



Buddhist Church of Lodi

# Newsletter

23 North Stockton St., Lodi, CA 95240-2214  
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<http://lodibuddhist.org/>

**Sunday, November 1, 2015**

8:30 AM Chanting & Meditation

9:30 AM Shotsuki Service

(Monthly Memorial Service)

**Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

1:00 PM Dharma Discussion (Annex)

“Buddhism on Air”

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

Spaghetti Dinner Cancelled

**Sunday, November 8, 2015**

8:30 AM Chanting & Meditation

9:30 AM Family Sunday Service (DS)

& OMIGAKI

(Polishing up the Buddha’s Altar Fittings)

**Saturday, November 14, 2015**

Northern California District Teriyaki Chicken  
 Throwdown at the Sacramento Betsuin

**Sunday, November 15, 2015**

8:30 AM Chanting & Meditation

9:30 AM Hoonko Service

(Our founder Shinran’s memorial service)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ron Kobata

(San Francisco B.C.)

**Sunday, November 22, 2015**

9:30 AM Family Sunday Service (DS/AD)

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

No Service

## Hoonko Service

Speaker: Reverend Ron Kobata  
 (San Francisco Buddhist Church)

Sunday, November 15, 2015

9:30 AM

Dear Member:

This observance marks the death of Shinran, the founder of Shin Buddhism. Ho-on-ko literally means “Dharma gathering for acknowledging indebtedness” and is observed by many Buddhist traditions to honor their founding masters. Our service includes the chanting of Shoshinge, verses written by Shinran that summarize his teaching.

Rennyō Shōnin urged us to reflect deeply on Shinran’s teachings at this time. Rennyō explained that the significance of Ho-on-ko is to resolve the problem of Shinjin – entrusting heart – and to become keenly aware of the dilemma of our “birth and death.” Realizing shinjin is of paramount importance and is the essence of acknowledging our indebtedness to Shinran.

We look forward to seeing you at this very important service.

In Gassho,

Buddhist Church of Lodi

The newsletter is a monthly publication of the **Buddhist Church of Lodi**, 23 N. Stockton Street, Lodi, CA 95240. There is no subscription charge for members and friends, but donations are welcome.

**MESSAGE FROM REV KATSU****[The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of A-Bomb]**

**“The basis for peace is for people to understand the pain of others.”**

An atomic bomb victim, Mr. Katsuji Yoshida, left this message for us before he passed away in 2010. He was a member of my family temple, Kougenji and also a good friend of my father. He was thirteen years old when the A-bomb was dropped on Nagasaki on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945. He was badly burned because he was close to ground zero. Later, he made a big effort to tell his experience to younger generations. He also came to the U.S.A. to convey his experience and wish for peace. I truly appreciate his words, which are related to the Buddha's great compassion. I would like to introduce his article written in 2005 and think about “Peace” with you.

<Transfer to the Omura Naval Hospital>

Kougenji temple was in front of our house. People cremated the bodies at the temple's grounds. The smells of cremation flowed into our house. Pus and maggots were oozing out all over my body. These nasty odors blended and filled our house. I was so relieved to be able to go home and meet my parents. After a while, I became unconscious. Later, I was told that I kept talking in delirium.

I was sent to the Shinkozen elementary school where there was an aid station. I saw a lot of people lying on beds who had no external wounds yet they died the next morning. Later, I was transferred to the Omura Naval Hospital. Many American doctors were sent there. Fortunately, Penicillin was already discovered by then and was being used to cure infection.

At the end of 1945, the left side of my body including my face was cured. My left eye also got well, but my right cheek was still charred. Mr. Sumiteru Taniguchi who got burnt on his back was in the next bed. Mr. Senji Taniguchi was also in the same hospital.

<Discharging from the Hospital and being exposed to stares>

One year later, I was discharged from the hospital and left for my home in Nagasaki. When I arrived at the Omura station and went to the waiting room, people suddenly stopped chatting and stared at me. I was shocked and became overwhelmed

with grief. My Fifteen years old eyes were blurred with tears. I really wanted to go back to my home, but the passengers in the train also stared at me. It was a steam locomotive. It took an hour and a half to the Nagasaki station. I felt that it was much longer than that. A long time had already since I was transferred to the Omura Naval hospital. I finally got to the Nagasaki station. Even there, people stared at my face. Nobody else had burns any more. I was very ashamed for my miserable face and body to be seen. I avoided walking downtown. Instead, I walked over a hill and went home. When I arrived at home, I cried a lot. In Gassho,

**[Tour to Japan in 2016]**

We are planning to a trip to Japan from November 17, **2016** to November 28, **2016**. The tour meeting is going to be held on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, **2015**, 11 AM at the Buddhist Church of Lodi's Annex. Those who are interested in joining this tour, please attend the meeting. Please contact Rev. Katsu if you have any questions.

