



# 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 of 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 ..... 10:00am |
| 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.**

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF PARLIER  
P.O. Box 547  
Parlier, CA 93648  
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| Sunday   | Monday                             | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday                                       |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------|--|
|  |                                    |  |   |  | 1      | 2  |
| 3  | 4                                  | Fowler Classes: 5<br>Dharma Class: 1:00pm<br>Sumi: 3:00pm<br>Calligraphy 10am & 5pm  | Fowler Class: 6<br>Mah Jong 9:00am                                | Parlier Class 7<br>Taichi (Parlier Church) 8:00am<br>Welcome Center 9:15am-11:30am | 8      | Church Cleanup Omigaki and Group 1 8:00am<br>9 |
| 10<br>Bishop's & Lady Ohtani's Memorial & Shotsuki Service 10:00am | 11<br>Parlier Board Meeting 7:00pm | Fowler Classes: 12<br>Dharma Class: 1:00pm<br>Sumi: 3:00pm<br>Calligraphy 10am & 5pm | Fowler Class: 13<br>Mah Jong 9:00am                               | 14   | 15     | 16   |
| 17   | 18                                 | Fowler Classes: 19<br>Dharma Class: 1:00pm<br>Sumi: 3:00pm<br>Calligraphy 10am & 5pm | Fowler Class: 20<br>Mah Jong 9:00am<br>CCMA Mtg. in Fresno 7:00pm | 21   | 22     | 23   |
| 24   | 25                                 | Fowler Classes: 26<br>Dharma Class: 1:00pm<br>Sumi: 3:00pm<br>Calligraphy 10am & 5pm |   |  |        |  |

**MAY PEACE AND TRANQUILITY PREVAIL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**