

# Guiding Light

July/August 2015

佛心



**TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH**  
*a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

1011 Sheppard Ave West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3H 2T7  
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*how should contented fools of fact envision  
the mystery of freedom? yet, among  
their loud exactitudes of imprecision,  
you'll (silently alighting) and i'll sing  
while at us very deafly a most stares  
colossal hoax of clocks and calendars  
-e. e. cummings*

From the time we are born things are taught to us in a linear fashion. ABC. 123. We learn the order of what comes before and what after. We see that as time passes we change and evolve. Throughout the process of life we come to see that time is perpetually moving forward. What is history is over. In line with this way of thinking Buddhism does certainly say that things are always changing, but the Buddhist concept of time is more spherical than linear.

I recently returned from a trip to France where the concept of time, history, and place made me think about what is and is not “past”. As we were walking on the cobblestone streets, admiring beautiful architecture and learning about what significant historical events occurred in each location I was a little shocked that...not only do these buildings look the same as they did many years ago, but people are still living in them. Initially I would romantically caress the side of a building of historical significance as though I could somehow absorb some of the historical significance. Then I started to notice other things...the volume of the television leaking out the window, the sound of the children playing behind the doors, business men and women going on about their day walking in and out of these historical places as if they had no special significance at all. It made me a little uncomfortable (and probably the people living there would find me a bit odd touching their home).

As we were witnessing these people going about their daily lives in what is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, I commented to my companion, “Don’t these people realize how precious this history is? They just live here like it’s no big deal.” I guess I was worried they would eventually cause damage so future generations could not appreciate the beauty; so that future generations could not witness these precious places. Then I started to question my own thinking. I started to think about the Buddhist concept of time.

If you read philosophers from the different schools of Buddhism, they each have their own way of stating the movement of time. Some describe it as something like a map and we move from location to location all over the map, while in our movements adding to the landscape. Some see it as a cognitive convention that is dependent on your own experience. But most that I have encountered do not describe it as moving in a straight line.

Perhaps a simple way of understanding this might be to look at your relationship to your ancestors. We see them as coming before us, but how often do we think about how they are living on through us? The future is one thing that cannot be predicted because there are so many mitigating circumstances outside the realm of our control. However, our actions change the future. Our actions become the future. Infinite potential lies inside of every being, and in that potential lies the future. The future of your family is alive in you. Time doesn’t pass, but is an attempt to measure change doesn’t pass, but is an attempt to measure change.

The people living in these historical buildings I had the pleasure to visit were not living beyond history, but amongst it. Because it was something we could visualize it was understandable. This very same convergence or perhaps fluidity of time is happening with each one of us. It may be easier for us to think of ourselves in the singular, but that could not be farther from the truth. Namo Amida Butsu transcends all time, all space, every culture, gender and age. Amida Buddha is the Buddha of Infinite Light and Life. There is not start and there is no finish, and through that we are all unified.

Namo Amida Butsu



## What is a Bodhisattva?

This question was posed to me at our last “Let’s Talk Dharma” discussion group. Reflecting on this, I decided to look deeper into our Jodo Shinshu literature.

From our booklet “Jodo Shinshu A Guide” I found this reference to bodhisattvas on page 90 under “Limitless Life.”

“One aspect of being born in the Pure Land is that it is a terminus for our negative characteristics and resulting karmic suffering. The other aspect, however is that it allows us to attain limitless life and higher wisdom. It enables us to work as a bodhisattva for the benefit of all sentient beings, endlessly into the future.”

“Those who reach the Pure Land of happiness  
Return to this evil world of five defilements,  
Where, like Buddha Sakyamuni,  
They benefit sentient beings without limit.” (CWS, Vol 1, p.329)

So are we to infer that all bodhisattvas are seen by us as positively benefitting sentient beings? My own personal opinion is yes and no.

Yes, bodhisattvas can be seen to return from the Pure Land to benefit us. We see this most clearly at our memorial service, Shotsuki, at the beginning of each month.

They remind us to treasure our loved ones here and now. They remind us to savour each moment of this precious life for it is very short. They remind us to listen and truly hear the Dharma as told by their own lives and as we hear from the Dharma talks by our Ministers. Truly bodhisattvas are here benefitting us.

