



## BUDDHIST CHURCH OF PARLIER

P.O. Box 547 360 Newmark Avenue

Parlier, California 93648

Phone: (559) 646-2844



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DIVERSITY IN ONENESS, ONENESS IN DIVERSITY

June 2012

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## 7th Bishop of BCA - Bishop Ryotai Matsukage

*Rev. Sensho Inouye*

**Bishop Ryotai Matsukage** was the first Bishop of BCA who died in the United States during his tenure of office. The 6 Bishops before him had returned to Japan and died there. **Bishop Matsukage** lost his wife during the war at the Topaz Relocation Center. After the loss of his wife, he was a lonely man. Yet in his loneliness with faith and courage, like many other missionaries, he had dedicated his whole life and energy to the propagation of the teaching of Nembutsu in the United States. Although weak in health, he supervised the organization through one of its most difficult periods.

**Bishop Matsukage** died at the Japanese Hospital in Los Angeles on June 21, 1948, at the age of fifty-eight. On June 28 and 29 in San Francisco, Wake and Funeral Services were held and his ashes were interred at the Colma Cemetery five miles south of San Francisco,

At the 1949 Lay Representatives Meeting in San Francisco, the delegates approved the erection of a monument for the late **Bishop Matsukage**.

With the help of the members of the Placer Buddhist Church and with Muneichi Yamasaki as chairman, a ten-foot long rock was located in the hills of Placer County in Northern California. Hauling the rock was not an easy task, for in the process two trucks broke down.

On February 18, 1951, during the BCA National Council Meeting in San Francisco, the monument was dedicated. On a base four feet in height, the huge ten-foot natural rock stands in majestic awe with the inscription "*Namu Amida Butsu*". The original writing was done by the former **Lord Abbot Kosho Ohtani**.

**Bishop Matsukage's** last message goes as follows:

*"Waga hone wo America no chi ni uzumete zo, Toa ni minori no iyasaki wo nen zu."*

*"Bury my ashes in the soil of America, and into eternity may the Dharma prosper."*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*The Buddhist Church of Parlier would like to extend our appreciation to the following for their generous donations*

### TEMPLE

Okubo Family	Memorial for Tom Okubo .....	\$100.00
Mrs. Janet Takata	Memorial for Shinayo Takata .....	\$25.00
Mrs. Janet Takata	Memorial for Henry & Aiko Tanouye.....	\$25.00

### DONATIONS BY ISSEI MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND MEMBERS:

Mr. Frank Yokoyama \$250.00

### MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Ms. Akiko Yorizane

### DONATIONS FOR MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE:

Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Doi.....	\$20.00	Mrs. Jean Kobashi .....	\$20.00
Mrs. Kimiyo Doi.....	\$20.00	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Nagare .....	\$25.00
Ms. Gail Hachiya .....	\$20.00	Mrs. Miyo Ohara .....	\$20.00
Mrs. Fusa Ishimaru .....	\$20.00	Mr. Fred Takata.....	\$20.00
Mrs. Hiroko Kimoto.....	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Yoshimoto .....	\$20.00
Mrs. Natsuko Kimura.....	\$20.00	Mr. & Mrs. John Yukawa.....	\$20.00

### HANAMATSURI DONATIONS:

Mrs. Hiroko Kimoto.....	\$20.00	Mr. Kaz Yoshimoto .....	\$20.00
Mrs. Matsuko Suehiro.....	\$20.00		



# Here is the schedule for Obon practice:

*Lindsay Guerra will be teaching.*

## June 18, 21, 25, 28 July 2 & 5



**All practices are Mondays and Thursdays at 7 pm.**

**Everyone will need to bring a towel, kachi kachi, round fan & folding fan.**

*Any questions call Lindsay Guerra at 355-2214 or 896-7327*



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## THOUGHTS FROM THE SANGHA

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*By Curtis Koga*

June seems like a busy time of the year. The school year is ending and there are graduations to celebrate. The fruit harvest season is upon us and all the farmers and anyone who works in farm related businesses are busy. There is Father's Day. Temples start having their Obons at the end of June. Lawns and gardens demand our attention. We have to make sure our air conditioners are working to survive the summer heat. There are summer trips/vacations. Our year is half over and if we haven't been working on our new year's resolution, we better get it in gear. This list can go on forever. In fact, the list for **each** month of the year is long. We always seem to be busy. We never seem to get through our to-do list. Young parents are busy with their children. Everyone is busy with their jobs, businesses, clubs, friends, relatives, hobbies, temple etc. It seems that we somehow equate being busy with being productive. We seem to value being busy. The advice to "*Stop and smell the roses*" is hard to follow when we are so busy. Life seems like a race, but we often lose sight of where we are headed or even the reason for the race. All we know is that we are busy.

