.

Dr. Mitchell's book chronicles the growth of Buddhism in the United States and looks at the history of Japanese American Buddhists. The Berkeley Buddhist Temple was chosen specifically for this presentation because the BBT was -- and is -- at the heart of this story, from its Buddhist beginnings and growth before World War II, through the dark period of the mass detention camps during the war, and the challenges of the post-WWII years.

In his book, Dr. Mitchell mentions the iconic "Berkeley Bussei" magazine published from 1939 to 1960, and details the behind-the-scenes work and contributions of well-known Berkeley figures like the late Rev. Kanmo Imamura and his wife, Jane Imamura, and Jane's mother, Mrs. Shinobu Matsuura. Mrs. Matsuura was the one who carried the Amida Buddha figure gracing the BBT Hondo from Japan in the 1950s.

(Photo and article courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)



Dharma School Newsletter

August 2023

It's Our Summer Break!



Berkeley Buddhist Temple Dharma School classes do not meet during our summer break. We look forward to seeing everyone at when Dharma School classes resume on September 10th, the beginning of the 2023-24 school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Uyeda, the Dharma School Superintendent, at: bbtdharmaschool@gmail.com.



BCA & CBE Announcements

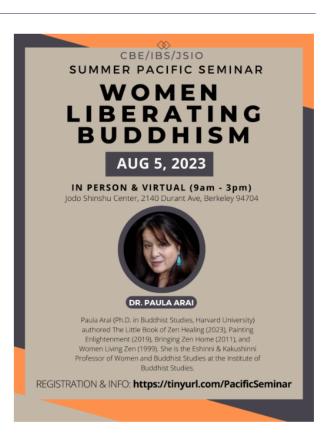
Women Liberating Buddhism

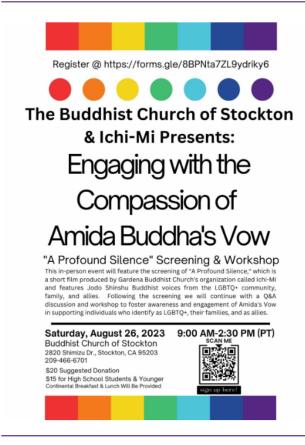
August 5, 2023 9:00am - 3:00pm

Paula Arai (Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies, Harvard University) authored *The Little Book of Zen Healing* (2023), *Painting Enlightenment* (2019), *Bringing Zen Home* (2011), and *Women Living Zen* (1999). She is the Eshinni & Kakushinni Professor of Women and Buddhist Studies at the Institute of Buddhist Studies.

Register Here







Engaging With the Compassion of Amida Buddha's Vow - "A Profound Silence" Screening & Workshop

August 26, 2023 9:00am - 2:30pm

An in-person event that will feature a screening of "A Profound Silence"

Register Here



Community Announcements

Twenty-First Annual Bay Area

JAPANESE PEACE LANTERN CEREMONY



Saturday evening, Aug. 5, 2023 in Berkeley (register for location & details)

August 6th and 9th are the 78th anniversaries of the world's first atomic bombings. In Japan and around the world, people will gather in early August to float lanterns in remembrance of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, all victims of war, and all who have gone before us. This moving and beautiful tradition provides a chance to reaffirm our commitment to building a better future.

4:15-6:30 p.m. Set-up (volunteers needed)

6:30 p.m. Decorate lantern shades
7 p.m. Program
8 p.m. Lanterns floated on the water

9-10 p.m. Take-down (volunteers needed)

Attendance is limited. Sign up to reserve your spot: www.PeaceLanterns.org/register

The Peace Lantern Ceremony is a volunteer-created event.

Sign Up Online, E-mail, or Call — check ✓ the Volunteer box on the registration page.

www.PeaceLanterns.org/register E-mail: info@peacelanterns.org • Voice Mail: (510) 595-4626



On Saturday August 5 at 2 pm, experience a multi-generational, multi-ethnic event with "Nobuko Miyamoto's 120,000 Stories." As part of JCCCNC's 50th Anniversary Celebration, Nobuko and her team of musicians use video images and song to take you on a journey that starts with her immigrant grandparents from Japan, Nobuko's own incarceration at Santa Anita during WW2, her career on Broadway and in Hollywood, her social activism as "Chris and Joanne" in the 60s and 70s, her own multiracial family, and the challenges all our families face today.