But no, again in my opinion, they are not always in that form. Consider the story told in the Contemplation Sutra. This was part of a lecture by Dr. Mark Blum to our Ministerial Association in September 2013. He argued that in the Contemplation sutra, Devadatta, a cousin to the Buddha, counselled Prince Ajatasatru to murder his Father, King Bimbisara in order to take the throne. Devadatta was considered by Dr. Blum to be a bodhisattva. Why, because he causes Ajatasatru to confront his evil self. This of course is a very condensed version of part of his lecture but for me, the meaning was that bodhisattvas are not always who we think they may be. They may even be those who cause us pain and suffering.

## OBITUARIES

*The Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the following individuals who have passed away during the past month.*

<i>Mrs. Namiko Akiyama</i>	<i>92 years</i>	<i>June 6, 2015</i>
<i>Mrs. Hifumi Evelyn Sato</i>	<i>90 years</i>	<i>June 6, 2015</i>
<i>Mrs. Katsue Nagamatsu</i>	<i>99 years</i>	<i>June 9, 2015</i>
<i>Mr. Sho Mori</i>	<i>80 years</i>	<i>June 13, 2015</i>
<i>Mrs. Hanako Hanabusa</i>	<i>93 years</i>	<i>June 20, 2015</i>
<i>Mrs. Aya Dorothy Nishijima</i>	<i>96 years</i>	<i>June 27, 2015</i>

For example, the lady in the Dodge Caravan who rear-ended and totalled my Toyota Matrix on the 401 in September 2014, I consider a bodhisattva. Why, because in that moment, I was reminded very forcibly how fragile, how impermanent my life is. I survived and how grateful and how fortunate I feel to be here writing this article for you today. Life is so short, and I for one, am truly embracing every moment of it.

So, yes, bodhisattvas do return from the Pure Land to benefit all sentient beings. We see this every month at Shotsuki. But also yes, bodhisattvas could be people who cause us pain and suffering.

In my opinion, if we choose to see them and if our minds and hearts are open to receive their teachings, bodhisattvas are everywhere.

Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu.

Dennis Madokoro,  
Minister's Assistant

## Special Guest at Obon

Reverend Yuki Sugahara is from Shimane Prefecture located just north of Hiroshima. He is from a temple family called “Korinji” (father’s side) and “Gokurakuji” (mother’s side) in Shimane Prefecture. Because he was born a son of a temple family he was able to receive his Tokudo Ordination in 1996. He was only a freshman in high school at that time. During Reverend Yuki’s junior year in high school he came to the United States and lived in Rochester, New York for a year as a Rotary Club exchange student to pursue his dream of becoming a translator for the United Nations.



Reverend Yuki studied Political Science at the Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto. During that time his mother suddenly passed away and it was shortly after that Reverend Yuki decided to get his Kyoshi Certification which he then received in 2002. In 2009 Reverend Yuki came to the United States to attend the International Ministerial Orientation Program at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, California. Then in July 2011 he was assigned to the Buddhist Church of Florin.

One of Reverend Yuki’s hobbies is playing the bass guitar. After graduating from the university he played in a rock band called Jelly Belly. The members at the Florin Buddhist Church get to enjoy his bass guitar playing on the third Sunday of each month. Reverend Yuki and his wife Namiko have a two year old daughter, Aoi, the cutest baby in the world!

### It's Obon time!

The annual Obon odori festival is Saturday, July 11 at 7:00 pm at the JCCC. Watch the dancers in their colourful kimonos and join them for the audience participation dances.

Saturday, July 11, 2015 7:00 pm Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre 6 Garamond Court

# OBON 2015

## SATURDAY, JULY 11 CEMETERY VISITATION SCHEDULE

### ATTENTION: MANY CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE THIS YEAR

The Obon committee continues to prepare for the 2015 Obon weekend, starting with the cemetery services on Saturday, July 11th. At several cemeteries we have central services, led by one of our two Senseis and this year, our guest speaker, Rev. Yuki Sugahara from Florin, California. Volunteer choshos will attend to the services at the smaller cemeteries. Our thanks also to Jeff Wilson Sensei for leading the services at the western cemeteries.

An important note: In the June issue of the Guiding Light, there was a printing error. Under Toronto Necropolis, it read that Socho Aoki would be met at the entrance by Mrs. Gloria Sumiya and Karuna Sato Fleming. Socho Aoki will NOT be in Toronto for the Obon weekend. Please accept our apologies for this miscommunication.

