



Cleveland Buddhist Temple

www.clevelandbuddhisttemple.com

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Meeting location and mailing address:

First Unitarian Church
21600 Shaker Blvd.
Shaker Hts, OH 44122

January - February 2019

New programs starting in February!

Come for yourself and bring your friends.

Starting in February the Cleveland Buddhist Temple will offer 3 new programs on Saturday before our regular Sunday meeting on the 3rd weekend every month. All classes are at First Unitarian in the same space as our monthly Sunday meeting.

Chanting Practice

If you want to chant better or just like to sing, we will go over the Sunday Sutra and some other sung parts of the service – session lasts 45-60 minutes.

Meditation & Chanting

Formal meditation: sitting, walking, bowing, visualization, chanting, meditative Dharma lesson and Metta (Loving kindness) – session lasts 90 minutes.

Dharma Study

This class will be go over the content of Buddhism in a structured form with extra time for your questions – session lasts 60 minutes.

Service Schedule

Services are normally scheduled for the third Sunday of each month.

Sunday	January 20	Shusho-e
10:00 am	Sitting Meditation	
10:30 am	Service with Tokudo MA Gary Jaskula	
11:30 am	Dharma Study Class	
Shusho-e is the New Year's observance honoring the Three Treasures: Buddha, Dharma & Sangha		

Saturday	February 16	
2:00 pm	Chanting Practice	
3:30 pm	Meditation & Chanting	
5:00 pm	Dharma Study	
<i>All New! See page 1 for details</i>		

Sunday	February 17	Nehan-e (Nirvana Day)
10:00 am	Sitting Meditation	
10:30 am	Service with Rev. Ron Miyamura and Tokudo MA Gary Jaskula	
11:30 am	Dharma Study Class	
Nehan-e is the historical Buddha's memorial service commemorating his death and passing into Final Nirvana at age 80		

Sunday services are also monthly memorial services. Visitors are welcome to attend meditation and the Dharma Class as well as the service. Instruction will be provided for meditation. Coffee is usually available for Dharma Class. Please check www.clevelandbuddhisttemple.com for our most current schedule.

2019 Monthly Memorial Services

Our loved ones whom we are remembering:

January

Kumajiro Asamoto
Jinzaburo Hayakawa
Kanji Asazawa
Hideji Iwasaki
Fushino Hirono
Fumi Tanaka
Arne Junger
Kaneno Akiba
Mary Mariko Sakai
Kamiyo Arie
Frank Nakamura
George Nakanishi
Fumiko Betty Ochi
Scott Peer
Allen Kraft
Mitsuko Yokoyama

and others.

February

Kazue Kimura
Katsumi Mori
Matsujiro Sasaki
Sawa Nakao
Byron Akitsuki
Susumu Ishikawa
Tom Shirasawa
Kiyoto Nadaoka
John Kratochvil
Isao Jay Akiba
Masami Ishige
Satoshi Tom Yokoyama
Aiko Kosai

and others



For Funeral Service or to include the names of loved ones in the Monthly Memorial Services, please contact Rev. Ron at 773.805.0024

GARY SHOBO JASKULA
MINISTER'S ASSISTANT
NEW YORK BUDDHIST CHURCH



Persimmons

Dear Dharma Friends,

Eighteen years ago, I went on a trip to Japan with a small group from Northampton, MA, organized by the late Rev. Dr. Taitetsu Unno. While in Kyoto, we visited many Zen gardens. One of the most famous is that of Ryoan-ji, a temple of the strict Rinzai branch of the Zen tradition. We arrived very early in the morning to avoid the crowds. It had been raining very hard the previous day and night. It was late Fall when the foliage colors were still evident. As we entered the vast temple grounds in the outlying northeastern part of Kyoto, the effect was magical. The temple is set way back within a wooded park-like area with a lake in the middle. Bustling Kyoto, just outside, seemed a million miles away in that silence and natural beauty. Vapor from the evaporating rain water was rising everywhere in the morning sun. After viewing the justly famous rock garden in the zendo proper, we walked around the lake back to the front entrance.

On the wooded path around the lake, Dr. Unno suddenly came up behind me and pointed out a persimmon tree nearby. He told me that Shinran's understanding of Buddhism could be had by reflecting on that persimmon tree and fruit. I asked him to explain because I had no idea at that time of what a persimmon was. He said that a persimmon is a fruit which, when picked too early, is very bitter and not edible for that reason. However, if allowed to ripen on the tree in the sun, the fruit becomes very sweet and delicious to eat. This transformation does not occur through the persimmon's own efforts, but through the action of the sun deep within each fruit.