I started to wonder how our Buddhism fits into our busy mind set. I've heard various ministers say something to the effect that the past is past and we do not know what will happen in the future. We cannot change the past. We cannot predict the future. We should not obsess over the past or future. We only have control over what is happening now. More accurately, we only have control over how we view and react to what is happening now. Since we are always living in the present, we should be thinking about the present, the here and now. Truly living life is living in the moment. It means being mindful of the moment. It means being appreciative for all that we have. This can include health, family, friends, purpose, shelter, food, the beauty that surrounds us, just being alive, or any number of things. Being mindful of the moment requires us to slow down, at least once in a while. Slowing down allows us to enjoy the present, and enjoy our lives. This is a message that I have heard on more than one occasion and I thought I'd pass it on during this "busy" time of the year.

In Gassho,  
*Curtis Koga*



## BOARD MEETING MAY 14, 2012

By Wes Kubo, *Board Secretary*

The meeting was called to order by **Dennis Ikuta**. Gassho was led by **Rev. Inouye**.

**Members Present:** **Dennis Ikuta, Glenn Yoshimoto, Gail Hachiya, Steve Sasai, Toshie & Yuki Mori, Kaye Kozuki, Cheryl & Curtis Koga, James Goishi, Henry Guerra, Calvin Doi, Rev. Inouye and Wes Kubo.** A quorum was established.

**Minutes:** The April 20th minutes were read. **Henry Guerra** moved to accept the minutes. **Glenn Yoshimoto** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** **Glenn Yoshimoto** went over the Treasurer's report for April

**Steve Sasai** moved to accept the Treasurer's report. **Curtis Koga** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Minister's Report:** **Rev. Inouye** gave the following BCA update. **Rev. Marvin Harada** from Orange County Buddhist Church has been appointed the position of Executive Assistant to the Bishop. He will be in charge of helping temples and churches to start new educational programs. **Mr. Michael Endo**, a Board Member from Buddhist Church of Oakland, has been appointed the position of Secretary to the Office of the Bishop at BCA Headquarters.

**Rev. Inouye** went over the following schedule:

5/16 C.C. Minister's Assoc. Meeting in Fresno at 10 am

5/18 & 5/25 Lectures at the Fowler Library at 7 pm sponsored by the V & P

5/20 Gotan-E Service in Parlier at 10 am

5/28 Memorial Day Cemetary Gravesite Service at Mendocino Cemetary at 8:30 am

6/2 BCA Bishop's Accession Service at S.F. Buddhist Church at 3:30 pm, followed by the Congratulatory & Testimonial Banquet at the Kabuki Hotel at 5 pm.

6/10 Bishop's/Lady Ohtani/Shotsuki Memorial Service at 10 am

6/11 Board Meeting in Parlier at 7 pm

### Committee Reports:

**BWA:** **Kay Kozuki** thanked **Matsuko Suehiro, James Goishi & Yuki Mori** for cooking the tri-tip for the Hanamatsuri luncheon. **Kaye** also thanked those that helped out with the Hanamatsuri service. The new uchishiki was shown at this service. **Upcoming events:** 5/19 church clean up at 8 am, 5/20 Gotan-E service at 10 am, 5/27 assemble flower bouquets for the Memorial cemetary service at 9 am, 6/9 church clean up at 8 am, and 6/10 Bishop/Lady Ohtani Memorial Service at 10 am. The BWA is also planning visits to homebound members in early June.

**Publication:** **Curtis Koga** said a new copy machine was purchased for \$250. It includes a 2 year insurance plan. This replaced a 3 year old copier.

**Finance Report:** **Dennis Ikuta** went over the financial report from the Mutual Fund Store. For the year, our total portfolio is up \$13,697.04 as of 5/14. The portfolio will remain unchanged.

**V & P:** **Calvin Doi** reported the following: 5/18 & 5/25 Lecture Series at the Fowler Library at 7 pm, 6/16 Train trip to Sacramento

(37 people participating).