The Obon Saturday schedule remains unchanged from the June schedule. Rain or shine, we shall meet at the cemeteries to offer our gratitude to Amida Buddha and to show our respect and appreciation to all our families now passed into the Pure Land.

**PLEASE NOTE: This is the weekend of the Pan Am Games. Please take into consideration possible traffic delays when planning your commute.**

### 2015 CEMETERY SCHEDULE

ENDO SENSEI	CENTRAL SERVICE * CENTRAL SERVICE*	PINE HILLS AT 9:30 AM RESTHAVEN AT 11:00 AM **
YUKI SUGAHARA SENSEI (Gloria Sumiya or Karuna Sato Fleming will meet <b>Choshos</b> at the entrance of the cemetery to guide them to the grave sites)		TORONTO NECROPOLIS AT 8:30AM
	CENTRAL SERVICE * CENTRAL SERVICE *	ST. JAMES CEMETERY AT 9:30 AM ** MOUNT PLEASANT FOR <u>10:30 AM **</u>
CHRISTINA YANKO SENSEI	CENTRAL SERVICE* CENTRAL SERVICE*	PROSPECT CEMETERY AT 9:30 ** PARKLAWN CEMETERY AT 11AM
JEFF WILSON SENSEI	CENTRAL SERVICE* CENTRAL SERVICE*	GLEN OAKS AT 9:00 AM SPRING CREEK AT 9:30 AM
DENNIS MADOKORO	CENTRAL SERVICE*	HIGHLAND MEMORY AT 9:30 ELGIN MILLS AT 11:00AM **
MARTIN CARTLEDGE		YORK CEMETERY AT 9:30 AM
JESSIE EBATA		SANCTUARY NORTH END 9:00 ST. PHILIPS AND RIVERSIDE 9:30AM
GEORGE NAKANO		SANCTUARY SOUTH END AT 9:00 AM MEADOWVALE 1PM OR TO BE ARRANGED BY MR. NAKANO
JOHN NISHIKAWA		GLENDALE CEMETERY AT <u>9:30**</u>
PAULINE KNUDE WILL ATTEND		SALEM CEMETERY AT 11AM**

The Obon Committee is grateful to all volunteers who participate and give of their time in our annual Obon tradition. We are dedicated to serving our temple families with appreciation and respect.





## GOMONSHU-SAMA MAKES BRIEF STOP IN TORONTO

On May 27, the 25<sup>th</sup> Hongwanji Head Priest OHTANI Kojun paid our Temple the great honour of making a stop at the Temple on his way to the Women's Federation Convention in Calgary. Gomonsu-sama was accompanied by Bishop Tatsuya Aoki and an entourage from Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. The brief visit was tightly managed from Kyoto, and as a result the

Temple's participation was limited in numbers to the Management Committee and some of the senior members of the Temple. Early in the morning, Gomonsu-sama visited the Hamilton Buddhist Temple. In the afternoon he returned to the Temple to perform a small Sarana Affirmation service and later he enjoyed a pot luck supper which he specially requested. We were privileged to receive a visit from the new Gomonsu-sama, however brief, and we hope on his next visit that he will have the time and opportunity to greet all of our Temple members and friends.

## ARIGATO

### **Donations received on the occasion of visits to our Temple from WBWCWF delegates and visitors from Japan, Hawai'i and Brazil—May 29th to Jun 8th 2015**

Sanin Women's Buddhist Association,  
Shishu District Women's Buddhist Association,  
Nagasaki Women's Buddhist Association,  
Mrs. Mayako (Moriki) Aguin, Nagasaki,  
Rev. Takamasa Moriki Koryuji-Temple,  
Oita-ken, Japan,  
Hyogo Buddhist Women's Association,  
Hyogo Amasaki Santandcho,  
Miyazaki Buddhist Women's Association,  
Wakamizu, Nobuko Shian, Gifu, Fukui &  
Ishikawa, Joyce Fujimoto, Waipaku, HI,  
Janet H, Honda, Mililani, HI,  
Kiyoko Imada, Puna Hongwanji, HI  
Elaine Kawamoto,  
Wahiawa Hongwanji,  
Fred S. Nonaka, HI, Tokyo,  
Brazil, Hongwanji,  
Anonymous (from Offertory Box)

## VISITORS FROM BRAZIL

The last of the post WF Convention visitors, the Brazilians, visited the temple the first week of June. Patiently our Senior Karaoke Club waited for the visitors who had been detained due to a medical emergency. But, once they arrived the members immediately embraced the visitors, got them involved in karaoke, served them tea and a beautiful cake and the Brazilians soon got into the karaoke. When they came upstairs to leave they all had huge smiles on their faces, it was clear they all enjoyed themselves.

