May 21 is Shinran Shonin Day. It is also known as *Shuso Gotan-E* (Founder’s Birthday Gathering) or celebrated as *Fujimatsuri* (Wisteria Festival). This year we will observe Shinran’s 835th birthday and I’m sure no one will be baking a birthday cake or bringing balloons to the temple and singing “Happy Birthday.” We are beyond celebration. Rather, our observances have turned into a day of reflection and mindfulness for the gift of awareness of the Onembutsu teaching that he clarified for us so we could truly live in this complex world with relative peace of mind in the light of Ultimate Wisdom and Compassion.

Shinran, unlike many Buddhist teachers of the past, was particularly special due to his extraordinary honesty and humility concerning his personal Onembutsu experience and the way he shared it with ordinary people like you and me. He engaged with anyone and all who would listen. Like Shakyamuni Buddha, who wandered the countryside and marketplaces begging for food for forty-five years, Shinran spent time sharing the Dharma. Shakyamuni and Shinran held no organized ceremonies, rituals, funerals, or fundraisers. They did not meet at temples and were completely free of organized religion. Nor were they attached to any authority but were motivated by their own free will and aspiration. They held no occupation nor did they work for room and board. Instead, they accepted only the gratuities that were offered to them. We can see from Shinran’s passages (See *Shinshu Corner* following this article) that he was dedicated only to the truth of life that helped him identify his own limited human condition and the reality that prevailed over it. This awareness and the ever-present benevolence of Amida Buddha preoccupied Shinran’s life until his death.

Although Shinran was also highly educated and knowledgeable concerning the Buddhist scriptures and practices, he saw that the practicable options for enlightenment available to him at the time were already beyond what ordinary humans could achieve. The only path left to him was that of Onembutsu taught to him by Honen Shonin. He never claimed that his realization of the Onembutsu way was due either to special understandings or secret teachings. Everything Shinran expressed was from his sincere experience, honesty and understanding that awakening can be made possible through attaining true entrusting in Amida Buddha’s Vow.

We can identify with Shinran because his life was no different from ours. As human beings, we trust and follow those who are like us and who have experienced firsthand the similar pain of mistakes and failures as well as the beauty of birth and the sorrow of death. We are often cynically hardened by our misfortunes and experiences and have learned to distance ourselves from those we perceive to be arrogant, selfish, self-serving and opportunistic. We like nice and sincere people and make no room in our lives for others. Although the people we keep at a distance may speak the truth and offer genuine advice, we have conditioned ourselves to say, “No, Thank You.” There is something about sincerity that we can accept while we distance ourselves from those whom we do not feel are trustworthy. Although eight centuries have passed since Shinran encountered the Onembutsu, we can identify with his life and struggles today. Therefore we embrace him wholeheartedly. His words are what we might (cont’d on page 2)
say if we had his faith, humility and sincerity. This is why he is very important to us today. It is his humanity that made him popular to other religious leaders and scholars in the past and today. This is apparent in the popularity of Tan-nisho. Shinran’s spirit and teaching are very much alive and available to us today. We need only to make the effort to take the time from our busy lives to reflect and become mindful of the importance of trying to live authentically, knowing that we are sustained, just the way we are, by Infinite Wisdom and Compassion.

Rev. Fumiaki Usuki
Whenever I read the poetry of Issa it seems that he has two meanings. One is the simple beautiful surface meaning where he delights in the things of this world just as they are giving thanks for being enabled to live a life in this bittersweet human world. But he often seems to have a deeper meaning too, where he points to the truths that his Jodo Shinshu religious training revealed to him. For instance, take this haiku of his:

even poorly planted rice
slowly, slowly
becomes green!

On one level, this is a poem that extols the way rice seedlings struggle to manifest the life force within them, and eventually fulfill their potential by becoming green rice that basks in the sun and waves in the wind. Even when poorly planted by the farmers, they manage to persevere and become rice, achieving their destiny.

But there is another possible reading of this haiku as well. We are the poorly planted rice, with our scant roots of good karma and many obstacles blocking our way to enlightenment. Like a poorly planted rice seedling, the odds are against us. Yet there is a life force stirring within each of us that yearns for the sun of awakening, and with the ever-present help of Other Power, we are slowly, slowly made to ripen into Buddhas. It may take a long time, but we are promised to achieve our destiny of liberation from the problems and attachments of the world. Amida assures that we will all become green rice some day, no matter how poorly planted we may feel ourselves to be.