**Maintenance:** **James Goishi** thanked **Curtis Koga** and **Yuki Mori** for helping with yard work around the church grounds. **James** also discussed the possibility of signing up for an air conditioning maintenance agreement. The a/c units will be serviced and any parts needed will be discounted by 20%. **Steve Sasai** made a motion to sign up with Jack's Refrigeration for a maintenance agreement. **Calvin Doi** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Henry Guerra** moved to accept the Committee Reports. **Curtis Koga** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### Old Business:

**A. Community Picnic Review:** **Jan Koga** organized and donated prizes for the volleyball games. **Curtis Koga** organized and donated prizes for the bocce ball matches. **Leslie & Lindsay Guerra** organized and ran the races. **Tad Kozuki** was instrumental in requesting and picking up the majority of the donations for the raffle. **James Goishi** was in charge of cooking the steaks. Thanks also go out to the other members of our church that helped make our picnic a success again this year!

**B. Hanamatsuri Service Review:** There was a discussion about being better organized during the recent service. There were changes made in the program before the service which resulted in some miscommunication. Any changes in future programs will be discussed by **Rev. Inouye** and the Chairman for that service.

**C.** A "Thank You" note is to be sent to **Tom Yamanaka** for donating tubs, large ice chests, square pans and a butcher knife to the church.

### New Business:

**A. Future Direction of the Church:** The next meeting will be on 6/4 at 7 pm. The financial situation and what to offer prospective new members will be discussed.

**B. Gotan-E Service 5/20 at 10 am**

**C. Obon Service 7/15 at 10 am.** **Rev. Tada** will be the Guest Speaker. **Dennis Ikuta** will be the Chairman. **Obon Dance** will be on 7/22. There was a discussion about cooking the chicken at the bbq pit this year versus individual bbq grills.

**James Goishi** moved to adjourn the the meeting. **Henry Guerra** seconded the motion. The motion passed. Gassho was led by **Rev. Inouye**.

**Next Meeting:** June 11, 2012

**Meeting to Discuss Minister's Job Description:** This meeting with Board members was conducted after the monthly board meeting. At the meeting, the Board outlined what is expected from our presiding minister. A Ministerial Job Description was discussed and a list of guidelines that were previously outlined, were finalized. There was a motion made by **Curtis Koga** to accept the finalized job description. **Calvin Doi** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully - **Wes Kubo, Secretary**



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## BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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By Irene Kozuki, *BWA Newsletter Writer*

It's nice to start our summer season with a few successful tasks behind us and anticipation of some interesting and productive events ahead. We thank **Group 3** for cleaning the church before the Gotan-E and May memorial service and the toban districts for Parlier and Reedley for providing refreshments. At the end of the month we gathered to make bouquets of donated cut flowers for placement at graves in the local cemetery for those who no longer have family in the area and would otherwise not have flowers on Memorial Day. This service project supports a goal to contribute or help without expectation of raising money or any gain. And along those lines, I wonder if you are aware of the thoughtfulness of a church member who waters the living plants that are in the foyer of the church. **Hiroko Kimoto** waters those green plants that are at the entry windows whenever she comes to the church. One could dismiss them as artificial greenery, but over many years **Hiroko** has been dutifully watering them. This is just another task she takes on since she has kindly volunteered to be BWA religious chairman "for as long as I'm able." This entails preparing the obuppan and floral offering for each monthly service. **Hiroko** or **Matsuko Suehiro** provides the osonaye (food offering). It requires dedication to accept these responsibilities for a year, but in **Hiroko's** case, she says she wants to do this and for a long time. I don't know how many years it has already been, and no doubt we have begun to take it for granted that, like the green plants at the entry, it will be taken care of. We thank her with sincere appreciation. We hope that the following gesture of dana will help lessen her responsibilities. **Cheryl Taslin** (nee Goishi) has donated a Flower Card from San Francisco Floral that will provide a small bouquet of flowers monthly for one year. We are hoping to use these for our monthly services. Thank you **Cheryl!**

In June there will be the **Bishops' Memorial-Lady Otani-monthly memorial** on **June 10**.