This was a special group because Reverend and Mrs. Shimizu, Reverend Tomo Fujii's uncle and aunt were two of the visitors. He was thrilled to see where his nephew worked, he even sat at Reverend Fujii's desk and had his picture taken.

The two weeks of visitor was a memorable time for all. Thank you to all the members who came out to greet the visitors. It would not have been a success without all of you.



### TBC Dana Scholarship

Congratulations Naomi Tehara for being the 2015 TBC Dana Scholarship Recipient!

Naomi is the daughter of Gary and Laurie Tehara and the granddaughter of Yuki and the late Harry Kondo. She attended Dharma School as a young child and has volunteered with the Youth group and at the TBC bazaar. Naomi is a talented singer and will be pursuing classical vocal performance and music education at Wilfred Laurier University in the fall.



The TBC Dana Scholarship Committee would like to thank the Shin Fujinkai for preparing the wonderful Graduates luncheon. In addition, the Committee would also like to thank the Dana, Sangha and Shin Fujinkai for their continued support.

Almost Time to Party!!!

It's been almost 50 years since the first TBC Dana Scholarship awards were presented in 1967. Past and future recipients, watch for more information on this golden anniversary.

## INCREDIBLE INDIA

### Following the Footsteps of the Buddha

**Invitation to:  
Members and Friends of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism Temples of Canada (JSBTC)**

With the approval of the JSBTC, Roy and Itoko Akune have organized a tour to India "following the footsteps of the Buddha". This 14 day tour includes visits to the major Buddhist sites of Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Kushinagar, Lumbini and Sarnath and other key sites such as the Taj Mahal, Ganges River, Varanasi and Jaipur.

*The tour begins February 1, 2016, in Delhi and returns February 14 to Delhi. The cost is \$1075 US /person/double occupancy with a single supplement of \$765 US.*

*This **does include** 3 star hotel accommodations, three meals/day, Welcome Dinner prior to departure, AC deluxe coach for all transfers and tours, entrance fees, elephant/jeep ride in Jaipur ascending Amer Fort, a boat ride on the Ganges River, airfare for domestic flights, accompanying tour guide, and applicable taxes.*

*This **does not include** international air fare from a city in Canada or other country, Nepal Visa fee (presently \$25 US/person), tips (hotels, guide, driver & helper) and other unstated personal expenses, e.g. phone calls, laundry, drinks etc.*

Indeed, for some this will be a once in a lifetime visit to India and for others it may be another visit where the sights, sounds and customs have captured one's interest. For Roy and Itoko this will be their third visit to India having been there in 2002 and, as recently as, October, 2014.

This tour will be accompanied by an English speaking guide, knowledgeable about the history of Buddhism and, of course, very familiar with the Indian culture.

**This tour has a maximum capacity of 24. Those interested are encouraged to apply ASAP with applications to close November 30, 2015. Application form is attached to this notice.**

**Please mail your applications form and a deposit of \$500 US (cheque payable to Itoko Akune) to :**  
Roy and Itoko Akune  
#320 – 4600 Westwater Drive, Richmond, B.C.  
V7E 6S2

**For inquiries, please write to Roy at [akune@telus.net](mailto:akune@telus.net) or phone him at 604 244 7710.**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Namaste, Roy and Itoko**

For full details of itinerary inquire at the office for print out.



## TBC Annual Picnic Camp Green Acres June 14, 2015

We weren't as lucky this year and showers were forecasted for the day and it started to rain as people were arriving – lightly at first with heavier periods in the afternoon. Even our singing of “When We See the Golden Sun” had no influence on the weather, even though we tried our best. There were times during the day when the rain did stop and people took advantage of it by going to visit the farm animals.

The atmosphere in the shelter was anything but somber as families and friends gathered to enjoy each other's company and the gochiso.

Traditional activities such as the outdoor service, free hot dogs, bingo and the Fukubiki were held. Camp Green Acres even made it possible for us to hold the children's games – thank you to our Youth volunteers and Camp Green Acres staff member, Adam. This year's “Share the Wealth” draw helped to subsidize the cost of holding the picnic.