The bitter persimmon is me: maybe nice-enough but finite, short-sighted, impatient, calculating. No matter how much I might use my own efforts to add sugar to disguise my bitter taste – it is still there. However, the sun is the Great Vow of Amida Buddha: warm, shining, boundless, constant, uninhibited, unconditional. The bitter is transformed into the sweet. The cause is the Buddha's benevolence and the transformation occurs deep within each of us, exactly as we are.

This is what Namo-Amida-Butsu means, if I understand Dr. Unno: Namo is ourselves, bitter persimmons each one of us. Amida-Butsu is the sun, Unmeasured Life and Boundless Light. Brought together, Namo-Amida-Butsu, each persimmon becomes sweet even while remaining a persimmon.

I am very grateful to have met a wonderful teacher like Taitetsu Unno, who many of you knew as well, and to have an opportunity to pass along his illustration of Shinran's understanding of the Buddha's Name, Namo-Amida-Butsu. I later discovered that persimmons are a traditional symbol of transformation in general Buddhism, but I feel that Rev. Unno had a wonderful Jodo-Shinshu take on it.

May Namo-Amida-Butsu touch each of our persimmon-hearts and may we all become sweet and delicious!

Gary Shobo Jaskula, Minister's Assistant, Cleveland Buddhist Temple

At the Cleveland Museum of Art

In the latest edition of *Cleveland Art: The Cleveland Museum of Art Members Magazine*, three exhibits may be of interest to you:

In January, the museum will again display works from the permanent collection which have been on tour since 2014. These objects were on tour in Tokyo and Kyushu National Museums as part of the *Admired from Afar* exhibition.

From February 8 through August 11, *Taming Tigers, Releasing Dragons: Masterpieces of Buddhist Art* will be on display. The museum's normal everyday showing of Buddhist art is impressive, so you may not want to miss this event.

Finally, April 9th will bring *Shinto: Discovery of the Divine in Japanese Art*, which brings in major works from collections in both Japan and the United States.

While general admission to the museum is free, special exhibitions may require purchasing tickets (sometimes in advance). The magazine doesn't indicate these details, so please check the website www.clevelandart.org for any charges and hours. The museum is located at 11150 East Blvd, Cleveland OH 44106.

-Dave Williams



A garden in Japan.

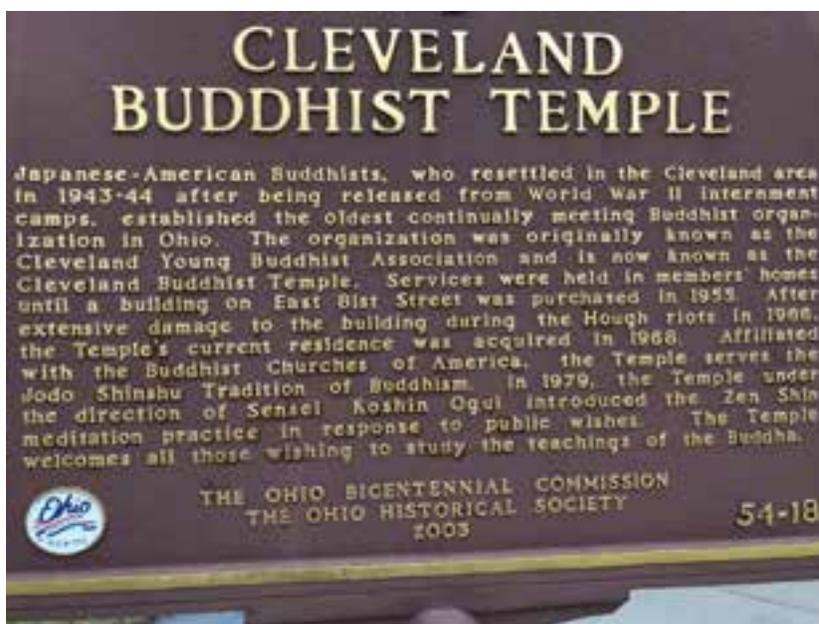
New Home for the Historical Marker

Temple member Michael Sievers accepted temporary custody of the Historical Plaque that stood in front of the Euclid building as we closed things down at that location. We asked in the last newsletter if anyone could give the plaque a permanent home. We're happy to report that Glenn Yokoyama stepped forward and has taken ownership.