You can buy tickets at https://www.presidiotheatre.org/show/2023-nobuko-miyamotos-120000-stories/ for this special performance at San Francisco's Presidio Theatre.











COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, August 6, 2023, 9:30 AM

Live Stream: https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for August.

John William Barnes	Arthur Akira Iwata	Yaye Oda
Masao Fukawa	Masako Kami	Fujio Okano
Raymond Katsumi Fukunaga	Hiroshi Charles Kaneko	Shizuye Okubo
Fuyu Furukawa	Kimiko Kaneko	Yukie Hiramoto Onizuka
Katsujiro Furuzawa	Risuno Kaneshita	Takaaki Sakamoto
Kiyoshi Furuzawa	Soeko Kawamoto	Natsuko Nancy Shimada
Kiroku Furuzawa	Mitsuo Maegoto	Tadao Shiozaki
Yae Furuzawa	Stanley T. Marubayashi	Debbie Noriko Takamoto
Hisao Furuzawa	Hitoshi Marumoto	Shigeo Tanada
Kentaro Ohtsuka Gluck	Kanishi Masui	Lorraine Tokiwa
Misao Hataye	George Shigeru Matsuoka	Kiyono Tominaga
Ralph C. Honda	Eiko Morishige	Suematsu Uemura
Ellen Honda	Saichiro Muramoto	Hyakuzo Yamada
Kazuyoshi Ide	Kiyo Nakagawa	Toshiko Yamamoto
Harry Noboru Ikeda	Michio Andy Nishikado	Kiuzo Yoshinaga
Rev. Kanmo Imamura		·

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, August 6, 2023, 9:30 AM

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE!

Live Stream: https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for *September*.

Toichi Ariyoshi	Donald Yoshiyuki Masubara	Koto Okita
Joycelyn Crumpton	Ted Teruo Mayeda	Keiko Ono-Moores
Masano Fujinaga	Masami Mayeda	Zentaro Ota
Denise Gervais	Misako Miyamoto	Takashi John Sakai
Ai Hamamoto	Sayuri Lily Miyamoto	Gentoku Sakiyama
Kiyoaki Hamamoto	Kimiye Morimoto	Helen Yoshiko Sato
Dr. Lawrence Katsumi Harada	Alice Hanako Murakami	Shizue Shiozaki
Irene Haraguchi	Waseko Nagahisa	Yasuyuki Shiromaru
Takayo Tamura Hiramoto	Hazel Haruko Nakabayashi	Matsu Taketa
Chiyoko Hiramoto	Yonezo Nakagaki	Gihei Tanada
Richard Imazumi	Matahei Nakahara	Tora Tanada
Mary Ishiura	Iku Nakaso	Edward Hideichi Tsukimura
Robert Toshiaki Kaneko	Yoshiko Jean Nakaso	Iyono Wakida
Akio Kino	Mishi Nojima	Sumiko Yamamura
Kazuko Beatrice Kono	Kanki Oda	Hinaye Yokota
Mine Kubo	Gordon Oishi	Otoichi Yoshida
Arthur W. Long	Sozaemon Okita	Tsuruko Yoshida
Haruye Maki		

Note: If there are any additions, corrections, or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at 510-841-1356.

The services will also be live streamed at: https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live



Membership & Toban

Membership Pledges (Receiving Period: 5/5/2023 – 7/7/2023)

The temple would like to gratefully acknowledge the following members for their generous contributions:

Miki Adachi
Vicki & Gene Chin
Noreen Fukumori
Wes Fukumori
Antonia Glenn & Scott Horstein
Ritsuko Ide
Karen Kaldunski & Vernon Kato
Mary Lare

Maya Murashima & Paul Yonemura
Shizuko Okino
Doreen Sakamoto, Bruce Buchholz & Maxwell Buchholz
Rev. Landon Yamaoka
Duane Yamasaki
Yae Yedlosky
Lena & George Yin

We'd like to introduce our new member, Mary Lare. Please give them a walm welcome when you see them at the temple!

If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kagehiro at membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org or 510-841-1356.