Congratulations to the winners of the “**Share The Wealth**” draw: 4<sup>th</sup> prize of \$25.00 to Miyo Nakamura, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$50.00 to Mits Ito, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$75.00 to Sakae Ogaki and the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of \$100.00 to Gloria Sumiya. This year the \$100.00 Jackpot Bingo winner was Heidi McDowell and the **Fukubiki** 50lb bag of rice to Steven Crichton and 40lb bag of rice to Mits Ito!

The Toronto Buddhist Church gratefully acknowledges the following donations which helped to make our picnic a success:

Mr. Taro Akiyama, Taro's Fish Inc.; Mr. Stanley Chiu, Sea Hi Restaurant; Mr. Hibino, Heisei Mart; Mr. David Garvie, Ogden Funeral Homes; Mr. Shigeru Kimura, Ginko Restaurant; Mrs. Gertrude Urabe, Gertrude Urabe Insurance Agency; Mr. Gary Tanaka, Cooksville Automotive; Ms. Elaine Takahashi, Fisherman's Place Fish & Chips, Clarkson Fish & Chips, Longbranch Fish & Chips, Mississauga Marketplace Fish & Chips; Mr. & Mrs. Wm Mizuno, Sanko Trading ; Mr. Shoji Mitsuishi, Sandown Market; Mr. & Mrs. Mark Ikebata, Dr. Sushi/Ikebata Nursery; Mr. Nishikaze, Ocean Foods Co.; Mr. Motoaki Aoki, Mye Restaurant; Mr. James Tetaka, 24/7 Systems Networks; Mr. Dale Kiyonaga, Main Auto Body; Japan Beauty Images; Kay Uchida; David Saxby & Julie Suyama; Yosh & Kunio Suyama; Clayton Gytoku; Jessie Ebata; Roy Kusano; Joanne Omori & Jim Hoogkamp; Cary & Joanne Kataoka; Rachel Kataoka; George & Amy Nakano; Donna Nakano; Mits Ito; Steve Crichton; Aki Ikebata & Joyce Matsumoto; Fred & Ann Kotani

Once again, thank you to all of our donors, volunteers and congratulations to all our winners. Please join us at our 2016 picnic – the more the merrier.

2015 TBC Picnic Committee

## THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

On behalf of the TBC Maintenance, we would like to thank the cleanup crew that came out to the Temple to clean up for our annual clean up, the Gomonshu and the post-Convention visitors. One of the visiting temples asked how we kept the Temple so clean. A job well done!

We would also like to thank the crew that came to Camp Lumbini on Sat. June 6th. They did a fantastic job! The cabins and grounds are now ready for the Kids Sangha, youth and renters.

Thanks, Mas Matsuyama & Michael Tamaki



**The 15<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist  
Women's Convention**  
**May 30-31, 2015, Calgary, Alberta,**  
**Canada**

As the doors opened into the convention hall it was nice to see Calgary tourism board volunteers western gear warmly welcoming delegates. Even the Mounties in red serge were present. The opening ceremony had just enough pomp and circumstance to realize this was a big moment. Our Rev. Christina did a very good job of leading the chanting in front of so many delegates including the Gomonsu. For many of us the loud, rich, soothing sound of chanting filling the hall was very powerful and emotional.



in

The Kokoro hearts crocheted and donated by TBC members was a small way of attempting to get delegates to connect with one another in a show of Oneness. A Japanese visitor thanked Mary Aoki for the Kokoro heart and mentioned that she appreciated the hard work of crocheting all those hearts.



A highlight for many was listening to the excellent keynote speakers and interesting district panel presentations. In a real show of Oneness and joy, hundreds got up from the banquet tables to dance the Tanko Bushi. Even the Gomonsu and Bishop Aoki jumped on the stage and joined in the fun. This was a good example of how on a personal level the new Gomonsu wanted to connect with the Jodo Shinshu followers.

Of course the Canadian portion of the evening entertainment was outstanding. We give a big "THANK YOU" to Aja Shimizu for her choreography of the Zumba routine. We owe our success to the weeks and weeks of practice she held, because she cared.

The Marketplace was very busy and it did well, with lineups at the cash out. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! You crocheted, sewed, pressed, cut, pasted, glued, stuffed, bagged and more. Your work was very much appreciated and contributed to the overall success of the WBWC. THANK YOU to Marie Baba for her craft workshop ideas and leadership.

All the Temple displays were interesting and we can be very proud of the Toronto Buddhist Temple display. Many thanks to the talents of Masa Shimoato, Denise Crofton and others.