The toban districts for refreshments are **South 1 and South 2**. **Group 4** will clean the church on **June 9 at 8 AM**. **Cheryl Koga** will provide refreshments for the church board meeting on June 11. One the major projects coming up will be our **Obon food sale** on **July 22**. Please keep the date open because we will need lots of help to prepare and serve the somen and bento, along with all that goes on with the Bon Odori and hosting the participants from other temples. In another gesture of giving, our Tai Chi friend, **Sumi Yoshino**, donated several yukata that are available for wearing (to be returned to the church) for Bon Odori. Don't let not having the traditional attire stop you from participating! There are cotton yukata for boys, girls, and women as well as a few rayon kimono for children. She included kachikachi, obis and sashes, and cotton undergarments. Thank you **Sumi** for your generous donation. I have measured them for sizes and will take them to the Bon Odori practice. Come see them at practice or call me if you are interested. Here's a note to those coming to Tai Chi or thinking about it: because of Medaka no Gakko and the summer heat, we will be holding **Tai Chi class at the Parlier City Park** from **Thursday, June 21**. Beginners are welcome. I hope to incorporate some deep breathing exercises, Qi Gong style, which further enhances energy, balance, and flexibility.

Looking further down the road, we have the Federation of **Buddhist Women Association Conference in San Jose on Oct 12-14, 2012**. Contact **Kaye** for information about the program and registration. Deadline for registering is in July.

I hope the start of these longer days of sunshine provides you with opportunities to do and enjoy more. We always talk about how time passes too quickly and living in the moment. Please look at our church calendar and join us for some personal and spiritual growth.



# MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

The June Shotsuki Service will be in conjunction with the Bishop's and Lady Ohtani Memorial Service on Sunday, June 10, 2012. Families, as well as all members and friends are encouraged to attend.

## JUNE SHOTSUKI

### DECEASED

Mrs. Umeno Arifuku	53 yrs
Mr. Risaku Watanabe	45 yrs
Mr. Tomoichi Takayama	44 yrs
Mr. Shintaro Okino	42 yrs
Mr. Masayuki Okino	15 yrs
Mrs. Yaino Okino	35 yrs
Mr. Sugimatsu Yano	41 yrs
Mr. Nobuta Ebisuda	40 yrs
Mr. Terumi Ogami	32 yrs
Mr. Masaru Okuma	37 yrs
Mr. Kikuji Kimoto	22 yrs
Mr. Tsune Sasa	15 yrs
Mr. Teruo Terry Hiromoto	16 yrs
Mrs. Masa Yoshimoto	17 yrs
Mrs. Takako Kakutani	13 yrs
Mrs. Tsune Kimura	14 yrs
Mr. Tomio Miyakawa	7 yrs
Mr. Tom Tomomitsu Nakamichi - 6/24/08	5 yrs
Mr. Tadashi Kanemoto	3 yrs

### MOURNER

Mrs. Irene T. Kozuki
Mrs. Josie Tsuboi
Mrs. Natsuko Kimura
Mr. Neil Okino
Mr. Neil Okino
Mr. Neil Okino
Mr. Robert Yano
Mrs. Toshiye Nakamichi
Mr. Fred Nagare
Mrs. Haru Okuma
Mrs. Hiroko Kimoto
Mrs. Violet Hiromoto
Mr. Kazumi Yoshimoto
Mr. Johnson Kakutani
Mr. Shizuyo Kimura
Mr. Kelvin Miyakawa
Mrs. Toshiye Nakamichi
Mrs. Takako Kanemoto

2012 is the Memorial Year for those deceased in

2011.....one year Memorial	1996 .....17th year Memorial
2010.....3rd year Memorial	1988 .....25th year Memorial
2006.....7th year Memorial	1980 .....33rd year Memorial
2000.....13th year Memorial	1963 .....50th year Memorial



## CENTRAL CALIFORNIA YOUNG BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION (CCYBA)

By Derek Honda

Jumping in May describes this past month for the CC YBA. Members visited Sky Walk, a arena full of trampolines in Madera, CA. The event proved to be both fun, good exercise and good fellowship for the members. Ask a member for details and pictures This past month we have also installed our new cabinet which as follows:

Co-Presidents: *Megan Mori and Derek Honda*

Activities: *Stacy Matsuura*

Vice-President: *Lindsay Guerra*

Publicity: *Jason Kawasaki*

Treasurer: *Lesley Guerra*

Advisers: *Rev. Rye, Calvin Doi, Christine Yano-Goss*

Secretary: *Shari Matsuura*

Upcoming events include our annual retreat in San Luis Obispo and Obon season.