Issa has a second haiku on green rice that I think completes this thought. Gazing out over the mature rice, he comes to a further realization:

your rice field
my rice field
the same green

The rice doesn’t take heed of who planted it—it just grows and becomes green naturally. Someone else’s rice may seem better than one’s own, or vice versa, but really they’re all the same green and all good together; a lesson worth heeding.

And again, there is something more going on here as well. No matter how poorly planted we may be, we all come out the same green in the end. I may feel that I have a better chance of becoming a Buddha than another person. Maybe I think I am good or feel that someone else is bad because they are different from me or annoy me somehow. Or I may feel the opposite that I am unlikely to ever advance and be better than I am now. But really all of these are mistakes. Other Power embraces the worst and the best, and brings all to become the same green. In the Pure Land there are no differences among people, only mutual support and equal Buddhahood. Poorly planted or not, it makes no difference in the end for we all blossom under the influence of Other Power and become free.

Green rice is a good symbol for the awakened heart. Like green shoots, the trusting heart of shinjin is full of life, always fresh, flexible, and rooted in the Vow power that gives us the stability to be able to bend naturally in the winds of life and right ourselves effortlessly when the wind passes. I know that whenever I pass green rice while walking in Japan, I think of all the causes and conditions that contribute to it fulfilling its purpose, and am thankful for those that support me.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE       Vance Nishimoto

It’s May! And in May we honor two very important people.

The first very important person is our Mother. Mother’s Day Service will be held on May 11, at 9:30 a.m. Everyone should spend this day doing something nice for her, or like in my case, do something to remember her. If it weren’t for her, we wouldn’t be here.

We also observe the birthday of the founder of our Jodo Shinshu sect of Buddhism, Shinran Shonin. Shinran Shonin Day or Gotan-e Service will be held on May 18th, at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Usuki will be our speaker in both English and Japanese.

Also in May, we remember all the people who lived before us. Please take this opportunity to reflect on those who have influenced our lives both directly and indirectly. Memorial Day is on Monday, May 26, with a service at Woodlawn Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. and another service at Inglewood Cemetery at 11:30 a.m.

I want to hear from our temple members regarding anything to improve the West LA Buddhist Temple. Call me at (818) 831-4922 or email me at wlabtpres.vance@verizon.net.

In gassho,
Vance Nishimoto
WLABT President

An Official Statement of the Buddhist Churches of America:

A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE TIBET CONFLICT

As leaders of the Buddhist Churches of America we support the efforts of the Dalai Lama to bring the recent conflicts between the people of Tibet and the Chinese authorities to a non-violent resolution. His stature as an internationally respected religious leader is widely acknowledged. We admire the patience and dedication that he has brought to his role as the societal and spiritual leader of the Tibetan people in maintaining a stance of peaceful diplomacy.

The use of violence in this conflict is unacceptable and we urge the Chinese authorities to quickly find a peaceful resolution. Justice and human rights are not realized through oppression and brutality.

With world attention directed to your country as you host the Olympic Games, we appeal to the Chinese government to demonstrate the character of a world leader that respects the basic rights of all people to live a free and safe existence. The teachings of the Buddha makes us realize that a true society exists where all people are mindful of the universal truth of their interdependence, appreciating things in common while aspiring to a harmony of differences.

Respectfully,
Koshin Ogui, Socho
Bishop BCA

Billy Saeki, President
BCA National Board of Directors
WLJABT MEMBERS ATTEND SEMINAR AT BCA JODO SHINSHU CENTER

Rick Stambul

Late Friday afternoon, March 28, I’m waiting for my flight to Oakland and I’ve got just enough time to buy a cup of joe (read that as a Café Grande, 2 shots, from Starbucks). Umm, tastes good. I’m on my way together with WLJABT temple members, Stig Pedersen and his wife, Joko. Stig and I are fortunate enough to have been selected by the WLA Board to attend the Seminar for Temple Leaders being held at the new Jodo Shinshu Center (the Center) in Berkeley and sponsored by the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) and its director, Rev. Kodo Umezu.

We land in Oakland without incident, grab a shuttle bus to the Bart station, and then on to downtown Berkeley, walking just a few blocks to the Center. We’ve arrived!