TOBAN

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

July 2023	August 2023
Chair - Vicki Chin	Chair - Pat Takeda
Cochair - Gary Oda	Cochair - Carol Akiyama
Cochair - Irene Wells	Cochair - Christina Iwasaki
Chin, Gene & Vicki	Akiyama, Bob & Carol
Chinn, Alfred & Arline	*Daikai, Georgia
*Furuya, Alyce	Griffin, Craig & Linda
Furuya, Suzanne	Kurokawa, Aiko
Kutchins, Albert & Mari Mayeda	Lyon, David & Christina Iwasaki
*Lys, Annette	*Sano, Harold & June
*Mayeno, Art	Takeda, Pat
Nakaso, Judy	Takeda, Sandra
*Oda, Gary	Takeda, Scott
Tokiwa, Yosh & Julia (WA)	Vassall, Edythe (HI)
Wells, Russell & Irene	*Wakayama, Opal
Yamasaki, Duane	*Yamashita, Marrie
*Yamasaki, Sachi	

^{*} Denotes disabled and/or elderly. Toban optional.



Condolences

Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To the Family of Mrs. Toshiko Tsuchitani March 30, 1931 - May 19, 2023

Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu



TSUCHITANI, TOSHIKO passed away on May 19, 2023. Toshiko was born on March 30, 1931 in Nuki, Kitakyushu, Japan, to Rev. Enryo and Mrs. Hana Unno. She was the second of three siblings born at 400-year-old Shojoji temple, followed by two siblings born in the U.S. Toshiko immigrated to the U.S. in 1936 and graduated from Santa Maria High School in 1948. She began adult life in Berkeley in 1948, where she graduated from Armstrong Business College and worked as a legal secretary until 1960, while also serving in the choir at Berkeley Buddhist Temple. Since the mid-70's, Toshiko taught at Concord Buddhist Sunday School and was active at the Japanese American Religious and Cultural Center. In addition to being a devoted mother and loving grandmother, she enjoyed playing bridge and bowled on the Free Spirits team well into her 80s. Toshiko is survived by her husband

Tomomi Tsuchitani, sons Makoto (Lisa) Tsuchitani and Scott Tsuchitani, daughter Mari (Gene) Segimoto, grandchildren Keiko and Evan Segimoto, and Kohei and Akemi Tsuchitani, and siblings Tetsuo Unno, Kazuo Unno, and Yoko Miyagawa. A funeral service was held on June 5, 2023 at Berkeley Buddhist Temple, where Toshiko was given the Buddhist name Shaku Nen Tetsu. Donations can be made in Toshiko's name to the Institute of Buddhist Studies, 2140 Durant Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704.



2023 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

000//00

VE 4 D

<u>YEAR</u>	SERVICE
2022	1 st Year
2021	3 rd Year
2017	7 th Year
2011	13 th Year
2007	17 th Year
1999	25 th Year
1991	33 rd Year
1974	50 th Year
1924	100 th Year

The following is a list of special service years.

If you have a departed relative who has passed away in any of the listed years, and would like to make arrangements for a memorial service, please contact Rev. Kuwahara at (510) 841-1356.

Services and Information

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Services

Our regular Sunday program begins with a Chanting Service at 8:30am followed by a Family Service at 9:30am. A Dharma talk is available after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

Special Services

January 1	Gantan-e	New Year's Day
Service		·
February	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May	Gotan-e	Birthday of Shinran
July	Kangi-e	Obon
September	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin
Memorial		
December	Jodo-e	Bodhi Day
December 31	Joya-e	Year End Service

A Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) Service is held the first Sunday of each month.

Dharma School

Our Dharma School (Sunday School) has classes from preschool through high school. Our teachers are happy to discuss the appropriate level of spiritual enrichment for your student.

Monthly Discussions

In our discussions, we strive to experience the Buddha-Dharma with our entire selves — with our bodies (quiet sitting and other forms of meditation), voices (chanting and other liturgy) and minds (study and discussion).

Our sessions focus on ways in which Buddhist teaching and practice can impact our everyday lives. Each session will take up a different topic and you are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Visitor Information

Please feel free to ask any of our greeters for information. We are here to assist you with whatever level of participation you may be seeking.

Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

Membership Information

Membership is open to all who view the Temple as their spiritual home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

Kindly complete a <u>Membership Form</u>, have your name entered in the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

For more information about becoming a member, visit our



Registration page, or contact our Membership Chair.

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way Berkeley, CA 94704

Office Hours Monday – Friday 10:00am – 1:00pm

510-841-1356

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