**The evaluation of 2015's resolution**  
**(E-excellent, G-good, S-so so, B-bad)**

<b>Lodi: Get 24 new members</b>	B
<b>WG: Get 8 new members</b>	G
<b>Give my dharma talk without paper</b>	G
<b>Practice playing “Ryuteki”</b>	B
<b>Practice playing golf</b>	B

-The number of attendees – (Lodi)

Date	Attendees	Date	Attendees
Sept 19 <sup>th</sup>	65	Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>	51
Sept 26 <sup>th</sup>	37	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	51

**2015 Memorial Service Schedule**

2015 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

<b>2014</b>	<b>1 year</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>17 year</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>3 year</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>25 year</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>7 year</b>	<b>1983</b>	<b>33 year</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>13 year</b>	<b>1966</b>	<b>50 year</b>

Rev. Katsu: [reverend@lodibuddhist.net](mailto:reverend@lodibuddhist.net)

***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

The Church had another successful Teriyaki Chicken event. I would like to thank Chairperson Ron Oye, Lodi Buddhist Women's Association, various committee chairs, and all the volunteers, who this event a success.

Again Domo arigato gozaimasu.

With Gassho,  
Gordon Nitta

***BUDDHIST CHURCH OF LODI******General Meeting October 13th***

Present: Rev. Kusunoki, Gordon Nitta, Steve Ogata, Judy Waters, and Hannah Egi.

President Gordon Nitta began the meeting at 7:02 PM with gassho led by Rev. Kusunoki.

The minutes of September meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

**General Treasurer:**

Bruce Sasaki submitted written report showing moving Scrip money to cover Insurance policy.

**Special Treasurer:**

Steve Ogata explained the church's various accounts. Sales taxes paid by church at the bazaar were recalculated. A motion was made, seconded and approved as to content for both treasurers' report.

**Ministers Report:**

September 9<sup>th</sup> through October 8<sup>th</sup>: 2 funeral services, 1 Forty-Ninth day service, 2 yearly memorial services, Fall seminar, Fall Ohigan service, Eitaikyo/Past Bishops memorial service, Shinran's monthly memorial service (OASAJI), 2 Shotsuki services, 1 family Sunday Service/Dharma School/Adult Discussion, 4 chanting and meditation services, monthly dharma discussion, monthly clean up, Ochanomi Hoza (Japanese Dharma Discussion), Nihongo Gakko, propagation committee meeting, a counseling and a dedication service at BCL; conducted Shotsuki service, Fall Ohigan service, and Shinran's monthly memorial service (OASAJI) at the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church.

I participated in, NCDSTL meeting, NC ministers' meeting, SABA social gathering, Shinyukai, LBWA

meeting, Age appreciation Bento delivery, and BCL Teriyaki Chicken sale.

I was invited to the MAP training as guest lecturer. I was also invited to the UC Berkeley music class as a Gagaku player.

Reverend Roy: one family memorial service, visited San Jose Buddhist Church and Watsonville Buddhist Church, Minister Assistant Training at Jodo Shinshu Center (3 days), participated in Shotsuki service, one Meditation, Dharma School, Adult Discussion group service, luncheon with guest minister, participated in Ohigan Service, bazaar meeting.

**Lodi BWA - Judy Waters**

Thank you to all the members/family/friends who helped with the preparation and packaging for the Chicken Teriyaki fundraiser on October 10<sup>th</sup>. It was your help that made this event successful.

The Eshinni/Kakushinni Past members' memorial service and lunch is scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup>. Invitations have been mailed; please return your RSVP with payment for the special service and lunch at Yen Ching Restaurant.

We will continue with the executive board for our fiscal year. Sept-Dec: Judy Waters; Jan-Apr: Judy Waters and May-Aug: Hannah Egi. We look forward to serving our women's association and supporting the church and Rev. Katsu and Ayano Kusunoki.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Somen lunch will follow immediately after the meeting.

**Shinyukai Report – Ayano Kusunoki**

September luncheon included carrot rice, spinach goma-ae, chicken karaage, kabocha, miso soup, tsukemono, and apple pie for dessert. Thirty-eight people really enjoyed the luncheon. Kabocha was donated by LBC, tsukemono by Mr. Roy Tashima, and apples by Mrs. Tatsuko Nitta.

Next luncheon will be Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Warren Ito will cook and menu is going to be something special.

**Dharma School Report - Jill Walter**

The students and parents continue working on the wooden donation box, will help polish naijin pieces, and present a Jataka Tale when Rev. is gone. We would like to thank those who generously donated

to the Bishop Project Fund at the Eitaikyo Service, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Propagation Committee Report:**

Rev. Kusunoki reported the group met September 13th before Shotsuki Service. We are moving forward with opening a separate checking account for the Propagation Committee.

### **Building Maintenance Report:**

Air conditioner for the temple: Rob Sasaki replaced the motor. The unit itself is able to handle the hondo area. When compared to newer units, the one we have is sufficient. He will do maintenance on the front section, addition, of the temple building.

### **Old Business:**

President Gordon Nitta expressed heartfelt gratitude for very successful chicken teriyaki sale! Everybody worked diligently to put together 1,358 bentos, 22 without cabbage. Ran out of carrots early, need to look at order more, but also figure out how to make the shredding finer. We had 3 gallons of sushi su left for sale.

Spaghetti Dinner has been cancelled for this year.