There will be almost 20 temple leaders attending from Buddhist temples as close-by as Oakland and as far as Ekoji Buddhist Temple in Virginia. By the end of the seminar on Sunday afternoon, we’re all on a first-name basis and have made friendships/connections that we expect will last. Some have even mentioned a reunion. Somewhere, somehow, a spirit of good will and camaraderie has illuminated us all. Moreover, we find ourselves deeply involved in working together to learn what programs, ideas, and goals are in the works at other temples and to fashion new concepts to enrich both ourselves and our Sangha. And we’re doing all this in an intensive, working weekend using the framework of Shin Buddhism to propel us forward. It’s not easy to meet strangers and then make a sincere effort to drop even a scintilla of our egos at the proverbial doorway so we can cooperate together like old friends with a common purpose. But we did!

Friday evening, Socho Ogui sits down with us to talk. Just talk. We discuss temple issues, problems confronting us as temple worker-bees (also known as temple leaders) and we laugh. Combine the laughter, the frank talk, the agreed-upon goal of being at the Center to learn how to improve our temples, and you have the magic of causes and conditions that move us forward in a very Buddhist way. Right attitude, one might say. After two hours, we’re all ready for bed.

The Jodo Shinshu Center is a special place filled with the essence of the Dharma. We take refuge for the weekend at the Center. Having one place to meet, sleep, eat, work, and most especially, to offer thanks to Amida Buddha and to hold services, is perfect.

In my opinion, these simple, everyday things bind us together in a way that I can’t imagine happening without the Center. Every temple member reading this article should (and is welcome) as a BCA member to visit and stay overnight at the Center. Just contact BCA directly or our own temple office to find out about making such plans.

Saturday morning started early (after Stig’s run through the UC campus after sunrise) with a tour of the center and an opening service. Socho Ogui made an unannounced visit to join us that morning and his presence was appreciated by the entire group (see photo on next page). Rev. David Matsumoto of Berkeley Buddhist Temple presented an Introduction to Buddhism and Shin Buddhism which was informative, erudite, and most appreciated. Thank you, Sensei.

In the early afternoon, Roy Mayhugh, a long-time fellow traveler (35 plus years) from Walnut Creek, a Minister’s Assistant, and a motivational speaker, presented our group with a working, 3-hour, nose to the grindstone session entitled, Creating a Thriving Sangha Together. We broke into two groups to answer the questions, “What have we done well in the past?”; “Where have we stumbled?”; and “What specifically should we do to develop the kind of leadership and temples we want?” We worked for hours, exchanged ideas (which were surprisingly similar), and in that process became friends working together for a common goal. It wasn’t planned that way by us. It just happened.

It is not possible to thank all those who made this weekend a memorable experience for us all. Socho Ogui offered us three parts of himself, his time, his knowledge, and his laughter. Rev. Kodo Umezu was responsible, as Director of CBE, for planning and hosting this wonderful weekend. Thank you both!

Even late on Saturday night, Rev. Umezu talked for hours with some of us about the Dharma, Shinran, Shin Buddhist history, Shinjin, travel,

(continued next page)
friendships, and food. Thank you, Rev. Umezu, for your Dana.

A huge “Thank You” to Judy Kono who tirelessly managed our entire weekend journey and cared for our every need. Special thanks to Brian Nagata and Ken Tanimoto (as well as Rev. Umezu) who helped prepare our meals and provided good cheer in the effort. Robert Noguchi, Fund Raising Manager of the 21st Century Campaign, gave of his time Sunday morning to talk with us about the urgency of the Campaign. And finally, Glenn Kameda, Facility Manager of the Center, presented a valuable talk about ministerial responsibility. More than that, Glenn’s passion about the Center and his engagement with us was a highlight of our last day and most appreciated. Finally, my apologies to those who contributed to the success of the weekend but whose names were inadvertently omitted.

On my way home I rushed to buy and savor another cup of Starbucks coffee, and flew home filled with ideas and newfound friends. Namo Amida Butsu.
BWA NEWS

We are pleased to welcome our newest member, Jacqui Pierce (photo by Mary Hahn). She attended her first BWA meeting in March and is enthusiastic about helping with various BWA activities in support of temple services and events. She has been attending services and participating in Bon odori for many years. You will recognize her by her beret and ever-present smile.

I heard directly from Rev. Usuki that the chira-shi (Ohigan otoki) had very good aji. Credit goes to Yasuko Shohara and Shirley Ito for effectively guiding us through the intricacies of making chirasashi. Shirley will use her hard-earned experience to help Gail Yamanaka with Obon-time chirasashi.

Thank you to Connie Yahata for managing all the March toban duties. She gathered up members for chirasashi preparation, greeted visiting ministers, and handled clean-up refreshments.