We came to Calgary from different countries with different languages and different customs, but found out that each one of us was connected by our faith in the Dharma – really a link in Lord Buddha's Golden Chain of Love that stretches around the world. We can only hope that the feeling of "One World Sangha" experienced at the Convention will continue moving forward.

Gassho  
 June Asano  
 JSBTCWF Representative

## WBWC UPDATE June 2015



*Embraced by the Oneness of Life* was the recurring theme experienced by almost 1,800 Buddhists from Japan, Brazil, the U.S., Canada and Hawaii who attended the World Buddhist Women's Convention in Calgary, Alberta May 30 – 31, 2015. From the majestic and moving opening ceremony to the equally significant closing, there was music, dancing, visiting, chanting, and inspiring dharma messages bringing laughter and tears, stimulating the mind and warming the heart.

We were honored to have the attendance and participation of his Eminence Monshu Ohtani Kojun (Sennyō Monshu). “Gomonshu-sama” as he is called by Jōdo Shinshu followers is the 25th generation Sennyō Monshu or Hongwanji head priest.

The keynote speakers, Reverend Nana Yanase from Japan and Reverend Patricia Kanaya Usuki, born in Canada and living in the U.S.A., shared the dharma through music, life stories and a broad experience and knowledge of the teachings. A panel, comprised of women from each of the Districts, touchingly described their personal pathways in and towards embracing the dharma.

Workshops themed on the Eight-Fold Path provided food for the body, mind and spirit with activities to match that included dancing, singing, writing, and exercising. There were stimulating opportunities to learn more about music, history, art and self-reflection ...all in the context of Buddhism and the Oneness of Life.

Over meals and during breaks, participants were able to meet and socialize, culminating in the dinner banquet where each table was arranged with a mix of delegates from each country. The banquet portion of the evening included a singing performance from Rev. Nana Yanase and entertainment from the District countries. A highlight was the joining of performers and delegates, including Gomonshu-sama and other dignitaries in the favorite *odori Tanko Bushi*. To close the evening entertainment, dancers from across Canada performed a lively zumba to the tune of *The Best Day of Our Lives*.

The Jōdo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Women's Federation, together with the temples across Canada have worked together to provide a successful and memorable experience. Despite being a small Sangha with limited resources and spread across a large country geographically, we are grateful that all those who came from around the world to Calgary enjoyed this convention and fulfilled our hope for a memorable experience where we were truly “Embraced by the Oneness of Life”.

As with previous years, a post convention report will be published and will contain a text copy of all the speeches as well as many photos. A DVD of the convention and a full version of the keynote speakers is planned and will hopefully be available soon.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Jōdo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada handed the World Buddhist Women's Convention flag to the Buddhist Churches of America Buddhist Women's Association who will host the next World Buddhist Women's Convention August 30 to September 1, 2019 in San Francisco, California. See you there!

# 10th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

Toronto Buddhist Church  
Saturday, September 26, 2015  
Doors open at 5.30pm

## For TBC members and their families and friends

Plans are well underway to celebrate our 10th year at 1011 Sheppard Avenue West. The plan is to sit down to a relaxing dinner and reminisce about the events leading up to the first service at the New Temple as well as hear from Temple friends who are many miles away. We are also honouring many of the leaders of the New Temple project as well as our major benefactors. All Temple members and their families and friends are invited to join in this Celebration. Tickets are limited, so don't wait!

Adults \$50 per person.

Children under 12 years \$25 per person

Choice of entree: Salmon, Chicken or Vegetarian.

Children's menu: chicken fingers

Contact: Joanne at [joanne.omori@hotmail.com](mailto:joanne.omori@hotmail.com) or  
(905) 642-0251 for ticket availability.

Please join us for a week of fun this summer at

## Camp Lumbini 2015

**July 26 – August 1 2015**

Camp Lumbini is the Temple's annual summer camp for children and youth aged 8-14. Held at the Wasaga Beach cottages the overnight camp provides campers with a daily schedule of games and team building activities.

Each day starts with morning exercise followed by a service done by the campers. The campers can then expect the rest of the day to be filled with trips to the beach, arts and crafts, games and other group activities. Each evening we schedule a camp wide activity including mini-golf, a trip to the movies, campfires, and bowling.