In gassho,  
Derek Honda

① オカゲサマと言う謙虚な

② アリガトウと言う感謝の

③ シアワセニと願う利他の

④ スミマセンと言う反省の

心

心だし、現代の砂漠にも

オアシスが存在する。

合掌



## DIRECTORY OF OFFICIERS

Minister	Rev. Sensho Inouye .....	834-3175
Church President	Dennis Ikuta .....	638-4962
Vice-President	Toshie Mori.....	638-8614
Secretary	Wes Kubo.....	638-6758
Treasurer	Glenn Yoshimoto .....	897-1811
Maintenance	James Goishi.....	638-5510
Fujinkai Presidents	Kaye Kozuki.....	646-2538
	Gail Hachiya.....	637-0444
Newletter Editors	Curtis Koga .....	638-4669
	Julie Doi.....	896-6354
	Karen Shimizu.....	896-0795
Webmaster	Glenn Nakamichi .....	896-5240
	www.bcparlier.org	

## UPCOMING JULY EVENTS

7	(Sat)	Fresno Obon .....
9	(Mon)	Board Meeting..... 7:00pm
14	(Sat)	Fowler Obon.....
15	(Sun)	Obon Service, Rev. Tada .....
21	(Sat)	Visalia Obon .....
22	(Sun)	Parlier Obon.....
28	(Sat)	Reedley Obon .....

## JUNE BUDDHIST RADIO BROADCAST KFIB (AM900) SATURDAY 7:20AM

### JUNE

	<u>English</u>	<u>Japanese</u>
2	Rev. Kurt Rye	Rev. Kakei Nakagawa
9	Rev. Kurt Rye	Rev. Kakei Nakagawa
16	Dr. Don Yoshimura	Rev, Hirohito Sakamoto
23	Rev. Kurt Rye	Rev, Hirohito Sakamoto
30	Dr. Gordon Misaki	Rev. Kakei Nakagawa

**BISHOPS' & LADY OHTANI  
MEMORIAL SERVICE and  
June Monthly Memorial Service  
Sunday, June 10, 2012, at 10:00 A.M.**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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BUDDHIST CHURCH OF PARLIER  
P.O. Box 547  
Parlier, CA 93648  
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DONATIONS FOR THE BUDDHIST RADIO BROADCAST</b> EACH BROADCAST IS \$50.00 If you wish to donate, please contact Rev. Kurt Rye of the Fresno Betsuin.					1  <b>Nat'l Board Mtg. &amp; BCA Bishop's Accession Ceremony &amp; Banquet</b>	2
3	4	5 <b>Fowler Classes:</b> Dharma Class: 1:00pm Sumi: 3:00pm Calligraphy 10am & 5pm	6 <b>Fowler Class:</b> Mah Jong 9:00am	7 <b>Parlier Class</b> Taichi (Parlier Church) 8:00am  Welcome Center 9:15am- 11:30am	8	9  <b>Church Cleanup Omigaki and Group 1</b> 8:00am
10  <b>Bishop's &amp; Lady Ohtani's Memorial &amp; Shotsuki Service</b> 10:00am	11  <b>Parlier Board Meeting</b> 7:00pm	12 <b>Fowler Classes:</b> Dharma Class: 1:00pm Sumi: 3:00pm Calligraphy 10am & 5pm	13 <b>Fowler Class:</b> Mah Jong 9:00am  <b>Curtis Discussion Class</b> 7:00pm	14 <b>Parlier Class</b> Taichi (Parlier Church) 8:00am  Welcome Center 9:15am- 11:30am	15	16  <b>V &amp; P Amtrac Trip to Sacramento</b> 6:50am-10pm
17	18 <b>Parlier Obon Practice</b> 7:00pm  <b>V &amp; P Mtg. in Visalia</b> 7:00pm	19 <b>Fowler Classes:</b> Dharma Class: 1:00pm Sumi: 3:00pm Calligraphy 10am & 5pm	20 <b>Fowler Class:</b> Mah Jong 9:00am  <b>CCMA Mtg. in Fresno</b> 7:00pm	21 (see above) <b>CCDC Mtg. in Fresno - 7pm</b>  <b>Parlier Obon Practice</b> 7:00pm	22	23
24	25  <b>Parlier Obon Practice</b> 7:00pm	26 <b>Fowler Classes:</b> Dharma Class: 1:00pm Sumi: 3:00pm Calligraphy 10am & 5pm	27  <b>Fowler Class:</b> Mah Jong 9:00am	28 <b>Parlier Class</b> Taichi & Welcome Center (see above)  <b>Parlier Obon Practice</b> 7:00pm	29	30
<b>MAY PEACE AND TRANQUILITY PREVAIL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD</b>						