Glenn states: ***My parents were active members of the Cleveland Buddhist Temple until they passed away in 2009 and 2012. I also grew up and went to services in inner city Cleveland as well as the church in Euclid.***

Glenn's father was Satoshi (Tom) Yokoyama and his mother was Mitsi Yokoyama.

A thank you goes to Glenn and Michael for helping to preserve this aspect of our history.



Incidentally, the sale of the Euclid building was completed in early December. Thanks to everyone who helped in this less than pleasant but necessary step in our history. Special thanks to Anita Kazarian and Naomi Doyle for countless hours of meetings, phone calls, and paperwork to find a buyer.

Gary's informal homework suggestion during the December Dharma Class was to learn about the Six Realms. Google is an OK start for your research!

Donations

October 2018

Dana

Rev. Zuikei Taniguchi
Satoru Nakamoto
Chelley Hopson
Progressive Insurance Matching Gift*
Rick D.
Rachel Davis Fine Arts

November 2018

Dana

Hazel Asamoto and Asamoto Family
Satoru Nakamoto
Euclid Historical Society
Buddhist Temple of San Diego

Memorial

In memory of Hayato Orikuchi - Hazel Asamoto

Altar flowers for November service - Grace Nakamoto

* gift arranged by Cara Kless

Buddhist 12 Step Meeting

This meeting welcomes anyone ...

Join us every Monday evening

First Christian Church 6:30 pm
4249 River Street
Willoughby Ohio

The Buddhist 12 Step Meeting, sponsored by the Cleveland Buddhist Temple, has been active and thriving since its beginning almost a year ago. We have found a great new location near downtown Willoughby at the First Christian Church. We are meeting in their lovely Fellowship Hall which provides a warm and inviting setting. There is a convenient parking lot just across from the side entrance which is the door we use for our meeting.

This meeting welcomes anyone who struggles with the suffering associated with craving or aversion and who seeks to cultivate peace through living mindfully. This meeting uses the 12 Steps, The Four Noble Truths and the Buddha's 8 Fold Path to help us in our journey towards a mindful, recovery oriented lifestyle.

You do not need to be a Buddhist to participate in this group. You also do not need to be in any specific kind of recovery to participate in our group. We seek to create a community focused on recovery and living mindfully in an environment of compassion, safety and acceptance.

As we say in the Shin tradition, we welcome all "foolish" beings, recognizing that we do not have to struggle alone. In Shin practice we recite the nembutsu or "Name-that-calls". We recognize through deep hearing that "it calls us to awaken to our fullest potential to becoming true, real and sincere human beings." This 12 Step Buddhist Meeting seeks to create a sangha to help us in this unfolding process; to be present to ourselves and each other one moment at a time. As is stated in the Kalamas Sutta, "Come and see for yourself."

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Lori Rugle at lrugle@hotmail.com



The 16th World Buddhist Women's Convention

LIVE THE NEMBUTSU

16th World Buddhist Women's Convention

August 30 – September 1, 2019
San Francisco Marriott Marquis
San Francisco, California

Keynote Speakers:
Reverend Yukiko Motoyoshi
Minister, Buddhist Churches of America

Professor Keiko Toro
Independent Buddhist Scholar

Live the Nembutsu
Vivemos no interior do Nembutsu
お念仏に生かされて

Registration: www.wbwconvention.org | info@wbwconvention.org
Presented by the Buddhist Churches of America | Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations

On August 30 – September 1, 2019, the Buddhist Churches of America Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations (BCA FBWA) will host the 16th World Buddhist Women's Convention at the San Francisco Marriott Grand Marquis in San Francisco, California.

Approximately 2,000 women and men of many generations are anticipated to gather from Japan, Canada, Brazil, Hawaii, and throughout the US mainland to explore and experience the Convention theme: "Live the Nembutsu."

This is a worldwide event occurring every 4 years (the mainland U.S. hosts once every 20 years).

Sponsored by: The World Federation of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist Women's Associations.

Convention website:

www.wbwconvention.org

(Most of this information came the website.)

-also look for *16th World Buddhist Women's Convention* on Facebook.