Each year we also plan one big outing where we pack a lunch and head out for the whole day! In the past we have gone rock climbing, kayaking, caving, and tree-top trekking. This year we are planning to go rock climbing and caving. It is always a memorable experience.

If you would like an application for this year's Camp Lumbini please e-mail the TBC office: [tbc@tbc.on.ca](mailto:tbc@tbc.on.ca)

We hope to see you this summer!



### GOING MY WAY?

“But I’m strong,  
Strong enough to carry him  
He ain’t heavy, he’s my brother...”

From “He Ain’t Heavy, He’s My Brother” by the Hollies

We have become aware that there are senior members of our Temple who are finding it physically difficult to leave their homes but would like to come to the Temple for services and other activities. If you are one of these seniors who require transportation to and from the Temple on Sundays, then we would like to hear from you. We want to help our members come to the Temple. We would also like to hear from members who would be willing to help our senior members by picking them up and driving them home after services.

If you are a senior member who is unable to come to the Temple on your own because of age and/or physical disability, and would like to come to services at the Temple, please send an email or a letter to the Temple, or call the Temple, and provide your name, address, phone number and email, if any, and the nature of your request.

If you are a member or friend who would be willing to volunteer to pick up a senior member and drive him/her/them home after service, please provide your name, address, phone number and email, if any and the times when you would be available to help and the geographic area in which you would be willing to pick up passengers.

This is a very important initiative, and so we would like to hear as soon as possible from not only our senior members but our volunteers as well, so we can try to get this service off and running. Thank you.



## EBL CONFERENCE LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

**SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

The Eastern Buddhist League is again having their Labour Day Conference. This year it is hosted by Cleveland Buddhist Temple in Euclid Ohio.

The Toronto Buddhist Church is chartering a bus leaving on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> and returning on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. The conference is at the Westin Downtown Cleveland Hotel where we will stay 3 nights.

**Hotel Accomodations:** Westin Downtown Cleveland Hotel 777 St. Clair Ave. NE. Cleveland , OH 44114 USA. [www.westincleveland.com](http://www.westincleveland.com) Cost per night is \$119.00 plus tax (King or 2 Queens) Reservations must be made directly with Westin Downtown Cleveland Hotel 1-888-627-8085 or 216-771-7700. They will have rooms blocked till August 5<sup>th</sup>. Please mention 'Eastern Buddhist League Conference and Conference Dates'.

**Conference Registration Fees:** is \$135.00 early by August 5<sup>th</sup>; \$160.00 late August 6<sup>th</sup>-Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>. Your registration fee includes all workshops, transportation, the Sunday box lunch and Sunday banquet. Sunday banquet will be held at Café Sausalito, located right across the street from the Westin. Sunday banquet only is \$45.00

**Optional:** Cleveland Art Museum Tour on Sunday includes transportation (\$25.); Home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; Walk to the Horseshoe Casino; U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Cleveland Airshow Their **keynote speaker** will be Dr. Jeff Wilson over the weekend. Jeff has written numerous books and articles on the development of Buddhism in America. The theme of the conference is: "I Go To the Sangha for Guidance"

**COSTS:** Bus (return) : CDN \$150.00(include gratuities)

Please join us in Cleveland for the 2015 EBL Conference, where you will gather with friends from the Buddhist Temple of Chicago, Ekoji Buddhist Temple, Midwest Buddhist Temple, Twin Cities Buddhist Association, New York Buddhist Temple, Seabrook (NJ) Buddhist Temple, Toronto Buddhist Church and EBL host Cleveland Buddhist Temple.

For more information please contact the following: Jessie Ebata 416-249-9805 email: [j.tazuko@bell.net](mailto:j.tazuko@bell.net)  
Diane Mark 416-225-2695 [dianeymark@gmail.com](mailto:dianeymark@gmail.com)

## JUNE'S HONOBONO ANOTHER SUCCESS

June's Honobono Movie was "Heisei Tanuki Gassen Ponpoko" directed by Isao Takahata of studio GHIBLI. Although only a few people attended, they really enjoyed the movie. This movie was about a raccoon dog who was suffering because their habitat was being destroyed by human development of land. I became very sad for the depth of human karma. Although it is difficult to go back to the old age when there was coexistence between human and nature, we would like to keep in mind that human life now exists because of many sacrifices.

**Please Note:** July is proving to be a very busy time for the temple. Honobono for July has been cancelled. Sorry for the inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

Gassho  
Rev. Endo