A belated thank you to Kayo Ohkawahira and Toban 3 for helping with lunch on February 24, when Rev. John Iwohara and Venice temple members visited. Their salad perfectly complemented the lasagna served by Dharma School.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

As you saw in the April issue of the Bulletin, there were many members including Dharma School students from our neighboring Venice temple who attended our service on February 24. It was nice to see so many of our Dharma friends.

The day ended with a Lasagne Luncheon which I understand was a big hit with the Venice sangha. Thanks to the Dharma School staff and parents for taking care of everything that day. We look forward to our cross-town visit later on this year.

BULLETINS DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

About 65 pieces of the April Bulletin were delivered by e-mail last month. This was our first attempt to use some technology to improve service to our readers, and as expected we encountered some glitches. Some readers did not get their Bulletin, and some received a file they could not open. Once informed of a problem, we have been able to fix it, but we suspect there are some still out there that have problems but haven’t told us about them. By all means, please tell us so we can fix them!

We also suspect there are members out there who use e-mail but haven’t told us their address. If you are one of them, please send it to:

wlabtnews@verizon.net

Bulletins by e-mail allow you to read it in full color, and you receive it much earlier than paper Bulletins. At the same time you save us some postage and printing costs, and some labor of printing, folding, and mailing them.

STANLEY & ALICE IKEDA CELEBRATE

In March, Stanley and Alice Ikeda turned 95 and 92 years young respectively, and have been married 65 years. They are shown here standing behind their birthday cake at the March 80-Plus Luncheon, joined by daughter Irene Hirose for this joyous occasion.

Stanley and Alice, BANZAI!!!
**SPRING OHIGAN SNAPSHOTS**

**REV. KENN KOIZUMI**
Ohigan Japanese Seminar
Minister, Los Angeles Betsuin

**OHIGAN SEMINAR SPEAKERS WITH WIVES**
Left to Right: Dr. Kyung Hee Lee with Rev. Reynold Fujikawa,
Rev. Kenn Ryushin Koizumi with Masayo Koizumi, and Rev. Usuki

**REV. REYNOLD FUJIKAWA**
Ohigan English Seminar

**AT OHIGAN SERVICE**
Vance Nishimoto, Rev. Ensei Nekoda, Rev. Shinji Okada (Japanese speaker), Rev. Reynold Fujikawa (English speaker), Rev. Usuki

**Rev. Okada**, Resident Minister of Pasadena Buddhist Church, will be retiring from the ministry at the end of this year. He has served the Buddhist Churches of Canada and BCA for a total of 44 years. He is gratefully acknowledged for his life of spreading the Buddhadharma.

**Rev. Fujikawa** received his BS degree in mathematics in 1990 at University of Hawaii, and Master of Jodo Shinshu degree in 1997 at IBS. He went on to serve as Associate Minister at Hawaii Betsuin in Honolulu from 1998 to 2003. From 2003 to 2006 Rev. Fujikawa served as Staff Chaplain at the Federal Correctional Complex in Lompoc, California. He is currently enrolled in a doctoral program in clinical psychology in San Francisco.
MAY SHOTSUKI HOYO, 10 a.m., Saturday, May 10, (second Saturday of May)

Fujino, Yoshi
Fukiage, Miyuki
Hayashida, Isekichi
Hirabayashi, Joe
Hisaoka, Denichi
Ige, Takeichi
Ikemiya, Shigeaki
Ishihara, Sue
Iwamoto, Shohei
Kawasaki, Mineko
Kinoshita, Zenzo
Kishi, Sukeichiro
Kitahara, Keikow
Kitahara, Misuko
Koda, Hideo
Masuda, Chie
Masuda, Ishi
Masukawa, Koyono
Masunaga, Taki
Matsumoto, Bob
Miyake, Kinue
Miyasaki, Tetsutaro
Miyata, Fred
Nakamura, Sumiko
Nakamura, Tatsumi
Nakasako, Doreen
Nakashima, Owari
Nakawatase, Reiko
Nishida, Mitoshi
Nishikawa, Harry
Nishimoto, Hisae
Nitta, Satoshi
Nonoguchi, Chiyoi
Ohara, Hideyoshi
Okubo, Tomi
Onami, Tazuko
Oshimo, Takeru
Reva, James
Sakamoto, Tetsui
Sakurai, William
Sasaki, Koyoshi
Sasaki, Seino
Shibata, Yaeko
Shimohira, Ichí
Shintaku, Jun
Soeda, Toshio
Sujishi, Mutsuko
Sunada, Miyaichi
Takade, Yasue
Takayama, Frank
Takazumi, Bunsuke
Takemoto, Yoshihiko
Tanigawa, Yukio
Terada, Fumi
Toguchida, Gono
Tonai, Ichiro
Yamaguchi, Midori
Yasuda, Akira
Yonemori, Yoshiito
Yukawa, Hajime