### **New Business:**

NCDC Chicken throw down 11/14/15 Lodi and Walnut Grove will make cupcakes, need 12 dozen from Lodi. Gifts for judges, wine from Lodi. Gordon will cook fried rice. Hannah Egi can give 4 people ride to event.

Ho-Onko Service 11/15/2015, Rev. Kobata

### **Upcoming events**

Stockton BC Seminar, 10/24/15  
Eshinni/Kakushinni Service, 10/31/15  
Ho-Onko Service

Rev. passed out draft of 2016 calendar.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm with gassho led by Rev. Kusunoki.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Egi

### ***CHICKEN TERIYAKI – Ron Oye***

With the fall season upon us, the Lodi Buddhist Church neighborhood woke up to the early morning aroma of Chicken Teriyaki. Once again Bruce Sasaki and his crew delivered a well-marinated and flavorful chicken. It all started with the fire crew, Leland Noma and Steve Fujinaka at 4:00am in the morning. At 5:00 am our long time “rackers” Tak and Tak and their crew put the chicken on the fire and in an hour the chickens were done. Experienced cutter Kraig Sasaki, Tom Iwamiya and their crew kept the tubs filled for packing. The hard working ladies of the LBWA started preparations days before and continued until the last box was packed. Special thanks to Toshi Yoshioka for preparing brunch for the crews, which we all enjoyed. This year you may have noticed new faces. They were students from Tokay High School Japanese Club who volunteered to help. Their help was greatly appreciated and made a big difference in making this fundraiser successful. Thank you again to everyone who helped!

### ***LBWA UPDATE – Judy Waters***

The very successful Chicken Teriyaki fundraiser was a joint effort of our church members, LBWA members, and their respective families and friends. Please join us for the Eshinni/Kakushinni Past members’ memorial service and lunch is scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup>. It is still not too late to respond. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Somen lunch will follow immediately after the meeting.

### ***DHARMA SCHOOL – Jill Walter***

Dharma school will regretfully have to postpone our annual spaghetti dinner until the following year due to various reasons. We look forward to serving our members the following year. For the month of November, students will be busy polishing the Buddha’s alter fittings and planting more daffodil bulbs to both enhance the church grounds and to remind all of the natural cycle of impermanence. On November 22nd, students will be reading an interesting Jataka Tale to members while the Reverend is away.

**SHINYUKAI**

## Birthday donations:

Fred Nagata \$20.00

## Special donations and contributions:

Gladys Katsuki (for Bingo) \$10.00

Roy Tashima Delicious Tsukemono

LBA Kabocha

Tatsuko Nitta Apples

Next Luncheon, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, prepared by Warren Ito.

No luncheon in November.

Potluck, Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your own favorite dish for everyone to enjoy.**SCRIP UPDATE – Kelly Yamane**

In addition to the gift cards, Raley's has a new electronic scrip program and you don't need a card to participate! It is called Extra Credit and is part of the Something Extra rewards program. **To enroll, please sign up for a Something Extra rewards account at [www.somethingextra.com](http://www.somethingextra.com). After enrollment, you can visit Extra Credit and select the church (listed as Buddhist Church of Lodi) as a scrip beneficiary.**

Thank you to all who are using their SaveMart SHARES card. Every time you shop, your card is scanned and the church receives a 3% benefit. Please contact me if you would like a card – the SHARES cards are free! Like Raley's, SaveMart is not able to provide reports by individual contributions for their SHARES program. Year-to-Date June 2015, the church earned **\$625**, as a result of purchases with your SHARES card. If you purchase SaveMart gift cards (2% benefit), we can continue to track your individual contributions.

Thank you to all who are participating in the program! If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Yamane at 365-7124 or any of the scrip supporters listed below.

Scrip orders will be due by 10 a.m. on the order date.

**October Scrip Supporters**

Chris Smith

Elaine Otani

Hannah Egi

Janet Morimoto

Joy Sasaki

Kelly Yamane

Liza Kanemura

Mieko Komatsu

Nancy Burgess

Terry Oga

Calendar Dates:Scrip orders due: 11/6 at 10 a.m. (**Friday**)Scrip pick-up: 11/16 (**Monday**)**SHOTSUKI – Janet Morimoto**

Thank you to all the following ladies that graciously brought refreshments for the September Shotsuki fellowship after the September 13th service:

Sumiko Mikami

Hisa Nakamura

Harriet Matsumoto

Irene Onoyama

Toshi Yoshioka

Lodi JAACL

Thank you to all the following ladies and gentlemen that brought refreshments for the October Shotsuki fellowship after the October 4th service:

Irene Furuoka

Kazuko Shimosaki

Judy Waters

Mary Kurahara

Ted Nishizaki

Ayano Kusunoki

Terry Kiri

Ken Egi

Janet Morimoto

For those Shotsuki families wishing to bring food following a service please contact the office or Janet Morimoto to let us know. Thank you.

**THANK YOU**

To the Monthly Clean Up crew on October 2nd:

Rev. Kusunoki, Ayano Kusunoki, Ken Egi, Frank Teranishi, Nagako Sumida, Hannah Egi, Rose Sasaki, and David Matsumoto.