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

YONEKO TOMA
January 6, 2008

MIYUKI KUWAHARA
October 8, 1946 - March 18, 2008

PACIFIC SEMINAR RETURNS AS PACIFIC SEMINAR 21ST CENTURY

The first Pacific Seminar 21st Century is being offered this coming June 27-29. It revives the Pacific Seminars that were well attended in the 1960's by those seeking a deeper understanding of Buddhism.

The theme for this coming seminar is Honen & Shinran, Pureland Masters Within our Contemporary World. We rarely hear much about Honen Shonin, Shinran’s teacher, to whom Shinran was very devoted, so this seminar promises to be quite interesting. The tentative program is reproduced on the following page.

The seminar will be held at the new BCA JODO SHINSHU CENTER (JSC) in Berkeley. The registration fee is $100, and the deadline for registering is May 30.

The speakers for the seminar include:

- Rev. Kodo Tanaka: Acting Bishop, Jodoshu North America; Minister, Jodoshu North America Buddhist Missions, Los Angeles.
- Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto: Director, Center for Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies at IBS; and Resident Minister of Berkeley Buddhist Temple.
- Dr. Lisa Grumbach, Professor of Buddhist Studies and Japanese Religions at IBS.
- Rev. Kodo Umezu, Director of BCA Center for Buddhist Education at the JSC.
- Rev. Harry Bridge, Resident Minister at Buddhist Temple of Lodi.
Pacific Seminar
Honen and Shinran
June 27-29, 2008
Tentative Program

Friday, June 27
12:00PM - 10:00PM   Optional early arrival and room check in
5:00PM - 7:00PM      Registration
7:00PM - 9:00PM      Honen – His life and writings  Rev. Harry Bridge

Saturday, June 28
7:00AM - 8:00AM      Continental Breakfast
8:00AM - 9:00AM      Amida Kyo chanted in the Jodo Shu style
9:00AM - 10:30AM     The great meeting between Honen and Shinran
                       Historical background of Japanese Buddhism to the
                       Kamakura era.  (IBS Faculty)
11:00AM - 12:30PM    Honen Shonin’s Teachings      Rev. Kodo Tanaka
12:30PM - 1:30PM     Lunch
1:30PM - 2:00PM      Meditation  Socho Koshin Ogui
2:00PM - 3:30PM      Honen Shonin and his Disciples  Rev. David Matsumoto
3:30PM - 4:00PM      Break
4:00PM - 5:00PM      Ojo Rai San
                       Traditional Pure Land chanting of Honen & Shinran’s era
5:00PM - 6:00PM      Social Hour
6:00PM - 7:00PM      Dinner
7:30PM - 9:00PM      Open Forum
                       Rev. Kodo Tanaka, Rev. David Matsumoto, Rev. Kodo Umezu

Sunday, June 29
7:00AM - 8:00AM      Breakfast
8:00AM - 9:00AM      Shoshinge, Wasans on Honen & Dharma Messages
                       Rev. Kodo Tanaka and Rev. Kodo Umezu
9:00AM - 10:30AM     Shinran and his thoughts  Rev. David Matsumoto
10:30AM - 11:30AM    Closing Session – Discussion and Reflections

WLA members are encouraged to attend this revival of the popular Pacific Seminars of the 1960’s. This is a good chance to see your new JODO SHINSHU CENTER in operation firsthand.
Registration forms are available in the Temple Office.
YARD SALE
FUND RAISING EVENT FOR 80+ LUNCH PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ITEMS SUCH AS
MATTRESSES * COMPUTERS * LARGE TVs
CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

Please drop off your contributions at the Temple between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.,
Monday through Friday, or call Masako Ishioka (310) 398-2902.
Drop-Off Deadline – June 6, 2008

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

MARCH 2008 SPECIAL DONATION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

(Donations received after March 31, 2008 and recorded by April 30, 2008 will appear in the June 2008 issue.)

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<td>Funeral services for Katherine Yagura</td>
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<td>Facility use (parking lot)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>Gwen Toma</td>
<td>Donation to Scholarship Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ikebana Class</td>
<td>Facility use (classroom)</td>
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<td>and John</td>
<td>7th year memorial for Robert Cole Pierce</td>
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<td>Obutsudan</td>
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
本願寺 新報

大遠忌特別企画

親鸞聖人は誰なのか？

鏡御影（国宝・西本願寺蔵）

親鸞聖人の姿を描いた代表的なもの。平安末期から鎌倉時代に流行した「鏡絵」特有の緻密な描写によって、聖人の特徴的な面影を描き出し、そのことから「鏡御影」と呼ばれている。
特集 親鸞聖人750回大遠忌

九歳で出家

親鸞聖人は、承安三年（一七七三）に、住職の名は日野文俊、日野氏は、代々儒者と歌道をもつと称し、東京の六角堂にしごもで出家し、鸞師林をもって東京の六角堂に勤め、聖人は九歳の時、天智の親鸞を夢に見たという。聖人は間もなく讃美に参じるため、凍えるように寒い京都にこれを知らせて、音を求めるようとした。

厳しい弾圧

鸞師林は、親鸞聖人の教団は、排他で、あらゆる異端を容認せず、教団の教義を守ることを義務づけていた。しかしその一方で、聖人は、天下の公害を正し、々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々々・・・
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| Office hours: 10 am - 4 pm  
Phone: 310-477-7274  
E-mail: westlabt@verizon.net  
Website: www.wlabt.org | Bulletin folding  
toban: Taiko | 1  
1 pm Study Class (E)  
7:30 pm Taiko | 2 | 3 |
| 4  
9:30 am Service/Study Class (E)  
12 noon BWA mtg | 5  
7:30 pm Temple Board mtg | 6  
Rev. Usuki off | 7  
8  
1 pm Study Class (E)  
7:30 pm Taiko | 9  
7:30 pm SD Council mtg at Venice |
| 11  
9:30 am Mother’s Day Service | 12  
Rev. Usuki off | 13  
10:30 am SD Ministers mtg at Betsuin | 14  
7:30 pm B-Men mtg | 15  
1 pm Study Class (E)  
7:30 pm Taiko | 16 | 17 |
| 18  
9:30 am Gotan-e Service | 19  
12 noon 80 Plus Lunch | 20  
Rev. Usuki off | 21  
22  
1 pm Study Class (E)  
7:30 pm Taiko | 23  
SD Council Golf Tournament at Long Beach | 24 | 25 |
| 25  
Temple Closed | 26  
Memorial Day svcs  
10:00 am Woodlawn  
11:30 am Inglewood | 27  
Rev. Usuki off | 28  
29  
1 pm Study Class (E)  
7:30 pm Taiko | 30 | 31  
Rev. Usuki at Fresno Betsuin 5/31-6/01 |

Temple Closed
### 2008年5月

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>日曜日</th>
<th>月曜日</th>
<th>火曜日</th>
<th>水曜日</th>
<th>木曜日</th>
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オフィス時間：
午前十時 - 午後四時
電話: 310 - 477 - 7274

お手続き

*メモリアルサービス
午前10：00
ゴルフトレーニング
午前11：30
イングリッシュ"*

23日 午前11：30

embrochure

別院 5/31 - 6/1
BONSAI & CYMBIDIUM SHOW

On March 29-30, the BCGA (Bay Cities Gardeners Association) held its annual Bonsai & Cymbidium Show at our Temple. This was the second year the BCGA held its show at our Temple after moving from the Stoner Recreation Center where it had long been an annual highlight event on the Westside.

Not all members of the BCGA are members of the Temple but many of them are, and some are active in the leadership of the organization. The current heads of the Cymbidium Division of the BCGA are Katsumi Murakami and Keisaburo Okamoto, both Temple members, and Shoji Hatanaka. Member Hiroshi Endo headed the Division until his recent retirement from this position. Member Tsukasa Mukai heads the Bonsai group.

One example of the close relationship between BCGA and the Temple is the major cleanup and trimming of the Temple garden before our annual Obon Festival. Members and non-members alike come out in force for this work party. Our garden is well-known and admired in the area, and the pre-Obon facelift helps to display its beauty to maximum effect on Obon visitors.

The photos on this page display only a fraction of the luxuriant beauty at this event.
## Major Temple Services for May 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday, May 11</th>
<th>Sunday, May 18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Mother’s Day Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gotan-E Service</strong></td>
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## Memorial Day Services for May 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, May 26</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Woodlawn Cemetery</strong>: 10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inglewood Cemetery</strong>: 11:30 a.m.</td>
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